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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

Friday
2 December, 2011
11 Agrahayan, 1933 (Saka)

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 2nd December, 2011, 11th Agrahayana, 1933 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

DEMAND TO WITHDRAW FDI

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 161. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश): मान्यवर, एफ.डी.आई. जो है, इसको वापस लिया जाए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एफ.डी.आई. को वापस लें। ...*(व्यवधान)*... पहले एफ.डी.आई. को वापस लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please watch your language. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, हल्ला-गुल्ला हो रहा है, इसलिए मैं प्रश्न नहीं पूछ पा रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास: महोदय, सदन को शांत कराइए, मैं प्रश्न नहीं पूछ पा रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास: सदन में शांति चाहिए, तभी हम प्रश्न पूछ सकते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... महोदय, शांति स्थापित होनी चाहिए, मैं प्रश्न पूछने के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't come into the well. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास: मैं सदन में प्रश्न पूछने के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... कृपया सदन में शांति स्थापित कीजिए, मैं प्रश्न पूछने के लिए तैयार हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12.00 hrs.

The House then adjourned at one minute past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Reservation for SC, ST and OBC students in minority educational institutions

†*161. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of universities and colleges which have been accorded minority status, so far;

(b) the details of reasons for giving minority status to these universities and colleges;

(c) whether reservation for students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes has been abolished in these universities and colleges after giving them minority status;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether abolishing reservation for above said categories in such universities and colleges is not against the basic principles of the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) While information regarding recognition by states of the minority status of universities and colleges is not maintained centrally, among the Central Universities, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) Act, 1920, defines the University as "the educational institution of their choice established by the Muslims of India, which originated as the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College, Aligarh and which was subsequently incorporated as the Aligarh Muslim University". The matter regarding minority status of AMU is presently sub-judice before the Supreme Court of India. The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) is also empowered under section 11(f) of NCMEI Act, 2004, (2 of 2005), to decide all questions relating to minority status of an educational institution and declare its status as such. As on 31.10.2011, the Commission has granted minority status certificates to 5041 educational institutions. Such certificates were granted by the Commission to 21 institutions in the year 2005, 422 institutions in 2006, 737 institutions in 2007, 507 institutions in 2008, 848 institutions in 2009, 1122 institutions in 2010, and 1384 institutions in 2011 upto 31.10.2011. The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Commission under the power vested in it by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004, (2 of 2005), has granted minority status to Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi and Yenepoya University (a deemed to be University), Mangalore. The matter regarding minority status of Jamia Millia Islamia is also presently *sub-judice*.

(b) The question as to whether an educational institution enjoys minority status under Article 30 (1) of the Constitution is determined by the provisions of the Act/Statutes/Memorandum of Association establishing that institution. The minority status to an educational institution is conferred by the central/state government, under whose jurisdiction the institution falls. As per Section 11(f) and 12B of NCMEI Act, 2004 (2 or 2005), the Commission can decide questions relating to the minority status of an institution and entertain and issue orders on the appeals filed before it relating to minority status of an institution.

(c) to (e) Article 30(1) of the Constitution guarantees the right of religious or linguistic minorities, to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. Article 15(5) of the Constitution exempts the minority educational institutions covered under Article 30(1), from the provision of reservation in admission to educational institutions for any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. Section 4(c) of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006, in consonance with the provisions of the Constitution, exempts the minority educational institutions from the purview of the said Act.

Steps to check touts

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

(a) whether Government is aware that touts have once again become very active during the festive season of Deepavali, Chhath and Durga Puja and the common man does not have access to train tickets;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of number of touts arrested and charge-sheeted, separately, during the last three months, since September to November, 2011, division-wise;

(c) the details of the number of touts arrested from Varanasi and Delhi; and

(d) the details of concrete steps Government would take to ensure availability of train tickets to 'Aam Aadmi' and to check touts?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) Indian Railways take measures to ensure that common man's access to the ticketing system is not affected. Some cases of touting activities come to notice during checks conducted by Railways, particularly during peak rush period/festival seasons. The details of number of touts arrested and charge-sheeted, separately, during the last three months since September to November, 2011 (upto 25th November, 2011), zone-wise, are given in the Statement (*See below*). However, Division-wise figures are not segregated.

(c) One tout at Varanasi and seventeen touts at Delhi have been arrested between September, 2011 and November, 2011 (upto 25th November, 2011).

(d) To facilitate travel for the passengers during peak rush period and to ensure availability of train tickets to 'Aam Aadmi' regular and preventive checks against touting activities are conducted. This is an ongoing continuous process. Some of the steps taken by Railways in this regard are as follows:

- Joint as well as independent checks are conducted by Commercial, Vigilance & Security Departments to curb the activities of touts. Touts so apprehended are taken up as per provisions of Law.
- Additional computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters are opened during peak rush period/festival seasons at various locations.
- For clearance of passenger traffic during peak seasons and festival period including Deepavali, Chhat and Durga Puja, special trains are run and extra coaches are attached keeping in view the pattern of traffic, operational feasibility and availability of resources.
- The Tatkal Scheme has been revamped to ensure that the benefits accrue only to the genuine passengers.
- Queues are formed to regulate entry of passengers in unreserved coaches in association with Railway Protection Force(RPF)/Government Railway Police (GRP).
- The accommodation availability position as well as the details of the Special trains being run is published in the leading newspapers, in addition to being displayed at Booking/Reservation offices/passengers interface areas.
- Surveillance and monitoring at booking offices is stepped up during the peak rush periods.

- Instructions have been issued to install Close Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) at major computerised PRS Centres to keep watch on the activities at reservation counters.
- General public are also educated through Public Address System and media, not to buy tickets from touts/unscrupulous elements.

Statement

The zone-wise number of touts arrested and charge sheeted during the last three months, since September to November, 2011 (upto 25th November, 2011)

Railway	Number of touts arrested	Number of touts charge sheeted
Central	27	27
Eastern	242	190
East Central	11	11
East Coast	6	2
Northern	30	30
North Central	6	2
North Eastern	4	-
Northeast Frontier	-	-
North Western	1	-
Southern	54	41
South Central	18	5
South Eastern	18	17
South East Central	-	-
South Western	65	65
Western	91	91
West Central	21	21
TOTAL	594	502*

* In addition, 92 cases are under enquiry.

Complaints regarding food served on trains

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

- (a) whether Railways have received many complaints regarding the quality of food served on trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a catering policy for the food served on the trains by the Railways;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. Some complaints of substandard items/eatables are reported on trains which are being redressed regularly.

(b) 2891 no. of complaints were received during the last one year (Nov. 2010 to Oct. 2011) regarding the quality of food served on trains.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) New Catering Policy, 2010 has been issued on 21st July 2010 which seeks to address the issues regarding hygienic and good quality affordable food to travelling passengers. There is a paradigm shift in the new policy with regard to the whole approach towards railway catering. Whereas earlier policy sought to treat catering as an independent profit centre, this policy acknowledges catering as a passenger service. The policy has sought to bring improvements in catering by shifting the task of monitoring of catering service from Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) to the Zonal Railways and attempts to leverage Zonal Railways' vast and elaborate all-India network in order to effect a thorough supervision and control over catering activities. Emphasis has been placed to ensure the availability of quality food for the not-so-affluent classes of passengers by providing Janata food and Jan Ahaar (economy combo-meals).

(e) Supervision and monitoring has been strengthened through an institutional mechanism put in place by the Zonal Railways by deploying railway personnel, who check quality and hygiene and take corrective action in a time-bound manner. Zonal Railways have set up a daily monitoring

mechanism through Catering Monitoring Cell at Head Quarter and Division level. About 27875 inspections have been carried out regularly by the Zonal Railways at all levels, in the last one year from November, 2010 to October, 2011, as a result of which 37.07 % complaints have come down during the same period, as compared to corresponding period of last year, when the management of catering services was under IRCTC.

Operating a special train to Buddhist Circuits

*164. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of Government of Odisha for operating a special train to Buddhist circuits in Odisha connecting Bodhgaya/Varanasi is under consideration of the Ministry;

(b) if so, by when the proposal would be cleared; and

(c) if not, the teething problems in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) No, Sir. No proposal is under consideration in the Ministry for operating a special train to Buddhist circuits in Odisha connecting Bodhgaya/Varanasi.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Utilization of USOF for broadband services in rural areas

*165. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to utilize the funds under the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), to give subsidy to the telecom operators for providing broadband services in rural areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to permit private players in rural connectivity and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has a number of ongoing and planned schemes to increase broadband penetration in rural and remote areas of the country by

providing minimum viability gap funding as determined through a competitive bid process. The details of the schemes of USOF are given in Statement (*See below*).

Any licensed telecom operators/registered infrastructure providers, including private players, can participate in the USOF Schemes, subject to meeting the eligibility criteria and terms & conditions of the USOF Schemes.

Statement

USOF Broadband Schemes

- (a) The Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) has been established under the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act with the primary objective of providing access to the telegraph services to people in the rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices. Universal access levy @5% of the adjusted gross revenue of telecom service providers is collected and credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and made available to the USOF after due appropriation of the Parliament. The USOF assists schemes only in the rural and remote areas.
- (b) For expansion of Broadband Services, USOF has adopted a two pronged strategy i.e. launching of scheme for provision of broadband to the end users (such as Wireline/ Wireless/ Satellite Broadband Schemes) as well as augmentation of OFC backhaul media for carrying the broadband traffic from rural areas to the core network. Accordingly, for rural and remote areas, the following schemes have been undertaken by USOF:

1. Rural broadband Schemes: undertaken/planned by USOF

The Indian Telegraph Rules have been amended, and stream IV has been added under the title "Provision of broadband connectivity to villages in a phased manner" to bring provisioning of broadband connectivity to the rural areas under the purview of the USOF.

The rural broadband connectivity will cover Institutional Users, such as Higher secondary schools, Public Health Centres etc., as well as Individual Users, located in the villages. The Schemes are as under:

(a) Ongoing Scheme: "Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme (under Stream-IV of USOF Rules):

Brief and background note: For providing broadband connectivity to rural & remote areas,

USOF has signed an Agreement with BSNL on January 20, 2009 under the **Rural Wireline Broadband Scheme** to provide wire-line broadband connectivity to rural & remote areas by leveraging the existing rural exchanges infrastructure and copper wire-line network. **This scheme is being implemented at pan-India level.** The objective is to make the rural and remote areas broadband enabled by facilitating the service providers in creating Broadband.

The speed of each of the broadband connections shall be at least 512 kbps always on, with the capability to deliver data, voice and video services in the fixed mode. The rural broadband connectivity will cover Institutional Users, such as Gram Panchayats, Higher Secondary Schools and Public Health Centres, as well as Individual Users, located in the villages.

Under this scheme, BSNL will provide 8,88,832 wire-line Broadband connections to individual users and Government Institutions and will set up 28,672 Kiosks over a period of 5-years, i.e., by 2014. The subsidy disbursement is for (i) broadband connections, Customer Premises Equipment (CPE), Computer/Computing devices (ii) setting up of Kiosks for public access to broadband services. The estimated subsidy outflow is Rs. 1500 crore in 5 years time that includes subsidy for 9 lakh broadband connections, CPEs, computers/computing devices and Kiosks.

Present Status: Under this scheme, as of October 2011, a total of 3,29,169 broadband connections have been provided.

Roadmap ahead with target dates: The scheme has an overall target to provide 8,88,832 wire-line Broadband connections by 2014.

b) Planned Schemes:

1. General Infrastructure Augmentation - Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network for backhauling

Background

The Indian Telegraph Rules have been amended, and Stream-V enables USOF to provide support for creation of general infrastructure in rural and remote areas for the development of telecommunication facilities.

Salient Features of the Schemes:

For provision of broadband in rural areas, sufficient back-haul capacity is required to integrate the voice and data traffic from the access network in the rural areas to their core network by strengthening the OFC network. Accordingly, this scheme considers OFC Network augmentation between the blocks' HQ and Districts' HQ to begin with. The States of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, & Nagaland have been taken up for implementation.

This OFC Schemes would be undertaken on BOO model, i.e. build, operate & own basis, and accordingly, the Telecom Service Providers, implementing the schemes would build, operate, own and manage all the equipment/infrastructure for the execution of the scheme.

All locations shall be connected on physical OFC Ring Route(s) with the DHQ node ensuring the cable route diversity and ring capacity of at least 2.5 Gbps, with the capability to efficiently transport various protocols, including TDM, IP, Frame Relay, etc., for integrated voice, data and video signals in all the specified districts.

The following **Optical Fibre Network** schemes have been taken up :

a) **"Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in ASSAM"**

Brief and background note: The State of **Assam** has been taken up first for implementation. As per the outcome of the tender for implementation of this scheme in Assam, BSNL has been declared the successful bidder at a subsidy quote of Rs. 98.89 Crore, and subsequently, an Agreement has been signed with them on 12.02.2010 in this regard. This Scheme is envisaged to be rolled out in a phased manner during the current Five Year Plan (2007-2012).

This OFC Scheme would connect 354 total locations in Assam in total 27 Districts within 24 months from the date of signing of the Agreement. The Agreement shall be valid for a period of **seven years from the effective date.**

At least 70% of the subsidized bandwidth capacity, created under the scheme, shall be shared with the licensed service providers in the area of ASSAM at a rate not more than 26.22 % of the current TRAI ceiling tariffs.

Present Status: As of October 2011, about 163 nodes have been installed so far (Out of 354).

Roadmap ahead with target dates: The scheme has an overall target to install 354 nodes in Assam. The target for 2011-12 and 2012-13 has been fixed as 140 & 122 nodes respectively.

b) **"Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-I Circle (comprising states of Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura),"**

Brief and background note: The States of **Meghalaya, Mizoram & Tripura** have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. As per the outcome of the tender for implementation of this scheme, M/s RailTel Corporation of India Limited has been declared the successful bidder at their subsidy quote of Rs. 89.50 Crore.

This OFC Scheme would connect 188 locations in 19 Districts within 24 months from the date of signing of the Agreement. The Agreement shall be valid for a period of **eight years from the effective date**.

At least 70% of the subsidized bandwidth capacity, created under the scheme, shall be shared with the licensed service providers in the area at a rate not more than 12% of the current TRAI ceiling tariffs.

Present Status: Network roll out is yet to start.

Roadmap ahead with target dates: This OFC Scheme would connect 188 locations in 19 Districts within 24 months from the date of signing of the Agreement.

c) **"Optical Fibre Network Augmentation, Creation and Management of Intra-District SDHQ-DHQ OFC Network in NE-II Circle (comprising states of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur & Nagaland),"**

Brief and background note: The States of **Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur & Nagaland** have been taken up for OFC augmentation in this scheme. As per the outcome of the tender for implementation of this scheme, M/s RailTel Corporation of India Limited has been declared the successful bidder at their-subsidy quote of Rs. 298.50 Crore.

This OFC Scheme would connect 407 locations in total 30 Districts within 30 months from the date of signing of the Agreement. The Agreement shall be valid for a period of eight years from the effective date.

At least 70% of the subsidized bandwidth capacity, created under the scheme, shall be shared with the licensed service providers in the area at a rate not more than 27% of the current TRAI ceiling tariffs.

Present Status: Network roll out is yet to start.

Roadmap ahead with target dates: This OFC Scheme would connect 407 locations in total 30 Districts within 30 months from the date of signing of the Agreement.

2. **National Optical Fibre Network**

Government has approved creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) for providing broadband connectivity to all Panchayats. The plan is to extend the existing optical fibre network initially upto Panchayats by utilizing the Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) and creating an institutional mechanism for management and operation of the NOFN for ensuring non discriminatory access to all service providers.

The cost of initial phase of the NOFN scheme is likely to be about Rs. 20,000 crore. A similar amount of investment is likely to be made by the private sector complementing the NOFN infrastructure while providing services to individual users. The project will be funded by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been assigned a project by DoT/USOF for carrying out the Geo Information System (GIS) mapping of the existing OFC Network of the various Telecom Operators such as BSNL, RailTel, Power Grid etc. and the work is in progress. The mapping of the existing OFC will enable to calculate the incremental length of the cable required for connecting all the 2.5 lakh Panchayats with OFC.

As per the approval of the Cabinet, the action for establishing and operationalising Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) has been initiated for management and operation of the NOFN and ensuring non-discriminatory access to all service providers. The network proposed, under the scheme, is to be completed in 2 years' time.

Innovation universities

*166. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for setting up Universities for Innovation aiming at world class standard in academics and research has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the proposal is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The National Development Council (NDC) has approved setting up of 14 Universities aiming at World Class Standards during 11th and 12th Five Year Plan periods. A legislative proposal for setting up of Universities for Innovation is under consideration of the Government. The proposal aims to provide for the establishment and incorporation of Universities for Innovation to promote synergies between teaching and research and to create institutions universally recognised for quality in teaching, learning and research. The Universities for Innovation would be at the source of making India a global knowledge hub and set benchmarks for excellence for other institutions of higher learning. Each University for Innovation may, in recognition of the fact that knowledge created is not pure discipline based or propositional but also emerges in response to problems of society, focus on an area or areas with problems of significance and build an ecosystem of research and teaching around different related disciplines and fields of study which are relevant thereto, searching for solutions that are globally valid and in the process develop education at undergraduate and higher levels.

Financial irregularity in DFCCIL

*167. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI is investigating financial irregularity in Rs. 50,000 crore Dedicated Freight Corridor Project;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether CBI has submitted its report;

(d) if so, details thereof and action taken thereon;

(e) whether officials of Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL) paid inflated compensation to land-owners for items other than land, in Vadodara region;

(f) if so, whether DFCCIL has identified officers involved in the scam;

(g) if so, details thereof and action taken against each of them; and

(h) whether DFCCIL has ascertained quantum of money involved in the fraud and if so, details thereof and steps taken to recover it?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. A Preliminary Enquiry is being undertaken by Central Bureau of Investigation (C.B.I.) with respect to payment of compensation of land acquisition for Western Freight Corridor in the Vadodara region.

(b) The preliminary enquiry is registered as PE 2 (A)/2011-GNR.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (h) No conclusions have been arrived at as the matter is under preliminary investigation by C.B.I.

Losses incurred by BSNL in landline business

*168. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL's landline business is incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that BSNL plans to scale down the manpower strength engaged in landline business; and

(d) if so, the steps Government would take to improve the landline business of BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is accounting its revenue and expenditure under two segments namely Cellular and Other than Cellular segment which includes

Landline, Telegraph, Telex, Broadband, Receipts from other operators, Leased Circuits, other Value Added Services etc. The loss incurred under Other than Cellular segment during the financial year 2010-11 is Rs. 7,605.42 crores. The financial status of BSNL for the last three years is as follows:

	Year		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Income (Crores)	35,812	32,045	29,688
Expenditure (Crores)	34,354	34,078	36,002
Net Profit (Crores)	575	(-)1,823	(-)6,384

(c) The manpower is deployed on the basis of workload in different business segments. There is no plan to scale down the manpower strength engaged exclusively in BSNL's landline business. However, in view of the intense competition being faced by BSNL and its deteriorating financial health, BSNL has prepared a Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) scheme aimed at reducing its workforce by about 1,00,000.

(d) The actions taken/being initiated by BSNL to increase the subscriber base in landline business in the wake of increasing competition from private players are as follows:

- Upgradation of the external plants and extending connectivity to new upcoming areas.
- Repositioning of fixed line network to deliver high speed broadband service.
- Introduction of various attractive tariff plans.
- Efforts to bring the exchanges on ring architecture.
- Formation of dedicated team for broadband maintenance.
- Strengthening of sales and distribution channel of landline and broadband.
- Targeting bulk business like providing high speed broadband connectivity to Universities, colleges, Rural Common Service Centre (CSCs) etc.
- Offering various Value Added Services (VAS) such as Games on Demand, Music on Demand, Video/Movies on Demand etc.

- Special efforts for providing more connections by making developing areas feasible.
- Arranging camps/melas and approaching customers personally for restoration of disconnected landline and broadband connection.
- Continuous improvement in customer care through Project smile.
- Exit interview of customers who are surrendering landline/broadband.

Productivity of foodgrains

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

- the average productivity of foodgrains, oilseeds and pulses, in 2004-05 and 2010-11;
- the productivity of these commodities compared to neighbouring/ advanced countries and the average world productivity;
- whether, over the years, Government undertook any measures to increase their productivity;
- if so, the measures taken and outcome thereof;
- the targets set for enhancing productivity of wheat, rice, coarse grains, pulses and oilseeds; and
- how far they were achieved?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Details of productivity of foodgrains, oilseeds and pulses during 2004-05 and 2010-11 are as under:

Commodity	(Productivity (Kg/Hectare))	
	2004-05	2010-11*
Foodgrains	1652	1921
Oilseeds	885	1159
Pulses	577	689

*4 advance estimates released on 19.07.2011.

(b) As per information available with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for 2009 (latest available), comparative position of productivity of foodgrains, oil-crops (primary) and pulses in India *vis-a-vis* other neighbouring/advanced countries and the average world productivity is as under:

Country	Productivity kg/hectare)		
	Pulses	Foodgrains	Oil-Crops (Primary)
Australia	1250	1729	504
Bangladesh	871	4077	327
China	1567	5332	584
France	4670	7392	1223
India*	659	1909	1006
Pakistan	702	2575	265
UK	3637	6838	1248
USA	1990	7137	517
World	924	3328	621

*As per official estimates released by Ministry of Agriculture

(c) and (d) In order to increase productivity and production of agricultural crops in the country, a number of Crop Development Schemes/Programmes, namely; National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (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 Ministry of Agriculture through State Governments. In addition to above schemes, during 2010-11, two new programmes *viz.* Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India and Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses and Oilseeds Villages in Rainfed Areas have been initiated under RKVY. A new programme "Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P)" in the form of block demonstrations has also been started to cover 1000 units of 1000 hectares each of five pulses crops in 16 pulses growing States of the country.

To achieve higher agricultural productivity, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is also conducting research on crops like wheat, rice, maize, sorghum, minor millets, oilseeds,

pulses, cotton, sugarcane and jute. The research programmes include basic and strategic research related to crop improvement, production and protection technologies in these crops towards profitable cropping systems suitable to different situations including development of location specific varieties and technologies as per the agro-ecological zones, development of varieties/hybrids, related production and protection technologies suitable for non-traditional areas and seasons. As a result of these initiatives, improved varieties/hybrids of crops have been developed with good adaptability to different agro-ecological zones with specific traits. Breeder seed of improved varieties as per the indent of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are produced for multiplication of foundation seeds and certified seeds. Promotion and adoption of technologies are ensured through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs). The technologies developed by ICAR institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) in respect of cash crops are also being popularized through special programmes.

As a result of various steps taken by the Government, productivity of foodgrains, pulses and oilseeds in the country has increased as indicated in reply to part (a).

(e) and (f) The targets for productivity are not fixed. However, the details of targets fixed and estimated production of wheat, rice, coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds for 2010-11 (4th Advance Estimates) are as under:

Crops	Production (Million tonnes)	
	Target	Estimated Production
Wheat	82.00	85.93
Rice	102.00	95.32
Coarse Cereals	44.00	42.22
Pulses	16.50	18.09
Oilseeds	33.20	31.10

Monitoring of radioactive material in educational institutions

*170. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether guidelines of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board have duly been conveyed to educational institutions who purchase, store and use, for experimental purposes, liquid radioactive substances;

(b) if so, whether any periodical monitoring is prescribed for physical check-up of such radioactive material; and

(c) whether this monitoring is done by the in-house body in an educational institution or some other independent authority is designated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) regulations have been notified by AERB which is the regulatory body to regulate the purchases, storage and use and disposal of liquid radioactive substances. University Grants Commission (UGC) had written to all educational institutions *vide* their letter dated 11th May, 2010 to follow the regulations prescribed by AERB. Subsequently, UGC constituted an Expert Committee to frame guidelines for Universities, Research Institutes and Colleges for procurement, storage, usage and disposal of radioactive and other hazardous materials/chemicals. The report alongwith guidelines submitted by the Committee was considered by the UGC. The guidelines, as approved by the UGC in January, 2011, were circulated to all Universities and Colleges and all State Education Secretaries seeking compliance of these guidelines.

(b) The Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004 prescribe appropriate radiation surveillance requirements and procedures by competent authority. The UGC guidelines provide that annual records, in respect of the disposal of radioactive waste shall be submitted to AERB. All the radiation related activities in laboratories have to be carried out by designated radiation staff under the supervision of Radiation Safety Officer(RSO). The responsibilities of RSO include supervision of overall use of radio-isotope, suspending activities deemed unsafe, supervising personnel monitoring services, maintaining records of personnel exposures, supervising regular contamination and area surveys of facilities where radio-isotopes are used. The Supervisor is responsible to monitor the designated areas for appropriate storage of radio-isotopes and disposal of radioactive waste material. The user himself is responsible to keep working area clean, remove unnecessary material, ensure that the areas containing radioactive material are locked after working hours etc. Monitoring of disposal of radio-isotopes provides for *'inter-alia'* periodic maintenance and monitoring of the path

ways of the liquid effluents insuring that appropriate disposal limits are not exceeded, a log book is maintained in prescribed form, recording the identity and quantity of each radio-isotope disposed, time of its disposal, the name of the person who has supervised the waste disposal etc.

(c) Monitoring is done both in-house and by outside agencies. The Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004 provide for inspection of premises, radiation installations and conveyances by a person duly authorized under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 for the purpose of the enforcement of these Rules. The UGC guidelines provide that all the radiation related activities in laboratories have to be carried out by designated Radiation Staff under the supervision of a Radiation Safety Officer (RSO), who can be a faculty with experience in radiation field and get designated as RSO by AERB on the recommendations of the Institution.

Development of Madgaon railway station

*171. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether funds are allocated to develop Madgaon railway station as a commercial hub;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the size of land required for the renovation;
- (d) whether Government has sufficient land for the project; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) No additional land is required for renovation. However, for provision of additional facilities on East side of the Madgaon station, Konkan Railway Corporation Limited has requested the State Government Authorities for 3,000 sqm land.

Complaints of fraudulent practices

*172. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaints have been registered by the Ministry in respect of fraudulent practices adopted by certain legislators in the country while operating funds for constituency development under MPLADS and other schemes; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No complaint has been registered against the legislators in the country under the MPLADS or any other scheme administered by this Ministry as per information available in this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

**Testing of software and hardware of foreign
telecommunication companies**

*173. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided on testing and authentication of software and hardware of all foreign telecommunication companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a laboratory is being set up by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for the testing of telecommunication hardware; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Sir, to take care of national security concerns related to telecom network, Government has issued the amendment to various telecom licenses wherein it is mandated that Licensee shall induct only those network elements into his network, which have been tested as per relevant contemporary Indian or International Security standards by any international agency/labs for respective standards until 31st March, 2011. From 1st April, 2013 the certification shall be got done only from authorized and certified agencies/labs in India.

(c) and (d) A pilot lab has been set up at IISc, Bangaluru, to develop the test standards, procedures and test tools to test the telecom equipments.

Development of rail network in North-east region

*174. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special provision has been made by the Ministry to expedite development of rail network in the North-East region considering the Vision 2020 document;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the steps taken, projects sanctioned and targets set for their timely completion; and

(d) the details of steps being taken to accelerate better rail connectivity and services in the North-East region to expedite industrial growth under the North-East Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy (NEIIPP)?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A dedicated non lapsable fund namely "North Eastern Region Rail Development Fund" (NERRDF) has been created for providing assured fund flows to National Projects of Northeast Region.

(c) and (d) Railway has taken up 12 new line, 4 gauge conversion and 2 doubling projects in N.E. Region. Completion of these projects would provide connectivity to all State capitals except Sikkim. During 2011-12, Rs.1963 crore have been allotted for projects of Northeast Region. Completion of 76 km of new line section and 165 km of gauge conversion section is targeted during 2011-12.

Opening of new post offices

*175. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open new post offices in the country, including in Gujarat;

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

(c) whether all post offices in the country have internet facility; and

(d) if not, by when all post offices in the country are likely to be provided with this facility?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Opening of Post Offices is an on-going activity. Post Offices are opened subject to fulfilment of prescribed norms, availability of Plan support and manpower. The Circle-wise physical targets allotted for opening of Post Offices including Gujarat for the current year 2011 -12 are given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) No, Sir. As on date, 12,202 Departmental Post Offices have been provided with internet connectivity. Circle-wise break-up of these Post Offices are given in Statement-II (See below).

(d) The IT Modernization Project of Department of Posts (Phase-2) is proposed to be completed by 2012-13. After completion of the project, all Departmental Post Offices will have internet connections.

Statement-I

*Circle-wise Physical Targets for opening of Branch Post Offices (BOs)
and Sub-Post Offices (SOs) by relocation/redeployment during
current financial year 2011-12*

Sl. No.	Name of the Circles	BOs	SOs
1	2	3	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	7	4
2	Assam	3	2
3	Bihar	3	2
4	Chhattisgarh	3	2
5	Delhi	3	2
6	Gujarat	3	2
7	Haryana	3	2
8	Himachal Pradesh	3	3
9	Jammu & Kashmir	2	2
10	Jharkhand	3	2

1	2	3	5
11	Karnataka	4	4
12	Kerala	3	2
13	Madhya Pradesh	5	3
14	Maharashtra	7	4
15	North East	3	2
16	Orissa	4	3
17	Punjab	4	2
18	Rajasthan	6	2
19	Tamil Nadu	7	4
20	Uttarakhand	3	3
21	Uttar Pradesh	7	4
22	West Bengal	4	4
TOTAL		90	60

Statement-II

*Circle-wise break-up of Departmental Post Offices
having Internet Connectivity*

Sl. No.	Name of the Circles	Post Offices having Internet Connectivity [in number]
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	824
2	Assam	525
3	Bihar	291
4	Chhattisgarh	142
5	Delhi	245
6	Gujarat	872
7	Haryana	278
8	Himachal Pradesh	256

1	2	3
9	Jammu & Kashmir	79
10	Jharkhand	181
11	Karnataka	840
12	Kerala	1070
13	Madhya Pradesh	481
14	Maharashtra	1342
15	North East	181
16	Orissa	450
17	Punjab	431
18	Rajasthan	329
19	Tamil Nadu	1448
20	Uttarakhand	1023
21	Uttar Pradesh	182
22	West Bengal	732
TOTAL		12202

Debt ridden farmers in the country

*176. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether around half of the farmers in the country are debt ridden as per a recent survey report of a Government agency;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, with reference to the number of indebted farmers in U.P., district-wise;

(c) whether the main reason for large number of farmers being debt ridden in the country is that agriculture has become unprofitable;

(d) whether Government has conducted any study to ascertain the percentage of increase in cost of production of foodgrains, particularly wheat and paddy, during the last five years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the report on the "Indebtedness of Farmer Households" ((NSSO report 498 of NSS 59th Round), of the 89.35 million farmer households, 43.42 million farmer households (48.6%) were reported to be indebted to either formal or informal or both sources of credit. State-wise details including those of Uttar Pradesh are given in Statement-I (See below). District-wise data is not compiled by NSSO.

(c) Loan for the purpose of capital or current expenditure in farm business combined with successive crop failures and loan for meeting health, marriages and other social ceremonies related expenses have been identified as the major reasons for indebtedness of farmers in the country.

(d) and (e) The Government of India is implementing a scheme on Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops for ascertaining cost of production of important food crops. The scheme covers 27 crops including paddy and wheat. These crops are selected for a block period of three years and combination of crops in each state vary from state to state depending upon their importance in terms of its relative contribution in the production of relevant crop at all India level. The cost of production for wheat, paddy and other food grains as per data available for last five years i.e. 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Estimated number of rural and farmer households and indebted farmer households in each State

State	Estimated no. of rural households (^{'00})	Estimated no. of farmer households (^{'00})	Estimated no. of indebted farmers households (^{'00})	Percentage of farmer households indebted
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	142512	60339	49493	82.0
Arunachal Pradesh	15412	1227	72	5.9
Assam	41525	25040	4536	18.1
Bihar	116853	70804	23383	33.0
Chhattisgarh	36316	27598	11092	40.2

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat	63015	37845	19644	51.9
Haryana	31474	19445	10330	53.1
Himachal Pradesh	11928	9061	3030	33.4
Jammu & Kashmir	10418	9432	3003	31.8
Jharkhand	36930	28238	5893	20.9
Karnataka	69908	40413	24897	61.6
Kerala	49942	21946	14126	64.4
Madhya Pradesh	93898	63206	32110	50.8
Maharashtra	118177	65817	36098	54.8
Manipur	2685	2146	533	24.8
Meghalaya	3401	2543	103	4.1
Mizoram	942	780	184	23.6
Nagaland	973	805	294	36.5
Orissa	66199	42341	20250	47.8
Punjab	29847	18442	12069	65.4
Rajasthan	70172	53080	27828	52.4
Sikkim	812	531	174	38.8
Tamil Nadu	110182	38880	28954	74.5
Tripura	5977	2333	1148	49.2
Uttar Pradesh	221499	171575	69199	40.3
Uttarakhand	11959	8962	644	7.2
West Bengal	121667	69226	34696	50.1
Group of UT's	2325	732	372	50.8
ALL INDIA	1478988	893504	434242	48.6

Source: Report NO.498 on the "Indebtedness of Farmer Households" -NSS 59th Round (January-December 2003) released by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in May, 2005.

Statement-II

Cost of Production C2 (Rs./qt.) for Wheat, Paddy and other Foodgrains

Crop	States	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Wheat	Bihar	591.94	691.20	668.98	609.28	673.44
	Chhattisgarh	907.96	914.95	879.11	962.61	1039.66
	Gujarat	535.37	524.80	602.91	581.12	717.70
	Haryana	522.87	577.41	588.68	673.46	716.55
	Himachal Pradesh	678.84	720.55	778.94	866.86	1217.08
	Jharkhand	946.56	947.19	1111.55	1292.45	1390.97
	Madhya Pradesh	583.81	720.77	730.32	779.37	810.25
	Maharashtra	NS	NS	NS	NS	1275.77
	Punjab	494.35	556.27	617.11	647.95	804.80
	Rajasthan	480.19	528.70	568.12	649.77	683.58
Uttar Pradesh	597.81	654.22	635.89	651.14	769.84	

Paddy	Uttarakhand	630.97	647.54	756.86	806.28	632.98
	West Bengal	NS	987.41	996.32	975.17	1204.73
	Andhra Pradesh	503.73	540.96	556.60	638.56	789.90
	Assam	607.65	559.92	852.76	619.81	731.41
	Bihar	551.55	497.44	518.50	435.48	584.82
	Chhattisgarh	518.36	508.21	524.08	552.74	761.74
	Gujarat	NS	478.35	434.21	456.76	624.37
	Haryana	704.69	618.45	609.03	676.86	1021.90
	Himachal Pradesh	NS	684.64	704.67	922.45	634.08
	Jharkhand	643.97	751.95	653.85	718.11	865.26
	Karnataka	569.46	518.54	520.29	581.66	737.44
	Kerala	707.13	671.66	717.34	747.73	792.61
	Madhya Pradesh	784.08	689.82	694.75	783.31	745.22
	Maharashtra	NS	762.06	1007.57	894.01	1413.59
	Orissa	493.69	528.90	570.35	599.68	715.04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Punjab	448.62	487.28	477.42	505.92	669.86
	Tamil Nadu	612.13	690.96	634.32	696.79	894.99
	Uttar Pradesh	570.70	559.19	615.41	600.73	732.62
	Uttarakhand	511.38	552.97	505.38	527.66	674.05
	West Bengal	578.11	581.02	625.07	668.34	731.25
Jowar	Andhra Pradesh	713.39	746.64	897.71	1166.40	1102.37
	Karnataka	683.71	770.26	934.63	956.40	1107.52
	Madhya Pradesh	674.84	757.02	724.06	672.98	1123.22
	Maharashtra	613.62	676.07	667.41	748.90	927.53
	Rajasthan	524.36	683.50	679.56	850.81	756.72
	Tamil Nadu	735.30	1126.41	766.75	582.93	694.87
Bajra	Gujarat	558.48	579.99	595.13	611.09	615.04
	Haryana	675.02	782.21	683.37	678.98	769.59
	Karnataka	NS	715.31	705.74	657.07	975.04

Maize	Maharashtra	632.69	681.82	746.84	742.88	1063.65
	Rajasthan	478.84	596.07	572.40	549.38	668.23
	Uttar Pradesh	457.60	592.66	528.93	537.84	731.21
	Andhra Pradesh	581.89	578.27	575.65	611.10	840.58
	Bihar	359.03	382.62	424.62	429.07	404.43
	Chhattisgarh	635.28	571.22	545.94	494.02	651.33
	Gujarat	NS	694.60	1355.65	512.09	593.48
	Himachal Pradesh	510.90	736.27	560.74	669.95	796.56
	Jharkhand	655.81	756.39	620.70	715.18	NS
	Karnataka	454.16	398.15	488.93	465.07	581.69
	Madhya Pradesh	726.67	743.56	1169.96	885.37	975.69
	Rajasthan	715.04	916.28	956.41	690.80	658.77
	Tamil Nadu	NS	498.42	610.93	591.15	668.32
	Uttar Pradesh	689.20	588.03	748.33	842.75	1387.36
	Uttarakhand	887.25	808.44	787.04	996.10	NS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gram	Andhra Pradesh	NS	1267.54	1420.03	1370.76	1559.04
	Bihar	1097.08	1235.83	1513.49	1299.76	1042.52
	Chhattisgarh	1292.91	946.38	1136.17	1061.68	14.00
	Jharkhand	1434.12	1137.93	1470.73	1290.27	1635.06
	Haryana	1284.61	NA	1597.15	3479.70	1967.71
	Karnataka	NS	1229.00	1583.46	1545.75	1619.93
	Madhya Pradesh	1004.76	1401.57	1551.00	1613.49	1551.94
	Maharashtra	1728.73	1552.46	1894.80	1614.12	2277.68
	Rajasthan	1094.82	1488.30	1247.65	1817.84	1691.66
	Uttar Pradesh	1114.71	1083.09	1751.12	1820.35	1882.68
Aarhar	Andhra Pradesh	1313.49	1386.93	1924.28	2192.98	3670.54
	Bihar	NS	1436.98	1839.67	1723.63	1408.75
	Gujarat	1337.42	1442.19	1400.62	1136.36	1898.30
	Karnataka	1603.71	1378.82	1588.03	1569.41	1873.83

	Madhya Pradesh	1203.22	1392.28	1764.12	1682.16	2172.46
	Maharashtra	1253.81	1507.87	1956.68	1973.68	2775.80
	Orissa	1712.12	2583.43	2577.34	2527.40	2147.67
	Tamil Nadu	NS	NS	2698.20	1314.66	4154.22
	Uttar Pradesh	1295.31	1403.08	1702.14	1823.22	1941.55
Moong	Andhra Pradesh	1849.73	2294.22	2764.12	1604.53	2228.97
	Karnataka	NS	1516.24	2671.54	2590.88	5777.48
	Maharashtra	2737.83	2884.33	3159.29	2424.60	2261.24
Urad	Andhra Pradesh	1276.75	1385.68	1425.52	1454.55	1914.90
	Chhattisgarh	1561.10	1642.96	2621.70	1468.28	2297.44
	Madhya Pradesh	1602.78	3106.44	2138.84	1939.92	1833.65
	Maharashtra	3015.07	2331.37	3249.00	1773.81	3342.29
	Orissa	1554.42	1907.90	1894.74	2037.70	2111.87
	Rajasthan	1722.09	2434.11	1321.64	2133.35	3579.51
	Tamil Nadu	1681.69	2847.50	2330.48	2483.97	2625.29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Uttar Pradesh	1476.59	2051.07	1907.16	2304.17	2564.97
Ragi	Karnataka	713.77	759.13	802.77	1031.39	1005.02
	Maharashtra	NS	1489.54	1520.89	2363.39	1963.49
	Tamil Nadu	777.38	743.95	755.24	568.86	822.00
Barley	Rajasthan	399.38	481.89	465.16	632.04	580.46
	Uttar Pradesh	576.70	614.10	677.24	659.01	663.54
Lentil	Bihar	907.55	1134.62	1110.52	1206.57	1441.61
	Jharkhand	1520.30	1140.72	1165.73	1118.89	1213.78
	Madhya Pradesh	958.30	1127.68	1434.10	1634.73	1980.66
	Uttar Pradesh	1745.60	1302.26	1735.04	1817.44	2121.35
	West Bengal	NS	NS	NS	NS	2322.51
Peas	Madhya Pradesh	NS	1203.76	1220.84	1144.85	1511.37
	Uttar Pradesh	NS	1118.66	1280.01	1357.18	1806.45

NS - Crop is not selected.

Facilities at Gosalpur station on Jabalpur division

†*177.SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of mineral ore loaded per month at Gosalpur station of Jabalpur Division;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to elevate the platform as well as to provide other facilities, in view of large quantum of loading at this station; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for Government not proposing increase in passenger and freight facilities at such profitable stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Month-wise mineral ore loading at Gosalpur station from April, 2011 during current financial year is as under:

Month	Number of Rakes loaded
April	10
May	13
June	8
July	2
August	11
September	04
October	Nil
November (upto 26.11.2011)	Nil
TOTAL	48

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Adequate facilities to handle current level of passenger and freight traffic are available at this station. The station can handle two freight trains simultaneously and therefore capacity is much higher than the existing volume of traffic. For passenger traffic, Gosalpur is an 'E' category station on the basis of passenger earnings and passenger amenities available at this station are more than the prescribed norms.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Rahabilitation of people residing on railway land

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

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that people of poor families are residing unauthorisedly on railway land along railway tracks of Surat, Udhna, Vadodara and Ahmedabad;

(b) whether any necessary steps are being taken by the Ministry for rehabilitation of these poor families in collaboration with Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and Government of Gujarat, to vacate railway land and to get rid of filth and frequent accidents; and

(c) the details of the steps taken, so far, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) to (c) There are unauthorized encroachments on Railway land including those along the Railway tracks in Surat, Udhna, Vadodara and Ahmedabad. On Indian Railways, about 0.23% of the total land holding is encroached. Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to prevent fresh encroachments by protecting Railway land/property by providing boundary walls, fencing, tree plantation, etc. Railways have decided to deal with the issue of encroachments in a humane manner. Housing, being a State subject, resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) of encroachers is the responsibility of the State Govt. Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has issued guidelines under the scheme 'Rajiv Awas Yojana' (RAY) in this regard. The issue of rehabilitation of slums existing in close proximity of Railway tracks has been taken up with Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation for relocation of slums under RAY.

Global epidemic of wheat, UG-99

†*179. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that global epidemic of wheat, UG-99, a fungal disease, has reached up to Iran from Africa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent the arrival of this epidemic into India, so that the production of wheat in the country would not be affected?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. As per Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Ug-99, a fungal disease of wheat, has reached Iran from Africa.

(b) Indian wheat varieties have been evaluated in Kenya and Ethiopia against stem rust race Ug-99 and around 30 of these varieties have been found to carry resistance to this disease. Ug-99 resistant genetic stocks are being used in wheat breeding programme to develop disease resistant varieties. Surveys are carried out to keep watch over ingress of Ug-99.

Opening of mega food parks

*180. SHRI. BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to open 15 more Mega Food Parks in addition to the 15 approved/sanctioned Mega Food Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the places where these Mega Food Parks are being opened;

(c) the status of Mega Food Park being opened in Punjab;

(d) by when the Mega Food Park will be fully operational; and

(e) whether there is plan to allot one more Mega Food Park to Punjab in view of the large supply of raw material in the State for Mega Food Park?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Govt. has approved setting up of 15 more Mega Food Parks in addition to 15 already approved/sanctioned Mega Food Parks in the 3rd phase of Scheme implementation.

(b) Expression of Interest (EoI) has been called for 15 new Mega Food Parks from all across the Country. Subject to fulfilment of the basic eligibility as per the guidelines, one Mega Food Park each will be considered for hitherto uncovered States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Goa and Pondicherry and as per policy of the Government for NE region, setting up of one Mega Food Park may be considered for NE region including Sikkim. After ensuring the above, additional Mega Food Park may be considered from the rest of the States with the provision that no single State will be allotted more than two Mega Food Parks in total.

(c) Final approval was accorded on 25.03.2011 to M/s International Mega Food Park Ltd. for setting up a Mega Food Park in Ferozpur, Punjab. 1st tranche of 1st instalment of Rs. 5.00 Crores out of total approved grant of Rs. 50.00 Crores has been released on 03.08.2011.

(d) As per guidelines of Mega Food Park, prescribed time limit for implementation of the project is 24 months from the date of release of 1st tranche of 1st instalment of grant-in-aid.

(e) As has been stated in (b) above, one Mega Food Park each will be considered for hitherto uncovered States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Goa and Pondicherry and as per policy of the Government for NE region, setting up of one Mega Food Park may be considered for NE region including Sikkim. Setting up of Mega Food Park in other States including Punjab having more potential may be considered thereafter, as indicated at (b) above.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO USTARRED QUESTIONS

Debt-burden in tribal farmers

1241. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that majority of tribal farmers have not been able to benefit from the present design of the debt waiver scheme;

(b) whether Government will create a special package to address the debt burden of tribal farmers; and

(c) whether delay in addressing this issue makes the present debt waiver scheme discriminatory against a section of farmers who are tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The Government of India's Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 was aimed at de-clogging the lines of credit that were clogged due to the debt burden on the farmers and to entitle these farmers for fresh credit. All agricultural loans disbursed by Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), Cooperative Banks (including Urban Cooperative Banks) and Local Area Banks (LABs) upto 31st March, 2007 overdue as on 31st

December, 2007 and that remained unpaid until 29.02.2008 were covered under the Scheme. The Scheme was applicable to all farmers including tribal farmers eligible under the Scheme and there was no discrimination against a section of farmers who are tribal. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for creation of a special package to address the debt burden of tribal farmers.

Modest growth in agriculture sector

1242. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to data released by Central Statistical Organisation, there is modest growth in agriculture and allied services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for low growth in the foodgrains during last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken for the growth of agriculture sector during next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) As per the revised estimates of Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the growth rate of agriculture and allied sectors reached the level of 6.6% for 2010-11 which is the highest achieved growth rate during the last six years.

(c) The production of foodgrains has increased from 234.47 million tones in 2008-09 to 241.56 million tones in 2010-11. The production of foodgrains in 2009-10 was at 218.11 million tones due to severe drought in most parts of the country during 2009-10 and drought/deficient rainfall in some States namely Bihar, Jharkhand, East U.P. and West Bengal in 2010-11.

(d) The Government of India has launched several schemes in consultation with states to increase growth of agriculture sector. Some of the major Schemes are the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) etc.

Assistance to goat rearers

1243. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether goat meat production in the country has increased during the last three years, if so, the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether people who rear goat as their only source of livelihood are able to make decent living out of it;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of Government plan to assist them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Yes, Sir. The state wise goat meat production for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) Peoples who rear goat as their only source of livelihood can make a decent living if goats farming is done on commercial scale following modern management practices.

(c) and (d) Government of India, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries initiated a new central sector plan scheme "Integrated Development of Small Ruminants & Rabbits" during XI Plan to assist goat farmers in the country. This new Central Sector Scheme has been approved for implementation during XI Plan with an allocation of Rs. 134.825 crores out of which B.E. for 2011-12 is Rs.12.00 crore. The scheme envisages setting up of 54 intensive small ruminant development clusters through NABARD as well as infrastructure development and institutional restructuring through State Implementing Agency.

NABARD is the implementing agency for beneficiary oriented components of the scheme under which capital subsidy to the extent of 25% of cost of project (33.33% for Scheduled Caste/Schedule Tribes and hilly areas and North Eastern States) is provided to the beneficiaries for setting up small units of 40 ewes / doe and 2 ram / buck, or breeding farms of 500 ewes / doe and 25 ram / buck. Activities relating to State Government institutions will be undertaken by designated State Implementing Agency (SIA) through Govt. of India for strengthening of State sheep/ goat rabbit farm.

Besides this scheme, National Mission for Protein Supplement (NMPS) supports goat rearing activities in ten States of Rajasthan, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Jharkhand with an allocation of Rs.2.50 crore to each State.

Statement

State-wise goat meat production in the country during last three years

(Thousand tones)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	56.13	60.01	66.74
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.90	1.92	1.96
3.	Assam	6.82	6.51	7.57
4.	Bihar	62.14	61.93	60.68
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.75	2.89	5.70
6.	Goa	NA	NA	0.01
7.	Gujarat	1.47	1.58	1.53
8.	Haryana	3.79	4.13	4.62
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2.33	2.36	2.42
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	5.17	NA
11.	Jharkhand	24.90	25.02	24.95
12.	Karnataka	20.55	22.07	25.46
13.	Kerala	5.15	8.91	7.98
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9.15	9.57	10.24
15.	Maharashtra	57.82	59.37	59.07
16.	Manipur	0.28	0.27	0.27

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Meghalaya	1.03	1.04	1.05
18.	Mizoram	0.07	0.08	0.06
19.	Nagaland	NA	NA	NA
20.	Orissa	41.87	46.27	46.27
21.	Punjab	3.14	3.30	3.46
22.	Rajasthan	38.51	39.93	46.19
23.	Sikkim	NA	NA	NA
24.	Tamil Nadu	26.21	26.47	27.53
25.	Tripura	2.07	1.19	1.82
26.	Uttar Pradesh	33.49	33.07	32.92
27.	Uttarakhand	2.99	2.98	2.92
28.	West Bengal	78.19	84.86	85.82
29.	A & N Islands	0.03	0.10	0.12
30.	Chandigarh	0.42	0.42	0.41
31.	D & N Haveli	NA	NA	NA
32.	Daman & Diu	NA	NA	NA
33.	Delhi	1.61	1.94	NA
34.	Lakshadweep	0.08	0.08	0.09
35.	Puducherry	3.21	3.65	3.90
ALL INDIA		488.11	517.08	530.73

Agitation of fishermen in Andhra Pradesh

1244. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the agitation of fishermen in the deep sea and beyond coastal waters off Narsapur in Andhra Pradesh demanding oil operations to be stopped;

- (b) whether fish catch has gone down in areas in the deep-sea where oil rigs are operating;
- (c) whether Government has noted the agitation by 10,000 fishermen demanding that fishery resources be saved;
- (d) whether Fishery Survey of India has sent a team to assess the potential/damage; and
- (e) steps proposed by Government to find out the potential losses to fishermen due to dwindling catches in the KG-Basin of Andhra coasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

Renovation of Sasoon Dock

1245. DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently conducted any study for construction of new fishing harbours;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of renovation and modernization of Sasoon Dock, Mumbai; and
- (d) the details of Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore one of the subordinate offices under the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries conducts necessary studies and prepares reports for development of fishing harbours in the country. A statement indicating state-wise details of the studies conducted and reports prepared by the CICEF during last two years and current year is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The major fishing harbour at Sassoon Dock has been developed with 100 percent funding from the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry of Agriculture has so far provided an amount of Rs. 1301.51 lakh to the Mumbai Port Trust for development of the fishing harbour.

The Ministry of Agriculture through the CICEF, Bangalore also has got formulated a report for renovation and modernization of Sassoon Dock Fishing Harbour and advised the Mumbai Port Trust to (i) frame the cost estimate and (ii) set up an institutional system to manage the fishing harbour in a professional manner to ensure quality services to the users.

Statement

Details of studies carried out and reports prepared by the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery (CICEF), Bangalore, Ministry of Agriculture

Sl. No	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Details of the studies conducted and report prepared
1	2	3

Year 2009-2010

Reports prepared and issued in respect of:

1	Odisha	Comprehensive Development Plan for Dhamara Fishery Harbour
2	Maharashtra	Renovation and modernization plan for Sassoon Dock Fishery Harbour.
3	Karnataka	Pre-feasibility report for development of a fishery harbour at Kulai.
4	Puducherry	Revised feasibility report for development of a fishing harbour at Yanam

Year 2010-2011

A Engineering and economic investigations conducted in respect of:

1	Odisha	Construction of fishing harbours at Chandipur and Bahabalpur in Bhadrak District.
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1	2	3
2	Kerala	Renovation and remodeling of existing jetties and other landside facilities at Kochi for operation of the vessels belonging the Fishery Survey of India, CIFNET and NIFPHATT.
3	Maharashtra	Reconnaissance survey covering a total of 34 sites in five coastal districts namely Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri, Raigad, Greater Mumbai and Thane for development of Fishing Harbours/Fish Landing Centres under Konkan Package.

B Techno Economic Feasibility Reports prepared and issued in respect of:

1	Karnataka	Comprehensive Development Plan for 3rd Stage development of Mangalore Fishery Harbour.
2	Karnataka	Comprehensive Development Plan for 3rd stage development of Malpe Fishery Harbour.
3	Karnataka	2nd stage expansion of Honnavar Fishery Harbour.
4	Maharashtra	Developemnt of a fishing harbour at Karanja in Raigad District.
5	Maharashtra	Pre-feasibility study reports in respect of a total 34 sites located in Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri, Raigad, Greater Mumbai and Thane Districts covering recommendations for the development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres under Konkan Package.

Year 2011-12 (Status up to October, 2011)

A Engineering and economic investigations conducted in respect of:

1	Karnataka	Majali in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka for development of Fishery Harbour.
2	Karnataka	Keni in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka for development of Fishery Harbour.

1	2	3
3	Gujarat	Reconnaissance survey of Mangrol fishery harbour for Phase III development.
B Techno Economic Feasibility Reports prepared and issued in respect of:		
1	Odisha	Construction of fishing harbour at Chudamani in Bhadrak District

Suicide by farmers

1246. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to the National Crime Record Bureau's latest report over 2.5 lakh cases of farmers, suicide were reported between 1995 to 2010;
- (b) if so, whether the trend of farm suicides has increased in the past 7-8 years;
- (c) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to ascertain the causes of the same; and
- (d) if so, the corrective steps Government proposes to address the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) National Crime Records Bureau publishes information on suicides reported in the country in its annual report entitled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India (ADSI)'.¹ ADSI also analyzes profile of suicide victims classified by profession, including self employed (farming/agriculture) on annual basis. As per ADSI report for relevant years, trend of suicide in self employed (farming/agriculture) category has not increased in past 7-8 years.

(c) Causes of suicide in each professional category are not mentioned in ADSI. However, causes of all suicide, which are mentioned, include family problems, illness, drug abuse/addiction, unemployment, property dispute, bankruptcy or sudden change in economic status, poverty, professional/career problem, love affair, barrenness/impotency, cancellation/non-settlement of marriage, dowry dispute, fall in social reputation and causes not known.

- (d) Government of India implemented Rehabilitation Package, which was announced in

2006 initially for 3 years, covering 31 districts in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra to address problem of agrarian distress. An amount of Rs. 19910.70 crore has been released under this package till June 30, 2011. Period for implementation of non-credit components of the package was extended by 2 more years i.e. up to September 30, 2011.

Government also implemented Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 benefitting about 3.69 crore farmers in country involving Rs.65,318.33 crore, as per provisional figures.

Minimum Support Price of agricultural commodities has been increased substantially during last 5 years for benefit of farmers.

Interest subvention for timely repayment of crop loans up to Rs.3 lakh has been enhanced from 2011-12, resulting in further lowering of effective rate of interest for those farmers who repay their crop loan on time to 4% per annum.

Further, in order to revitalize agriculture sector and to improve conditions of farmers on sustainable basis, other measures taken by Government, inter-alia, include significant increase in public investment in agriculture sector through implementation of various schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, National Mission on Micro-Irrigation, Watershed Management, Soil Health & Fertility management etc.

Additional measures initiated for enhancing production in agriculture sector during 2011-12, inter-alia, include schemes for bringing 60,000 hectare under oil palm plantation, initiative on vegetable clusters, promotion of production of nutri-cereals and launching of National Mission for Protein Supplements.

Excess use of chemical fertilizers

†1247. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agriculture land is becoming barren due to indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any policy to stop indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) There is no scientific evidence of declining soil fertility and agricultural land becoming barren with judicious use of chemical fertilizers. However, indiscriminate and imbalanced use of fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years has resulted into widespread multi-nutrient deficiencies and deterioration of soil health in the country, particularly in the intensively cultivated areas of the country.

(c) and (d) The Government is promoting integrated nutrient management involving soil test based judicious use of chemical fertilizers and locally available organic manures.

Annual growth rate of foodgrains

†1248. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that annual growth rate of foodgrains production in the Eleventh Five Year Plan has remained 3.3 per cent on an average;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the names of the agriculture produces with less annual average growth rate than 3.3 per cent in the above said period; and

(d) the name of the agriculture produce with highest annual average growth rate than annual average growth rate of 3.3 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) During the first four years of Eleventh Five Year Plan period, *i.e.*, 2007-08 to 2010-11, average annual growth rate of foodgrains production has been 2.90%.

(c) and (d) As indicated in table below all the major agricultural crops except rice, wheat, Jowar, total foodgrains, rapeseed & mustard, sunflower, jute & mesta and sugarcane recorded average annual growth rate of more than 3.3%. among the major crops, the highest average annual growth rate of 20.36% has been recorded in the production of groundnut.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Crop	Average Annual Growth Rate (%)
Rice	0.74
Wheat	3.21
Jowar	-1.16
Pulses	6.67
Foodgrains	2.90
Groundnut	20.36
Rapeseed & Mustard	2.41
Soyabean	10.46
Sunflower	-13.69
Sugarcane	-0.40
Cotton	11.85
Jute & Mesta	-1.13

Implementation of Pulses Villages Scheme

1249. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Budget 2011 had provided funds to establish 60,000 Pulses Villages in the country in order to increase production of pulses; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and to what extent the scheme has been implemented with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For enhancing the production and productivity of pulses, Government of India had provided an amount of Rs. 300.00 crore in the Union Budget 2011-12 under the programme of "Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses Village in Rainfed Areas". The programme is being implemented in 11 major pulses growing States Viz. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh. The programme provides support for in-situ moisture conservation works; demonstration of production and protection technologies in compact blocks under accelerated pulses production programme and market linked extension support to Small Farmer Agri-business Consortium (SFAC) for setting up of Farmers Producer Organisations (FPO). Out of 300.00 crore allocated during 2011-12, an amount of Rs. 164.05 crore (till 28.11.2011) has been released to the States for implementation of the programme.

Norms for support price for crops

†1250. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms on the basis of which support price for crops is decided by Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP);

(b) whether recommendations of State Governments are not given importance while determining support price for wheat and paddy by CACP;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of recommendations made by various State Governments and the support price determined by CACP during last three years;

(e) whether Swaminathan Commission had recommended 50 per cent dividend on cost; and

(f) if so, whether support price was fixed by CACP keeping in view the recommendations made by the Swaminathan Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities interalia, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries. The CACP, while formulating its recommendations on price policy considers, apart from the views of the State Governments interalia, a number of factors which include cost of production, changes in input prices, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, inter crop price parity, effect on industrial cost structure, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, suggestions received from farmers/others etc.

(d) A statement indicating the MSPs for major crops proposed to CACP by various State Governments in 2009-10 to 2011-12 and those recommended by the CACP is given in Statement (See below).

(e) and (f) The National Commission on Farmers under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan had recommended that the MSP should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. This recommendation, however, has not been accepted by the Government because MSP is recommended by CACP based on objective criteria and considering various relevant factors.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

(Rs. Per Quintal)

Crop	Year	MSP Reco-	Andhra mmended by CACP	MSP Proposed by State Governments for Kharif Crops							
				Assam Pradesh	Bihar	Gujarat	Haryana	Himachal Pradesh	Karnataka	Kerala	Madhya Pradesh
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Paddy (Common)	2009-10	950	1557	900	1360	950	1250	900	988	1150	1150
	2010-11	1000	1646	1000	-	1300	1300	950	1500	1550	1200
	2011-12	1080	1900	1200	1531	1300	1350	1000	1500	1600	1300
Paddy (Grade-A)	2009-10	980	1640	950	-	-	-	930	-	1200	1350
	2010-11	1030	1682	1050	-	-	-	980	-	1600	1450
	2011-12	1110	2030	1250	-	-	-	1030	1650	1650	1500
Moong	2009-10	2760	4350	-	-	2600	-	2520	4401	-	2600
	2010-11	3170	4986	-	3600	-	-	2760	6500	-	2800
	2011-12	3400	5220	-	-	3600	-	3170	6500	-	3200

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Tur	2009-10	2300	4179	-	-	2100	-	2000	3365	-	2200
	2010-11	2800	5215	-	-	3500	-	2300	4500	-	2450
	2011-12	3100	5500	-	-	3600	-	3000	4500	-	3200
Groundnut	2009-10	2100	4092	-	-	2350	-	2100	6755	-	-
	2010-11	2300	4617	-	-	2800	-	2100	3200	-	2350
	2011-12	2700	4985	-	-	2800	-	2300	4500	-	2475
Soyabean (Black)	2009-10	1350	2273	-	-	-	-	1350	2261	-	1500
	2010-11	1400	2805	-	-	-	-	1350	-	-	1600
	2011-12	1650	2875	-	-	-	-	1400	-	-	1800
Soyabean (Yellow)	2009-10	1390	-	-	-	-	-	1390	-	-	1600
	2010-11	1440	-	-	-	-	-	1390	2500	-	1700
	2011-12	1690	-	-	-	-	-	1440	3200	-	1900
Cotton (Long staple)	2009-10	3000	4313	-	-	3100	-	3000	-	-	3200
	2010-11	3000	4961	-	-	3200	-	3000	-	-	3400
	2011-12	3300	5742	-	-	3200	-	3000	4500	-	3450

Cotton	2009-10	2500	4034	-	-	-	2700	-	-	-	-
(Medium Staple)	2010-11	2500	4697	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3000
	2011-12	2800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3100

(Rs. Per Quintal)

Crop	Year	MSP Reco- mmended by CACP	MSP Proposed by State Governments for Kharif Crops								
			Chhattisgarh	Maharashtra	Orissa	Punjab	Rajasthan	Jharkhand	Tamil Nadu	Uttar Pradesh	West Bengal
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Paddy (Common)	2009-10	950	1186	1190	-	1350	-	-	1150	1150	-
	2010-11	1000	1980	1442	-	1350	-	-	1200	1300	-
	2011-12	1080	1980	1780	1350	1400	-	1200	1500	1350	1330
Paddy (Grade-A)	2009-10	980	1213	-	-	1427	-	-	1200	1300	-
	2010-11	1030	2000	-	-	1450	-	-	1260	1550	-
	2011-12	1110	2000	-	1500	1500	-	1300	1600	1585	-
Moong	2009-10	2760	3735	3414	-	3276	3200	-	2800	3000	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	2010-11	3170	5520	4062	-	3275	3000	3000	4400	3500	-
	2011-12	3400	5520	4675	3500	4000	3170	-	3500	3590	-
Tur	2009-10	2300	2586	2769	-	2600	-	-	2200	2500	-
	2010-11	2800	5750	3137	-	2990	-	-	5450	3500	-
	2011-12	3100	5750	3672	3200	3500	-	3200	4500	3570	-
Groundnut	2009-10	2100	2846	2753	-	2730	2200	-	2300	3000	-
	2010-11	2300	4700	2994	-	2730	2500	-	2400	3500	-
	2011-12	2700	4700	4004	2550	3000	2300	2600	3000	3565	-
Soyabean (Black)	2009-10	1350	1850	-	-	-	-	-	1400	-	-
	2010-11	1400	2950	-	-	-	-	-	1500	-	-
	2011-12	1650	2950	-	-	-	-	1800	1800	1800	-
Soyabean (Yellow)	2009-10	1390	2003	1990	-	-	1500	-	1500	1825	-
	2010-11	1440	3000	2351	-	-	1500	-	1600	2500	-
	2011-12	1690	3000	-	-	-	1440	1800	1850	1850	-
Cotton (Long staple)	2009-10	3000	-	3414	-	-	-	-	3500	-	-
	2010-11	3000	-	3697	-	-	-	-	3500	-	-
	2011-12	3300	-	4285	-	8000	-	-	3700	-	-

Cotton - (Medium Staple)	2009-10	2500	-	3247	-	3216	3000	-	3000	-	-
	2010-11	2500	-	3581	-	3550	2800	-	3000	-	-
	2011-12	2800	-	4149	-	4500	-	-	3500	-	-

(Rs. Per Quintal)

Crop	Year	MSP Reco- mmended by CACP	MSP Proposed by State Governments for Rabi Crops								
			Andhra Pradesh	Assam	Bihar	Gujarat	Haryana	Himachal Pradesh	Karnataka	Madhya Pradesh	Maha- rashtra
			2755	1060	1473	1400	1250	1080	1759	1400	1472
	2010-11	1120	-	1150	1500	1500	1275	1100	-	1500	1921
	2011-12	1285	-	1200	-	1500	1500	1120	3000	1600	2071
Gram	2009-10	1760	3241	2575	2914	2100	2850	1870	2380	2150	2237
	2010-11	2100	-	3100	3008	2220	2850	1760	-	2250	2868
	2011-12	2800	-	3200	-	2350	3500	2100	3200	2350	3208
Rapeseed	2009-10	1830	-	3050	3471	-	2425	1830	-	2200	-
	2010-11	1850	-	3200	3612	-	2450	1830	2350	-	-
	2011-12	2500	-	1900	-	2450	3000	1850	2450	-	-

(Rs. Per Quintal)

Crop	Year	MSP Recommended by CACP	MSP Proposed by State Governments for Rabi Crops						
			Orissa	Punjab	Rajasthan	Uttar Pradesh	Chhattisgarh	Jammu & Kashmir	West Bengal
Wheat	2009-10	1100	-	1540	1300	1500	-	-	-
	2010-11	1120	-	1650	1500	-	2500	1200	-
	2011-12	1285	-	1700	1500	-	1250	1200	1292
Gram	2009-10	1760	2050	2549	2100	2350	-	-	-
	2010-11	2100	-	2600	2400	-	3600	3000	-
	2011-12	2800	2250	2680	3000	-	2250	2200	-
Rapeseed	2009-10	1830	2200	2584	2200	2850	-	-	-
	2010-11	1850	-	2590	2400	-	3750	3000	-
	2011-12	2500	2300	2750	2400	-	2000	2300	2860

Source: CACP Reports.

Remunerative price for fruits and vegetables

†1251.SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are not getting remunerative price of their produce as Government has no control over selling-purchasing of fruits and vegetables, while consumers are purchasing these at higher cost and only middlemen are taking benefits thereof;

(b) whether Government is formulating any concrete policy by considering this situation, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is contemplating to fix minimum support price for vegetables and fruits; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Prices of fruits and vegetables by and large are governed by the market forces of demand and supply. In addition to this, it also depends on prevailing weather conditions, cost of transportation, storage and rising demand due to increasing incomes, urbanisation, etc. However, to provide remunerative returns to the farmers and to ensure adequate supply of fruits and vegetables to the consumers, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) provides assistance to the farmers under National Horticulture Mission and Horticulture Mission for North-East and Himalayan States (HMNEH). This includes assistance for cultivation, establishment of cold storages, setting up of terminal markets, wholesale markets and rural primary markets/apni mandies. National Horticulture Board is also implementing various schemes such as "Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post Harvest Management of Horticulture Crops", "Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages for Horticulture Produce", "Market Information Service Scheme for Horticulture Crops", etc. Further, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has launched a new programme on Vegetable initiative for Urban Cluster (VIUC), during 2011-12, under the aegis of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The scheme is being implemented in one city each of 29 States having a population of one million or capital city.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Fruits and vegetables being perishable commodity, the DAC does not have any proposal to fix its minimum support price. However, the DAC is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) on request of State/ UT Governments for procurement of various horticultural commodities. The purpose of implementation of MIS is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sales in the event of a bumper crop when there is glut in the market, causing prices to fall below economic levels/cost of production. Losses, if any, incurred by the procuring agencies are shared equally between the Central Government and the State Government concerned on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States). The details of MIS implemented during the year 2010-11 are as under :

Sl. No.	State	Commodity	MIP (Rs. per MT)	Qty (in MTs.)
1.	Uttar Pradesh (23-3-2010 to 30-4-2010)	Potato	3,000	1,00,000
2.	West Bengal	Potato	3,000	9,00,000
3.	Himachal Pradesh (1-9-2010 to 31-10-2010)	Apples	5,150	61,000
4.	Uttar Pradesh (12-3-2011 to 11-4-2011)	Potato	3,050	1,00,000
5.	Karnataka	Areca nut (White)	75,900	3,000
6.	Karnataka	Areca nut (Red)	97,900	4,000
7.	Himachal Pradesh (15-8-2011 to 15-10-2011)	Apples	5,250	50,600

Geographical demarcation of agriculture produce

†1252. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to promote the export of agricultural produce, there is an organization of Central Government which is engaged in the registration work of geographical demarcation relating to agricultural produce and allied products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that the above said organisation has not included Madhya Pradesh in the geographical demarcation area for production of Basmati rice; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has been mandated to undertake measures for registration and protection of the Intellectual Property Rights in agricultural & processed food products. Geographical Indications Registry, set up under Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act 1999, undertakes registration of GIs in agricultural goods, amongst other commodities.

(c) and (d) APEDA, in their application for registration of Basmati Rice, has included only the areas traditionally delineated for production of Basmati Rice. The state of Madhya Pradesh has not been included as the State does not form part of the delineated area.

Prediction of production for Kharif crops

1253. SHRI AVTAR SINGH KARIMPURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any survey to assess the production of current kharif crop in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of prediction made by Indian Metrological Department (IMD) for kharif production; and

(d) the details of production that suffered due to various damages to the standing crop in various States in the current kharif crop especially in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Agriculture has a well established system of regular assessment of production of major agricultural crops in the country on the basis of reports received from State Agricultural Statistics Authorities (SASAs). For assessment of production of different crops, the

State Governments use area estimates on the basis of field enumeration in a sample of 20% villages and yield estimates compiled from required number of crop cutting experiments. The efforts of State Governments in compilation of estimates of area, production and yield of major agricultural crops are supplemented through 100% Centrally funded Timely Reporting Scheme (TRS) and Establishment of an Agency for Reporting of Agricultural Statistics (EARAS). In an agricultural year, the production data on major crops are released in the form of four Advance Estimates and a Final Estimate.

As per the 1st Advance Estimates for 2011-12 released on 14.09.2011 (covering only Kharif crops), the details of estimated production of major kharif crops in the country are as under:

Crops	Kharif Production (Million tonnes)
Rice	87.10
Coarse Cereals	30.42
Pulses	6.43
Foodgrains	123.95
Groundnut	5.62
Soyabean	12.57
Oilseeds	20.89
Sugarcane	342.20
Cotton#	36.10

Million Bales of 170 Kgs. each.

(c) Under the project "Forecasting of Agricultural Output using Agro-meteorology, Space and Land based observations (FASAL)" funded by Ministry of Agriculture, India Meteorological Department (IMD) in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and Institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is generating in-season crop yield forecast using agro-met models, However, the Project is in initial phase of implementation and during kharif-2011, crop yield forecast on experimental basis have been generated by IMD.

(d) Uneven distribution of rainfall in monsoon 2011 led to flood and drought in some parts of the country affecting production of some crops. Due to heavy rainfall during August 2011, rice crop was damaged in low lying areas of West Bengal and parts of Assam and Meghalaya. Floods in the 8 districts of Coastal Orissa in September 2011, caused damage to kharif crops except paddy due to submergence in flood water. Excess rainfall in September caused damage to some crops specially cotton in the Malwa Region of Punjab. In Haryana, due to flood in Yamuna Nagar district around 477 acre of paddy and 504 hectare of sugarcane was adversely affected. In Varanasi district of East Uttar Pradesh, flash flood occurred during August and standing crops were partially affected.

On the other hand, due to deficient rainfall in Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh during July-August, early sown groundnut had shown wilting symptoms. Due to poor rainfall in September in the above region, many late sown crops at pod formation/pod development stage suffered from moisture stress affecting their productivity. Due to dry spell in September, sugarcane production in North Coastal Zone of Andhra Pradesh also suffered.

However, despite problems of floods and dry spells in some parts of the country mentioned above, the overall production prospects in the country during Kharif 2011 have been encouraging and as per 1st Advance Estimates for 2011-12, there has been record production of rice, foodgrains, oilseeds and cotton at all-India level during the Kharif season.

Sowing limit of arable land

†1254. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sowing limit of arable land has become very less due to divisions in families after independence and it is no more remunerative;

(b) if so, the details of such lands as per departmental statistics and whether Government is preparing any scheme to make them profitable; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) to (c) The first Agriculture Census, under which data on the structure of agricultural operational

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

holdings are collected, was conducted in 1970-71. According to Agriculture Census data, the average holding size of the agricultural land in the country has declined from 2.28 hectares in 1970-71 to 1.23 hectares in 2005-06. Profitability from agriculture production depends on a number of factors which includes, inter alia, efficiency in use of inputs, weather conditions, availability of credit, yield levels etc. However, there has been a steady increase in agricultural output over the years, though the total cultivable area is more or less unchanged at about 141 million hectares. The foodgrains production has also increased from 234.5 million tonnes in 2008-09 to 241.6 million tonnes in 2010-11.

In order to make agriculture a profitable venture, the Government of India has launched several schemes to increase investments in agriculture sector, for accelerating agricultural growth and to raise farm incomes, such as, the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana etc. In addition, Government has substantially improved the availability of farm credit; implemented a rehabilitation package for areas with higher agrarian stress; implemented a massive programme of debt waiver; introduced better crop insurance schemes; improving the income earning opportunities of farmers through Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy etc.

Farmers' suicide in Vidarbha

†1255. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers who committed suicide in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra due to extreme poverty;
- (b) whether Government has provided any financial support to their widows or families; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to waive off their bank loans which were due on them at the time of their death?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) As reported by Government of Maharashtra, 1188 farmers in Vidarbha region districts included

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in Rehabilitation Package committed suicide during 2007 to 2010 due to agrarian reasons. Government has extended financial support through Rehabilitation Package, which inter-alia, also includes ex-gratia assistance from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. Government of India implemented Agricultural Debt Waiver & Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 in all districts of country, including Maharashtra. Benefits under ADWDRS, 2008 were accordingly extended to all farmers who were eligible as per criteria specified in the scheme.

Employment opportunity in Agriculture Sector

1256. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the employment opportunities offered by farm sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details of employment generated by farm sector during Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan period along with the schemes/programmes undertaken for the purpose;

(c) whether any targets have been set for generation of employment opportunities during the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan period;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof, till-date;

(e) whether new schemes/programmes have been undertaken to further improve employability in farm sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (f) According to Eleventh Five Year Plan document brought out by Planning commission, agriculture contributed 8.8 million job opportunities from 1993-94 to 2004-05. It is projected to contribute no increase in the Eleventh Plan and a net decrease of 4 million agricultural workers over the Twelfth Plan period (2006-07 to 2016-17). For Eleventh Plan, although an overall target of 58.07 million on Current Daily Status basis was set as the projected employment, there was no sector specific target set for agriculture.

However, several schemes launched in the agriculture sector aim at increasing production and productivity and in the process also create additional employment opportunities. Important

programmes implemented in agriculture sector include Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana, Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Micro Irrigation, Rural Credit, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

These schemes apart from increasing agricultural production and productivity also create on-farm and non-farm employment.

Production of rice in Chhattisgarh

†1257. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of schemes of Chhattisgarh State having been awarded first position in rice production;
- (b) whether these features are being shared with other rice producing States;
- (c) whether increase in support price of paddy is being considered upon; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) The state of Chhattisgarh has been implementing National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice), Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI), Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice) under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) in non-NFSM districts and normal Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for enhancing the production and productivity of rice and rice based cropping systems.

The State of Chhattisgarh was given Krishi Karman Award for highest production of rice during the year 2010-11. For enhancing the rice production, State focused more on initiatives such as area expansion in System of Rice Intensification (SRI), improvement in Seed Replacement Rate (SRR), popularization of hybrid rice, increased application of micro-nutrients and provided assured irrigation to additional 80,000 hectare area through tube-wells and irrigation pumps etc apart from ensuring regular assistance to the farmers for procuring agricultural inputs such as quality seeds, nutrients,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

plant protection chemicals, farm machinery etc. The state presented its achievements in the meeting of Selection Committee constituted for finalising the awards.

Minimum Support Price (MSP) of rice is recommended by Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) every year before sowing of kharif based on objective criteria and considering variety of relevant factors. For the year 2011-12, MSP has been fixed at Rs. 1080 per quintal for Common variety and of Paddy (Grade A) at Rs. 1110 per quintal, which is Rs. 80 per quintal more over the last year's MSPs.

Increase in production cost due to rise in input cost

1258. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been huge increase in production cost due to the rise of input cost; and

(b) if so, the input cost of paddy in 2001 and 2011 respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) There has been substantial increase in cost of production due to increase in input cost. As per the projections made by Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP), the input cost of paddy i.e. paid out cost including family labour (A2+FL) for 2001-02 and 2011-12 at all India level is Rs.340.94/quintal and Rs.672.52/quintal respectively.

Revival of sick dairy cooperatives

1259. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several dairy cooperatives have been reported economically sick and closed down during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to revive the closed dairy cooperatives and to provide financial assistance to those cooperatives reported economically sick; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) The Dairy Cooperatives are registered under the respective State Cooperative Societies Act. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) reviews the financial condition of the Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations which have been provided technical/financial assistance by NDDB. Status of Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations for which annual accounts have been received along with the list of non-functional Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations available with NDDB are given in Statement-I (See below).

(c) The Government of India has a Central Sector Scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' to provide financial assistance for rehabilitating sick Dairy Cooperative unions/State Milk Federations in order to make them viable.

(d) State-wise financial assistance provided by Government of India to rehabilitate the sick Dairy Cooperatives during last three years and current year under the scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Status of Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations (DCU/F) for which annual accounts in respect of last three years have been received by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)

(In numbers)

State	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	DCU/F with Accumulated Net Profit	DCU/F with Accumulated Net Loss	DCU/F with Accumulated Net Profit	DCU/F with Accumulated Net Loss	DCU/F with Accumulated Net Profit	DCU/F with Accumulated Net Loss
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	4	3	4	4	4	2
Assam	0	1	0	1	0	1
Chhattisgarh	0	1	0	1	NA	NA
Goa	1	0	1	0	1	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Gujarat	14	0	14	0	14	0
Haryana	2	5	2	5	1	5
Himachal Pradesh	0	1	0	1	NA	NA
Karnataka	10	4	10	3	10	3
Kerala	1	3	2	2	0	3
Madhya Pradesh	2	4	2	4	1	4
Maharashtra	12	13	12	13	13	8
Nagaland	1	0	1	0	NA	NA
Punjab	4	8	4	8	2	8
Rajasthan	6	10	6	8	1	1
Sikkim	0	1	0	1	0	1
Tamil Nadu	0	14	0	15	0	9
Uttar Pradesh	3	28	3	27	0	21
Orissa	NA	NA	2	0	1	0
West Bengal	5	2	5	2	1	0
Bihar	3	3	5	1	3	1
Total	68	101	73	96	52	67
	169		169		119	

NA -Not Available

List of Non-functional Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations available with NDDB

Sl. No	State	Name of the Dairy Cooperatives
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah Dist. Cooperative Milk producers
2	Madhya Pradesh	Sagar Dist. Cooperative Milk producers Union Ltd
3	Maharashtra	Yeotmal Dist. Cooperative Milk producers Union Ltd

1	2	3
4	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur Dist. Cooperative Milk producers Union Ltd
5	West Bengal	Gaur (Malda) Dist. Cooperative Milk producers Union Ltd
6	Union Territory	South Andaman Cooperative Milk producers Union Ltd
7	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu Milk Producers Federation Ltd
8	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir Milk Producers Federation Ltd

Statement-II

State-wise financial assistance provided by Government of India to rehabilitate the sick Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations (DCU/F) during last three years and current year under the scheme Assistance to Cooperatives

Sl. No.	Name of State	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12 (upto 31.10.2011)	
		No. of DCU/F	Amount released (Rs in Lakh)	No. of DCU/F	Amount released (Rs in Lakh)	No. of DCU/F	Amount released (Rs in Lakh)	No. of DCU/F	Amount released (Rs in Lakh)
1	Madhya Pradesh	1	250.00	-	0.00	-	0.00	-	0.00
2	Uttar Pradesh	1	75.00	2	89.09	2	102.86	-	0.00
3	Haryana	2	89.00	1	65.49	-	0.00	-	0.00
4	Maharashtra	1	5.00	1	5.00	-	0.00	-	0.00
5	West Bengal	-	0.00	-	0.00	-	0.00	-	0.00
6	Assam	1	45.00	1	320.00	1	88.00	-	0.00
7	Punjab	3	336.00	4	604.93	4	619.14	4	617.24
8	Tamil Nadu	1	100.00	1	35.49	-	0.00	1	38.00
Total		10	900.00	10	1120.00	7	810.00	5	655.24

**Implementation of support to State Extension Programme
for extension reforms**

1260. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of implementation of the Centrally sponsored scheme "Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms";

(b) whether States have been following Central Government's policy decision to involve non-governmental sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms" Scheme is currently being implemented in 604 districts of 28 States & 3 UTs of the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. The States have been following the policy directives to varying extents and in different modes.

(c) In order to ensure promotion of multi-agency extension strategies, and to implement Scheme activities in Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) mode, the Scheme provides for utilizing at least 10% of scheme allocation on recurring activities at the District level through non-governmental sector such as, NGOs, FOs, PRIs, Cooperatives, para extension workers, agripreneurs, input suppliers, corporate sector etc. Moreover, Non-Governmental implementing agencies are eligible for service charge up to a maximum of 10% of cost of extension activities (without staff cost) implemented through them. The State-wise details for 22 States/UTs about involvement of Non-Governmental agencies and areas of activities (as on 31.3.2011) assigned to them is given in Statement.

Statement

Involvement of Non-Governmental agencies under the Scheme 'Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms' as on 31.03.2011

Sl.No.	State	No. of Non-Governmental Agencies involved	Area of activities assigned to Non-Governmental Agencies
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Organic Farming- Demonstration - Vermicompost- Training - Crop diversification farm mechanization- Value Addition- INM- SRI Cultivation- Soil Reclamation- I.P.M.- Control of parthenium weed- Chironjee Processing- Marketing of Organic Produce

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kala Jaatha on Farmers Suicide - Kissan Melas - Integrated Crop Management (ICM) - Exposure Visits - Farmers Cooperative Societies - Capacity Building - FIGs - Organic Farming - Supply of Seeds & PP Chemicals - Low Cost Green House for nursery purpose
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	04	
3.	Jharkhand	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skill Development & Capacity Building - Sericulture - Horticulture & Agriculture Development - Mobilization of Farmers - Soil Testing Training - Vermi-Compost

1	2	3	4
4.	Karnataka	39%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seed Production - Formation of Farmers Groups - Training of Women Farmers - Demonstrations
5.	Nagaland	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fish Production - Fruit Production - Marketing - Developing Rural Husbandry
6	Rajasthan	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training & Exposure Visit - Demonstration - Farm Schools - Kissan Goshthi - FIG Mobilization - Capacity Building
7.	Uttar Pradesh	184	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity Building - Demonstration

8.	H.P.	22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exposure Visit - Group Formulation - Farm School. - Trainings - Demonstrations - Capacity Building of FIGs - Farm schools - Exposure Visits - Kissan Goshities - Organic Farming - Grading, Seed Treatment.
9.	J&K	05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dairy Farming - Vegetable Cultivation - Floriculture
10.	Uttrakhand	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sericulture, Horticulture & Agriculture Development - Soil testing/Soil health cards - Soil Water Management - Technology dissemination & agriculture development

1	2	3	4
11.	Punjab	21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal feed - Basmati rice procurement and export. - Farmers - Scientist Interaction - Training of farmers, Demonstrations & Exposure Visit - Promotion of Basmati - Eradication of Termite Mound - Soil Testing & Seed Treatment - Value addition of fruits and vegetables - Aloe Vera processing - Animal Health - Beekeeping & Vermi Compost - Training for rural youth
12.	Mizoram	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmers Training/Seminars - Demonstrations - Exhibitions
13.	Assam	46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group formation
14.	Orissa	140	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training and awareness - Women Empowerment

15	Tamil Nadu	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cyclone rehabilitation - Watershed/Pani Panchayat - Entrepreneurship in Mushroom - Vermi Compost - Dairy & Fisheries - Training & Demonstration - Mobilizing of Groups - Contract Farming - Marketing
16	Chhattisgarh	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of Master Trainers - Demonstration - Exposure Visit - Vermi Composit - Farmers Training
17	Madhya Pradesh	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farm Schools - Training - Exposure Visit - Demonstration

1	2	3	4
			- Kissan Goshities
			- Capacity Building
18.	Maharashtra	05	- Contract Farming
			- Banana Cultivation
			- Marketing
19.	Nagaland	07	- Fish Production
			- Fruit Production
			- Marketing
			- Developing Rural Husbandry
20	Bihar	09	- Mobilization of Farmers Group
			- Training, Marketing of vegetable, Exposure Visit, Kissan Mela
21.	Gujarat	10	- Training
			- Demonstration
22.	Kerala	53	- Training
			- Demonstration.
Total		736	

Use of pesticides banned in Europe and USA

1261. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) why certain pesticides banned in USA and Europe, are allowed to be used in the country;
- (b) whether use of these banned pesticides is injurious to humans who eat products treated by these pesticides;
- (c) whether Government has plan to ban such harmful pesticides altogether;
- (d) if so, by when; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Use of pesticides in the country is regulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968. A pesticide is registered only after scrutiny of bio-efficacy and safety as per the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968.

There are 66 pesticides allowed for use in India which have been either banned or severely restricted by some countries including European countries and USA.

A pesticide may be banned based on various factors, viz., its toxicity, incidence and prevalence of pests, diseases and weeds in the country, cropping pattern, availability of alternatives, agro climatic conditions and socio-economic conditions. Conditions under which a pesticide is banned in a particular country may not be relevant in Indian context.

(b) The Registration Committee, constituted under section 5 of the Act, registers pesticides after satisfying itself regarding their efficacy and safety. If a registered pesticide is used in recommended dosage and as per other instructions as given in Label and Leaflet, it does not cause harm to human health.

(c) to (e) The Government appoints expert groups from time to time to review those registered pesticides about which new scientific information comes to notice. Based on such reviews, 28 pesticides have been banned for manufacture and use while use of 11 pesticides has been restricted in the country.

National farmers' policy

1262. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the status of the National Farmers' Policy framed on the recommendations of M.S. Swaminathan Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): Based on National Policy for Farmers (NPF) 2007, a "Plan of Action for Operationalisation of

National Policy for Farmers 2007" was circulated to State/UT governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned, for appropriate action.

Of the 201 steps identified in the Plan of Action, action with regard to 111 action points have been completed.

Poverty alleviation programme under horticulture scheme

1263. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started poverty alleviation programme under horticulture scheme through diversification of traditional crops to cultivation of horticulture crops like fruits, plantation crops, flowers, spices, aromatic plants to ensure higher return per unit area, improve nutritional security and income support to farmers in the country including Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of incentives and funds Government has provided to each farmers to promote the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz., (i) Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and (ii) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in remaining States and Union Territories for improving farm income, livelihood security and enhancing employment. Financial assistance is provided for various activities such as production of quality planting material, cultivation of horticulture crops like fruits, flowers, vegetables, spices, plantation crops, aromatic plants, etc., rejuvenation/ replanting of old and senile orchards, creation of water resources, protected cultivation, organic farming, promotion of integrated nutrient management/integrated pest management, technology demonstration, human resource development, exposure visit of farmers, post harvest management and establishment of marketing infrastructure.

Further, DAC has launched a new programme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Cluster (VIUC), during 2011-12, under the aegis of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). The Scheme is being implemented in one city each of 29 States having a population of one million or capital city. The Scheme covers all aspects from production to marketing including baseline survey and capacity building.

(c) Statement showing the details of incentives provided under HMNEH and NHM is given in Statement-I (*See below*) and year wise funds provided to the states as assistance to farmers under HMNEH and NHM are given in Statement-II and III respectively.

Statement-1

Cost norms and pattern of assistance under HMNEH and NHM during 11th Plan are as under :

Sl. No	Item	Maximum permissible cost	Pattern of Assistance under HMNEH	NHM
1	2	3	4	5
1. Establishment of New Gardens (Crops)				
I. Fruit Crops (for a maximum area of 4 ha per beneficiary)				
(i)	Cost Intensive Crops			
a)	Fruit crops like Grapes, Strawberry, Kiwi, Passion fruit, etc. Note: Assistance for strawberry cultivation provided in one installment.	Rs.1,00,000/ha	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 75000/ha including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM, in 3 installments of 60:20:20 subject to survival rate of 75% in 2nd year and 90% in 3rd year.	Maximum of Rs.50,000/- per ha. (50% of cost for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc. in 3 installments of 60:20:20 subject to survival rate of 75% in 2nd year and 90% in 3rd year).

1	2	3	4	5
b)	Fruit crops like TC Banana and Pineapple	Rs.1,00,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 75000/ha including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM, in 2 installments of 75:25	Maximum of Rs.50,000/- per ha. (50% of cost for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc. in 2 installments of 75:25 subject to survival rate of 90% in 2nd year).
c)	Fruits like Banana (Sucker), Pineapple (Sucker) and Papaya	Rs.70,000/ha.	75% of the cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 52500/ha including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM, in 2 installments of 75:25	Maximum of Rs.35,000/- per ha. (50% of cost for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc. in 2 installments of 75:25 subject to survival rate of 90% in 2nd year).
(ii)	High density planting (apple, pear, peach, mango, guava, citrus, litchi, ber, cashew, etc.)	Rs.80,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 60000/ha. including the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM, in 3 installments of 60:20:20 subject to survival rate of 75% in 2nd year and 90% in 3rd year.	Maximum of Rs.40,000/- per ha. (50% of cost for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc. in 3 installments of 60:20:20 subject to survival rate of 75% in 2nd year and 90% in 3rd year).

(iii)	Fruit crops other than cost intensive crops using normal spacing	Rs.40,000/ha	75% of the cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 30000/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM, in 3 installments of 60:20:20 subject to survival rate of 75% in 2nd year & 90% in 3rd year.	Maximum of Rs.30,000/- per ha. (75% of cost, for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc. in 3 installments of 60:20:20 subject to survival rate of 75% in 2nd year and 90% in 3rd year for perennial crops and for non perennial crops in 2 installments of 75:25 subject to survival rate of 90% in second year).
II. Vegetable (for maximum area of 2 ha per beneficiary)				
(i)	Open pollinated	Rs.30,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 22500/ha.	-NA-
00	Hybrid	Rs.45,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 33750/ha.	-NA-
III. Flowers (for a maximum area of 2 ha per beneficiary)				
(i)	Cut flowers	Rs.70,000/ha	75% of the cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 52500/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	50% of the cost to Small and Marginal farmers and 33% to other category farmers, subject to a maximum of Rs.35,000/- per ha. for S&M farmers and Rs.23,100/- per ha. for other category farmers.

1	2	3	4	5
(ii)	Bulbous flowers	Rs.90,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 67500/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	50% of the cost to Small and Marginal farmers and 33% to other category farmers, subject to a maximum of Rs.45,000/- per ha. for S&M farmers and Rs.29,700/- per ha. for other category farmers.
(iii)	Loose Flowers	Rs.24,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs: 18000/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	50% of the cost to Small and Marginal farmers and 33% to other category farmers, subject to a maximum of Rs. 12,000/- per ha. for S&M farmers and Rs.7,920/- per ha. for other category farmers.
IV. Spices (for a maximum area of 4 ha per beneficiary)				
(i)	Seed spices and Rhizomatic spices	Rs.25,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 18750/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	Maximum of Rs. 12,500/- per ha. (50% of cost, for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc).
(ii)	Perennial spices (black	Rs.40,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 30000/ha.	Maximum of Rs. 20,000/- per ha.

	pepper, cinnamon, clove and nutmeg)		including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	(50% of cost for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc).
(iii)	Cost intensive spices viz. Saffron	Rs.80,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 60000/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	-NA-
V. Aromatic Plants (for a maximum area of 4 ha per beneficiary)				
(i)	Cost intensive aromatic plants (patchouli, geranium rosemary, etc.)	Rs.75,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs.56250/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	50% of cost, subject to a maximum of Rs.37,500/- per ha. for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc.
(ii)	Other Aromatic Plants	Rs.25,000/ha.	75% of cost <i>i.e.</i> Rs. 18750/ha. including expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM.	50% of cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 12,500/- per ha. for meeting the expenditure on planting material and cost of material for INM/IPM etc.

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Rejuvenation/Replacement of senile plantations	Rs.30000/ha.	50% of cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 15000/ha. limited to 2 ha. per beneficiary.	50% of the total cost subject to a maximum of Rs.15,000/ha. limited to 2 ha. per beneficiary. Actual cost to be claimed based on the nature and requirement of the crop to be rejuvenated.
3.	Protected Cultivation			
I	Green House Structure (Includes cost of material, installation and irrigation system)			
a)	Fan and pad system	Rs.1465/ Sq.m	50% of cost limited to 1000 Sq.m per beneficiary	
b)	Naturally ventilated system			
(i)	Tubular Structure	Rs.935/ Sq.m	50% of cost limited to 1000 Sq.m per beneficiary	
(ii)	Wooden Structure	Rs.515/ Sq.m	50% of cost limited to 1000 Sq.m per beneficiary	50% of cost limited to 2 units (each unit not to exceed 500 Sq.m) per beneficiary.
(iii)	Bamboo Structure	Rs.375/ Sq.m	50% of cost limited to 1000 Sq.m per beneficiary	50% of cost limited to 5 units (each unit not to exceed 200 Sq.m) per beneficiary.
II	Plastic Mulching	Rs.20,000/ ha.	50% of the total cost limited to 2 ha. per beneficiary	

III	Shade Net House			
(i)	Tubular Structure	Rs.600/sq.m	50% of cost limited to 1000 Sq.m per beneficiary	
(ii)	Wooden Structure	Rs.410/sq.m	50% of cost limited to 1000 Sq.m per beneficiary	50% of cost limited to 5 units (each unit not to exceed 200 Sq.m) per beneficiary.
(iii)	Bamboo Structure	Rs.300/Sq.m	50% of cost limited to 1000 Sq.m per beneficiary	50% of cost limited to 5 units (each unit not to exceed 200 Sq.m) per beneficiary.
IV	Plastic Tunnels	Rs.30/sq.m	50% of cost limited to 5000 sq.m per beneficiary	50% of cost limited to 1000 sq.m per beneficiary
V	Anti Bird/Anti Hail Nets	Rs.20/Sq.m	50% of cost limited to 5000 sq.m per beneficiary	
VI	Cost of planting material of high value vegetables grown in poly house/shade net house	Rs. 105/sq.m	50% of cost limited to 500 sq.m per beneficiary	
VII	Cost of planting material of high value flowers for poly house/ shade net house	Rs.500/sq.m	50% of cost limited to 500 sq.m per beneficiary	

Statement-I

*Funds released under Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan
States (HMNEH) from 2001-02 to 2011-12*

(Rs. in lakh)

States/Implementing Agencies	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Mini Mission-II (Production and Productivity)											
1. Arunachal Pradesh	728.85	1099.00	1220.00	1645.55	1300.00	1612.90	2830.00	1765.00	1492.00	2684.60	4000.00
2. Assam	611.12	1092.15	1400.00	871.00	1300.00	1400.00	2680.00	3675.00	3743.00	2995.02	1875.00
3. Manipur	487.03	685.00	638.00	1286.25	1500.00	1700.00	2228.00	2500.00	3029.00	3951.00	3950.00
4. Meghalaya	625.71	775.60	850.00	1395.99	1700.00	2000.00	2700.00	2862.50	1932.00	2675.00	2650.00
5. Mizoram	508.95	1099.73	1089.00	1801.30	1800.00	3200.00	3095.00	3050.00	3500.00	3890.00	3500.00
6. Nagaland	551.70	979.00	1256.00	1467.30	1700.00	2356.00	2500.00	2450.00	3950.00	4400.00	3969.00
7. Sikkim	616.77	855.00	1000.00	1150.00	1800.00	2331.00	3110.00	2675.00	3428.20	2455.00	3625.00

8.	Tripura	512.40	785.00	900.00	1111.30	1500.00	1400.00	2400.00	1700.00	3000.00	2620.00	3950.00
9.	Jammu and Kashnair			650.00	1233.00	1550.00	2933.00	2000.00	1815.00	1700.00	3000.00	2900.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh			650.00	1300.00	1100.00	4000.00	2400.00	2100.00	1589.00	1500.00	2500.00
11.	Uttarakhand			564.72	975.00	1100.00	4000.00	2839.94	2000.00	1700.00	2900.00	1500.00
TOTAL :		4642.53	7370.48	10217.72	14236.69	16350.00	26932.90	28782.94	26592.50	29063.20	33070.62	34419.00

Statement-III

Funds released under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) during 10th and 11th Plan

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	4420.96	7500.00	7836.94	12968.39	9566.59	10518.00	9270.00
2	Bihar	3100.00	3500.00	269.72	3122.48	2435.17	0.00	1000.00
3	Chhattisgarh	2367.83	5500.00	6252.41	3000.00	6000.00	9657.00	8500.00
4	Goa	315.20	200.00	3.19	100.45	150.00	212.00	150.00
5	Gujarat	3239.28	2577.03	1954.24	3531.83	2521.32	5497.00	3825.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6	Haryana	1050.00	3480.00	6476.49	3300.31	5600.00	5150.00	7622.90
7	Jharkhand	3030.00	4000.00	781.00	5000.00	3084.00	1600.00	2500.00
8	Karnataka	4455.17	8448.25	8571.05	12536.88	8001.67	9325.00	8412.50
9	Kerala	3533.98	7959.53	6147.73	7517.29	0.00	4400.00	4900.00
10	Madhya Pradesh	2839.77	4291.75	5537.49	6000.00	3545.00	5100.00	4500.00
11	Maharashtra	8260.28	14492.65	13224.97	13021.70	9173.20	12614.00	6375.00
12	Orissa	3611.91	4450.00	3812.16	2341.00	3500.00	3259.00	4000.00
13	Punjab	2868.82	1150.00	2409.99	1412.48	2578.00	3500.00	4674.00
14	Rajasthan	2259.57	3837.93	5673.19	4097.71	2500.00	4000.00	3500.00
15	Tamil Nadu	3891.67	6450.00	8536.82	9688.00	6180.00	7750.00	6200.00
16	Uttar Pradesh	5340.25	1500.00	9425.90	6372.78	9143.38	5400.00	5100.00
17	West Bengal	4035.31	4600.00	681.82	607.20	0.00	2880.00	0.00
18	Delhi	0.00	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Lakshadweep	0.00	63.00	29.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	152.00	200.00
21	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.25	56.34	64.00
TOTAL STATES :		58620.00	84300.14	87625.01	94618.50	74211.58	91070.34	80793.40

Unavailability of sufficient fertilizers

†1264. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sowing of wheat can be affected because of unavailability of fertilizers in sufficient quantity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any action plan in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) There is no indication that sowing of wheat can be affected during Rabi 2011-12 season because of non-availability of fertilizers in sufficient quantity. Urea is the only fertilizer under partial movement, distribution and price control. Other fertilizers are decontrolled and their availability depends on market forces of demand and supply. The Central Government assesses requirement of fertilizers in consultation with State Governments before each cropping season and also monitors their availability on regular basis. If shortage of fertilizers is reported in any part of the country, steps are taken to redress such shortage. Requirement for Rabi 2011-12 has been assessed for all crops as follows:

Urea	-	163.00 lakh ton
Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP)	-	54.78 lakh ton
Muriate of Potash (MoP)	-	25.73 lakh ton
NPK Complexes	-	55.30 lakh ton
Single Super Phosphate	-	22.33 lakh ton

Action plan for oil palm area expansion

1265. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether action plan was communicated for approval with a total outlay of Rs. 51.38 crores (Rs. 38.54 crores Central share + Rs. 12.84 crores towards State share) to cover an area of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

30,000 ha. under oil palm area expansion, along with cultivation assistance and other components during 2009-10 Action Plan of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the said action plan would be approved by Union Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the year 2009-10, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had forwarded to the Project Sanctioning and Evaluation Committee (PSC) of Department of Agriculture and Co-operation, an Annual Action Plan (AAP) for Oil Palm Development Programme for approval under the centrally sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM), for a total amount of Rs. 5138.00 lakh including Rs. 3853.50 lakh as Central share and Rs. 1284.50 lakh as State share to cover an area of 30000 hectare. AAP of the State was reviewed and discussed in the PSC meeting held on 29.4.2009. Based on the discussions held in PSC and consultations with the State Department of Horticulture, a revised Annual Action Plan for the year 2009-10 for Oil Palm Development Programme under ISOPOM was forwarded by the State Department of Horticulture, Andhra Pradesh for the approval of the Government of India for an amount of Rs. 3680.97 lakh, including Rs.2760.73 lakh as Central Share, to cover an area of 15000 ha. and the same was approved in 2009-10.

(c) Question does not arise.

Use of pesticides banned in other countries

1266. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more than 60 pesticides which are banned in other countries but are still used in India;

(b) if so, the details of such pesticides, which are banned by concerned international organisations and other countries, but still available in India;

(c) the action plan, if any, Government have to ban all pesticides and insecticides which are harmful to life and environment; and

(d) the details of alternative methods being implemented by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Use of pesticides in the country is regulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968. A pesticide is registered only after scrutiny of bio-efficacy and safety by the Registration Committee constituted under section 5 of the Act.

There are 66 pesticides which are banned or severely restricted in some countries but are allowed to be used in India [List given in Statement (*See below*)].

A pesticide may be banned based on various factors, viz., its toxicity, incidence and prevalence of pests, diseases and weeds in the country, cropping pattern, availability of alternatives, agro-climatic conditions, socio-economic conditions etc. The conditions under which a pesticide is banned in a particular country may not be relevant in Indian context.

(c) The Government appoints expert groups from time to time to review those registered pesticides about which new scientific information comes to notice. Based on such reviews, 28 pesticides have been banned for manufacture and use while use of 11 pesticides has been restricted in the country.

(d) The Government is popularizing the strategy of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) through a Central Sector Scheme "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" which includes cultural, mechanical, biological and other methods of pest control and emphasizes safe and judicious use of pesticides.

Statement

List of pesticides which have been banned/severly restricted in some countries of the world but are still being used in India, its review status and recommendations

Sl.No.	Name of the Pesticide	Reviewed by Expert Committee/ Group headed by	Recommendation of the Expert Committee/Group
1	2	3	4
1.	Acephate	CD. Mayee	Use to be continued.
2.	Alachlor	1. H.L Bami 2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued To be banned.

1	2	3	4
3.	Aluminum Phosphide	1. S.N. Banerjee	To be permitted for restricted use
		2. R.B. Singh	To be permitted for restricted use
4.	Atrazine	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
5.	Benfuracarb	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
6.	Benomyl	1. H.L Bami	Use to be continued
		2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued
7.	Bifenthrin	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
8.	Butachlor	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
9.	Captan	1. S.N. Banerjee	Use to be continued
		2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued
10.	Carbaryl	1. S.N. Banerjee	Use to be continued
		2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued
11.	Carbendazim	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
12.	Carbofuran	R.B. Singh	Use to be continued
13.	Chlorfenapyr	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
14.	Carbosulfan	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
15.	Chlorothalonil	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
16.	Chlorpyrifos	Ranjit Ray Chaudhury	Use to be continued.
17.	Dezomet	C.D. Mayee	To be permitted for restricted use.
18.	DDT	1. S.N. Banerjee	To be permitted for restricted use.
		2. R.B. Singh	To be permitted for restricted use.

1	2	3	4
19.	Deltamethrin	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
20.	Diazinon	C.D. Mayee	To be permitted for restricted use.
21.	Dichlorovos	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
22.	Dicofol	1. S.N. Banerjee 2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued. To be permitted for restricted use.
23.	Diflubenzuron	C. D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
24.	Dimethoate	1. S.N. Banerjee 2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued. Use to be continued.
25.	Dinocap	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
26.	Diuron	1. H.L. Bami 2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued Use to be continued
27.	Ethofenprox	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
28.	Fenpropathrin	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
29.	Fenarimol	1. H.L. Bami 2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued Use to be continued
30.	Fenitrothion	C.D. Mayee	To be permitted for restricted use.
31.	Fenthion	C.D. Mayee	To be permitted for restricted use.
32.	Iprodione	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
33,	2,4-D	1. S.N. Banerjee 2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued Use to be continued
34.	Kasugamycin	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.

1	2	3	4
35.	Linuron	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
36.	Lindane	1. S.N. Banerjee	To be permitted for restricted use.
		2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued. However Government has allowed restricted use.
37.	Methomyl	1. H.L Bami	Use to be continued
		2. K.V. Raman	To be permitted for restricted use.
38.	Methoxy Ethyl Mercury Chloride	R.B. Singh	Use to be continued
39.	Methyl Parathion	1. S.N. Banerjee	To be permitted for restricted use.
		2. R.B. Singh	To be permitted for restricted use.
40.	Malathion	R.B. Singh	Use to be continued.
41.	Mancozeb	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
42.	Mepiquat Chloride	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
43.	Metalddehyde	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
44.	Monocrotophos	1. H.L Bami	Use to be continued
		2. K.V. Raman	To be permitted for restricted use
		3. C.D. Mayee	To be permitted for restricted use.
45.	Oxyflurofen	1. H.L. Bami	Use to be continued
		2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued.
46.	Paraquat Dichloride	R.B. Singh	Use to be continued.

1	2	3	4
47.	Pendimethalin	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
48.	Phorate	1. S.N. Banerjee 2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued. To be permitted for restricted use.
49.	Phosphomidon	1. H.L Bami 2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued To be banned. However formulation of lower strength has been allowed.
50.	Pretilachlor	R.B. Singh	Use to be continued.
51.	Propargite	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
52.	Propineb	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
53.	Quinalphos	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
54.	Sodium cyanide	1. S.N. Banerjee 2. R.B. Singh	To be permitted for restricted use. To be permitted for restricted use.
55.	Sulfosulfurone	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
56.	Thiodcarb	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
57.	Thiometon	1. H.L. Bami 2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued Use to be continued
58.	Thiphanate Methyl	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued.
59.	Thiram	R.B. Singh	To be permitted for restricted use.
60.	Triazophos	1. H.L. Bami	Use to be continued

1	2	3	4
		2. K.V. Raman	To be permitted for restricted use.
61.	Trichlorofon	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
62.	Tridemorph	1. H.L. Bami	Use to be continued
		2.R.B. Singh	Use to be continued
63.	Trifluralin	C.D. Mayee	Use to be continued
64.	Zinc Phosphide	1. S.N. Banerjee	Use to be continued
		2. R.B. Singh	Use to be continued
65.	Zineb	1. H.L Bami	Use to be continued
		2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued.
66.	Ziram	1. H.L. Bami	Use to be continued
		2. K.V. Raman	Use to be continued.

Import of wheat and paddy seeds

1267. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has allowed import of wheat and paddy seeds by Government agencies and private companies for the next two years;

(b) if so, whether Government will undertake trial and evaluation of those seeds through research centres in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether there is any paucity of new indigenous variety of seeds within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has revised the New Policy on Seed Development 1988 on 27.6.2011 to allow import of specified quantity of seeds of wheat and paddy initially for trial and evaluation purpose. Based on the results of trial for one crop season, the company may be allowed to import seeds of wheat and paddy for a period not exceeding two years subject to the

conditions stipulated in the revised New Policy of Seed Development 1988. Accordingly, the EXIM Committee on Seed in its meeting held on 27 October, 2011 had recommended for import of 100 kg. wheat seeds of 10 genotype from International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT), Mexico by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for trial and evaluation purpose.

(b) and (c) The trial and evaluation of above imported seeds will be conducted by ICAR in their Research Stations or in the farms which are accredited by them. During last three years, 72 new varieties of paddy and 25 new varieties of wheat have been notified under Seed Act, 1966 and therefore, as such there is no paucity of new indigenous varieties of seeds in these crops in the country.

Protection and care of cows of domestic breeds

†1268. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any scheme/programme for rearing, protection and care of the domestic breeds;

(b) if so, the names of the schemes along with the States where these are being implemented at present;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government provides assistance to various non-governmental organisations/voluntary organisations/private organisations engaged in the country in running cowshelters (Gaushalas) for the protection of cows; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) The details of the schemes being implemented by the Department having component for development and protection of domestic breeds of livestock is given in Statement. All the States and Union Territories (UTs) are covered under these schemes.

(d) and (e) Ministry of Environment and Forest provides financial assistance through Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) to Animal Welfare Organisations (AWOs) recognized by AWBI under the scheme for the provision of construction of shelter houses for the welfare of animals. The board is

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

also providing financial assistance under the scheme for provision of Ambulance Services for the animals in distress in which Gaushalas are also beneficiaries. The regular grant under AWBI plan schemes provides financial assistance to AWOs including Gaushalas for maintenance of animals and animal shelter.

Statement

Schemes being implemented by the Department having component for Development and Protection of domestic breeds of livestock

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1. National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding
2. Conservation of Threatened Breeds of Livestock
3. Fodder and Feed Development Scheme
4. Livestock Health and Disease Control
5. Livestock Insurance

Central Sector Schemes

1. Central Cattle Development Organization
2. Central Fodder Development Organization
3. Integrated Development for Small Ruminants and Rabbits
4. Piggery Development

Achievement under NFSM

1269. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to achieve self-sufficiency in production of pulses in five years' time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had achieved the NFSM target in four years' time; and

(d) if so, the target fixed under NFSM and the quantum of target achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to achieve self-sufficiency in production of pulses in the country, Government of India has been implementing various crop production programmes of pulses viz. National Food Security Mission - Pulses (NFSM-Pulses), Accelerated Pulses Production Programme, and Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses villages in Rainfed areas under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Funds have also been allocated for taking up the pulses production in the States which are not covered under National Food Security Mission (NFSM-Pulses) under Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. National Food Security Mission is a crop development scheme of Government of India that aims at achieving additional production of 20 million tonnes of foodgrains by the end of 2011-12. The scheme was launched in August, 2007 as a follow up of the special session of National Development Council convened in May, 2007. The focused and target oriented implementation of mission has resulted in production of 24.28 million tons of additional foodgrains production in 2010-11 against the target of 20 million tons by 2011-12.

Implementation of National Dairy Plan

1270. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has finalised an ambitious National Dairy Plan to increase per cow milk production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the above said plan will be implemented with the aid of World Bank; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has formulated the National Dairy Plan (NDP) Phase-I for a period of six years from 2011-12 to 2016-17 with the following objectives:

- To help increase productivity of milch animals and thereby increase milk production to meet the rapidly growing demand for milk.

- To help provide rural milk producers with greater access to the organised milk-processing sector.

(c) and (d) National Dairy Plan Phase-I envisages an investment comprising of Rs.1584 crore as credit from International Development Association (IDA), a subsidiary of World Bank and Government of India share of Rs.176 crore.

Training of farmers to increase production

1271. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the plan Government has adopted by provide improved high yield variety seeds and fertilizers to small scale farmers in the country to increase their crop-yield;

(b) whether Government has any plan to provide tools and also training programmes to farmers to increase farming production at the local level; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) To increase the crop yield in the country, the Government is providing assistance for improved High Yield Variety Seeds to all the farmers including small farmers under various crop development schemes which are implemented through State Governments as under:

- i. National Food Security Mission (NFSM).
- ii. Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA).
- iii. Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM).
- iv. Technology Mission on Cotton.
- v. Technology Mission on Jute and Mesta.
- vi. Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds.
- vii. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).
- viii. National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

- ix. Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH).
- x. Mega Seed Project (Indian Council for Agricultural Research).

The Department of Fertilizers facilitates availability of all subsidized fertilizers viz., Urea, Di-Ammonium Phosphate, Muriate of Potash, Single Super phosphate and various grades of complex fertilizers, micro nutrients, rhizobium culture, phosphate solubilising bacteria, gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite to the farmers as per requirement irrespective of their land holding.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government is providing financial assistance to farmers including small farmers for agricultural tools and machinery under different schemes like Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) etc. Also, training programmes to farmers is imparted under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" known as ATMA in Agriculture and Allied Areas. In order to disseminate information on improved crop production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations (FLD) through Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

Reduction of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1272. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry which is currently running over 50 Centrally sponsored schemes under 19 major themes, has decided to run only eight major schemes in the Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons for the decision to reduce the number of Centrally sponsored schemes; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is currently implementing 53 schemes for development of agriculture and has taken up with the Planning Commission for restructuring of these existing schemes.

Wastage of farm products

1273. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Institute of Post-Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), a Government run Institute, has estimated that wastage of farm products reaches to Rs. 50,000 crore annually;

(b) whether CIPHET has also mentioned that such losses occur due to absence of proper storage and processing facilities in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to protect the farm products in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Assessment of harvest and post-harvest losses at national level for 46 agricultural commodities was carried out by AICRP on PHT at CIPHET. Data were collected from 106 randomly selected districts of the country covering 14 out of 15 agro climatic zones. The economic value of estimated harvest and post-harvest losses of major agricultural produce was Rs.44,000 crores (as per wholesale prices of 2009).

(b) The major losses occur during unit operations such as harvesting, collection, sorting/grading, winnowing/cleaning, drying, packaging, transportation and storage. The study was undertaken only for quantitative assessment of harvest and post-harvest losses of major agricultural produce. Reasons for the losses and recommendations on remedial measures were not a part of the study.

(c) ICAR institutes carry out research and extension to develop and introduce technologies for reduction of post harvest losses.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), Government of India has taken up a scheme for Infrastructure Development which includes setting up of Mega Food Parks and establishing Cold Chains for value addition, and enhancement of processing facilities, resulting in minimization of wastage and preservation of farm products. In addition to that, a scheme of setting up/modernization/expansion of food processing institutions, which further adds to the processing facilities available in the country, is also being implemented.

**Controlling of fruits and vegetables business
by private companies**

†1274. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether controlling of fruits and vegetables business by private companies doesn't amount to overriding of interests of small farmers and livelihood of small shopkeepers;

(b) whether such a pompous and monopolistic system would not lead to price hike of fruits and vegetables and other agri-products in future;

(c) if so, the policy Government proposes to formulate in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Agriculture framed a Model Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act in 2003 and circulated to all States and Union Territories for making necessary amendments in the existing State APMC Acts. The Model Act provides for encouraging investments in development of required marketing infrastructure. It also promotes competitive alternative marketing channels viz. direct marketing, contract farming private markets, etc in the interest of the farmers and trade. The innovative alternative channels of direct procurement of fruits and vegetables from the growers directly and development of post-harvest marketing infrastructure reduces the transaction/marketing cost and the post-harvest losses. This helps in protection of the interests of small farmers by offering competitive market opportunities and remunerative prices to them, and also makes available fresh quality fruits and vegetables to the consumers at reasonable price.

Release of funds to Odisha under National Bamboo Mission

1275. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Odisha Bamboo Development Agency had submitted proposal for release of funds under the National Bamboo Mission;

(b) if so, the details of funds released from 2006-07 to 2010-11;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that funds released is much less than the outlay proposed and less than the approval accorded by the National Bamboo Mission; and

(d) the action Government is taking to release adequate funds in time to fulfil the National Bamboo Mission

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of funds released from 2006-07 to 2010-11 to Odisha Bamboo Development Agency under the National Bamboo Mission is given below:

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Year	Fund Released
1.	2006-07	329.97
2.	2007-08	736.72
3.	2008-09	140.94
4.	2009-10	184.68
5.	2010-11	306.00
TOTAL		1698.31

(c) and (d) Amount of funds released depends on overall funds provided to National Bamboo Mission and timely availability of progress report (PR)/audited utilization certificate (AUC) for funds released to the State in the past. Necessary instructions have been issued to concerned State agencies for timely submission of PR/AUC.

Jan Aushadhi stores

1276. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jan Aushadhi stores have been launched for making medicines available at affordable prices for the poor;

(b) if so, the names of States where Jan Aushadhi stores have already been launched;

(c) the timeline, if any, by which such stores would be launched in the remaining States;
and

(d) whether the existing Jan Aushadhi stores have begun to sell generic versions of life saving drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, consequent upon the initiatives taken by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Jan Aushadhi Campaign was launched intending to open at least one Jan Aushadhi Store in each district Hospital in the country, to begin with, in order to make available quality generic drugs at affordable prices to the general public. So far, 113 Jan Auslfadhi Stores have been opened in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, NCT of Delhi & UT of Chandigarh. Since opening up of Jan Aushadhi Stores mainly depends upon the health policies followed by State Government, besides the support and cooperation they extend to open such stores, in the identification of agencies to manage such stores, allotment of space etc., it is difficult to prescribe any timeline for launching stores in the remaining States.

(d) Yes, the existing Jan Aushadhi stores are also selling generic versions of the life-saving medicines.

Task force on reforms in subsidy distribution system

†1277. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had set up a task force led by Shri Nandan Nilekani to get suggestions with regard to reform in subsidy distribution system;

(b) if so, whether the said task force had suggested to give benefits of subsidy directly to retail fertilizer sellers in the first phase;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and whether Government has taken any decision to implement this suggestion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Government has constituted a Task Force on transfer of direct subsidy in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the case of Fertilizers, LPG and Kerosene under the chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani, Chairman, UIDAI on 14th February, 2011. The Task Force is to recommend and implement a solution for direct transfer of subsidies on kerosene, LPG and fertilizers to the intended beneficiaries. This includes, inter-alia, identification of and suggestion for the required changes in the existing system, processes & procedures, IT frameworks and supply chain management. The task force is also to oversee and evaluate the implementation of the solutions proposed on pilot basis.

(b) to (d) The Task Force has recommended a phased approach for the implementation of the transfer of direct subsidy to beneficiary as under.

Phase I: Information visibility about the movement of goods across the fertilizer supply chain, till the last point at the retailer, from whom the farmer buys the fertilizers. This information on availability of the retail point will be made available on transparent public portal.

Phase II: In the Interim report, it is envisaged that the subsidy will be released to the retailer (last point sale) when he receives the fertilizer. This will involve transfer of subsidies directly to the retailer bank account on receipt of fertilizer from the wholesaler. The advantage of this phase is that fertilizer will move at full value across the supply chain upto the retailer.

Phase III: Transfer of subsidy to intended beneficiaries once the AADHAAR numbers are given to the beneficiaries and AADHAAR enabled payment bridges are in place.

The Task Force is in the process of having discussions and pilot studies. As & when the Task Force submits its final report, the same would be taken up for consideration and implementation by the Government.

Task force on improvement in fertilizers subsidy distribution system

†1278. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had constituted a task force headed by Shri Nandan Nilekani to solicit suggestions in order to bring improvement in the fertilizers' subsidy distribution system;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether task force has submitted its report to Government; and

(c) if so, when the Government has received the report and by when its recommendations would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Government has constituted a Task Force on transfer of direct subsidy in the case of fertilizers LPG & Kerosene under the chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani, Chairman, UIDAI on 14th February, 2011. The Task Force is to recommend an implementable solution for direct transfer of subsidies on kerosene, LPG and fertilizers to the intended beneficiaries. This includes, inter-alia, identification of and suggestion for the required changes in the existing system, processes & procedures, IT frameworks and supply chain management. The task force is also to oversee and evaluate the implementation of the solutions proposed on pilot basis.

(b) The Task Force has submitted its Interim Report to the Government on 5th July, 2011 and it can be seen in the Finance Ministry's website (finmin.nic.in).

(c) The Task Force is in the process of having discussions and carrying out pilot studies. As and when the report is received, its recommendations would be considered for implementation by the Government.

Pharmaceutical pricing policy

†1279. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in 2002, Supreme Court had directed Government to formulate price policy of medicines on new grounds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any pharmaceutical pricing policy has been formulated in this regard; and

(d) if so, the date of formulation of the policy and by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court in its interim order dated 10.3.2003 in SLP(C) No.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

3668/2003 directed the Government, inter alia, to "consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of price control and further directed to review drugs which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003". As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare reviewed the National Essential Drugs List 1996 and brought out the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 (NLEM 2003). Keeping in view the directions of the Supreme Court it has been proposed in the Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 which is at present before the Group of Ministers for a decision, that basket of drugs for price control would be the essential medicines as contained in the NLEM 2003 (subject to certain conditions and exemptions) in addition to the 74 drugs which are at present under price control under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

(c) and (d) The draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy, 2006 was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11.1.2007 and decided that the matter may, in the first instance, be considered by a Group of Ministers (GoM). The GoM was constituted on 31.1.2007 by the Cabinet Secretariat. The GoM has not yet submitted its recommendation.

Dependence on import of chemical fertilizers

†1280: SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the dependence on import is on the rise to meet the demand of chemical fertilizers, during recent years in the country;

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

(c) whether any measures have been explored to end the dependence on import in order to maintain supply of chemical fertilizers in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of the measures explored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The production of fertilizers in the country is not sufficient to meet the indigenous requirement. The imports of fertilizers in any year depend on the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production of these fertilizers in that year. Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and it is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account through

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

State Trading Enterprises (STEs) i.e. MMTC, STC and I PL to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production. Government is also importing approximately 20 LMT urea per annum from Oman India Fertiliser Company (OMIFCO) under Long Term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) between GOI & OMIFCO. Fertilizers other than Urea are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). Companies import these fertilizers as per their commercial judgment after assessing the demand supply position of these fertilizers. The import of major fertilizers in the country during the last three year is as under.

(Quantity in lakh MT)

Product	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
UREA	56.67	52.10	66.10
DAP	61.92	58.89	74.11
MAP	2.67	1.93	1.88
TSP	1.73	0.87	0.98
NPK			9.81
MOP	43.46	41.62	45.00

(c) and (d) Government is always encouraging production of fertilisers in the country to achieve self-sufficiency. A new policy was announced on 4th September 2008 to attract new investments in urea sector. The policy is based on Import Parity Price (IPP) benchmark with suitable floor & ceiling prices aiming to revamp, expansion, revival of existing urea units and setting up of Greenfield projects. The policy aims to substantially bridge the gap between consumption and domestic production of urea subject to adequate availability of gas at reasonable prices. Government has also taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by reducing the custom duty on phosphoric acid from 5% to 2% to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to procure this important input at reasonable price. The Nutrient Based subsidy has also been announced on P&K fertilizers w.e.f.01.04.2010. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore the possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizer inputs to P&K sector.

Nutrient Based Subsidy

†1281. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had implemented a policy of Nutrient Based Subsidy in April, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the prices of fertilizers have increased as a result of this policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the details thereof;

(f) whether it is a fact that Farmers' Unions have asked the Government to withdraw the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy; and

(g) if so, whether Government is planning to withdraw this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Department of Fertilizers introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy with effect from 1.4.2010 replacing the erstwhile concession scheme, for decontrolled Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers.

(b) As per the NBS policy, the MRPs of P&K fertilizers has been left open to be fixed by the manufacturers/importers and the amount of subsidy is fixed by the Government for each nutrient i.e. Nitrogen 'N', Phosphate 'P', Potash 'K' & Sulphur 'S' on per kg basis on annual basis. Accordingly, any increase/decrease in the prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials in the international market and rise/fall of the value of dollar, has a direct bearing on the MRPs of P&K fertilizers as 90% of the requirement of the phosphatic and 100% that of potassic fertilizers of the Country is met through imports. At present, NBS scheme is applicable on 25 grades of P&K fertilizers. The subsidy on Ammonium Sulphate, which is included in the 25 grades of P&K fertilizers is provided only on Ammonium Sulphate produced by M/s The Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) & M/s Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd. (GSFC). A statement showing the names of the fertilizer grades and the rate of subsidy during 2010-11 and 2011-12 is given in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I (*See below*). Any variant of the fertilizers with secondary and micronutrients is eligible for additional subsidy. An Inter Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Fertilizers) has been constituted under the NBS Policy to recommend the rates of subsidy and inclusion of the new fertilizers into the NBS Policy. The distribution and movement of fertilizers is monitored through the online web-based Fertilizer Monitoring System. 20% of the subsidized P&K fertilizers is under the movement control under the Essential Commodities Act 1955. Freight subsidy is also provided on the decontrolled P&K fertilizers. The manufacturers/importers are required to print MRP of fertilizers on the bags, failing which, any sale above the printed MRP is punishable under the EC Act. The manufacturers of customized fertilizers and NPK mixture fertilizers are eligible to source the subsidized fertilizers. A separate additional subsidy has been provided to the indigenous manufacturers of NPK complex fertilizers using Naphtha based captive Ammonia to compensate for the higher cost of production of Nitrogen 'N' for a period of two years upto March 2012.

(c) to (e) Since, 90% of the requirement of the phosphatic and 100% of that of the potassic fertilizers of the country is met through imports, the rise/fall in the international prices of the P&K fertilizers and its raw materials has a direct bearing on the cost of P&K fertilizers in the country. Recently, the international prices of finished fertilizers/intermediates/raw materials has increased, as a result of which the MRPs of fertilizers has been increased by the manufacturers/importers. A statement showing the international prices of P&K fertilizers and a statement showing the MRP of P&K fertilizers is given in statement-II and III (*See below*) respectively.

(f) Department of Fertilizers has not received any representation from farmers' unions to withdraw the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy so far, however, representations have been received from some Hon'ble Members of Parliament, in respect of rise in the MRPs of P&K fertilizers in the market. Department of Fertilizers has also received a copy of the resolution passed in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha dated 8.10.2011 for rolling back the price rise of fertilizers.

(g) NBS policy for P&K fertilizers is still in operation. Withdrawal of this policy is not under consideration in the Government.

Statement-I

The rates of Nutrient Based Subsidy per MT during 2010-11 and 2011-12

(a) Nutrient Based Subsidy Per Kilo Gram of Nutrients

(Amount in Rs.)

Sl. No.	Nutrients	(Notification dated 16.3.2010) NBS per Kg of nutrient (2010-11) from 1.4.2010 to 31.12.2010	(Notification dated 1.12.2010) NBS per Kg of nutrient Jan-March 2011 (2010-11)	(Notification dated 5.5.2011) w.e.f. 1.4.11 to 31.3.12
1.	'N'	23.227	23.227	27.153
2.	'P'	26.276	25.624	32.338
3.	'K'	24.487	23.987	26.756
4.	'S'	1.784	1.784	1.677

(b) Per MT Nutrient Based Subsidy

(Amount in Rs per MT)

Sl. No.	Fertilizers	(Notification dated 16.3.2010) Nutrient Based Subsidy per MT (2010-11)	(Notification dated 1.12.2010) Nutrient Based Subsidy per MT Jan-March 2011 (2010-11)	(Notification dated 5.5.2011) w.e.f. 1.4.11 to 31.3.12
1	2	3	4	5
1.	DAP	16268	15968	19763
2.	DAP Lite (16-44-00)	-	14991 (from 1.2.2011)	18573
3.	MAP	16219	15879	19803
4.	TSP	12087	11787	14875

1	2	3	4	5
5.	MOP	14692	14392	16054
6.	NBS	4400	4296+200	5359+200
7.	10-26-26-0	15521	15222	18080
8.	12-32-16-0	15114	14825	17887
9.	14-28-14-0	14037	13785	16602
10.	14-35-14-0	15877	15578	18866
11.	15-15-15-0	11099	10926	12937
12.	15-15-15-09	11259 (w.e.f. 1.10.2010) on 22.12.2010	11086	13088
13.	16-16-16-0	11838 (w.e.f. 1.7.2010 inducted into NBS on 6.8.2010)	11654	13800
14.	16-20-0-13	9203	9073	11030
15.	17-17-17-0	12578	12383	14662
16.	19-19-19-0	14058	13839	16387
17.	20-20-0-0	9901	9770	11898
18.	Ammonium Sulphate (20.0-0-0-23)	5195	5195	5979
19.	20-20-0-13	10133	10002	12116
20.	23-23-0-0	11386	11236	13683
21.	24-24-0-0	11881 (w.e.f. 1.10.2010) on 22.12.2010	11724	14278
22.	28-28-0-0	13861	13678	16657
23.	13-33-0-6			14302
24.	MAP Lite 11-44-0-0			17216
25.	DAP Lite Grade (II) 14-46-0-0			18677

Statement-11

The FMB prices of Fertilizers/intermediates/raw materials

Prices as per FMB									
Month	US \$ PMT								
	DAP C&F US	MOP FOB	Urea FOB	Phos Acid India C&F	Ammonia C&F	Sulphur C&F	Rock C&F	Phos Acid Europe C&F	Sulphuric acid C&F Brazil
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2006-07	342.14	171.29	270.29	461.25	304.29	76.37	79.14	450	NA
2007-08									
April	505.50	175.00	317.13	566.25	351.88	112.88	79.50	450.50	73.00
May	507.90	185.00	313.50	566.25	317.00	137.80	111.10	530.30	74.00
June	514.88	185.00	311.25	566.25	305.63	152.50	121.50	558.00	76.00
July	528.63	200.00	290.88	566.25	302.13	178.50	121.50	590.00	88.00
August	514.20	209.50	276.60	566.25	272.30	220.60	121.50	590.00	95.00
September	534.62	236.25	311.50	566.25	263.13	236.75	121.50	590.00	100.00
October	564.12	247.50	331.25	566.25	266.75	245.50	121.50	590.00	100.00

November	639.70	255.00	360.00	566.25	287.70	324.60	121.50	590.00	159.00
December	703.66	310.83	405.00	566.25	338.00	415.00	245.00	818.33	200.00
January, 2008	802.00	328.00	401.50	566.25	389.30	561.80	245.00	1437.50	209.00
February, 2008	922.50	393.13	383.75	566.25	484.75	613.75	245.00	1437.50	215.00
March, 2008	1153.00	434.37	392.00	566.25-1985	528.00	688.00	245.00	1823.13	215.00
Avg. 2007-08	658.00	263.00	341.00	566.25	342.00	324.00	158.00	833.00	134.00
2008-09									
Apr-08	1319.62	515.00	452.50	1985.00	529.00	697.00	425.00	2102.50	215.00
May-08	1331.87	666.87	628.75	1985.00	533.37	744.25	433.75	2102.50	235.00
Jun-08	1286.75	812.17	677.50	1985.00	489.75	831.25	460.00	2102.50	295.00
Jul-08	1291.90	725.00	783.00	2200-2310	571.10	846.00	384.00	2448.50	360.00
Aug-08	1268.88	857.50	815.00	2200-2310	720.38	768.75	362.50	2535.00	360.00
Sep-08	1162.75	933.75	777.13	2200-2310	834.25	566.25	347.50	2535.00	360.00
Oct-08	985.10	945.50	436.60	1920.00	675.50	202.50	347.50	2125.00	300.00
Nov-08	654.00	917.50	254.38	1700-1920	289.50	64.63	352.50	2125.00	210.00
Dec-08	441.00	917.50	246.38	1200-1920	181.25	58.50	352.50	2125.00	120.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Jan. 2009	372.88	917.50	268.38	760-1200	168.00	57.25	301.00	NM*	50.00
Feb. 09	405.25	917.50	302.13	760.00	195.50	53.50	NM*	NM*	50.00
March. 09	414.00	767.50	305.63	650-760	261.00	57.00	NM*	NM*	0.00-50.00
Avg.2008-09	911.17	824.44	492.62	650-2310	454.05	412.24	376.63		232.27
2009-10									
Apr, 09	374.00	766.43	278.00	630.00	295.50	64.00	133.50*	NM*	10.00-50.01
May-09	347.33	717.50	264.63	630.00	292.25	61.75	154.38	NM*	10.00
Jun-09	332.63	705.63	260.88	490.63	250.88	61.50	183.75	NM*	8.13
Jul-09	347.90	594.00	266.10	490.508	227.30	57.00	182.50**	NM*	5.00
Aug.-09	368.25	480.00	272.25	501-506	244.25	57.00	182.50**	NM*	***-2-5
Sep. -09	370.88	480.00	257.88	508-530	280.25	65.00	139.38**	NM*	***-2-5
Oct. -09	351.70	471.50	261.50	525-532.50	313.10	65.40	141.00**	NM*	***-2-5
Nov-09	347.75	451.25	270.00	525-532.50	335.88	71.63	136.88**	NM*	12.50
Dec.-09	407.50	415.00	288.13	525-532.50	330.75	88.38	112**	NM*	20.00

Jan-10	499.13	381.25	306.88	610-627.50	327.88	139.50	142.50	NM*	35.38
Feb-10	556.25	360.00	310.00	627.5-690	354.13	199.00	142.50	NM*	70-90
Mar-10	546.00	353.75	307.50	690-775	385.38	208.50	142.50	NM*	70-90
Avq 09-10	404.26	514.69	278.64	490-775	303.13	94.89	149.45		
Apr-10	536.60	347.50	285.00	775	398.80	192.10	145.80		140-150
May-10	528.00	338.75	256.25	775	365.63	159.88	159.00		140-150
Jun-10	510.13	330.00	239.00	775	349.13	116.00	159.00		132.38
Jul-10	508.60	330.00	261.90	780	336.10	93.40	160.40		94.50
Aug-10	547.38	330.00	285.00	780	346.38	141.13	162.50		94.50
Sep-10	581.90	336.00	316.50	780	375.30	177.30	162.50		121.88
Oct-10	617.38	361.25	343.75	780	411.88	186.88	162.50		134.38
Nov-10	628.75	380.00	380.63	780	431.25	192.75	163.63		
Dec-10	637.38	380.63	384.50	780	434.00	189.50	164.88		
Jan-11	640.00	382.50	391.00	830	434.13	179.75	167.50		
Feb-11	654.25	385.00	387.50	830	453.25	206.50	162.63		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Mar-11	673.20	09.50	357.10	830	485.00	223.10	161.00		
Apr-11	663.75	437.50	343.25	980	507.00	234.83	168.88		
May-11	659.00	437.50	404.38	980	510.38	242.50	192.50		
Jun-11	680.75	462.50	495.50	980	527.40	240.10	194.50		
Jul-11	701.92	462.50	507.50	1050	529.88	231.50	202.50		
Aug-11	706.75	462.50	506.88	1050	541.88	233.00	202.50		
Sep-11	697.67	462.50	520.50	1050	564.40	239.00	202.50		
Oct-11	682.75	471.25	509.50	1080	587.75	239.00	202.50		

NM No Market *** (-)2 to (+) 5

MP Multiple Prices ** Rock 70% - 72% BPL

* Rock of low grade, 65-66% BPL

DAP- Price as US Gulf with freight as per Thampa - Mundra

MOP-FOB bulk (Std) from Former Soviet Union (FSU) - Spot

NM No Market.

* Rock of low grade, 65-66% BPL

Urea - FOB from Arabian Gulf

Ammonia - C&F India

Sulphur - C&F Gran (Spot)

Rock - C&F Contract

P2O5 - CFR Europe

Statement-III

The MRP during 2008-09 to 2011-12

(in Rs/MT)

#	Grades of Fertilizers	2008-09, 2009-10	10-11 (Qtr.-Wise)			11-12 (Qtr.-Wise)Current			Remakrs	
		All Quarters	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	DAP: 18-46-0-0	9350	9950	9950	9950	10750	13245	18200	18350	
2	MAP: 11-52-0-0	9350	9950	NA	NA	NA	NA	18200	18200	
3	TSP: 0-46-0-0	7460	8057	8057	8057	8057	8057	8057		Not in Mkt.
4	MOP: 0-0-60-0	4455	5055	5055	5055	5055	6064	11300	11300	
5	16-20-0-13	5875*	6620	6620	6620	7200	NA	12500	12500	
6	20-20-0-13	6295*	7280	7280	7395	8095	11400	14800	14800	
7	23-23-0-0	6145*	NA	NA	NA	7445	7445	7445		Not in Mkt.
8	10-26-26-0	7197*	8197	NA	8300	10103	10910	16000	16633	
9	12-32-16-0	7637*	8637	8237	8637	9437	11313	16400	16400	
10	14-28-14-0	7050*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14950	14950	
11	14-35-14-0	8185*	NA	NA	NA	9900	11622	15148	15148	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	15-15-15-0	5121*	NA	NA	NA	7421	8200	11000	11000	
13	AS:20.3-0-0-23	10350	8600	8600	7600	8700	7600	11300	11300	
14	20-20-0-0	5343*	5943	NA	6243	7643	9861	14000	14135	
15	28-28-0-0	7481*	NA	NA	NA	11181	11810	15740	15740	
16	17-17-17-0	5804*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
17	19-19-19-0	6487*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
18	SSP(0-16-0-11)	4600* **	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	4000	6000	
19	16-16-16-0	NA	NA	NA	NA	7100	7100	7100		Not in Mkt.
20	DAP lite (16-44-0-0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	11760	17600	17820	
21	15-15-15-09	NA	NA	NA	NA	6800	9300	12900	14851	
22	24-24-0-0	NA	NA	NA	NA	7768	9000	11550	12455	
23	13-33-0-6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	16200	16200	
24	MAP lite (11-44-0-0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	16000	15700	
25	DAP lite-II(14-46-0-0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14900	14900	

* w.e.f 18.6.08

** MRP of SSP was Rs 3400/MT from May 2008 to September 2009.

Price-rise of fertilizers

1282. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sudden rise in the prices of some fertilizers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to make available key fertilizers to the farmers during coming winter crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) 90% of the requirement of the phosphatic and 100% that of Potassic fertilizers of the Country is met through imports. Resultantly, the rise/fall in the international prices of Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers and its raw materials has a direct bearing on the cost of P&K fertilizers in the Country. Government of India has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy w.e.f. 1.4.2010 replacing the erstwhile concession scheme for decontrolled P&K fertilizers. Prior to 1.4.2010, the Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs) of the P&K fertilizers were fixed by the Government below the actual cost and the difference between the actual cost and the MRPs was reimbursed by the Government to the manufacturers/importers in the form of subsidy. Under the NBS Policy, the MRPs of the P&K fertilizers has been left open to be fixed by the manufacturers/importers and the amount of subsidy is fixed per kg in terms of the nutrients of Nitrogen 'N', Phosphate 'P', Potash 'K and Sulphur 'S' on annual basis. Accordingly, any rise/fall-in the prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials in the international market has a direct bearing on the MRPs of P&K fertilizers. Recently, the prices of fertilizers and its raw materials in the international market and the price of dollar has gone up substantially, as a result of which, the MRPs of P&K fertilizers has almost doubled. However, the MRP of Urea is controlled by Government and is fixed at Rs. 5310/- PMT and there is no increase in this since 1.4.2010.

A statement showing the MRP of P&K fertilizers from 2008-09 to October 2011, quarter-wise is given in Statement-I (See below). Under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO), it is mandatory to print the MRP on each bag of fertilizers. No person can charge higher price than the price printed on the bag. Any person violating this mandatory provision of FCO is held liable under

the provisions of the FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments, as enforcement agencies, are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offenders who indulge in any kind of malpractices.

(c) Urea is the only fertilizer under the partial movement, distribution and statutory price control and it is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/de-canalized since 1992 and are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). The availability of these P&K fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government monitors availability of fertilizers at State level and State Governments are responsible for further distribution within the State. The State-wise demand (Requirement) and supply (Availability) of major fertilizers namely Urea, MOP and Phosphatic fertilizers (DAP+NPK) during Kharif, 2011 (April'11 to September'11) are given in Statement-II (See below). The requirement and availability of Urea, DAP, Complex and MOP fertilizers during Rabi 2011-12 (October 2011) are given in Statement-III (See below).

The following steps have been taken to make adequate availability of fertilizers in the country:

- i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);
- ii) The gap between requirement and indigenous availability of Urea is met through imports;
- iii) The State Governments have been advised to instruct the State Institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies;
- iv) The Government has introduced NBS Policy in respect of P&K fertilizers w.e.f. 1.4.2010, under which, State Governments have to play more proactive role to co-ordinate with the manufacturers/importers to tie up supplies of fertilizers as per the requirement of states;
- v) Department of Fertilizers (DOF) and Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) are jointly reviewing fertilizer availability with State Agriculture Departments through Video Conferences every week. The corrective actions, if required, are taken immediately to avoid any hardships to the farmers;

- vi) Under the NBS policy, fertilizer companies are required to print MRP along with applicable subsidy on each fertilizer bag clearly. Any sale above the printed MRP is punishable under the EC Act;
- vii) DOF is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, GAIL and other prospective suppliers of Natural Gas (LG)/Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met;
- viii) Government is always encouraging production of urea in the country to achieve self-sufficiency. The Government has announced a new investment policy on 4th September, 2008 to attract new investments. The policy is based on import Parity Price (IPP) benchmark with suitable floor & ceiling prices aiming to revamp, expand, revive the existing urea units and to set up Greenfield projects. The country is almost fully dependent on imports to meet the requirements of P&K fertilizers. Government has taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by allowing import parity price to the indigenous manufacturers of DAP. Government has also reduced the custom duty on phosphoric acid from 5% to 2% to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to acquire this important input at reasonable price. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore the possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizers inputs to P&K sector at cheaper rates; and
- ix) all possible steps are taken by the DOF to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

Statement-I

The MRP during 2008-09 to 2011-12

(in Rs/MT)

#	Grades of Fertilizers	2008-09, 2009-10	10-11(Qtr. Wise)		11-12 (Qtr. Wise)		Current	Remakrs	
		All Quarters	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
1	DAP: 18-46-0-0	9350	9950	9950	9950	10750	13245	18200	18350
2	MAP: 11-52-0-0	9350	9950	NA	NA	NA	NA	18200	18200
3	TSP: 0-46-0-0	7460	8057	8057	8057	8057	8057	8057	Not in Mkt.
4	MOP: 0-0-60-0	4455	5055	5055	5055	5055	6064	11300	11300
5	16-20-0-13	5875*	6620	6620	6620	7200	NA	12500	12500
6	20-20-0-13	6295*	7280	7280	7395	8095	11400	14800	14800
7	23-23-0-0	6145*	NA	NA	NA	7445	7445	7445	Not in Mkt.
8	10-26-26-0	7197*	8197	NA	8300	10103	10910	16000	16633
9	12-32-16-0	7637*	8637	8237	8637	9437	11313	16400	16400
10	14-28-14-0	7050*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14950	14950
11	14-35-14-0	8185*	NA	NA	NA	9900	11622	15148	15148

12	15-15-15-0	5121*	NA	NA	NA	7421	8200	11000	11000
13	AS:20.3-0-0-23	10350	8600	8600	7600	8700	7600	11300	11300
14	20-20-0-0	5343*	5943	NA	6243	7643	9861	14000	14135
15	28-28-0-0	7481*	NA	NA	NA	11181	11810	15740	15740
16	17-17-17-0	5804*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
17	19-19-19-0	6487*	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
18	SSP (0-16-0-11)	4600**	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	4000	6000
19	16-16-16-0	NA	NA	NA	NA	7100	7100	7100	Not in Mkt.
20	DAP lite (16-44-0-0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	11760	17600	17820
21	15-15-15-09	NA	NA	NA	NA	6800	9300	12900	14851
22	24-24-0-0	NA	NA	NA	NA	7768	9000	11550	12455
23	13-33-0-6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	16200	16200
24	MAP lite (11-44-0-0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	16000	15700
25	DAP lite-II (14-46-0-0)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	14900	14900

* w.e.f 18.6.08

**MRP of SSP was Rs 3400/MT from May 2008 to September 2009.

Statement-I

Cumulative requirement and availability of fertilizers during Kharif 2011 (April to September)

Kharif 11 19.10.11 State	Qty in 000 ³ MTs							
	Urea Requirement	MOP Availability	Phosphatic Fertilizers (DAP + NPK) Requirement	Phosphatic Fertilizers (DAP + NPK) Availability	Stock Pre-positioned	Supply	Availability with pre- positioning stock	
Andhra Pradesh	1500.00	1466.39	325.00	82.50	1880.00	159.68	1723.76	1883.44
Karnataka	800.00	781.19	290.00	83.64	1245.00	385.20	1163.64	1548.84
Kerala	90.00	93.30	90.00	59.96	155.00	11.81	133.39	145.20
Tamil Nadu	450.00	426.07	211.00	100.09	471.00	65.01	505.41	570.42
Gujarat	1100.00	1076.97	110.00	78.48	740.00	114.71	693.66	808.37
Madhya Pradesh	625.00	718.42	90.00	25.51	790.00	189.88	583.60	773.48
Chhattisgarh	475.00	405.14	85.00	18.68	325.00	64.47	242.53	307.00
Maharashtra	1500.00	1461.33	325.00	80.70	1975.00	265.07	1560.49	1825.56

Rajasthan	575.00	659.18	30.00	7.79	470.00	70.45	392.10	462.55
Haryana	850.00	879.29	35.00	11.10	355.00	72.98	376.75	449.73
Punjab	1250.00	1328.26	56.00	23.31	650.00	51.95	470.01	521.96
Himachal Pradesh	36.00	31.23	1.00	0.00	18.00	2.00	7.96	9.96
Jammu & Kashmir	67.50	50.45	10.00	0.00	40.00	0.99	31.47	32.46
Uttar Pradesh	2500.00	2604.91	150.00	46.04	1575.00	256.93	1255.89	1512.82
Uttarakhand	125.00	138.39	4.60	0.79	45.00	0.00	41.20	41.20
Bihar	925.00	802.76	80.00	15.23	400.00	0.40	334.77	335.17
Jharkhand	160.00	124.44	20.00	1.83	118.00	0.55	74.05	74.60
Orissa	450.00	376.10	120.00	25.08	370.00	7.88	312.42	320.30
West Bengal	500.00	495.79	150.00	31.46	650.00	27.12	511.31	538.43
Assam	140.00	130.09	60.00	10.58	27.50	7.50	20.94	28.44
All India	14216.253	14096.80	2254.8	708.71	12343.72	1754.57	10450.61	12205.18

Statement-III

(Figures in 000' MTs)

State-wise Requirement and Availability of Urea, DAP, NPK and MOP Fertilizer during Rabi' 11-12 (October, 2011)

State	UREA		DAP		NPK		MOP	
	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability
Andhra Pradesh	320.00	264.65	125.00	150.20	225.00	314.67	80.00	49.94
Karnataka	150.00	125.24	55.00	87.15	128.00	111.16	60.00	60.82
Kerala	25.00	15.57	8.00	1.79	40.00	31.01	25.00	15.92
Tamil Nadu	178.00	90.15	70.00	77.20	99.00	83.33	75.00	57.70
Gujarat	210.00	209.18	120.00	52.07	74.20	76.84	28.00	6.90
Madhya Pradesh	246.47	209.03	217.08	163.04	94.06	68.63	32.28	10.30
Chhattisgarh	22.50	25.38	6.50	10.94	8.18	12.05	4.50	2.63
Maharashtra	195.00	203.99	100.00	111.56	201.00	159.74	50.00	30.78
Rajasthan	140.00	174.13	137.00	134.29	32.50	43.15	5.00	5.40
Haryana	145.00	152.85	225.00	118.95	15.00	9.87	10.00	7.23

Punjab	300.00	215.02	225.00	174.43	30.00	40.60	15.00	11.72
Uttar Pradesh	400.00	448.18	355.00	196.07	175.00	176.62	65.00	12.19
Uttaranchal	5.00	7.21	2.50	2.72	9.50	7.42	2.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.03	2.50	0.00
J & K	13.70	5.23	7.79	1.32	0.00	0.00	4.38	1.32
Bihar	160.00	150.63	85.00	58.11	50.00	40.87	45.00	10.30
Jharkhand	21.25	27.73	15.00	9.25	20.00	5.39	6.00	0.00
Orissa	25.00	35.07	11.69	11.21	12.55	9.29	10.17	2.63
West Bengal	95.00	106.34	76.20	58.34	64.05	99.02	31.96	10.23
Assam	14.40	15.77	3.60	2.50	1.80	1.72	7.20	2.62
TOTAL	2689.89	2492.26	1848.84	1422.49	1295.37	1293.60	566.52	299.61

Steps to stabilize urea prices

1283. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that retail price of urea has increased over last three years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of prices of last three years; and
- (d) the action Government proposes to take to stabilize urea prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of urea since 2003 was Rs. 4830/- per tonne. The MRP of urea has increased to Rs. 5310/- per tonne w.e.f. 1st April 2010. The MRP as notified by the Government fixed is exclusive of CST, Sales Tax and Central Excise Duty. There has been no further increase in MRP of urea.

Discontinuance of gas supply

†1284. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Reliance Industries has served notices of discontinuance of supply of gas to Indo Gulf Fertilizers, IFFCO, KRIBHCO, Shyam Fertilizers and Tata Chemicals;
- (b) whether the said companies are lying closed due to unavailability of gas;
- (c) whether Indian Fertilizers Association has urged the Ministry to take appropriate steps in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Fertilizers Association of India had taken up the matter with the Department of Fertilizers. The Department of Fertilizers had written to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas who in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

turn directed Reliance Industries Limited not to stop gas supply to fertilizer plants as it would be against the decision of Empowered Group of Ministers which has accorded highest priority to fertilizer plants. The matter is also sub-judice in the Honourable High Court, Allahabad.

Delay in completion of BCPL project

1285. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited has been under slippages and the project scheduled to be completed by 2012 may, now, be delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details about achievement against the business plan, effective project monitoring and promotion of downstream industries of BCPL;

(d) whether Government has enumerated any losses for such delay; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) The Assam Gas Cracker Project which was originally scheduled for completion by April 2012 is now scheduled for completion by December, 2013. The project has witnessed time and cost over runs owing to various reasons like, sub-optimal size of the project, significant changes in technology/engineering/operational/utility requirements, delay in appointment of Engineering Project Management Consultant (EPMC), time escalation, labour unrest, inadequate availability of skilled manpower etc. As against the original cost of Rs.5460.61 crores, revised cost estimates of Rs. 8920 crore has been approved by the Government.

As against the Business plan of M/s Brahmaputra Cracker & Polymer Limited (BCPL) for 2011-12 of Rs.3214.94 crores, an expenditure of Rs.844.39 crores have been made till 30.09.2011. The project, as on 15th November, 2011, has achieved a physical progress of 56.6%. The project is monitored regularly by the Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals for necessary interventions for timely completion. Further, Principal Secretary to Prime Minister also regularly reviews the progress of the project under Delivery

Monitoring Unit (DMU) framework. The promotion of downstream plastic industries is a continuous and dynamic process undertaken through awareness programmes, trainings etc. and facilitation by Government agencies for setting up of units.

Nutrient Based Subsidy

1286. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total fund allocated for the implementation of Nutrient Based Subsidy;
- (b) the guidelines provided to the farmers about this new scheme;
- (c) the amount Government expects to save from implementation of Nutrient Based Subsidy;
- (d) whether Government has proposed any plans to phase out subsidy on chemical fertilizers in five year time; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Budget Estimate for fertilizer subsidy during the year 2011-12 is Rs. 53589.87 crore, out of which Rs.29706.87 crore is allocated for Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy for decontrolled Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers.

(b) 90% of the requirement of the phosphatic and 100% that of Potassic fertilizers of the Country is met through imports. Resultantly, the rise/fall in the international prices of Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilizers and its raw materials has a direct bearing on the cost of P&K fertilizers in the Country. Government of India has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy w.e.f. 1.4.2010 replacing the erstwhile concession scheme for decontrolled P&K fertilizers. Prior to 1.4.2010, the MRPs of the P&K fertilizers was fixed by the Government below the actual cost and the difference between the actual cost and the MRPs was reimbursed by the Government to the manufacturers/importers in the form of subsidy. Under the NBS Policy, the MRPs of the P&K fertilizers has been left open to be fixed by the manufacturers/importers and the amount of subsidy is fixed in terms of the nutrients of Nitrogen 'N', Phosphate 'P', Potash 'K' and Sulphur 'S' on annual basis. Accordingly, any increase/decrease in the prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials in the

international market has a direct bearing on the MRPs of P&K fertilizers. Recently, the prices in the international market and the price of dollar has also gone up substantially, as a result of which, the MRPs of P&K fertilizers has almost doubled. However, the MRP of Urea is controlled by Government and is fixed at Rs. 5310/- PMT and there is no increase in this.

(c) Since, the rate of subsidy per metric tonne is fixed and the MRP is open in respect of P&K fertilizers under the NBS Policy, the amount of subsidy to be released by the Government depends only upon the increase/decrease in the sales/consumption of the P&K fertilizers in the country. This year, though the international prices of finished fertilizers/its raw material has increased, there would be no impact on quantum of subsidy given by Government. The exact data for amount of subsidy released during 2011-12 shall be known to Department of Fertilizers only after 31.3.2012.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Variation in prices of same drug

1287. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that price of various brands of the same drug varies across the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the pricing of these drugs does not come under Government control; and

(d) if so, the names of drugs which fall under Government pricing control and whether prices of drugs varies on account of their being outside Governmental control and patients have been purchasing costlier drugs due to lack of information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) There cannot be price variation in respect of scheduled drugs i.e. drugs under price control, as the prices of 74 bulk drugs listed in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. List of 74 scheduled bulk drugs is given in

Statement (*See below*). The National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes/ revises the prices of scheduled medicines as per provisions of DPCO, 1995. No one can sell any scheduled drug/formulation at a price higher than the price fixed by NPPA.

However, as launch price of non- scheduled medicines, i.e. drugs not covered under the price control is not controlled under DPCO, 1995, there may be variations in the prices of different brands of the drugs based on same chemical combinations. In respect of non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers fix the prices themselves without seeking the approval of Government/NPPA. As a part of price-monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations and wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest.

Statement

List of Price Controlled Drugs (DPCO 1995)

THE FIRST SCHEDULE

[See Paragraphs 2 and 3]

Bulk Drugs

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Sulphamethoxazole | 12. Erythromycin |
| 2. Penicillins | 13. Vitamin A |
| 3. Tetracycline | 14. Oxytetracycline |
| 4. Rifampicin | 15. Prednisolone |
| 5. Streptomycin | 16. Cephazolin |
| 6. Ranitidine | 17. Methyldopa |
| 7. Vitamin C | 18. Aspirin |
| 8. Betamethasone | 19. Trimethoprim |
| 9. Metronidazole | 20. Cloxacillin |
| 10. Chloroquine | 21. Sulphadimidine |
| 11. Insulin | 22. Salbutamol |

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 23. Famotidine | 48. Norfloxacin |
| 24. Ibuprofen | 49. Cefadroxyl |
| 25. Metamizol (Analgin) | 50. Panthones & Panthenols |
| 26. Doxycycline | 51. Furazolidone |
| 27. Ciprofloxacin | 52. Pyriothoxine |
| 28. Cefotaxime | 53. Sulphadiazine |
| 29. Dexamethasone | 54. Framycetin |
| 30. Ephedrine | 55. Verapamil |
| 31. Vitamin B1 (Thiamine) | 56. Glipizide |
| 32. Carbamazepine | 57. Spironolactone |
| 33. Vitamin B2 (Riboflavin) | 58. Pentoxifylline |
| 34. Theophylline | 59. Amodiaquin |
| 35. Levodopa | 60. Sulphamoxole |
| 36. Tolnaftate | 61. Frusemide |
| 37. Vitamin E | 62. Pheniramine Maleate |
| 38. Nalidixic Acid | 63. Chloroxylenols |
| 39. Griseofulvin | 64. Becampicilin |
| 40. Gentamicin | 65. Lincomycin |
| 41. Dextropropoxyphene | 66. Chlorpropamide |
| 42. Halogenated Hydroxyquinoline | 67. Mebhydroline |
| 43. Pentazocine | 68. Chlorpromazine |
| 44. Captopril | 69. Methendienone |
| 45. Naproxen | 70. Phenyl Butazone |
| 46. Pyrental | 71. Lynestrinol |
| 47. Sulphadoxine | 72. Salazosulphapyrine |
| | 73. Diosmine |
| | 74. Trimipramine |

Variation in prices of drugs

1288. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of unreasonable price variation of drugs, Government proposes to review its drug pricing policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received spate of representations on variation in the prices of drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and further steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA)/ Government fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95). Under the provisions, prices of 74 bulk drugs and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. No person can sell any scheduled drug/formulation (medicine) of price controlled category to a consumer at a price exceeding the price notified/approved by the NPPA/Government. In respect of drugs - not covered under the Drugs(Price Control) Order, 1995 i.e. non-scheduled drugs, manufactures fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of NPPA/Government. Such prices are normally fixed depending on various factors like the cost of bulk drugs used in the formulation, cost of excipients, cost of R&D, cost of utilities/packing material, sales promotion costs, trade margins, quality assurance cost, landed cost of imports etc.

As a part of price monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly report of ORG IMS(now renamed as IMS Health) and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, subject to prescribed conditions, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

(c) Government have received representations from various quarters regarding variation in the prices of medicines.

(d) Department of Pharmaceuticals has prepared a draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2011 (NPPP-2011) based on the criteria of essentiality and requirements as stipulated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy, 2011 (NPPP-2011) has been circulated among the concerned Ministries/Stakeholders. The draft Policy is also available for comments of any other interested person on the Department's website www.pharmaceuticals.gov.in. In the draft policy it is proposed to bring the NLEM-2011 and associated medicines under price control.

Increasing production of Urea

†1289. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to increase the production of Urea in order to curb the increasing demand of fertilizers in the country;

(b) whether Government is contemplating on any plan of production of these fertilizers to lighten the burden of import of these DAP, MOP fertilizers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Government is encouraging production of urea in the country to achieve self sufficiency. The Government had announced on 4th September 2008, a new investment policy for urea sector to attract the much required investment in this sector. The policy has resulted in increase of indigenous Urea production by approximately two million tonne. Recently Government has decided to revive the eight closed plants of Fertilizers Corporation of India (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) to further increase Urea production. In order to further attract investment in new Expansion and Greenfield plants, amendments to the Investment policy is being considered.

Benefits of subsidy

1290. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether farmers are not getting the requisite benefits of subsidy on fertilizers;
- (b) whether some fertilizer companies resort to the tactics of Gold Plating i.e. indicating lower production capacity and on the basis of percentage production obtain huge subsidy;
- (c) if so, whether there is any proposal to pass on subsidy directly to the farmers according to their economic status; and
- (d) if not, the safeguards taken to ensure that peasants, poor and marginal farmers get the maximum benefit of subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. The farmers are getting the benefits of subsidy on fertilizers.

(b) The urea capacity of all the units in the industry had been reassessed. The Government had notified the reassessed urea capacities and the same were made effective from April, 2000. Therefore, the Government has already mopped up gold plated capacities.

(c) A Task Force on direct subsidy in respect of Kerosene, LPG & fertilizers has been set up under the chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani, Chairman, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to examine and implement a solution for transfer of subsidy directly to the farmers. The mandate of the Department of Fertilizers is to make available fertilizers to the farmers at affordable prices. The Task Force is expected to give an implementable solution on how the direct transfer of subsidy to the beneficiary can take place. An Interim Report of the Task Force has been submitted to the Government on 5th July, 2011 and is available on the website of Ministry of Finance.

In respect of fertilizers, the Task Force has recommended a three stage approach to the issue of direct subsidy. Phase-I is to capture the information availability regarding fertilizers at the farm gate level, wherein the availability at the last point of sale will be captured. In Phase-II, which will be implemented after the Phase-I stabilizes, the subsidy is expected to be transferred after receipt at retail point (last point receipt) and in Phase-III, when the Phase-I & II stabilize, the subsidy is expected to be transferred directly to the intended beneficiary once the AADHAR numbers are given

to the beneficiaries and AADHAAR enabled payment bridges are in place. The roll out of Phase-I will be in December 2011 and the roll out of Phase-II in 2012. Phase-III will take place after AADHAAR Numbers are given to all the eligible beneficiaries, beneficiary entitlements defined and AADHAAR enabled payment bridges are in place.

(d) Department of Fertilizers is implementing Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy for P&K fertilizers and New Pricing Scheme for Urea. The objective of these schemes is to provide fertilizers to the farmers at affordable prices. These schemes are applicable for all the farmers including poor and marginal farmers.

Requirement of fertilizers

1291. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government ascertains State-wise and month-wise requirement of major fertilizers and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether no scientific method is followed for assessing the requirement of fertilizers and the requirement is generally projected by increase of 5 to 10 per cent over the previous season's/year's requirement;

(c) whether availability of irrigation facilities, soil health and other local factors are considered to determine the requirement of fertilizers; and

(d) the measures taken to determine realistic requirement of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The Central Government assesses State-wise and month-wise requirement of fertilizers before each cropping season in Zonal conferences on Agricultural Inputs in which representatives of State Government and fertilizer industry participate. The State-wise and month-wise requirement of major fertilizers like Urea, DAP, MOP & Complex fertilizers are given in Statement-I to IV (See below) respectively.

(b) to (d) Requirement of fertilizers is based on requirement projected by State Governments, past consumption, weather conditions, targeted crop area, cropping pattern, area under irrigation and soil characters. The State Governments have been asked to project requirement of fertilizers on scientific basis.

Statement-I

Month-wise requirement of Urea for Rabi 2011-12

State/Union Territory	Urea							(In '000 MTs)
	October 2011	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	Total Rabi 2011-12	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
South Zone								
Andhra Pradesh	320.00	200.00	225.00	300.00	330.00	225.00	1600.00	
Karnataka	150.00	110.00	100.00	110.00	93.00	97.00	660.00	
Kerala	25.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	12.00	8.00	100.00	
Tamil Nadu	178.00	171.00	130.00	72.00	70.00	79.00	700.00	
Pondicherry	3.80	3.00	3.00	2.10	2.40	2.70	17.00	
Andaman & Nicobar	0.02	0.05	0.13	0.15	0.11	0.06	0.50	
TOTAL	676.815	504.045	478.13	499.245	507.51	411.755	3077.50	
West Zone								
Gujarat	210.00	215.00	250.00	215.00	150.00	135.00	1175.00	
Madhya Pradesh	246.47	387.02	322.29	140.63	19.95	8.64	1125.00	

Chhattisgarh	22.50	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	7.50	150.00
Maharashtra	195.00	210.00	240.00	230.00	200.00	175.00	1250.00
Rajasthan	140.00	210.00	340.00	230.00	70.00	60.00	1050.00
Goa	0.30	0.35	0.55	0.45	0.45	0.20	2.30
Daman & Diu	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.18
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.03	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.42
TOTAL	814.33	1052.47	1182.97	846.21	470.50	386.43	4752.90
North Zone							
Haryana	145.00	270.00	335.00	220.00	105.00	50.00	1125.00
Punjab	300.00	250.00	300.00	300.00	100.00	100.00	1350.00
Uttar Pradesh	400.00	650.00	850.00	800.00	400.00	200.00	3300.00
Uttarakhand	5.00	25.00	25.00	30.00	10.00	20.00	115.00
Himachal Pradesh	5.00	5.00	7.50	5.00	5.00	1.50	29.00
Jammu & Kashmir	13.70	24.43	19.17	9.15	7.56	4.00	78.00
Delhi	2.00	1.50	1.00	0.20	0.20	0.10	5.00
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	870.70	1225.93	1537.67	1364.35	627.76	375.60	6002.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
East Zone							
Bihar	160.00	210.00	285.00	210.00	160.00	125.00	1150.00
Jharkhand	21.25	22.50	27.50	16.25	6.25	6.25	100.00
Orissa	25.00	15.00	15.00	30.00	50.00	55.00	190.00
West Bengal	95.00	132.50	170.00	182.50	140.50	104.50	825.00
TOTAL	301.25	380.00	497.50	438.75	356.75	290.75	2265.00
North-East Zone							
Assam	14.40	20.80	33.60	36.80	33.60	20.80	160.00
Tripura	9.97	4.47	2.90	2.53	2.79	1.35	24.00
Manipur	1.60	2.10	2.60	2.80	1.90	1.50	12.50
Meghalaya	0.50	0.20	0.70	1.10	1.20	0.80	4.50
Nagaland	0.13	0.13	0.10	0.12	0.07	0.14	0.69
Arunachal Pradesh	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.57
Mizoram	0.10	0.05	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.21
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	26.80	27.84	40.00	43.47	39.67	24.68	202.47
ALL INDIA	2689.89	3190.29	3736.27	3192.02	2002.19	1489.21	16299.87

Statement-I

Month-wise requirement of DAP for Rabi 2011-12

DAP (In '000 Mts)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	October 2011	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	Total Rabi 2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	125.00	100.00	100.00	75.00	50.00	50.00	500.00
2	Karnataka	55.00	50.00	43.00	51.00	35.00	26.00	260.00
3	Kerala	8.00	5.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	22.00
4	Tamil Nadu	70.00	55.00	40.00	26.00	20.00	19.00	230.00
5	Pondicherry	1.20	1.10	1.00	0.80	0.80	0.70	5.60
6	Andaman & Nicobar	0.07	0.11	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.08	0.70
	TOTAL	259.27	211.21	187.15	154.95	107.94	97.78	1018.30
	West Zone							
1	Gujarat	120.00	120.00	65.00	45.00	25.00	25.00	400.00
2	Madhya Pradesh	217.08	206.68	46.93	8.38	3.68	2.27	485.00
3	Chhattisgarh	6.50	16.26	16.25	13.00	9.75	3.25	65.01
4	Maharashtra	100.00	130.00	120.00	115.00	100.00	85.00	650.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
B	Rajasthan	137.00	115.00	37.00	26.00	20.00	15.00	350.00
6	Goa	0.05	0.10	0.35	0.50	0.20	0.10	1.30
7	Daman & Diu	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.07
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.02	0.07	0.12	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.40
	TOTAL	580.67	588.10	285.65	207.98	158.72	130.67	1951.79
	North Zone							
1	Haryana	225.00	125.00	25.00	9.00	8.00	8.00	400.00
2	Punjab	225.00	150.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	415.00
3	Uttar Pradesh	355.00	300.00	150.00	50.00	40.00	20.00	915.00
4	Uttaranchal	2.50	6.00	2.50	2.00	0.00	0.00	13.00
5	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Jammu & Kashmir	7.79	16.54	11.60	4.30	2.91	1.86	45.00
7	Delhi	1.20	1.30	0.30	0.15	0.05	0.00	3.00
8	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	816.49	598.84	199.40	75.45	60.96	39.86	1791.00

	East Zone							
1	Bihar	85.00	80.00	80.00	10.00	15.00	5.00	275.00
2	Jharkhand	15.00	13.00	13.00	2.50	1.50	0.00	45.00
3	Orissa	11.69	9.89	11.15	24.19	25.07	8.01	90.00
4	West Bengal	76.20	44.00	45.70	52.70	29.30	12.10	260.00
	TOTAL	187.89	146.89	149.85	89.39	70.87	25.11	670.00
	North-East Zone							
1	Assam	3.60	5.20	8.40	9.20	8.40	5.20	40.00
2	Tripura	0.27	0.46	0.57	0.49	0.38	0.44	2.60
3	Manipur	0.17	0.21	0.23	0.24	0.26	0.30	1.41
4	Meghalaya	0.15	0.11	0.30	0.51	0.70	0.23	2.00
5	Nagaland	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.60
6	Arunachal Pradesh	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.06
7	Mizoram	0.23	0.12	0.00	0.06	0.06	0.01	0.47
8	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	4.53	6.23	9.59	10.61	9.91	6.28	47.14
	ALL INDIA	1848.84	1551.27	831.64	538.38	408.40	299.70	5478.23

Statement-III

Month-wise Requirement of MOP for Rabi 2011-12

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	MOP (In '000 MTs)						
		October 2011	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	Total Rabi 2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	80.00	50.00	60.00	55.00	50.00	40.00	335.00
2	Karnataka	60.00	46.00	51.00	43.00	40.00	35.00	275.00
3	Kerala	25.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	5.00	5.00	90.00
4	Tamil Nadu	75.00	70.00	61.00	40.00	42.00	32.00	320.00
5	Pondicherry	2.00	1.60	1.60	1.10	1.35	1.35	9.00
6	Andaman & Nicobar	0.02	0.06	0.06	0.10	0.09	0.03	0.35
	Total	242.02	187.66	193.66	154.20	138.44	113.38	1029.35
	West Zone							
1	Gujarat	28.00	23.00	20.00	18.00	18.00	13.00	120.00
2	Madhya Pradesh	32.28	28.44	11.00	1.84	1.06	0.37	75.00
3	Chhattisgarh	4.50	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	1.50	30.00

4	Maharashtra	50.00	52.00	54.00	55.00	54.00	50.00	315.00
5	Rajasthan	5.00	4.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	2.00	20.00
6	Goa	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.08	0.07	0.40
7	Daman & Diu	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.03
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.003	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.11
	Total	119.84	113.50	95.08	83.97	81.16	66.99	560.54
	North Zone							
1	Haryana	10.00	7.00	7.00	6.00	5.00	5.00	40.00
2	Punjab	15.00	15.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	50.00
3	Uttar Pradesh	65.00	45.00	45.00	35.00	50.00	10.00	250.00
4	Uttarakhand	2.00	1.50	1.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	5.00
5	Himachal Pradesh	2.50	0.00	0.00	2.50	0.00	1.00	6.00
6	Jammu & Kashmir	4.38	8.40	6.02	2.97	1.75	1.48	25.00
7	Delhi	0.60	0.40	0.20	0.15	0.10	0.05	1.50
8	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
	Total	99.48	77.30	64.22	52.12	61.85	22.53	377.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	East Zone							
1	Bihar	45.00	65.00	35.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	165.00
2	Jharkhand	6.00	4.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	14.00
3	Orissa	10.17	11.04	11.73	18.09	20.20	13.77	85.00
4	West Bengal	31.96	54.15	59.10	49.65	37.00	18.14	250.00
	Total	93.13	134.19	107.83	79.74	62.20	36.91	514.00
	North-East Zone							
1	Assam	7.20	10.40	16.80	18.40	16.80	10.40	80.00
2	Tripura	4.65	1.84	1.01	0.85	0.76	0.40	9.50
3	Manipur	0.08	0.14	0.10	0.17	0.14	0.24	0.87
4	Meghalaya	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.20	0.30	0.05	0.70
5	Nagaland	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.16
6	Arunachal Pradesh	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.06
7	Mizoram	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.11
8	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	12.05	12.50	18.01	19.66	18.04	11.14	91.40
	All India	566.52	525.14	478.80	389.69	361.69	250.95	2572.80

Statement-IV

Month-wise Requirement of Complex for Rabi 2011-12

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Complex (In '000 MTs)						
		October 2011	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	Total Rabi 2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	225.00	200.00	220.00	200.00	125.00	110.00	1080.00
2	Karnataka	128.00	117.00	114.00	123.00	107.00	91.00	680.00
3	Kerala	40.00	30.00	22.00	15.00	10.00	8.00	125.00
4	Tamil Nadu	99.00	85.90	75.30	51.40	42.80	35.60	390.00
5	Pondicherry	4.29	3.53	3.45	2.40	2.78	2.85	19.30
6	Andaman & Nicobar	0.03	0.15	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.07	0.40
	Total	496.32	436.58	434.81	391.86	287.62	247.52	2294.70
	West Zone							
1	Gujarat	74.20	67.80	43.00	28.00	21.00	16.00	250.00
2	Madhya Pradesh	94.06	98.27	27.39	3.64	1.27	0.38	225.00
3	Chhattisgarh	8.18	10.90	10.90	10.90	10.90	2.73	54.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	Maharashtra	201.00	191.00	169.00	145.00	128.00	96.00	930.00
5	Rajasthan	32.50	23.50	8.00	6.40	6.20	9.40	86.00
6	Goa	0.30	0.53	0.54	0.57	0.36	0.20	2.50
7	Daman & Diu	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.06
8	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	410.24	392.01	258.83	194.53	167.73	124.72	1548.06
	North Zone							
1	Haryana	15.00	10.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	50.00
2	Punjab	30.00	10.00	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	50.00
3	Uttar Pradesh	175.00	175.00	125.00	75.00	30.00	20.00	600.00
4	Uttaranchal	9.50	11.50	11.00	6.00	5.00	3.00	46.00
5	Himachal Pradesh	10.00	7.50	7.50	7.50	2.50	0.00	35.00
6	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Delhi	0.80	0.80	0.30	0.06	0.02	0.02	2.00
8	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00
	TOTAL	240.30	214.80	156.30	96.06	45.02	30.52	783.00

	East Zone							
1	Bihar	50.00	70.00	60.00	12.50	5.00	2.50	200.00
2	Jharkhand	20.00	19.30	11.20	9.00	5.50	5.00	70.00
3	Orissa	12.55	15.62	21.28	27.55	25.57	11.45	114.00
4	West Bengal	64.05	95.50	116.10	107.50	75.00	41.85	500.00
	Total	146.60	200.42	208.58	156.55	111.07	60.80	884.00
	North-East Zone							
1	Assam	1.80	2.60	4.20	4.60	4.20	2.60	20.00
2	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Nagaland	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.09
6	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Mizoram	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20
8	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL	1.91	2.71	4.22	4.62	4.22	2.62	20.29
	ALL INDIA	1295.37	1246.51	1062.73	843.62	615.65	466.17	5530.04

Complaints regarding irregularities in distribution of fertilizers

1292. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints from various State Governments, including Himachal Pradesh, regarding irregularities in the distribution of fertilizers in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No such reports of any irregularities in distribution of fertilizers have been received from the State Governments including Himachal Pradesh.

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

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

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

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

- i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);
- ii) The gap between requirement and indigenous availability of Urea is met through imports;
- iii) The state governments have been advised to instruct the State Institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies;
- iv) The Government has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy in respect of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers w.e.f. 1.4.2010. Under the NBS, State Governments have to play more proactive role to co-ordinate with the manufacturers/importers to tie up supplies of fertilizers as per the requirement of states;
- v) Department of Fertilizers and Department of Agriculture & Cooperation are jointly reviewing fertilizer availability with State Agriculture department through Video Conferences every week. The corrective actions, if required, are taken immediately to avoid any hardships to farmers;
- vi) Under NBS, Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) along with applicable subsidy on the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed net retail price will be punishable under the EC Act.;
- vii) Department of Fertilisers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, GAIL and other prospective suppliers of NG/LNG so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met;
- viii) Government is always encouraging production of urea in the country to achieve self-sufficiency. The Government has announced a new policy on 4th September, 2008 to attract new investments. The policy is based on import Parity Price (IPP) benchmark with suitable floor and ceiling prices aiming to revamp, expansion, revival of existing urea units and setting up of Greenfield projects. The country is almost fully dependent on imports to meet the requirements of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. Government has taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by allowing import parity price to the indigenous manufacturers of DAP. Government has also reduced the custom duty on

phosphoric acid from 5% to 2% to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to acquire this important input at reasonable price. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore the possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizers inputs to P&K sector; and

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

Missing files related to telecommunications sector

†1293. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that case of missing of files, related to important and sensitive policy decisions in telecommunications sector taken during last years, has come to light;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any inquiry process is going on in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Steps to reduce losses suffered by BSNL

1294. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the State owned BSNL posted a loss of Rs. 6000 crore during 2010-11;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any step to reduce the losses suffered by BSNL continuously;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has posted a loss of Rs 6384 crores for the financial year 2010-11.

(c) to (e) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) regularly reviews the performance of BSNL to improve its financial health. Some of steps taken by BSNL to reduce its losses and to improve its financial health are as follows:

- Optimizing CAPEX and OPEX through convergence and consolidation of infrastructure.
- Strengthening of stable revenue streams through concerted focus on broadband and enterprise business with major focus on Government projects.
- Focussing on the revenue from top 100 Cities for monitoring purpose.
- Sustained operational focus on customer care, service delivery, service assurance, revenue management and asset management.
- Aggressive push on Data usage and value added services.
- Clear cut segregation of commercial activities from social obligation to ensure sustainable growth.
- Progressive migration of current network to Next generation network thereby ensuring convergence, consolidation and seamless delivery of various services to end customers across different technologies.

Issuing of postage stamp on 'Dhumketu'

1295. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

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

(a) whether the Ministry has received any representation to reconsider issuing of postage stamp on 'Dhumketu' of Gujarat State for his remarkable contribution in literature and particularly his great story named 'Post Office'; and

(b) the action taken by the Ministry in this regard, till date and by when the Ministry is going to issue the postage stamp?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir, this Ministry has received a proposal for issue of a Commemorative Postage Stamp on "DHUMKETU".

(b) The proposal mentioned at (a) is still under consideration.

Single telecom circle for the country

†1296. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to cover the entire country in a single circle, in the aftermath of telecom scams;

(b) whether roaming charges will be discontinued after forming a single circle across the country; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) The National Telecom Policy-2011 (NTP-2011) is under formulation. However, the Draft NTP-2011 has been announced by Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT on 10th October 2011 and has been put in public domain for wider consultation. The last date for receiving suggestions/comments is 9th December 2011.

Draft NTP -2011 has proposed inter-alia the following;

- i) Strive to create One Nation-One License across services and service areas.
- ii) Achieve One Nation - Full Mobile Number Portability and Work towards One Nation - Free Roaming.
- iii) To review roaming charges with the ultimate objective of removing the roaming charge across the nation.

Shifting of circle headquarter of BSNL to Srinagar

1297. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the Central Government or PSU offices that were shifted to Jammu from Srinagar in early 1990's have shifted back to Srinagar;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Circle Headquarter of BSNL was also shifted to Jammu from Srinagar and continues to operate from Jammu; and

(c) the reasons for not shifting BSNL Circle Headquarter back to Srinagar and the expected date of its shifting back to Srinagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, the headquarter of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) Telecom circle, BSNL was shifted from Srinagar to Jammu in early 1990. Since 2007, the headquarter of J&K Telecom circle BSNL moves from Jammu to Srinagar and *vice versa* with the Durbar as per the schedule of the State Government.

(c) Does not apply in view of (a) and (b) above.

Biometric Enrolment Services

1298. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that DOEACC Society has invited Request For Quotation (RFQ) for Biometric Enrolment Services for approximately 55 crore citizen;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to higher rate of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) fixed by DOEACC, only 30 companies out of 300 empanelled agencies have participated in RFQ;

(c) if so, the reasons for such a drastic step for ignoring healthy competition;

(d) whether Government would probe the matter in the interest of transparency; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

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

(b) and (c) The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) for each zone has been fixed on the basis of General Financial Rules (GFR) 2005 which indicates that the EMD should be 2 to 5% of the estimated value of the goods to be procured (Rule 157 Bid Security). The EMD amount in the instant

case is in the range of 2.29% - 2.46% for various zones. Out of 184 agencies empanelled with UID Authority of India, 31 bidders have submitted bids.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Pricing methodology for charging for excess spectrum

1299. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister has declared a cap on 4.4 MHz of GSM spectrum for all licencees who were awarded UAS licences/spectrum on or after 10 January, 2008;

(b) whether this cap will also be applicable to UAS licencees who got licences before 10 January, 2008;

(c) if so, what will be the pricing methodology for charging for spectrum beyond the established contracted amount in each of the above cases; and

(d) by when Government would finalise its decision in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) TRAI in its recommendations on "spectrum Management and Licensing Framework" dated 11th May 2010 has recommended that the limit on spectrum to be assigned to a service provider will be 2X8MHz for all service areas other than in Delhi and Mumbai where it will be 2X10MHz. Similarly for CDMA spectrum the Authority recommends that the limit on spectrum will be 2X5MHz for all service areas and 2X6.25 MHz in the Metro areas of Delhi and Mumbai. TRAI has made it further recommendations on 8th February 2011 on the pricing of the spectrum to be charged on allotments made beyond contracted spectrum. The above recommendations are under consideration by the Government.

Cyber attacks from other countries

1300. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister, during the recent meeting at ITU, mentioned that India was under cyber attack owing to malware/spyware of equivalent thereof from servers installed in the USA;

- (b) if not, the details of the Minister's statement in this regard in specific terms;
- (c) the reasons/evidence for such statement;
- (d) if so, the steps Government has taken/proposes to take a protect India's crucial IT infrastructure from the possibility of such cyber attacks from across borders;
- (e) whether the Ministry has any specific information with regard to the possibility of such attacks from developed countries, including USA; 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) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allocation of spectrum to operators

1301. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is discrimination amongst telecom operators with regard to spectrum allocation by DoT;
- (b) whether some operators having spectrum upto 10 MHz are still shown waiting for additional spectrum, whereas some operators have only 4.4 MHz spectrum and waiting for additional spectrum to go upto the contracted value of 6.2 MHz and there are few operators who have not even got the initial spectrum of 4.4 MHz;
- (c) whether any action plan has been prepared by DoT for allocation of spectrum to the operators;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Initial/start-up spectrum has been allotted to the Unified Access Service Licensees as per the provisions of their Service Licence Agreements subject to availability of spectrum. With growth of service and increased subscriber base, additional spectrum is also being earmarked based on the subscriber based criteria evolved from time to time and subject to availability of spectrum in a telecom service area.

(c) to (e) TRAI in its recommendations on "spectrum Management and Licensing Framework" dated 11th May 2010 has recommended that the limit on spectrum to be assigned to a service provider will be 2X8MHz for all service areas other than in Delhi and Mumbai where it will be 2X10MHz. The above recommendations are under consideration by the Government.

Incentives to service providers for increasing mobile coverage

1302. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether DoT proposes to offer incentives that include some kind of subsidy to service providers for increasing mobile coverage area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether TRAI had recommended that the service providers who had covered half of the habitations in their licenced area with population of 500-2000, should get a reduction of 0.5 per cent in the annual licence fee and those who have covered all habitations should get two per cent off;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether DoT accepted the recommendation of TRAI; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (f) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), in its recommendations dated May 11, 2010 on 'Spectrum Management and Licensing Framework', has *inter-alia*, recommended that:

"Those licensees who have covered 50% of the habitations with a population of 500-2000 be given a reduction of 0.5% in the annual licence fee. And those licensees who have covered 100% (90% & above to be treated as 100%) of the habitations with a population of 500-2000 should be given a 2% discount in the annual licence fee."

No final decision has been taken by the Government on the above recommendations of TRAI.

E-governance of services

1303. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared a blueprint for total e-governance of services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount earmarked for the purpose during each year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the number of services that have been rendered under e-governance especially at grass root level;

(d) the benefits likely to be accrued to rural people from the scheme; and

(e) by when the e-governance facilities are likely to be implemented in the entire country, including the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) The National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) was approved by the Government of India in May 2006 with the vision to "Make all Government services accessible to the common man in his locality, through Common Service Delivery Outlets and ensure efficiency, transparency & reliability of such services at affordable costs to realize the basic needs of the common man".

NeGP presently comprises of 31 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) and 8 Support Components. The MMPs are implemented by the respective Line Ministries/ Departments and the State Governments. The details of the funds earmarked for the purpose during each year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan are being sought from the Line Ministry/Department concerned and will be separately furnished.

(c) The MMPs are categorized into Central, Integrated and State MMPs. The State MMPs deliver state specific services including those at the grass root level. Around 275 Service Categories spanning across Central, State and local government levels are planned to be delivered under these MMPs.

(d) The benefits likely to be accrued *inter-alia* includes

1. Improved service and service levels
2. Availability of services at the doorstep of the common man
3. Greater transparency, efficiency and accountability in the delivery of services

(e) Various MMPs are at different stages of implementation. The list of Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) along with the outlay of each project, target end date, and current stage is given in the Statement.

Statement

List of Mission Mode Projects (MMPs)

Sl.No.	Mission Mode Projects	Target End Date	Approved Amount (INR Crores)	Present Stage
Central MMPs				
1	MCA21	Sep, 2006	345.00	Post Implementation
2	Pensions	Mar, 2007, Mar, 2012 (Enhancements)	2.70	Post Implementation
3	Income Tax	Dec, 2008	693.00	Post Implementation
4a	Passport	Oct, 2011	1000.00	Implementation
4b	IVFRT	Sep, 2014	1011.00	Implementation
5	Central Excise & Customs	Dec, 2009	599.00	Post Implementation
6	UID	Mar, 2011	3170.30	Implementation
7	NPR	NA	6649.05	Implementation
8	e-Office(Pilot)	Dec, 2010	1.81	Implementation
9	India Post	New MMP		
10	Banking	Industry Initiative		
11	Insurance	Industry Initiative		
Integrated MMPs				
12	CSC	Mar, 2011	1649.00	Implementation
13	e-Courts	Mar, 2012	935.00	Implementation
14	EDI/ e-Trade	Apr, 2011	-	Post Implementation
15	India Portal	Nov, 2005	23.35	Post Implementation

16	NSDG	Jan, 2014	26.28	Post Implementation
17	e-Biz	Jun, 2010	23.07	Implementation
18	e-Procurement	NA	77.12	Implementation
State MMPs				
19	Police CCTNS	Mar, 2012	2000.01	Implementation
20	Agriculture	Aug, 2012	227.79	Implementation
21	Commercial Taxes	Feb, 2014	1133.41	Implementation
22	Employment Exchange	Approval Date + 22 Months	2167.29 (Proposed)	Design and Development
23	e-Municipality	December 2013	1150.00	Implementation
24	e-Panchayat	To be firmed up	6989.00 (Proposed)	Design and Development
25	NLRMP (Land Records -II)	August 2016	5656.00	Phase I - Post Implementation Phase II - Implementation
26	Treasuries	March 2013	626.00	Implementation
27	Road Transport	NA	148.00	Implementation
28	e-District	March 2012 (Pilot) April 2014 (National)	126.62 (Pilot) 1663.08 (National)	Implementation
29	PDS	New MMP		
30	Health	New MMP		
31	Education	New MMP		

High-tech parks to promote information technology

1304. SHRI SHADILAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of High-Tech Parks in the country and the investment made in each of them, State-wise, particularly in Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government has any plan to set up high-tech parks in all the States across the country to promote Information Technology;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) No High-Tech Park has been set-up by Department of Information Technology (DIT), Government of India. However, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an autonomous society under Department of Information Technology has set up 52 STPI Centres across the country to administer STP/EHTP scheme and provides Datacom services and plug & play incubation services for start-up companies. The State-wise and location-wise list of STPI Centres is given in Statement (See below). As per policy for setting up a new STPI centre; on receipt of a proposal from the State Government, STPI conducts a feasibility study jointly with the concerned State Government. This study is undertaken to evaluate the export potential and commercial viability of the proposal. If the viability exists, further action is initiated by STPI to set up the centre. At this stage, the State Government has to provide 3 acres of land, 10,000 sq. ft. of built up space and Grant-in-aid of Rs.1 Crore to STPI. After approval of the new STPI centre, DIT/STPI provide a seed capital of Rs 50 lakhs.

As per information received from respective State Governments - in the State of Haryana four Information Technology/ Hardware Parks have been setup by Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation with an investment likely to be catalysed of Rs. 5463 crores and in the State of Punjab two Information Technology Parks have been set up by Punjab Infotech with an estimated investment of Rs.121.90 crores.

Statement

List of STPI Centres

Sl.No.	States	STPI Centers
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2		Tirupati
3		Vijayawada
4		Vizag
5		Warangal
6		Kakinada
7	Assam	Guwahati
8	Chhattisgarh	Bhilai
9	Gujarat	Gandhinagar
10	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
11	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar
12		Jammu
13	Jharkhand	Ranchi
14	Karnataka	Bangalore
15		Hubli
16		Mangalore
17		Manipal
18		Mysore
19	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram
20	Madhya Pradesh	Indore
21	Maharashtra	Aurangabad
22		Nagpur
23		Nasik

1	2	3
24		Navi Mumbai
25		Kolhapur
26		Pune
27	Manipur	Imphal
28	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
29		Rourkela
30		Behrampur
31	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
32	Punjab	Mohali
33	Rajasthan	Jaipur
34		Jodhpur
35	Sikkim	Gangtok
36	Tamilnadu	Chennai
37		Coimbatore
38		Madurai
39		Tirunelveli
40		Trichy
41	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur
42		Lucknow
43		Noida
44		Allahabad
45	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
46	West Bengal	Kolkata
47		Durgapur

1	2	3
48	West Bengal	Kharagpur
49		Siliguri
50		Haldia
51	Bihar	Patna
52	Meghalaya	Shillong

Filling up of vacant posts in Chhindwara

†1305. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under Telecommunication district Chhindwara, officers and employees are deployed as per sanctioned posts in all the categories;

(b) the details of sanctioned, filled up and vacant posts, category-wise and cadrewise;

(c) whether the Ministry or General Manager, Bhopal has been requested by the questioner to fill up the vacant posts;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon, so far;

(e) whether Government proposes to fill up the vacant posts soon, in order to maintain the telecommunications system in the district; and

(f) if so, the probable time-frame to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, officers and employees have been posted as per need and on the basis of availability of staff in various cadres in the Telecommunication district Chhindwara. The details of sanctioned, filled up and vacant posts, category-wise and cadre-wise are given below:

Post	Sanctioned strength	Working strength	Vacant
1	2	3	4
Divisional Engineer (DE)	3	4	+1
Sub-Divisional Engineer (SDE)	24	14	10

1	2	3	4
Junior Telecom Officer (JTO)	30	10	20
Accounts Officer (AO)	4	2	2
Junior Accounts Officer (JAO)	5	3	2
Telecom Technical Assistant (TTA)	25	13	12

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, one additional JTO and one TTA has been posted in Chhindwara Telecom district.

(e) and (f) BSNL is actively engaged in the matter of recruitment/ promotion to fill up the vacant posts on need basis. Sanctioned strength in various cadres is also reviewed on continuous basis as per the manpower requirement in the present competitive scenario.

Revival of BSNL and MTNL

1306. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that BSNL and MTNL are suffering losses for last two years;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the blueprint of Government for revival of BSNL and MTNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have suffered losses for last two years. The details are as follows:

	BSNL		MTNL	
	2009-10	2010-11	2009-10	2010-11
Net Profit/ Loss	(-)1,823	(-)6,384	(-)2,611	(-)2,802
(Crores)				

(c) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) regularly reviews the performance of BSNL and MTNL to improve the financial health of these companies. Some of steps taken by BSNL / MTNL to improve their financial health for revival are as follows:

BSNL

- Optimizing CAPEX and OPEX through convergence and consolidation of infrastructure.
- Strengthening of stable revenue streams through concerted focus on broadband and enterprise business with major focus on Government projects.
- Focussing on the revenue from top 100 Cities for monitoring purpose :
- Sustained operational focus on customer care, service delivery, service assurance, revenue management and asset management.
- Aggressive push on Data usage and value added services.
- Clear cut segregation of commercial activities from social obligation to ensure sustainable growth.
- Progressive migration of current network to Next generation network thereby ensuring convergence, consolidation and seamless delivery of various services to end customers across different technologies.

MTNL

- Optimizing CAPEX and OPEX through convergence and consolidation of infrastructure.
- Sustained operational focus on customer care, service delivery, service assurance, revenue management and asset management.
- Progressive migration of current network to Next generation network thereby ensuring convergence, consolidation and seamless delivery of various services to end customers across different technologies.

National optical fibre network for broadband connectivity to panchayats

1307. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to create a National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) for providing Broadband connectivity to Panchayats in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the objectives thereof;

(d) whether Government has made any assessment to find out the additional infrastructure required for development of NOFN in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the details of expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government has approved creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) for providing broadband connectivity of all Panchayats. The plan is to extend the existing optical fibre network initially upto Panchayats by utilizing the Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) and creating an institutional mechanism for management and operation of the NOFN for ensuring non discriminatory access to all service providers.

(d) and (e) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been assigned a project by DoT/USOF for carrying out the Geo Information System (GIS) mapping of the existing OFC Network of the various Telecom Operators such as BSNL, Rail Tel, Power Grid, etc. and the work is in progress. The mapping of the existing OFC will enable to calculate the incremental length of the cable required for connecting all the 2.5 Lakh Panchayats with OFC.

The cost of initial phase of the NOFN Scheme is likely to be in the region of Rs. 20,000 crores.

Free roaming service for mobile subscribers

†1308. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to provide free roaming service to all mobile subscribers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has consulted telecom companies in this regard and the views of mobile companies to provide this facility upon taking due initiative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) The National Telecom Policy-2011 (NTP-2011) is under formulation. However, the Draft NTP-2011 has been announced by Minister of Communications & IT on 10th October 2011 and has been put in public domain for wider consultation. The last date for receiving suggestions/comments is 9th December 2011.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Provisions in the Draft NTP-2011 include:

- i. Achieve One Nation - Full Mobile Number Portability and work towards One Nation - Free Roaming.
- ii. To review roaming charges with the ultimate objective of removing the roaming charge across the nation.

Service options sought from ITS officers

†1309. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the basis of demands by the officers of Indian Telecom Service (ITS) Government has recently asked for the service options from those officers, who are holding higher positions for years in the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of such officers, who have given such options?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) Consequent upon formation of MTNL and BSNL, Group 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' employees of the Department of Telecommunications were transferred to these PSUs on 'as is where is' basis on deemed deputation. As per rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 notified by Government of India, Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, these officers are to be allowed an option to revert back to the Government or to seek permanent absorption in BSNL/MTNL. About 3,97,000 Group B, C & D employees already stand absorbed in BSNL/MTNL.

Four option letters dated 22nd September, 2011 were issued by the Department of Telecommunications calling for option from Group 'A' officers of Indian Telecom Service (ITS)/ Telegraph Traffic Service (TTS)/ Telecom Factories Service (TFS), General Central Service (GCS), Indian P&T Accounts & Finance Service (IP&T AFS) and P&T Building Works Service (P&T BWS) for exercising option for absorption in BSNL/MTNL or to continue in Government service. Last

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

date for exercising options for officers working in Department of Telecommunications or on deputation to organizations other than BSNL/MTNL was prescribed as 28th October, 2011. Such date for officers on deemed deputation to BSNL/MTNL was 8th November, 2011.

In response to the above option letter dated 22nd September, 2011 issued for ITS/TTS/TFS, 33 ITS officers (including 16 officers retired/resigned/ dismissed) have exercised their option for absorption in BSNL. None of the ITS officers has exercised option for absorption in MTNL. Besides, a total of 1482 ITS officers (including 9 officers retired/resigned) have opted to continue in Government service.

Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana

1310. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the villages in the country, which have been covered under the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana, State-wise along with the genesis of this Scheme;
- (b) the reasons for delay in coverage; and
- (c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to achieve the target of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) under the 'Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana' scheme are opened at the Gram Panchayat Headquarters which are without Post Offices. The objective of the scheme is to provide basic postal facilities at Gram Panchayat Headquarters. This scheme is being implemented by the Gram Panchayats through agents appointed by them (Gram Panchayats) with the written consent of the concerned Superintendent / Senior Superintendent of Post Offices. The Circle-wise number of PSSKs functioning in the country (as on 31.3.2011) is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras is an ongoing process. These Sanchar Sewa Kendras are opened in Gram Panchayat Headquarters where opening of post office is justified but it cannot be opened for some reasons. This is also subject to receipt of applications from the Heads of the Gram Panchayats.

Statement

*Circle-wise Number of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs)
functioning in the country as on 31.03.2011*

Sl. No.	Name of the Circles	PSSKs
1	Andhra Pradesh	86
2	Assam	141
3	Bihar	1072
4	Chhattisgarh	141
5	Delhi	0
6	Gujarat	10
7	Haryana	103
8	Himachal Pradesh	95
9	Jammu & Kashmir	25
10	Jharkhand	214
11	Karnataka	11
12	Kerala	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	212
14	Maharashtra	505
15	North East	66
16	Orissa	186
17	Punjab	7
18	Rajasthan	40
19	Tamil Nadu	82
20	Uttarakhand	77
21	Uttar Pradesh	1191
22	West Bengal	7
	Total	4271

Establishment of ICT-based service centres

1311. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving priority to the establishment of ICT-based service centres in rural and backward areas in each State, especially in Andhra Pradesh in the Eleventh Five year Plan;

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

(c) the funds released and spent, so far, for the period, State-wise; and

(d) the demands still pending from each State and backward areas in this regard in the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) Under National e-Governance Plan, the Government has approved the scheme of Common Services Centres under which 100,000 Internet enabled kiosks are being set up on an equitable basis across the country. These centres are set up on a public private partnership model with the Government only providing revenue viability gap funding. So far around 97000 centres have been set up. The details of centres established state-wise and funds released and spent is given in Statement (See below).

(d) The scheme is being implemented in all the States/Union Territories and no demands are pending.

Statement

The details of centres established State-wise and fund released and spent

Sl.No.	States	Total			
		Total CSCs Planned	rolled out as on 31st Oct 2011	Total funds sanctioned Rs (in Cr)	Funds utilized Rs (in Cr)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	5452	2415	15	9.29
2	Andaman & Nicobar	45	0	1.52	0.18

1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Arunachal Pradesh	200	198	6.65	1.34
4	Assam	4375	3881	117.84	25.63
5	Bihar	8463	8030	96.93	14.9
6	Chhattisgarh	3385	2485	15.67	6.71
7	Goa	160	160	0.02	0.0024
8	Gujarat	13695	13695	49.99	6.13
9	Haryana	1159	1159	18.75	2.3
10	Himachal Pradesh	3366	2813	8.47	6.66
11	Jammu & Kashmir	1109	630	40.28	4.99
12	Jharkhand	4562	4566	61.96	10.78
13	Karnataka	5713	800	28.58	9.74
14	Kerala	2694	2694	3.67	0.9
15	Madhya Pradesh	9232	9316	15.27	18.3
16	Maharashtra	10484	8819	15.55	14.44
17	Manipur	399	399	13.92	1.42
18	Meghalaya	225	197	0.32	1.99
19	Mizoram	136	118	4.94	0.4
20	Nagaland	220	199	7.14	0.9
21	Orissa	8558	6110	66.86	16.97
22	Puducherry	44	44	0.36	0.09
23	Punjab	2112	541	11.48	4.19
24	Rajasthan	6626	3712	54.93	13.14
25	Sikkim	45	45	1.64	0.62

1	2	3	4	5	6
26	Tamil Nadu	5440	3952	44	5.39
27	Tripura	145	145	4.92	0.58
28	Uttar Pradesh	18745	10801	18.36	35.5
29	Uttrakhand	2804	2474	12.09	5.56
30	West Bengal	6797	6190	54.88	13.47
31	Chandigarh	13	13	0	0
32	Lakshadweep	10	0	0.36	0
33	NCT Delhi	520	520	0	0
34	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	12	0	0.15	0
35	Daman & Diu	4	0	0.44	0
Total		126949	97121	792.94	232.51

Improvement of IT skills of SC/ST unemployed youth

1312. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether special measures have been initiated to improve the IT skills of SC/ST unemployed youth, so as to build capacity for competing in the private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any review conducted by the Ministry to measure the outcome; and

(d) the corrective measures taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Ministries/ Departments viz. Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Ministry of Development of North eastern Region, Ministry of Labour and Employment have initiated various Schemes/Projects to improve the IT skills of SC/ST unemployed youth which are given in Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Department of Information Technology (DIT) has constituted Project Review and Steering Group (PRSG) to review the implementation and suggest mid course corrections, if any, for the projects funded by DIT. Other Ministries / Departments have its own review mechanism to measure the outcome of each of the schemes/projects.

Statement

*Initiatives taken by various Ministries/ Departments to
improve the IT skills of SC/ST youths*

- Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Communications and IT:
 - a) IT for Masses programme of DIT
"IT for Masses" is a Plan Scheme of DIT. About 28,953 SC/ST have benefited directly from about 23 projects completed under this scheme during 2006-2010
 - b) National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (formerly DOEACC Society): An autonomous Scientific Society of DIT
 - Three projects in the area of IT Skill development for the disadvantaged segments of the society including SC/ST have been initiated in 2010-11. Under these projects training is to be provided to 89,400 youth.
 - Capacity Building for improving the IT Literacy and employability of the SC/ST Candidates in IECT Area: 2140 SC candidates in UP & Bihar states and 880 ST candidates in Jharkhand.
 - c) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC): An autonomous Scientific Society of DIT:

Capacity Building for Upliftment of SC/ST in Kerala at C-DAC, Thiruvananthapuram: This project is funded by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and targeted to train about 300 students per course in various job oriented IT Diploma courses. A total number of 3422 SC/ST students have been trained in.
- 2. Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER)

Under the plan scheme of Capacity Building & Technical Assistance, Ministry of DoNER is

providing financial assistance to the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to take up courses for skill up gradation in IT and other fields for the NE candidates.

3. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing Central Sector Scheme of 'Free Coaching for SC and OBC students'. The objectives of the Scheme are to provide qualitative coaching inter alia for finishing courses/job oriented courses for employment in the private sector like IT, Biotechnology etc., in need of soft skill.

4. Ministry of Labour & Employment

A Six month's Computer Training was implemented for SC/ST jobseekers registered with the Employment Exchanges during 2004-05 which was reoriented during 2009-10 by making it one year 'O' level course at its accredited institutions under the supervision of Coaching-cum-Guidance Center (CGC) for SC/ST in the various States. Three batches of the 'O' level one year computer Training, Scheme have been completed with a seating capacity of 1000, 1000 & 960 candidates in 1st, 2nd & 3rd batch respectively. The 4th batch is in progress *w.e.f.* 01.07.2011 in 21 places where the CGC for SC/STs are located.

Leasing out of BSNL towers

1313. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether State owned BSNL has started discussion with private players to lease out its towers to boost its revenue;

(b) if so, whether BSNL has more than 40,000 towers across the country and will lease out all these towers in the interest of the company; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (c) Sir, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has about 60,000 towers across the country. BSNL Management has decided to lease out spare capacity

of its towers to other private players on the commercial terms & condition to generate additional incremental revenue. BSNL has so far shared 1072 towers with the private players.

Broadband and mobile phone connectivity

1314. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) how many villages are yet to be connected with broadband connections;
- (b) the number of towers BSNL actually needs and the number at present for the effective communication facility for mobile phone users;
- (c) whether the 2G scam has affected the purchase of equipments needed by BSNL; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Sir, there are 5,93,601 inhabited villages in the country (as per 2001 census), out of which 1,69,201 villages have been covered through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) wire-line broadband services as on 30.10.2011.

(b) As on 31.10.2011, BSNL has 87,348 cellular Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) in its network. The mobile tower erection and commissioning is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) BSNL purchases mobile telecom equipment to augment its network based on techno-commercial considerations.

Provision and spread of IT in border areas

1315. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the Schemes to encourage tribal students to learn IT;
- (b) whether there is special consideration to spread IT in border areas like Chushul in Ladakh and Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh;
- (c) how many post offices and educational institutions have been provided with internet facilities by Central Government; and
- (d) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Ministries/Departments viz. Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Labour & Employment have initiated various Schemes/ Projects to encourage tribal youth students to learn IT is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) The National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology, an autonomous body under DIT has set up centres in border states like Jammu & Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Sikkim to spread IT education.

Under the National e-Governance Programme, nine Common Service Centres (CSCs) have been set up in Leh (Jammu & Kashmir) and six in Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh).

(c) and (d) Departmental Post Offices at 12202 locations have been provided with internet connectivity for internal use. The state-wise break-up is given in Statement-II (See below).

A Centrally sponsored scheme of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in schools of the Ministry of Human Resource Development is implemented through State/UT Governments, which provides for financial assistance of Rs.6.40 lakh per school to State/UT for 10 computers per school, computer infrastructure and internet connectivity. So far 90,235 schools have been covered under this scheme. The state-wise details of schools are given in Statement-III.

Statement-I

Details of Schemes/Projects to encourage tribal youth students to learn IT

1. Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Communications and IT

(a) IT for Masses programme of DIT

"IT for Masses" is a Plan Scheme of DIT. About 12,000 ST participants have benefited directly from about 23 projects completed under this scheme during 2006-2010

(b) National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (formerly DOEACC Society): An autonomous Scientific Society of DIT

- (i) Three projects in the area of IT Skill development for the disadvantaged segments of the society including SC/ST have been initiated in 2010-11.
 - (ii) Capacity Building for improving the IT Literacy and employability of the ST Candidates in IECT Area for 880 ST candidates in Jharkhand.
 - (iii) Following special benefits to ST candidates are provided:
 - No tuition fee/exam fee is charged from the candidates in NIELIT's own centres across the country.
 - Scholarship to meritorious students of DOEACC O/A/B/C level courses.
 - (iv) Trained about 350 candidates of North-Eastern Region in various IT Software/Hardware/Bio-Informatics courses under the Capacity Building Programme.
- (c) **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (An autonomous Scientific Society of DIT):**
- (i) IT based Fabric Design CAD Center in Agartala (Tripura), Musolpur (Assam), Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh), Gangtok (Sikkim), Imphal (Manipur), Aizawl (Mizoram) for creative design & development by artisans/weavers.
 - (ii) Economic Activity Training Center for Self Help Groups of North East Region at Namchin (Sikkim) for vocational IT training for Entrepreneurship development.

2. Ministry of Tribal Affairs

ST youth are provided training in IT under two schemes namely 'Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes' and 'Vocational Training in Tribal Areas'. So far 18 Computer Training Centres and 83 Vocational Training Centres have been supported.

3. Ministry of Labour & Employment

Directorate General of Employment & Training has made Basic Computer Course (BCC) of NIELIT compulsory for all the trainees of Govt. and Private ITIs across the country.

4. Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region (DONER)

M/o DONER supports and encourages tribal students of North East States to learn IT. Preference in selection of students from remote areas of NE states is also given.

Statement-II

*State-wise break-up of Departmental Post Offices
having the Internet connectivity*

Sl. No.	Name of States	Post Offices having Internet connectivity
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	824
2.	Assam	525
3.	Bihar	291
4.	Chhattisgarh	142
5.	Delhi	245
6.	Gujarat including Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	872
7.	Haryana	278
8.	Himachal Pradesh	256
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	79
10.	Jharkhand	181
11.	Karnataka	840
12.	Kerala including Lakshadweep	1070
13.	Madhya Pradesh	481
14.	Maharashtra including Goa	1342
15.	North East (Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram & Arunachal Pradesh)	181
16.	Orissa	450
17.	Punjab	431
18.	Rajasthan	329

1	2	3
19.	Tamil Nadu including Puducherry	1448
20.	Uttar Pradesh	1023
21.	Uttarakhand	182
22.	West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar	732
Total		12,202

Statement-III

*Details of Schools Approved under ICT in School
Scheme of MHRD during 2005-12*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Schools
1	2	3
1.	A & N Island	54
2.	Andhra Pradesh	11231
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	268
4.	Assam	1881
5.	Bihar	1180
6.	Chandigarh	87
7.	Chhattisgarh	2200
8.	D & N Haveli	26
9.	Daman and Diu	45
10.	Delhi	1110
11.	Goa	662
12.	Gujarat	6380
13.	Haryana	4217

1	2	3
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1246
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	340
16.	Jharkhand	1074
17.	Karnataka	7155
18.	Kerala	4196
19.	Lakshdweep	12
20.	Madhya Pradesh	4550
21.	Maharashtra	8200
22.	Manipur	325
23.	Meghalaya	655
24.	Mizoram	378
25.	Nagaland	566
26.	Orissa	4200
27.	Puducherry	376
28.	Punjab	3564
29.	Rajasthan	6600
30.	Sikkim	151
31.	Tamil Nadu	3266
32.	Tripura	1164
33.	Uttar Pradesh	7308
34.	Uttarakhand	1625
35.	West Bengal	3943
	Total	90,235

Penalties against operators for unwanted commercial calls and SMSs

1316. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has completely banned unwanted commercial calls and SMSs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware that mobile customers are still receiving unwanted commercial calls and SMSs, in spite of registering for 'zero preference' on 1909;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the details of mechanism available for registering complaints against those operators who violate it; and
- (f) the details of penalties, if found guilty of violation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA) : (a) and (b) Sir, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued "The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010" on 1st December 2010 with the objective to provide an effective mechanism for curbing Unwanted commercial calls and SMSs. All the provisions of the said regulation have come into force from 27th September 2011. These regulations prohibit sending of Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) to those customers who have registered their telephone number in the "National Customer Preference Register" for not receiving Unsolicited Commercial Communications.

(c) and (d) The number of complaints has come down after implementation of this regulation with effect from 27th September 2011. Prior to coming into force of this regulation, on an average 47454 complaints were received per month. (March 2010 to March 2011). However, as per the data provided by TRAI, the total number of complaints lodged by telecom consumers with their service providers from 27th September to 15th November 2011 were only 5979 (3587 complaints per month). From these complaints, it is observed that the complaints largely relate to unsolicited SMS while complaints relating to calls have reduced considerably. As regards SMS, some SMSs are being sent

from international servers located outside India which are not within the purview of these regulations. In some cases, Unsolicited SMSs/Calls are also being sent by unregistered telemarketers.

(e) and (f) For effective redressal of customer complaints relating to Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC), regulations has prescribed a framework in which action is to be taken by the service provider within seven days of lodging the complaint and the customer is to be informed about the action taken. Toll free number 1909 has been provided to facilitate customers to lodge complaints with their service providers through call or SMS. A customer may register unsolicited commercial communications related complaint by sending SMS to 1909 in the format given below :

"COMP XXXXXXXXXX; dd/mm/yy; hh:mm; short description of UCC."

Where XXXXXXXXXX - is the telephone number or header of the SMS, as the case may be, from which the unsolicited commercial communication has originated."

The regulations have prescribed penal provisions against telemarketers and Access Providers for violations of the provisions of the regulations. In case of violation by a registered telemarketer, amounts will be deducted from the security deposit of such telemarketer by the Access Provider as per the following table and such amount will be deposited with TRAI :

Deduction from Security Deposit of Telemarketer in case of Violation

Sl.No.	Number of Violation by Telemarketer Access Provider wise	Deduction from security deposit	Security Deposit	Additional Security Deposit
	0 violation	Nil	1,00,000	Nil
1	1st Violation	Rs 25,000	75,000	2,00,000
2	2nd Violation	Rs 75,000	2,00,000	Nil
3	3rd Violation	Rs 80,000	1,20,000	4,00,000
4	4th Violation	Rs 1,20,000	4,00,000	Nil
5	5th Violation	Rs 1,50,000	2,50,000	Nil
6	6th Violation	Rs 2,50,000	Nil	Nil

In case the Access Provider has violated any of the provisions of these regulations, the TRAI may constitute an inquiry by an inquiry committee comprising officers of TRAI and if on such inquiry the Access Provider is found to be in contravention of the provisions of regulations, the TRAI may order the Access Providers to pay the following amount by way of financial disincentive:

Financial Disincentive on Access Providers

Sl.No	Number of Violation by access provider	Financial Disincentive
1	1st Violation	Rs 1,00,000
2	2nd Violation	Rs 5,00,000
3	3rd and subsequent Violation	Rs 10,00,000

Mobile tariff hike by telecom companies

1317. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that TRAI has sought additional information from telecom companies on tariff hike;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the mobile tariff hike by 20 per cent is justified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had made following queries from telecom companies with reference to the recent tariff hike:

- i) What are the basic reasons behind the decision to increase tariff against the market trends?
- ii) Were you aware that other service providers had also increased/were planning to increase tariff during the same period?
- iii) Considering the striking similarities in respect of the extent and timing of the increase in prices, why should this tariff change not be construed as a uniform pricing strategy by a few major service providers in the relevant service areas?

- iv) List out the titles of the plans and packs where tariff has been revised upward during July-August, 2011.
- v) Please state whether the upward revision has been made in the Base rates or optional packs/Promotional tariff offers.
- vi) What is the estimated additional annual revenue inflow on account of increase in tariff? Please provide quarter-wise estimate for 4 quarters beginning 01.07.2011.
- vii) What are the measures adopted for communicating the increase in tariff to the consumers? Give evidence.
- viii) Are the above measures commensurate with the normal publicity efforts adopted for communicating reduction in tariff/ launch of new schemes?
- ix) Whether the subscribers affected by the hike have been given advance intimation?
- x) Certain categories of subscribers are required to be provided protection from tariff hikes under the provisions of TTO. What are the categories of subscribers who were provided such protection from the increase in tariff?
- xi) A month-wise estimated number of the existing subscribers for each service area who will be affected due to increase in tariff, may be furnished for a period of 12 months beginning 01.07.2011.
- xii) Has there been any reduction in any other item of tariffs for Mobile services in the affected areas during the relevant period?
- xiii) Provide the number and nature of complaints/representations received in the context of the tariff hike.
- xiv) What are the measures taken by you to address the adverse reactions from the consumers?

(c) The regulation of tariff for telecom services has been mandated to TRAI, vide TRAI Act of 1997. As per TRAI, the hike in tariff effected was not across all tariff plans and for all types of calls. The hike was mainly in respect of promotional and limited period offers, while the charges in the Base Tariff Plans of subscribers remained unchanged. In many cases the hike effected was for on-network calls and the charges for off-network calls remained unchanged.

Reservation in promotion

1318. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation in promotion is strictly followed and implemented in the Ministry as per the provisions made in the Constitution through 77th Amendment;

(b) if so, the details of promotion made during last five years in all categories;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the tentative time by which the same will be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is strictly following and implementing the extant instructions of the Government of India on reservation in promotion [for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)] in all categories of posts for which the Ministry is the Cadre Controlling Authority.

(b) The details of promotions made during last five years in respect of all categories of posts in the Ministry is given in Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement

*Details of promotion made during the last five years
in respect of all categories of posts*

Category of Posts	Promotions made during the last five years	Remarks
1	2	3
Group A	(a) 1. Name of the promotional post: Deputy Industrial Adviser (Industrial Advice) 2. Pay Scale (pre-revised): Rs. 10000-325-15200/-	Shri K.K. Maheshwary belongs to Unreserved Category.

1	2	3
	3. Number of incumbents promoted: 1 No.	
	4. Name of the incumbent : Shri K.K. Maheshwary	
	5. Date of promotion: 01.02.2005	
	(b) 1. Name of the promotional post: Assistant Industrial Adviser (Industrial Advice)	Shri K.S. Sejwal, belonging to SC category, has been promoted from Technical
	2. Pay Scale (pre-revised): Rs. 8000-275-13500/-	Officer (pre-revised scale: Rs. 6500-200-10500) to
	3. Number of incumbents promoted : 1 No.	Assistant Industrial Adviser against the roster point
	4. Name of the incumbent : Shri K.S. Sejwal	earmarked for "unreserved Category" as he was the
	5. Date of promotion: 28.04.2006	only incumbent in the feeder grade - i.e. Technical Officer (Industrial Advice)
Group B	Nil	--
Group C	Nil	--
Group D	Nil	--

Note: No promotion was made under Schedule Tribe (ST) category.

Vision Document 2015 for Food Processing Sector

1319. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared Vision Document 2015 for food processing sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the targets fixed therein;
- (d) the action plan prepared to achieve the targets; and
- (e) the achievements made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by the year 2015.

(d) and (e) As per the action plan prepared by the Government to realize the targets set for the growth of the food processing sector, as per Vision 2015, the 11th Plan Schemes have been restructured with appropriate management/implementation arrangements in Public Private Partnership mode, with strong Project Implementation capabilities. Also it is proposed to decentralize the Scheme for Technology Upgradation and operate it through Nodal Banks in place of State Nodal Agencies to provide back-ended credit linked subsidy. The new integrated approach not only addresses issue of financial assistance but also Skill development, Entrepreneurship, Investment, Institutional Development, Providing a policy environment, which stimulates growth. The Core elements of the strategy are better project selection, development and implementation, decentralized cluster based development, particularly for creation of infrastructure and fostering linkages to retail outlets, industry led capacity building and upgradation of standards, an integrated food law and science based food standards.

During the 11th Plan period out of 30 Mega Food Parks projects Ministry has already approved 15 projects and is in process of approving remaining 15 Mega Food Parks. CCEA approval for the 15 Mega Food Parks has already been obtained and EOI has been issued for inviting proposals. As against 30 Cold Chain projects envisaged for the 11th Plan period Ministry has approved 10 integrated Cold Chain project out of which 8 have started commercial operation in terms of value addition, reduction in wastage and enhancement in farmer's income. In the second phase 39 projects of integrated Cold Chain have been approved. In case of Modernization of Abattoir 10 projects have been approved. Under the scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of food Processing Industries, a total of 2532 units have been assisted. Under the scheme of Quality Assurance 22 Food Testing Labs have been assisted and 14 units under HACCP/ISO certification have been assisted. Under the scheme Human Resource Development for creation of infrastructure facilities 33 units assisted, 140 Food Processing Training Centre (FPTC) and 805 Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) have been assisted. Under the Institutional Strengthening the

NIFTEM, IICPT, IGPB and NMPPB has been established to give further impetus to the development of food processing sector.

Assistance to industries of perishable food items

1320. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any machinery has been established by Government to extend technical assistance and advice to industries of perishable food items such as fish, fruits, vegetables etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any mechanism to assess the performance of such machinery; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) The scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPIs is applicable to promote latest technology in the preservation of perishable commodities including horticultural produce processing. The scheme envisages to extend the financial assistance for setting up of new food processing units as well as Technological Upgradation and Expansion of existing units in the country. Ministry extends financial assistance in form of grants-in-aid to entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas.

Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industry is encouraging setting up of Cold Chain facilities, value addition and preservation infrastructure which envisages financial assistance in the form of grants-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machineries and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North Eastern Region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crore.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing policies and programmes for promotion and growth of food processing sector. Ministry undertake regular review of the performance of the schemes.

Assistance to Rajasthan for food processing sector

1321. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by Central Government to Rajasthan for food processing sector during last five years;

(b) whether farmers have been benefited financially by setting up of food processing units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance under its plan scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries in the country including that of Rajasthan in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas and @33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas such as Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarkhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. All implementing agencies engaged in Setting Up/Expansion/Modernisation of Food Processing Industries covering all segments are eligible for financial assistance. The implementing agencies include Central/State Government Organisation/PSUs/NGOs/ Cooperative Societies and Private Sector Units and Individuals including farmers.

The details of the financial assistance provided for the State of Rajasthan under the Scheme is as below:

(Rs. in lakh)

2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
(as on 31.10.2011)									
No. of Approved units	Amount Rele-ased	No. of Approved units	Amount Rele-ased	No. of Approved units	Amount Rele-ased	No. of Approved units	Amount Rele-ased	No. of Approved units	Amount Rele-ased
35	566.075	44	551.975	27	325.46	48	691.123	63	806.10

Schemes for SC/ST Enterprises to set up food parks

1322. SHRI. JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the detail of schemes meant for SC/ST entrepreneurs to set up food parks and other food processing Industries; and

(b) the details of such projects in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The Scheme of Infrastructure Development for Mega Food Park in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is not specific to any category of entrepreneurs. As per the guidelines for Mega Food Parks, the responsibility of execution, ownership & management would vest with a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in which financial institution/Banks, organized retailers, processors, service providers, producers, farmer organizations and other related stock holders would be the equity holders.

Under Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Setting up/Modernization of Food Processing Industries, entrepreneurs including those from SC/ST category are eligible for grants-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs.50.00 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas.

(b) 15 Projects of Mega Food Parks have already been approved, which are at various stages of implementation. Expression of Interest (EoI) has been called for, to set up 15 new Mega Food Parks in addition to the 15 ongoing projects.

Extension of Mid-Day-Meal Scheme

1323. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are impediments in implementing the Mid-day-Meal (MDM) Scheme due to lack of resources;

(b) if so, whether additional focus on taking MDMS to private unaided schools in Tribal, Scheduled Caste and Minority districts would take place;

(c) whether MDM under National Child Labour Programme, which is currently in progress in nine States, would be extended to 20 States as planned; and

(d) if not, how Government intends to remedy the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Working Group on Elementary Education & Literacy for the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17), has recommended extension of Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) to private unaided schools in the Tribal areas of the country.

(c) and (d) MDMS has already been extended to all National Child Labour Project Schools in 19 States of the country.

Teachers' Evaluation Test

1324. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Teachers' Evaluation Test (TET) was conducted to assess the performance of secondary and senior secondary teachers in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many teachers had appeared in the test and how many qualified the same;

(d) whether there is any concern regarding the same;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government is planning to take steps to uplift the standard of education provided to children in the country; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Teachers' Evaluation Test was not conducted to assess the performance of teachers. However, Teachers' Eligibility Test (TET) is conducted by the respective State Governments in accordance with guidelines issued by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE). Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) conducts Central Teachers' Eligibility Test (CTET) usually twice in a year. The first CTET was conducted on 26.06.2011.

(c) to (e) Since Teachers' Evaluation Test was not conducted, therefore do not arise.

(f) and (g) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced Continuous & Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) upto class X to promote quality of education in CBSE affiliated schools.

Standard of education in the country as per World Bank

†1325. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the World Bank, the condition of the quality of education in the country is still pathetic;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to declined standard of education in Government schools a number of other shortcomings are erupting in the education sector; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto and the future plan for raising the standard of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) The World Bank Report titled "Secondary Education in India: Universalizing Opportunity" (January, 2009) mentions one research work undertaken in 2007, wherein small scale standardized assessment of student achievement in mathematics at secondary and senior secondary levels in two states of Rajasthan and Orissa, suggested that quality of instructions and learning was very low. The same report also mentions that the top performing 5 per cent of students in Orissa and Rajasthan performed far higher, on average, than most of their peers around the world, including in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries. The sheer size of India's student population translates this small percentage into a large absolute number of high performing children.

(b) Improvement of quality of education is a continuous endeavour. The subject 'Education' comes under the Concurrent List. Both Central Government and the State Governments are responsible for improving the quality of education in the country.

(c) and (d) There is no available report suggesting that standard of education in Government schools is declining. There is also no report to show that due to declining standards, a number of other shortcomings are erupting in the education sector. The Joint Review Mission of Sarva Shiksha

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Abhiyan (SSA) held in 2011, in which the World Bank was one of the Development Partners, has found the over-all working of the SSA programme satisfactory. The World Bank has commended the progress made by SSA in improving access, bridging gender and social gaps and improving children completing primary and elementary cycles of education. The centrally sponsored scheme 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)' was launched in March, 2009 to enhance access to secondary education and to improve its quality.

The National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005 reflecting upon the prevailing systemic practices such as evaluation and examination also states that because of the differing nature of learners, and the widely variable quality of teaching, the expectation that all candidates should demonstrate the same level of competence in each subject in order to reach the next level of education is unreasonable.

Availability of secondary education

†1326. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 82 lakh children could not be admitted to schools last year;
- (b) the percentage of children for whom facility of secondary education is available in the secondary schools in the country;
- (c) whether Government has taken any decision for expansion of this facility during Twelfth Five Year Plan;
- (d) if so, the number of additional schools to be set up in each State and their estimated requirement; and
- (e) the number of children being deprived of secondary education due to lack of facility of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Ministry of Human Resource Development has got conducted a National Sample Survey on "Out of school children" in age group of 6-14 years i.e. at elementary level through Social and Rural Research Institute - a unit of International Market Research Bureau

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(IMRB) in 2009 in which the number of 'out of school' children was assessed at 81.50 lakh. Mainstreaming of out of school children is one of the focus area under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). For current year 2011-12, the physical target is to mainstream 25.52 lakh out-of-school children. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come in to force with effect from 01.04.2010. The RTE Act, 2009 mandates the appropriate Governments to establish within such area or limits of neighborhood as may be prescribed, a school where it is not so established, within a period of three years from the commencement of the Act.

(b) to (e) To enhance access to secondary education by providing secondary schools within a reasonable distance of every habitation, a new centrally sponsored scheme namely Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) has been under implementation from 2009-10 with a target to ensure universal access of secondary education by 2017 (GER of 100%) and universal retention by 2020. Since the inception of the scheme, opening of new 9799 secondary schools and strengthening/ improvement of existing infrastructure of 35547 of existing secondary schools have been sanctioned.

As per the Working Group Report on Secondary Education for the 12th Five Year Plan, there is a requirement of 19946 new secondary schools, with an estimated outlay of Rs 29919 crore. A total requirement of Rs 318394 crore for secondary education has been envisaged under this report.

Lack of drinking water and toilet facilities in schools

†1327. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that large number of Government schools in the country don't have drinking water and toilet facilities;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has also directed to fulfil these basic requirements;

(c) whether it is also a fact that arrangements for drinking water in the schools could not be made due to casual approach of the States;

(d) whether Central Government has given directions to install water purifiers in all the schools; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per District Information System for Education (DISE) 2009-10, 54.31% schools have common toilets, 58.82% schools have girls' toilets and 92.60% schools have drinking water facility at the elementary stage of education.

(b) to (c) In writ petition (civil) No. 631 of 2004 Environmental and Consumer Protection Foundation vs. Delhi Administration and Others, Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed, in its order dated 10th October, 2011 all States and Union Territories to ensure that toilet facilities are made available in all schools on or before 30th November 2011. Hon'ble Court also directed that in case it is not possible to have permanent construction of toilets, at least temporary toilets need to be provided in the schools on or before 30th November, 2011 and permanent toilets be made available by 31st December, 2011. Hon'ble Supreme Court had directed the Chief Secretaries/Administrators of all the States/Union Territories to file their affidavits on or before 30th November, 2011.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is implementing the Jalmani Programme under which 100% central assistance is given to States to install stand alone water purification systems in water deficient rural schools. The Ministry has provided a sum of Rs. 200 crore to install one lakh water purification systems.

Setting up of Kendriya Vidyalayas

†1328. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up Kendriya Vidyalayas in all parts of the country;

(b) if so, the places identified for this so far;

(c) the details of requests for opening such schools received from various State Governments and Members of Parliament during last one year;

(d) the decision taken on each of these requests; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) the places where Kendriya Vidyalayas would be started during the next year along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Opening of new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) is a continuous process subject to availability of funds and requisite proposals from the State Government/Union Territories in accordance with the prescribed norms. Till date, 1086 KVs are functional in various parts of the country.

(c) to (e) During the last one year from 01.12.2010 to 30.11.2011, 96 proposals have been received from various State Governments/Union Territories and Institutions for setting up of new KVs. However, there is no sanction to set up any new KV during the current financial year.

Requirement of classrooms in schools

1329. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 2.9 lakh classrooms are required at the elementary and 1.8 lakh classrooms are required at the secondary level in the country;

(b) if so, to what extent the SSA is helping in sanctioning the above classrooms for primary education; and

(c) to what extent Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) is helping in sanctioning and constructing classrooms for secondary level students in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) It is estimated that approximately 2.91 lakh classrooms at elementary and 1.77 lakh classrooms at secondary stage of education are required.

(b) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a total of 15.93 lakh classrooms have been sanctioned since inception, including 2.68 lakh in the year 2010-11 and 2.20 lakh in 2011-12.

(c) Under Rastriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), 48,884 classrooms have been sanctioned during 2009-10 to 2011-12 to fill the gap.

Hygienic and nutritious meal under MDMS

1330. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criterion fixed to maintain the minimum hygienic conditions including nutrition on the meals to be served to the pupils, under Mid-Day-Meal (MDM) Scheme in the schools in the country;

(b) the details of provision made on monitoring the food nutrition, hygiene, meal quantity for each student and action taken against irregularities occurred;

(c) the details of such irregularity school-wise; and

(d) the number of pupils being served with meals under MDM Scheme in Assam as well as the number of grievances redressed in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Mid Day Meal Guidelines stipulate that:

- i. hygienic conditions be maintained, such as, cutting of nails, washing hands and feet with soap by cooks, helpers and other functionaries, before commencement of cooking/serving etc.
- ii. kitchen-cum-store should have a raised platform for cooking, adequate light, proper ventilation, system for drainage and waste disposal and must always be kept clean.
- iii. ingredients used for cooking, food grains, pulses, vegetables, cooking oil and condiments should be free from adulteration and pest infestation and should be used only after proper cleaning and washing and should be stored in proper containers.
- iv. utensils for cooking and serving should be properly cleaned and dried every day after use.
- v. 2-3 adults members, one of them being a teacher, must taste the food before it is served to the children.
- vi. active community participation be ensured, for the supervision and monitoring of the programme.

vii. eligible school children be provided with a meal to ensure 450 calories of energy and 12 grams of protein at primary stage and 700 calories of energy and 20 grams of protein at upper primary stage.

(b) For ensuring quality control, joint inspections are carried out by District Authorities and FCI representatives before lifting foodgrains. There is a detailed monitoring and review mechanism at all levels to ensure effective implementation of the scheme. Grievance Redressal Mechanisms have been established in the states for registration and redressal of complaints. In addition 40 independent monitoring institutes evaluate the Scheme at regular intervals.

(c) Since 01.01.2010, seven cases of serving of unhygienic food in Bihar (Govt. Primary School, Sitamarhi), Delhi (Govt. Girls Middle School, Hauz Qazi) and (Sharda Sen Sarvodya Kanya Vidyalaya, Trilokpuri), Madhya Pradesh (Primary School Tindokhar, Dist. Morena), Karnataka (Model Higher Primary School No. 1, Lakshmeshwar, Gagag District), Uttar Pradesh (Upper Primary School, Municipal Corporation, Agra) and Haryana (Govt. Primary School, Hodal, Faridabad) have come to the notice of the Government. In 4 cases viz, in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi (one case) and Haryana the state governments have reported that unhygienic food was not served, while in Delhi, Karnataka and U.P actions like suspension of erring officials; payment of compensation for hospitalization, and issue of warning to the cooking agency were taken.

(d) During the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, 2764934; 4132618 and 4515884 children, respectively, have benefited from the Mid Day Meal Scheme. The Assam Government has informed that the Grievances Redressal Cell has been functioning in the State since 02.09.2010. 19 grievances have been recorded in the Cell. On one grievance, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Guwahati has taken action and for remaining 18 grievances, the different field level officers have been asked to take appropriate action.

Encouragement of girls' education at degree level

1331. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of girl students studying in college/universities at present, State-wise and university-wise;

(b) whether Government has pressed any scheme for encouragement of education amongst the girls at degree level;

- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the other measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Out of a total of 2,07,40,740 students enrolled, the number of girls enrolled in higher education is 82,96,140 during 2009-10. State-wise number of girl students studying in higher education in colleges, universities and other institutions during 2009-10 is given in Statement (*See below*). University-wise data is not maintained.

(b) to (e) While there is no Centrally Sponsored Scheme for encouragement of education amongst girls at university level, University Grants Commission (UGC) provides Indira Gandhi Scholarship to Single Girl Child for pursuing higher and technical education. In addition to this, UGC has taken number of steps for greater access to women in higher education like Construction of Women's Hostels, Development of Women's studies in Universities and Colleges, Scheme of Capacity Building of Women Managers in Higher education, Post Doctoral fellowships for women etc. All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), besides having a scheme of tuition fee waiver for girl students in technical institutions, also provides for relaxed norms for establishment of new technical institutions exclusively for women.

Statement

Statewise number of Girl students studying in Higher Education

Enrolment in Higher Education-2009-10 (Provisional)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	All categories	
		Total	Girls
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	1653708	585490
2	Arunachal Pradesh	25329	10012
3	Assam	327331	109906

1	2	3	4
4	Bihar	1300094	406289
5	Chhattisgarh	565157	216372
6	Goa	52844	26752
7	Gujarat	1070283	419049
8	Haryana	593895	241199
9	Himachal Pradesh	186813	93409
10	Jammu & Kashmir	277623	128142
11	Jharkhand	364459	115045
12	Karnataka	1260038	546502
13	Kerala	435885	236068
14	Madhya Pradesh	1239756	512300
15	Maharashtra	2737264	1020644
16	Manipur	49181	21001
17	Meghalaya	55394	28578
18	Mizoram	35631	16257
19	Nagaland	42727	19987
20	Odisha	536374	138742
21	Punjab	348418	163365
22	Rajasthan	767656	278813
23	Sikkim	19237	8284
24	Tamil Nadu	1385251	614068
25	Tripura	52786	21457
26	Uttar Pradesh	2536357	1024923

1	2	3	4
27	Uttarakhand	434203	261572
28	West Bengal	1249659	513366
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	13872	7139
30	Chandigarh	41792	22720
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1947	826
32	Daman & Diu	1037	458
33	Delhi	1035122	464843
34	Lakshadweep	410	297
35	Puducherry	43207	22265
	India	20740740	8296140

Development of skills through vocational education

1332. SHRI Y.S CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 5 percent of Indians in the age group of 19-24 years acquire some skills through vocational education;

(b) the amount spent during Tenth Five Year Plan on vocational education and in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, so far;

(c) the results achieved in improving skills through vocational education during the last three years, State-wise and yearwise; and

(d) the plans of Government for further development of skills through Vocational Education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to the report of Operations Research Group (1996) the proportionate share of vocational student's vis-a-vis total enrolment at the higher secondary stage was 4.8%.

(b) Rs.6337.97 lakh was released during 10th Five Year Plan under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Vocationalisation of Secondary Education". Rs.497.94 lakh has been released in the 11th

Five Year Plan so far, after the approval of the revised Scheme on 15.9.2011 by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

(c) and (d) The scheme was not implemented during the last three years as it was under revision. In addition to assisting vocational education in Government secondary schools, the children of socio economically weaker sections in private schools will be assisted through Public Private Partnership (PPP) under the revised Scheme. Capacity building of vocational teachers is provided for. A vocational education cell has been established under the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). A close partnership with industry and other provisions of the National Vocational Education Qualifications Framework (NVEQF) would enhance the pool of Skilled manpower in the country.

Ragging in educational institutions

1333. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that ragging is still prevalent in our educational institutions across the country;

(b) if so, whether the anti-ragging mechanism which was implemented by Government has not proved effective;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to bring a legislation to tackle this menace; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (d) The cases of ragging in higher educational institutions continue to be reported to the Toll-Free Anti-Ragging Helpline set up by the Government and at times a few cases of alleged ragging also appear in the press and media. As a matter of fact, after the launching of this helpline in June, 2009 which operates in 12 languages, the students have free access to it and report cases without fear. The other effective steps taken by the Government include notification of anti-ragging regulations by regulatory authorities viz. University Grants Commission (UGC), All Indian Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Medical Council of India (MCI), Dental Council of India (DCI), which have very stringent provisions for taking action against

the students and institutions if they are found violating the anti-ragging regulations. The students/parents are required to submit anti-ragging related affidavit to the Institution at the time of admissions. The media campaign started by Government since 2009 through print, audio/visual has created awareness throughout the country. The advisories are also issued before the start of the academic session to the States/UTs, Civil and Police authorities to participate in the anti-ragging committees of the institutions and take immediate deterrent action in cases of ragging.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to bring any legislation to tackle the menace of ragging. The steps, taken by the Government, as mentioned in reply to parts (a) and (b) above, have created awareness in the educational institutions and amongst student community about the deterrent measures against ragging. The Government is committed to fully curb the menace of ragging in all higher educational institutions.

Vacant teaching posts in IITs

†1334. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of teaching posts lying vacant at present in 15 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) of the country and the steps taken to fill up the same;

(b) the number of NIIT teaching faculty members who took early retirement during the last decade;

(c) whether such retired faculty members have been offering their services abroad;

(d) the norms set for recruitment of faculty members from abroad at present;

(e) the number of those teachers educated from Indian Institutes of Technology who have been offering their services abroad instead of serving in the country; and

(f) the details of such teachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Approximately, 35% of the teaching posts are presently vacant in the 15 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the country. Arising of vacancies and filling up thereof is a continuous process. IITs have been taking various initiatives to attract outstanding

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

candidates for faculty positions which include year-round open advertisements, holding of selection committee meetings through video conferencing on a regular basis throughout the year, invitation to alumni, scientists, faculty from India and abroad to reach out to potential candidates, advertisements in international journals to attract the attention of professionals abroad, introducing outstanding young faculty awards, etc. Apart from drawl of monthly remuneration, the faculty are encouraged to undertake consultancy. They are given start-up financial support upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs to take up research, besides cumulative professional development allowance of Rs. 3.00 lakhs every three years to attend international conferences and seminars. Further, Government has decided to allow the faculty, working under the Central Government or Central Autonomous Bodies, to join the newly set up Central Education Institutes on long term deputation, for a period of ten years.

(b) and (c) About 212 faculty members have taken early retirement during the last decade. However, no record of such members offering their services abroad is available.

(d) The IITs can appoint Non Resident Indian (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origins (PIOs) to permanent faculty positions. However, the foreign nationals are appointed on contract basis for a fixed tenure of not exceeding five years on the same terms and conditions as that for the regular faculty.

(e) and (f) No such record is maintained.

Bilateral Education Summit with USA

1335. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any bilateral Education Summit was held between India and USA recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The First India-U.S. Higher Education Summit was held in Washington, D.C. on October 13, 2011. The Summit was jointly organized by the Government

of India and the Government of the United States and was attended by government officials and academics as well as individuals from the private sector who are involved in higher education sector. It was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Human Resources Development Shri Kapil Sibal and the US Secretary of State Ms Hillary Clinton. The objective of the summit was to further strengthen higher education collaboration and exchange between institutions in India and the United States. The summit also highlighted the importance of education as a pillar of the India -U.S Strategic Dialogue. A joint statement was issued at the end of the Summit where the two sides have agreed to:

- i. Promote strategic institutional partnerships for further strengthening and expanding collaboration in the priority areas of higher education;
- ii. Encourage expansion and deepened collaboration in research and development;
- iii. Foster partnerships in the areas of vocational education and skills enhancement;
- iv. Further strengthening programmes for student and faculty enrichment and exchange; and
- v. Welcome involvement of the private sector in the two countries to support and deepen such collaboration.

Basic facilities and infrastructure in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1336. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country are missing out the infrastructure facilities within the compound/school campus;

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

(c) the action taken by Government to provide basic amenities and infrastructure facilities in the schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Improvement of basic amenities and infrastructure, including school buildings, for Kendriya Vidyalayas is a continuous process.

Teaching of Sanskrit in Kendriya Vidyalayas

†1337. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sanskrit is taught in the Kendriya Vidyalayas in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the total number of appointed teachers, for teaching Sanskrit in Kendriya Vidyalayas along with their qualifications, pay-scales and vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Sanskrit is taught in all the Kendriya Vidyalayas from class VI onward as an optional subject. The State-wise details are given in Statement (See below).

(d) There are 1037 Sanskrit teachers working in Kendriya Vidyalayas in Pay Band-2 carrying Pay Scale of Rs. 9300/- to 34800/- with Grade Pay of Rs. 4600/- . 209 posts of Sanskrit teachers are vacant. The eligibility criteria as laid down in the Recruitment Rules for the post is as under:

- (1) Four years integrated degree course of Regional College of Education of National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) in Sanskrit with atleast 50% marks in aggregate;

Or

Second class Bachelor's Degree with at least 50% marks in Sanskrit and in aggregate.

- (2) B. Ed or Equivalent degree from a recognized University.
- (3) Proficiency in teaching in Hindi and English. Desirable:

Knowledge of Computer Applications.

Statement

State-wise number of Kendriya Vidyalayas where Sanskrit is taught from class VI onwards as on date

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar (Ut)	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	52

1	2	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13
4.	Assam	53
5.	Bihar	43
6.	Chandigarh	05
7.	Chattisgarh	25
8.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01
9.	Daman & Diu	01
10.	Delhi	41
11.	Goa	05
12.	Gujrat	44
13.	Haryana	28
14.	Himachal Pradesh	22
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	37
16.	Jharkhand	32
17.	Karnataka	39
18.	Kerala	34
19.	Lakshdweep (UT)	01
20.	Madhya Pradesh	91
21.	Maharashtra	56
22.	Manipur	07
23.	Meghalaya	07
24.	Mizoram	04
25.	Nagaland	05
26.	Orissa	53
27.	Pondicherry	04
28.	Punjab	47

1	2	3
29.	Rajasthan	61
30.	Sikkim	02
31.	Tamilnadu	39
32.	Tripura	09
33.	Uttar Pradesh	102
34.	Uttarakhand	43
35.	West Bengal	58
36.	KVs (Hqrs) KVs Abroad	03
	Total	1069

Low enrolment at PG and research levels

1338. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that enrolment at Post-Graduate and research levels is highly inadequate in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that quality of education has been going down;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps being taken to meet these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) There is scope for improving enrolment at Post Graduate (PG) and research level. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to encourage research in various fields. Approximately 8525 students are awarded M.Phil, degrees and 10,781

students are awarded Ph.D degrees in various disciplines every year. As per the information provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the enrolment of students in universities and colleges at PG and research level was 16,80,828 and 1,17,999 in 2009-10. According to information provided by the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), the intake in Post Graduate (PG) courses for 2011-12 is 4,56,120, compared to 4,11,251 in 2010-11. Department, of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Bio-Technology (DBT), Centre of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR) etc are funding research projects in various areas and disciplines.

(c) to (e) The Government is committed to ensuring that standards of Higher Education and Research are maintained in the country, and various steps have been taken in this direction. As per the information provided by DST, a Science and Engineering Board has been created to support basic research in areas of Science and Engineering. Similarly, Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) has also been contributing towards promotion of research in various fields which has resulted in large number of research papers. DBT is also promoting research in various fields like Genomics, Proteomics etc. Various research councils under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) like Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) etc. are also actively promoting research in humanities and social sciences. As per the information furnished by the UGC, an allocation of Rs. 1200 Crores has been made under XI Plan to promote basic scientific research. The UGC (Minimum Qualifications Required for the Appointment and Career Advancement of Teachers in Universities and Institutions Affiliated to it) (3rd Amendment), Regulations, 2009 have made Ph.D or National Eligibility Test/State Level Eligibility Test (NET/SLET) as compulsory qualifications for recruitment of faculty positions, to ensure quality of teachers.

Availability of seats in engineering colleges

1339. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is wide disparity among different States in respect of availability of seats in engineering colleges;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to bring about balanced educational development of all the regions and States in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The private engineering colleges are set up by entrepreneurs in their chosen locations (subject to approval by the All India Council for Technical Education). Hence some imbalance may be there. The Government has established several new institutions like National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) in different parts of the country to bring about balanced educational development. Apart from this the All India Council for Technical (AICTE) has relaxed the norms for the setting up of Minority Institutions, Women Institutions and the Institutions to be set up in the hilly areas of the North-Eastern Region of the Country.

**Criteria for transfer of teachers in
Kendriya Vidyalayas**

1340. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kendriya Vidyalayas have any specific criteria for transfer of teachers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry is aware of the complaints about poor service conditions and working atmosphere of staff in Kendriya Vidyalayas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Ministry to improve the functioning of Kendriya Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has laid down transfer policy for its employees. Complete details of guidelines are available at the Sangathan website www.kvsangathan.nic.in.

- (c) and (d) There are no complaints about poor service condition and working atmosphere in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) as informed by KVS.
- (e) Improvement in the functioning of the Kendriya Vidyalayas is a continuous process.

**Establishment of Central educational institutions in
Bodoland Territorial Council**

1341. SHRI BISWAJIT DAIMARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of establishment of a Central University, National Institute of Technology, National Institute of Management, Kendriya Vidyalaya and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya;

(b) whether people of Bodoland Territorial Council in Assam which has 30 lac population and most of them belonging to tribal communities and educationally very backward and being Indian citizen, can get these Central institutes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and their role in nation building?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The XI Plan (2007-2012), as approved by National Development Council (NDC), envisaged setting up of one Central University in States which did not have any Central University. Accordingly, 16 Central Universities have been established by the Central Government through the Central Universities Act 2009. On a similar reasoning, 10 new National Institutes of Technology (NITs) were set up in unserved States. Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) were established with the objectives of imparting high quality Management education and training and conducting research. During XI Plan 7 new IIMs were established in the country.

Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV) are opened primarily to cater to the educational needs of the children of transferable Central Government employees including those of defence and para-military personnel.

The National Policy on Education 1986 envisaged setting up residential school to be called Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNV) in each district of the country with the objective of excellence coupled with equity, to promote national integration, provide opportunities to the talented children and to provide good quality modern education to the children of rural areas.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to approve any more new Central Universities or NITs or IIMs in the remaining period of the XI Plan. Decision to set up Central Educational Institutions, therefore generally depends on the availability of such institutions in a particular State. Two Central Universities, one Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), one NIT, 31 KVs and 27 JNVs are functioning in the state of Assam.

Adult Education

1342. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various Adult Education Schemes are being implemented in the States;
- (b) if so, the number of persons benefited therefrom under these schemes during each of the last three years;
- (c) the amount spent under these schemes during the said period, State-wise and year-wise;
- (d) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the amount sanctioned is being diverted to other schemes in several States; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government against such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Yes Sir. Saakshar Bharat, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Government of India aimed at promoting Adult Education, is under implementation in different States. The Scheme has come into implementation w.e.f. 1.10.2009 and the preparatory process, including household surveys to identify eligible persons for coverage under the Scheme, is underway. The details of amount released during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011 -12 (upto 31st October, 2011) are given in Statement (*See below*).

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

Statement

*The details of amount released during 2009-10, 2010-11
and 2011-12 for adult education*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of the States/UTs	Funds released during 2009-10	Funds released during 2010-11	Funds released during 2011-12 (upto 31.10.2011)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6899.55	8466.69	6454.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	403.68	487.03	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	1447.59	858.08	0.00
4.	Bihar	449.40	8518.93	37.63
5.	Chhattisgarh	1902.78	1961.53	2867.51
6.	Gujarat	2399.11	0.00	1440.13
7.	Haryana	120.11	727.59	511.12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	146.34	0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	887.24
10.	Jharkhand	546.67	2576.09	46.42
11.	Karnataka	1844.41	4562.92	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	2070.01	3216.34
13.	Maharashtra	1782.27	479.54	0.00
14.	Manipur	262.25	0.00	0.00
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	362.02	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	196.26	0.00
17.	Odisha	349.89	0.00	664.38
18.	Punjab	0.00	1561.33	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	4410.59	0.00	8111.12
20.	Sikkim	62.63	0.00	0.00
21.	Tripura	82.68	0.00	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	936.32	1139.63	0.00
23.	Uttarakhand	794.11	190.93	2841.73
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6488.37	0.00	15542.10
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	17.95	0.00
26.	West Bengal	1415.69	0.00	0.00
Total		32598.10	34322.87	42620.64

Teaching of English in Government schools

†1343. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether with a view to getting employment most of the students want to learn English;
- (b) whether due to heavy fees charged by private English medium schools every common man is not able to get their children educated in such schools;
- (c) if so, whether it is not appropriate to keep English as an optional subject in every Government school realising the utility and demand for English;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the policy Government proposes to formulate in this regard; and
- (f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Several students show a preference towards learning English in school.

(b) As per Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliation Bye-laws, the fees charged by the school should be commensurate with the infrastructure and the facilities provided.

(c) and (d) As per the scheme/syllabus in CBSE affiliated schools, a student has to study English upto VIIIth class. In Classes IX and X, a student has to study two languages out of which one is compulsorily either Hindi or English. In classes XI and XII, a student can opt either English or Hindi as one of the Languages. Both Hindi and English can also be offered simultaneously by the students.

- (e) This Ministry does not propose any new policy in this regard.
- (f) Does not arise.

Implementation of RTE Act by States

1344. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that Right to Education (RTE) has failed as majority of States have not implemented the Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures Government proposes to take to ensure full implementation of the RTE Act, throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. The RTE Act has come into force from 1st April, 2010 in all States/UTs (except Jammu and Kashmir) and is being implemented by all the States/UTs. Since the enactment of the RTE Act, several steps have been taken by the Central and State Governments, including the following:

- (i) The Central RTE Rules were notified on 9th April, 2010, which are applicable to five UTs without legislature;
- (ii) In addition, 22 State Governments have notified the State RTE Rules;
- (iii) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework for Implementation has been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act;
- (iv) The Centre-State funding pattern for implementation of the combined RTE-SSA programme has been revised;
- (v) During 2010-11 and 2011-12, sanctions have been made for 38,754 primary schools, 11,918 upper primary schools, 4,98,106 additional classrooms, 6,31,830 additional teacher posts, 24,924 drinking water units, and 2,48,605 toilets;
- (vi) Teacher qualification norms have been notified, and Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) has been conducted by the Central Government and several State Governments;
- (vii) Most of the States have issued notifications banning corporal punishment and mental harassment, prohibiting screening for admission and capitation fees, banning Board examination till completion of elementary education, and appointment of academic authority.

Food poisoning cases from mid-day-meals

1345. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of food poisoning incidents in mid-day-meals in the last three months, State-wise;
- (b) the causes identified in each of the case;
- (c) the remedial measures taken thereon; and
- (d) the changes in the mid-day-meals proposed to be taken by Government, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) In the last three months two complaints, of food poisoning, have been received from Haryana and Delhi. In the case of Haryana, a lizard was found in the food supplied by ISKON in Sotai village of district Faridabad. The entire food was destroyed and no case of food poisoning was reported. The complaint in Delhi was found to be baseless.

The Government of Haryana has advised ISKON to ensure pest control in the premises where food is prepared. They are also deputing officers to inspect the site of preparation of mid day meals by ISKON. The members of School Management Committees have been asked to check the meals at the time of its receipt in the schools.

(d) The scheme guidelines provide for a detailed monitoring mechanism at the school, block, district, State and the National levels. The scheme is constantly reviewed through Quarterly Progress Reports, National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee meetings, Programme Approval Board meetings as well as through the Review Missions. In June, 2010 detailed guiding principles for setting up Grievance Redressal Mechanisms for registering complaints through toll free number/dedicated telephone number were issued. In addition 40 independent monitoring institutes evaluate the Scheme at regular intervals.

The State Governments have been advised to step up efforts to get the meals cooked through women's/mothers' Self Help Groups or by personnel engaged directly by the VEC/SMDC/PTA/Gram Panchayat and Municipality, to ensure employment to local people and serving of hot cooked meal in hygienic manner and adherence to MDM guidelines.

Exemption to Goa under RTE Act

1346. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State of Goa has sought certain exemption from the provisions of Right to Education (RTE) Act;

(b) if so, the details of the exemption sought and reaction of Government as regard the same;

(c) whether provisions of categorisation of schools into primary, middle and secondary and any other categories was discussed with the State Governments before introduction of the Bill; and

(d) if so, what was their reaction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of any representation of the State Government of Goa regarding exemption from the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

(c) and (d) The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 envisages a common educational structure comprising 10 + 2 years of school education, including 5 years of primary, 3 years of upper primary, 2 years of secondary and 2 years of senior secondary education. The RTE Act, which was enacted after extensive consultations with the State Governments and other stakeholders, defines elementary education as education from Class I to Class VIII. States which do not have an eight-year elementary education cycle have been advised to adopt the same in accordance with the RTE Act.

Changes by Australia in its visa programme for students

1347. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has decided to make changes in its visa programme for students that includes cutting down on financial requirements for some categories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the reforms will encourage genuine students and will see the re-emergence of Australia as a favoured destination for education; 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 information furnished by the High Commission of India in Australia, Australian Government has made changes in student visa programme. Changes include reduction in financial requirements for certain Assessment Levels. Under Stage 1 of the implementation process, effective from 5th November 2011, the Australian Government has reduced the financial requirements for Assessment Level 3 (higher education - Graduate, Post- Graduate level) and Assessment Level 4 (Vocational Education and Training and English Language courses) student visa applicants which apply to Indian students also.

(c) and (d) As almost 80% of Indian students going for study in Australia apply for courses in VET sector, the above changes in financial requirements, made effective from 5th November, 2011 will benefit genuine students. However, one of the factors impacting on the inflow of international students to Australia is the rising cost of Australian dollar and it is likely to continue to affect the Indian students wishing to go to Australia. Hence it cannot be asserted whether these changes will see the re-emergence of Australia as a favoured destination for Indian students.

Schools belonging to minorities

1348. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance given by Government of construction/expansion of schools belonging to educationally backward minorities, across the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of schools constructed/upgraded during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of targets fixed/achieved by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Infrastructure Development of Minority Institutions (IDMI) Scheme was carved out from the Area Intensive and Madarsa Modernisation Programme (AIMMP) in 2008-09 to facilitate education of minorities by augmenting and strengthening school infrastructure in Minority Institutions. Financial assistance given to States and number of institutions supported between 2008-09 and 2011-12 is provided below:

2008-09

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	No. of institutions
	Uttar Pradesh	25.00	1
2009-10			
	Uttar Pradesh	448.00	22
2010-11			
1.	Karnataka	281.98	15
2.	Maharashtra	387.61	19
3.	Uttarakhand	190.29	12
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	25.00	01
5.	Rajasthan	102.83	07
6.	Haryana	201.12	12
7.	Uttar Pradesh	327.73	16
8.	Gujarat	191.20	15
9.	Kerala	337.73	15
10.	Madhya Pradesh	252.94	12
Total Rs.		2298.43	124

2011-12

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	No. of institutions
1.	Maharashtra	177.45	10
2.	Uttarakhand	104.91	08
3.	Karnataka	157.25	10
4.	Uttar Pradesh	200.39	10
5.	Kerala	221.53	10
6.	Haryana	145.36	10
Total		1006.89	58

In addition, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) focuses on monitoring progress in respect of 121 Minority Concentration Districts identified under the Prime Minister's New 15-Point Programme for the welfare of Minorities. The amounts sanctioned under SSA for various interventions in these 121 districts are: Rs 4857 crore for 2008-09, Rs 5286 crore for 2009-10, Rs 4479 crore for 2010-11 and Rs 11870 crore for 2011-12.

Details about opening and construction of new primary and upper primary schools in the Minority Concentration Districts under SSA between 2008-09 and 2011-12 are given below:

Year	Opening of new Primary School		Opening of new Upper Primary School		Construction of Primary School		Construction of Upper Primary school	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
2008-09	1423	1386	4301	3176	4404	3266	4154	2662
2009-10	1719	1625	1719	1625	3465	3237	1348	1220
2010-11	11930	11922	2370	2364	4969	3573	1147	1103
2011-12	1470	13 (as on 30.9.11)	445	1 (as on 30.9.11)	1522	793 (as on 30.9.11)	67	4 (as on 30.9.11)

Proposals of States under RMSA

1349. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) Annual Plan 2011-12 proposals of various States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, Statewise;

(c) the details of new schools proposed to be set up under the said plan, Statewise;

(d) the details of existing schools in which existing infrastructure will be expanded under the said plan, State-wise; and

(e) the details of funds allocated by Government to various States under RMSA during the Annual Plan 2011-12?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. RMSA Annual Plan 2011-12 proposals received from all 35 States/UTs have been considered by the Project Approval Board (PAB) of the scheme and various interventions such as opening of new schools, strengthening of existing schools, residential quarters for teachers, recurring grants have been approved by PAB.

(c) to (e) Under RMSA Annual Plan 2011-12, opening of 4032 new schools and strengthening/improvement of infrastructure of 15567 existing secondary schools have been approved. Rs 2423.90 crore (central share) has been provided in the current year for implementation of RMSA. A statement indicating state-wise new schools, existing schools and outlay approved under Annual Plan 2011-12 is given in Statement.

Statement

State-wise opening of new secondary schools, existing secondary schools for strengthening and outlay approved under RMSA Annual Plan 2011-12

Sl.No.	State	New Schools	Strengthening of existing schools	Approved outlay (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4	5
1	A & N Islands	0	0	1.80
2	Andhra Pradesh	102	3440	1460.36
3	Arunachal Pradesh	22	92	45.29
4	Assam	0	14	36.91
5	Bihar	169	1095	537.13
6	Chandigarh	0	4	1.71
7	Chattisgarh	636	1057	913.58
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	7	1.78
9	Daman & Diu	1	0	2.03
10	Delhi	0	0	13.25

1	2	3	4	5
11	Goa	0	22	3.36
12	Gujarat	328	51	252.25
13	Haryana	5	595	248.89
14	Himanchal Pradesh	22	320	110.14
15	J&K	279	252	300.80
16	Jharkhand	297	312	335.54
17	Karnataka	0	0	89.32
18	Kerala	17	723	172.37
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	1.76
20	Madhya Pradesh	603	1051	817.94
21	Maharashtra	0	0	37.40
22	Manipur	49	0	51.67
23	Meghalaya	0	0	3.30
24	Mizoram	26	0	40.52
25	Nagaland	45	126	83.26
26	Orissa	9	1062	551.60
27	Puducherry	2	19	11.35
28	Punjab	73	1436	377.04
29	Rajasthan	0	2392	798.48
30	Sikkim	0	33	7.05
31	Tamil Nadu	710	1153	1539.19
32	Tripura	41	71	56.28
33	Uttar Pradesh	449	233	548.49
34	Uttarakhand	147	0	168.46
35	West Bengal	0	7	17.01
TOTAL		4032	15567	9637.31

Kakodkar panel on fee hike in IITs

1350. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Kakodkar panel is looking into IITs' fee hike;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps being taken to protect the minority and weaker sections like SC/ST/OBC from such hike in future; and
- (d) the views of the students and experts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Council of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) constituted a Committee comprising of experts from the fields of education and industry, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT, Bombay, with a view to suggest roadmap for enhancing the autonomy of the IIT system and to make them world class institutions for research and higher learning. The Committee has recommended, inter-alia, that while the students scholarships, capital and infrastructure expenditure may continue to be met fully by the Government, the IITs may meet their operational expenditure by way of enhanced fee from students of undergraduate programmes on being employed, which is justifiable on the grounds of earning potential of an IIT graduate. The Committee has further recommended institution of a 'National IIT Scholarship Scheme' to fund student fees for reserved and socially disadvantaged groups in the UG programme and also to enable the IITs to scale the Masters and Ph.D. programmes without constraints. While, the detailed modalities in this regard are yet to be worked out, an empowered Task Force has been constituted for implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

Features of Aakash tablet PC

†1351. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the features of tablet PC Aakash launched by Government for students of secondary schools to higher secondary schools;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government has asked State Governments to give their reports after this computer's trial;

(c) if so, whether State Governments have submitted their reports in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government on that basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The tablet PC 'Aakash' launched by Government is presently for higher education institutions only. The 'Aakash' tablet has 7" display with 800x480 pixel resolution. It runs on Android 2.2 Froyo Operating System and is powered by 366 Mhz processor with Graphics accelerator and HD Video processor. For internet connectivity it has inbuilt Wi-Fi support. The device has 2GB of storage memory, which can be extended upto 32 GB via micro SD. It has 256 MB RAM. The device supports document formats: DOC, DOCX, PPT, PPT, PPTX, XLS, XLSX, ODT, ODP and can run PDF viewer, Text editor. It has a 2100 mAh battery which can give 3 hours of backup depending upon usage. The device supports image viewer formats such as PNG, JPG, BMP and GIF. Supported audio formats are MP3, AAC, AC3, WAV and WMA. Supported video formats are MPEG2, MPEG4, AVI & FLV.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. State Governments have not been asked for the reports. At the time of launch, devices were given to students of various institutions of the country for testing in all climatic conditions and submitting their reports, for further improvements, if any.

NLM in low female literacy districts

1352. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government in recent past had launched National Literacy Mission (NLM) in those districts which have low female literacy level;

(b) if so, the present progress of the National Literacy Mission in the low female literacy districts;

(c) whether the gap of literacy levels in rural and urban areas is widening day by day; and

(d) if so, the new initiatives Government proposes to take to bridge the gap of rural and urban literacy levels amongst females?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Saakshar Bharat, the new variant of the National Literacy Mission, was launched on 8th September, 2009 targeting to cover all districts that had adult female literacy rate of 50% or below, as per 2001 census and Left Wing Extremism Affected districts, irrespective of their literacy rate. So far, 372 districts have been sanctioned under the programme in a phased manner.

(b) Preparatory activities such as constitution of State, District, Block and Gram Panchayat Committees for implementing the programme; engagement of Preraks and Coordinators at different tiers; setting up of Adult Education Centres; identification of non literates and Volunteers through household survey; distribution of teaching-learning materials; environment building and mobilization etc. have been completed in many of the districts sanctioned during 2009-10 and are in advanced stage of completion in other districts sanctioned during 2010-11 & 2011-12.

(c) and (d) As per the census reports, the decadal gap in literacy level in rural and urban areas is narrowing down continuously since 1981. The literacy gap between rural and urban areas in 1981, 1991, 2001 and 2011 census reports is 31.20, 28.40, 20.90 and 16.07 percent points, respectively. To further minimize the gap between rural and urban literacy, Saakshar Bharat is being implemented only in rural areas of eligible districts.

Education of minority students

1353. DR T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that an assessment of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) performance has shown that the percentage of minority students at the upper primary schools has declined from 99.50 per cent in 2007-08 to 2008-09;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that recruitment of Urdu teachers has declined from 86.44 per cent in 2007-08 to 2008-09; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government for upliftment of socio-economic and educational status of Muslim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per DISE data, the enrolment of children belonging to Muslim Minority at Primary and upper primary level has increased as indicated below:

Year	% Muslim population as per Census 2001	% Muslim enrolment to total enrolment at primary and upper Primary level	
		Primary	Upper Primary
2007-08	13.43	10.49	8.54
2008-09	13.43	11.03	9.13
2009-10	13.43	13.48	11.89

[Source: DISE data]

District Information System for Education (DISE) does not capture enrolment data of children belonging to other minorities.

(c) and (d) Under the scheme of Appointment of Language Teachers, financial assistance is provided to States/UTs for appointment of Hindi/Urdu/Modern Indian Language (MIL) teachers as per the proposals received from the States. State-wise information of amount sanctioned and Urdu teachers appointed during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is given below:

Year	Name of the State Government	No. of Urdu teachers appointed	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
2007-08	Andhra Pradesh	1400	175.00
	Himachal Pradesh	100	83.20
	Chhattisgarh	426	106.00
2008-09	Nil	Nil	Nil
2009-10	Punjab	42	10.38

Unified entrance examination for professional courses

1354. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has initiated steps for introducing unified national level entrance examination for some professional courses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether for satisfying federalism, States' opinion was sought; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes sir. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is presently conducting Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test (GPAT) - 2012. This test is being conducted since 2010 for facilitating institutions to select suitable students for admission in all Pharmacy programs. Also, AICTE has initiated to conduct National level Common Management Admission Test 2012 (CMAT-2012) from 2012 for facilitating institutions to select suitable students for admission in all management programs approved by AICTE for year 2012-13.

(c) and (d) CMAT -2012 has been planned by AICTE based on the relevant judgment in the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of writ petition number 89 of 2011.

Denial of admission in schools to HIV infected students

1355. DR. MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether incidents of denial of admission to HIV infected students in the schools is on the rise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the number of such incidents reported during the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) the action taken by Government to protect Right to Education of these children; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to stop recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) As per information available with National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), 61 children infected by HIV were removed from the schools in various instances, during the last three years (2008, 2009 and 2010) & current year in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. State/UT wise details are given in Statement (See below).

(d) and (e) As far as Central Board of Secondary Education is concerned, it has issued advisory to its affiliated schools to sensitize them for creation of a healthy atmosphere to prevent discrimination of children living with HIV. National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) and State AIDS Control Societies alongwith their State/District level networks also conduct advocacy programmes with various stake holders including school principals and teachers.

Statement

*State/ UT wise details of number of children infected by HIV
who were removed from schools during 2008, 2009, 2010*

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of children infected by HIV who were removed from the schools during 2008, 2009, 2010
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27
2.	Gujarat	4
3.	Haryana	9
4.	Kerala	4
5.	Maharashtra	1
6.	Uttar Pradesh	3
7.	West Bengal	13
	TOTAL	61

Revenue generation through advertisements

†1356. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of revenue collected through different schemes including putting up of advertisement at stations, inside and outside the trains and on tickets/reservation forms etc. during each of the last three years and current year; zone-wise;

(b) whether Railways propose to explore new areas for generating income through advertisement; and

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Zone wise earnings from advertisements (at stations, on interior and exterior of trains and on tickets/reservation forms etc.) during the financial years 2008-09 to 2011-12 (upto Sept., 2011) are as under:

(Rs. in crore)				
Zone	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 upto Sept'11
1	2	3	4	5
Central	29.74	30.27	34.22	12.01
Eastern	5.04	5.80	9.41	3.02
East Central	2.18	0.89	0.95	0.00
East Coast	2.34	4.03	3.97	1.25
Northern	35.23	40.84	32.92	2.88
North Central	1.23	2.66	3.22	1.04
North Eastern	1.22	1.63	2.15	0.94
North East Frontier	1.21	0.76	0.27	0.63
North Western	3.22	4.36	3.83	2.53
Southern	20.21	18.86	25.30	11.28
South Central	7.01	5.21	8.93	3.56
South Eastern	1.76	2.61	3.16	1.27

1	2	3	4	5
South East Central	1.42	0.56	1.30	1.02
South Western	2.75	4.53	3.73	1.64
Western	33.76	36.24	39.97	20.51
West Central	2.26	1.80	2.38	1.62
Metro	6.89	9.15	12.03	3.14
TOTAL	157.47	170.20	187.74	68.34

(b) and (c) During the last few years, some new concepts have been introduced on commercial publicity on Indian Railways which include bulk advertisement rights, vinyl wrapping of trains, on-board infotainment and advertisement on tickets, reservation charts/forms. Exploration of new areas of commercial advertisements is a continuous process.

Expert Committee on modernisation

1357. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have constituted an expert committee to recommend ways and means to modernize tracks, signaling, rolling stock and stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the committee would submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways has constituted an Expert Committee for Modernization of Indian Railways under the Chairmanship of Shri Sam Pitroda to, inter alia, recommend ways and means to modernize Indian Railways to meet the challenges of economic growth, the aspirations of the common man, the needs of changing technology and the expanding market, while at the same time ensuring adequate focus on addressing social and strategic requirements of the country in consonance with Indian Railways' national aspirations. The Terms of

the Reference of the Committee also includes recommendations on strategies for modernization of Railways with a focus on track, signaling, rolling stock, stations and terminals; for improving efficiency and safety; augmenting existing capacities of Railways through indigenous development and review of projects and PPP issues.

(c) The committee has been given time of two months to submit its interim report and up to 31.03.2012 to submit a final report.

Facilitating train passengers

1358. SHRI BHARTSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Railways to install electronic display boards in coaches to display approaching station's name with platform details just like Mumbai local trains as during night passengers face great difficulties; and

(b) the action taken by Railways for booking of current tickets through internet so as to minimize difficulties faced by passengers and also to save stationery and human resources of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir. Electronic display boards indicating "coming station" are currently being provided by Railway production units in Garib Rath coaches, Double Decker Air conditioned chair car coaches, Diesel Electric Multiple Units (DEMUs) for Jammu & Kashmir, Metro coaches for Kolkata Metro, Electric Multiple Units (EMUs) for Hyderabad, Dual voltage Electric Multiple Units (EMUs) for Mumbai area and 1600 Horse Power DEMUs.

(b) At present, no such proposal is under consideration for booking of current tickets through internet.

High powered safety review committees

1359. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have set up a high powered Safety Review Committee on train accidents that have been happening quite often;

(b) if so, the number of such committees set up in the last two decades to check train accidents; and

(c) whether Railways have implemented recommendations of those committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir. A High Level Safety Review Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar, former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission has been constituted on 16.09.2011.

(b) Only one Railway Safety Review Committee was constituted during the last two decade i.e. Railway Safety Review Committee (1998) under the chairmanship of Retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India Shri H.R. Khanna.

(c) Khanna Committee made 278 recommendations in its Report. Out of these 236 recommendations (fully or partially) have been accepted. So far 217 recommendations have been implemented and balance 19 are under implementation.

Freight charges

†1360. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have increased freight charges recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways have sought financial assistance to overcome its financial crisis but the same had been rejected; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Busy Season Surcharge and Development Charge at marginally enhanced rates have come into effect from 15.10.2011.

(c) and (d) As per the final accounts of 2010-11, the "excess" left after payment of dividend was inadequate to cover the expenditure incurred out of Development Fund and Capital Fund. As a result, the closing balance under these two Funds had become negative. Ministry of Finance, while not acceding to the request that a temporary loan of Rs. 2101 crores be extended to bridge this gap, advised the Ministry of Railways to meet this liability by suitably raising resources in 2011-12.

Cash crunch during current fiscal year

1361. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a cash crunch during current fiscal year due to increase in working expenses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to funds crunch there is delay in ongoing developmental works; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) :

(a) and (b) The actual financial performance in the current financial year would be available only after closure of the accounts in May 2012. However, there is a shortfall in earnings realization as compared to the target by Rs. 1997 crore (Approx.) to end of October 2011. Working expenses to end October, 2011 have also exceeded the proportionate target by Rs. 112 cr.

(c) and (d) While on going developmental works are being funded to the extent possible, Railway may have to regulate expenditure, both in plan and non-plan areas due to drop in internal resources.

Setting up of coach factories

1362. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways had invited bids for coach factories recently;

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

(c) the response received so far; and

(d) the plan prepared to set up coach factories in the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bids were invited for setting up of a coach factory at Kanchrapara in West Bengal.

(c) Eight qualified bidders were short listed.

(d) Coach factories are planned to be set up at the following locations in Eleventh Five Year Plan:

- (i) Raebareli
- (ii) Kanchrapara
- (iii) Palakkad
- (iv) Singur

Compensation to victims of train accidents

1363. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether victims of train accidents in the last two years have received their promised compensation;
- (b) if so, the details of number of victims and money given out as compensation;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Railways have any committee to look after these matters; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The compensation to the victims of train accidents as defined under Section 124 of the Railways Act, 1989, is paid by the Railways after a claim filed by the claimant in the Railway Claims Tribunal is decreed by the Tribunal in favour of the claimant and decree so awarded is satisfied by the Railways.

The details of number of victims and money given out as compensation during the last two years i.e. 2009-10 and 2010-11 in case of death/injury in train accidents as defined under Section 124 of the Railways Act are as under:

Year	No. of victims		Compensation paid by Railways (Amount Rs. in Lakhs)	
	Death	Injury	Death	Injury
2009-10	61	241	214.11	51.7
2010-11	243	353	498.76	87.03

NOTE: The compensation paid in a year is not related to the accidents/casualties in that year. This amount depends upon the number of cases which are finalised in a particular year irrespective of the year(s) in which the accident have occurred.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

Construction of third railway line between Delhi and Chennai

1364. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that it is very difficult to get a slot for goods train between Hyderabad and New Delhi without hindrance due to large number of trains passing through this stretch;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that in view of maximum utilization of track between the above cities, Railways have proposed to construct a third railway line between Delhi and Chennai via Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) if so, when was the survey conducted; and
- (d) the progress of work for construction of this third rail line exclusively for transportation of goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Keeping in view the high capacity utilization on the route between Delhi and Chennai via Andhra Pradesh, works of 3rd line and 4th line on critical sections of the route have been sanctioned/completed and are in various stage of progress. Capacity enhancement on this route is being progressively developed. For a long term solution a Preliminary Engineering cum Traffic Surveys (PETS) has been awarded for future Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) on the North-South route (*i.e.* Delhi-Chennai) via Andhra Pradesh.

Reducing distance and travel time between Visakhapatnam and Hyderabad

1365. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have undertaken any study to shorten the distance between Visakhapatnam and Hyderabad through detours and connecting track;
- (b) the possibilities to reduce the distance and travelling time between Visakhapatnam and Hyderabad;

(c) whether any steps would be initiated to create alternate routes to rationalise and shorten distances;

(d) whether there is any proposal to build some bypass tracks to reduce distances; and

(e) the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) No such specific study has been carried out. However, a survey was conducted covering a part distance from Visakhapatnam to Bhadrachalam Road New line (277 km) in 1999-2000, which was shelved due to its un-remunerative nature.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Revamping of Ernakulam junction station

1366. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work has begun for revamping of Ernakulam Junction Station;

(b) if so, the status of the work; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Ernakulam Junction station was identified to be developed under 'Model' and 'Modern' Station Schemes. All the works taken up under 'Model' and 'Modern' Station Schemes have been completed. The station has also been identified for development into world class station through Public-Private Partnership (PPP). Preliminary works in this regard have been undertaken.

(c) Does not arise.

German technology coaches

1367. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are going to utilize German technology and roll out coaches on railway tracks very soon;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of the rail coach factories are also upgraded so as to manufacture German technology-based coaches;

(c) if so, the details of (a) and (b) above; and

(d) the price comparison between the German technology coaches and the present conventional coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir. Railways had entered into a Transfer of Technology agreement with M/s ALSTOM, Germany for manufacturing of High Speed stainless steel coaches with FIAT-Bogie in the year 1995.

Coaches based on this German technology are being manufactured at Rail Coach Factory, (RCF), Kapurthala since 2001 and are presently being run in premium services like Rajdhani/Shatabdi and a few Duronto trains.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. One project has been executed at Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala at a cost of Rs.114.96 Crores to facilitate manufacture of the upgraded stainless steel coaches and one more project sanctioned at a cost of Rs.130.24 Crores is in progress. A project has also been sanctioned for Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai at a cost of Rs.249.58 Crores to enable it to manufacture such coaches.

(d) The cost of some of the variants of LHB (German) design coaches and ICF design, conventional coaches are as under:

Type of Coach	LHB design coach	ICF design coach
General 2nd class coach	Rs. 1.2 crores	Rs. 65 lakhs
Sleeper class coach	Rs. 1.3 crores	Rs. 70 lakhs
AC 1st	Rs. 2.4 crores	Rs. 1.7 crores
AC 2 tier	Rs. 2.4 crores	Rs. 1.7 crores
AC 3 tier	Rs. 2.6 crores	Rs. 1.6 crores

Vacancies in railways

1368. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all vacancies in Railways are filled;

(b) if not, by when the recruitment process would be completed;

(c) whether it is a fact that Railway Board has authorized GMs of Railways to fill 5 per cent vacancies of safety areas and 2 per cent vacancies of general area without proper recruitment procedure;

(d) whether 3 per cent physically and mentally handicapped people have been recruited in Railways as per the relevant Act; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not complying with it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) No, Sir. Any large organization like the Railways will have certain vacancies at any point of time. Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and notifications for filling up posts have been issued.

(c) General Managers have been authorized to engage substitutes in erstwhile Group 'D' posts against vacancies to the extent of 10% in Safety categories and 2% in other categories in exigencies of work, to meet the emergent and the urgent railway services.

(d) and (e) In terms of the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995, notifications have already been issued for filling up of 5536 posts identified for disabled persons.

Completing railway projects

1369. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount required to complete all Railway projects by 2014; and

(b) in view of Railways not having adequate funds for their projects, whether Government could allot more budgetary support to Railways and make a special drive to complete all Railway projects by 2014?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) As on 01.04.2011, railway require about Rs. 1,25,000 Crore for completing ongoing New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects.

(b) To augment resources other than Gross Budgetary Support (GBS), steps have been taken to generate extra budgetary resources through State participation, Public Private Partnership, defence funding, declaring some projects as National Projects and implementation of bankable projects through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. In addition to inadequate GBS, there are other reasons also for delay in completion of the projects which includes delay in land availability, forestry clearances, public agitation for change in alignment and adverse law and order problems.

Electrification of Lucknow-Allahabad-Delhi route

1370. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sections of Lucknow-Allahabad-Delhi route electrified so far;
- (b) the time-frame by when this route would be electrified;
- (c) by when Government plans to start train services on this route;
- (d) whether Government would start EMU service from Lucknow via Saharanpur to Bareilly section of this electrified route in view of commercial viability and convenience of thousands of passengers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Allahabad-Delhi via Kanpur and Kanpur-Lucknow are already electrified. As far as electrification of Lucknow-Allahabad-Delhi route is concerned, work is in progress on Lucknow-Utratia and Allahabad-Phaphamau-Unchahar sections. There is no proposal at present to electrify Unchahar-Rae Bareilly - Utratia rail line as the electrification of railway tracks is decided based on financial viability, traffic volume and operational flexibility.

(b) Physical work of electrification of Lucknow-Utratia section is already completed. Electrification of Allahabad-Phaphamau-Unchahar is a part of Varanasi-Unchahar including Phaphamau-Allahabad electrification project and has been planned for completion by March '2013.

(c) to (e) Introduction of New train services including EMU services on Indian Railways is dependent on various factors including operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources.

(f) Does not arise.

Extension of Maharajas' Express to Bhubaneswar

1371. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering a proposal submitted by the Government of Odisha on extension of Maharajas' Express-Classical India train service to Bhubaneswar to give fillip to tourism industry;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Demand for stoppage of Raurkela-Bhubaneswar Inter-city Express

†1372. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the demand for stoppage of Raurkela-Bhubaneswar inter-city Express at Boinda station under East Coast Railway is pending for quite some time;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of agitations like 'Rail-Roko' etc. have been organised with regard to this issue and several meetings with the management have also taken place; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when this demand would be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Stoppage of 18105/18106 Rourkela-Bhubaneswar Intercity Express has been provided at Boinda w.e.f. 15.12.2011 on an experimental basis for six months.

Menace of touts

1373. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have failed to curb the menace of touts who become more active during the festive season;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the further steps taken to curb this menace;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) the details of touts apprehended during the last three years, zone-wise;
- (d) the details of action taken against them, zone-wise;
- (e) whether Railways intend to enquire into the role of insiders/railway officials in such menace and take necessary steps to curb in more effectively; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
 (a) and (b) No, Sir. Regular joint drives by Commercial, Vigilance and Railway Protection Force are being conducted against touts indulging in unauthorized buying and selling of railway reservation tickets. These checks are particularly intensified during peak rush periods including festive seasons. The touts apprehended during such drives are prosecuted under the provision of Section 143 the Railways Act.

(c) and (d) The number of touts apprehended during the last three years, zone-wise, are as under:

Railways	Number of touts apprehended		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1	2	3	4
Central	1	27	33
Eastern	62	49	44
East Central	21	20	64
East Coast	21	15	21
Northern	172	221	225
North Central	2	1	10
North Eastern	31	40	47
Northeast Frontier	19	7	12
North Western	10	19	30
Southern	1813	1766	1957

1	2	3	4
South Central	37	42	72
South Eastern	113	110	59
South East Central	21	11	7
South Western	8	27	78
Western	177	105	316
West Central	13	20	37
Total	2521	2480	3012

Action under Section 143 of the Railways Act is taken against touts apprehended during the course of checks.

(e) and (f) Staff found responsible in connivance with touts are taken up under disciplinary proceedings. This is a continuous process.

Gauge conversion of Pathankot-Jogindernagar line

1374. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert Pathankot-Jogindernagar narrow gauge line into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) Survey for gauge conversion of Pathankot-Jogindernagar narrow gauge section was completed in 2010-11. As per the survey report, the cost of gauge conversion of this 181 km long section has been assessed as Rs. 3280 crore (with electric traction)/ Rs.2888 crore (with diesel traction). In view of the high cost of the project, State Government of Himachal Pradesh and Ministry of Defence have been approached with cost sharing proposal. No response has so far been received from either of them.

Shelving of railway projects due to shortage of funds

1375. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many railway projects in various parts of the country have been shelved due to shortage of funds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of such projects that fall in the State of Maharashtra; and
- (d) the remedial measures Government proposes to take for revival of these rail projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Condition of trains passing through Kerala

1376. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of long-distance trains passing through the State of Kerala that have been provided with new coaches, in the last two years;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Southern Railway is dumping old and dilapidated coaches for use in the trains originating from Kerala, including important trains such as Rajdhani, Kerala Express, Mangala Express etc.;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the curtains and blankets provided in the AC coaches of the trains, including Rajdhani Express, passing through Kerala are not regularly washed or cleaned; and
- (d) the action plan of Railways, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Long distance trains usually run across state boundaries and no such separate state wise data is maintained.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The curtains and blankets provided in the AC coaches of all the trains of Indian Railways are washed on a regular basis as per the prescribed guidelines laid down in this regard.

(d) To further improve upon the quality of washing of curtain and bed rolls including blankets, Railways are in the process of setting up of Mechanized laundries at major coaching

depots. 10 of such laundries have already been commissioned and action is underway for the remaining. Regular Inspections/Checks are also carried out at various levels to monitor the quality of curtains and linen supplied to the passengers in trains and punitive action is taken wherever warranted.

Setting up of National High Speed Rail Authority

1377. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have decided to set up the National High Speed Rail Authority and propose to run trains at 300 Kilometres per hour on selected routes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways has decided to set up a National High Speed Rail Authority (NHSRA) for planning, standard-setting, implementing and monitoring these projects and a proposal for approval of the Government is under consideration.

Ministry of Railways has also decided to conduct prefeasibility studies for six selected corridors for running of High Speed Passenger trains at a speed of 300 - 350 kilometer per hour.

Laying broad gauge line from Dehradun to Rohru

1378. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways had received a representation from PMO forwarded to Secretary, Railway Board in the month of June, 2011 regarding construction/approval for laying broad gauge railway lines from Dehradun to Rohru in Shimla district; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Use of SMS facility in E-ticketing

1379. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways plan to facilitate passengers who are booking their e-ticket by allowing them to show SMS in their mobile as a proof or acknowledgement of booked ticket;

(b) whether similar facility is being extended to persons carrying laptop who can show e-mail on their laptop;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and by when such a facility would be started;

(d) whether all security implications would be taken into account before launching the scheme; and

(e) whether this facility would be in addition to existing facility of e-ticketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) to (b) Instructions have been issued permitting the screen shot of the e-ticket displayed through laptops/palmtops/mobile phones referred to as Virtual Reservation Message (VRM) to be treated as an instrument on par with the existing Electronic Reservation Slip (ERS), whose print is taken on paper.

(c) This facility has already been started.

(d) All security implications have been taken into account before starting the facility.

(e) This facility is a part of the existing e-ticketing scheme and the VRM/ERS along with one of eight prescribed proof of identity (in original) constitutes the authority to travel in train.

Vacancies in railways

1380. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 2 lakh posts are lying vacant in Railways;

(b) the number of posts, out of 2 lakhs vacancies, that are related to railway safety and are not filled up for a long time, zone-wise;

(c) the reasons for long pending vacancies in Railways; and

(d) the measures Railways propose to take to fill up the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) The number of vacancies as on Zonal Railways as on 01.04.2011 is 2,21,499* out of which safety category vacancies is as under :

Zone	Vacancy*
CR	9142
ER	9598
ECR	12727
ECOR	8766
NR	10850
NCR	5958
NER	3555
NFR	4826
NWR	4801
SR	8901
SCR	11044
SER	8605
SECR	7514
SWR	4889
WR	7422
WCR	7706

* - provisional

(c) and (d) Any large organization like the Railways will have certain vacancies at any point of time. Arising and filling of vacancies is a continuous process and the policy of the Railway Administration is to fill up available vacancies promptly as per laid down procedures. Notifications for filling up of about 1,90,000 posts have been issued.

Inter-city train between Dhubri and Guwahati

1381. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have any proposal for an inter-city train between Dhubri and Guwahati through Rangia;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of progress made for construction of a new line between New Mainaguri to Jogighopa and timeline for its construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Introduction of an intercity train service between Dhubri and Guwahati *via* Rangiya is not feasible, at present, due to operational and resource constraints.

(c) Construction of new broad gauge line from New Mayanaguri-Jogighopa (257 Km), New Mayanaguri-Mayanaguri Road-New Domohini 'Y' connection and gauge conversion from New Mal Junction to Changrabandha has been taken up. Detailed estimate has been sanctioned. On these sections, land acquisition, earthwork, minor and major bridges work, ballast supply, etc. are in different stages of progress. An expenditure of Rs. 690.45 crore has been incurred upto March, 2011 and an outlay of Rs. 300 crore has been provided for the project for the year 2011-12. Golakganj-New Coochbehar (58 km) has already been completed. Gauge conversion of New Mal Junction to Changrabandha(62.214 km) is likely to be completed by March, 2012. The entire project is expected to be completed by March, 2014.

Railway projects in Maharashtra

1382. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total budgetary allocation made to Maharashtra for 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12;
- (b) the total number of railway projects started in Maharashtra since 2009;
- (c) the details of total allocation made for these projects; and
- (d) the project-wise allocation of amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Details of budgetary allocation are maintained project-wise and railway Zone-wise.

(b) to (d) Since 2009, 9 projects falling fully/partly in Maharashtra have been started in Maharashtra. The details of the projects and project-wise allocation of amount is as under :

(Rs. in crore)				
Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Year of inclusion in the Budget	Expenditure upto March, 2011	Outlay provided for the year 2011-12
New Line				
1.	Wardha-Nanded <i>via</i> Yavatmal-Pusad (270 km)	2008-09	18.92	40.00
2.	Wadsa-Gadchiroli (49.5 km)	2011-12	Nil	1.00
Gauge Conversion				
3.	Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola (472.64 km)	2008-09	37.74	29.00
Doubling				
4.	Udhna-Jalgaon with electrification	2008-09	136.76	200.00
5.	Daund-Gulbarga doubling (224.90 km) and Pune-Guntakal Electrification (641.37 km)	2009-10	8.47	0
6.	Budhni-Barkhera rd line (33 km)	2010-12	0.01	4.00
7.	Godhani-Kalumna Chord (13.7 km)	2010-11	1.00	0.01
8.	Bhusawal-Jalgaon 3rd line (24.12 km)	2011-12	Nil	2.00
9.	Kalyan Kasara 3rd line (67.62 km)	2011-12	Nil	2.00
Total			202.90	278.01

Effectiveness of changed Tatkal Scheme

†1383. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have planned to make a change in the Tatkal reservation service;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it would help in curbing the blackmarketing of railway tickets; and
- (c) whether Railways are in a state of economic crisis due to hike in diesel and petroleum prices and if so, the steps being taken to augment its resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) With a view to reduce the chances of misuse of Tatkal scheme, the following modifications have been made in the Scheme:

- (i) Advance Reservation Period of Tatkal scheme has been reduced from two days to one day.
- (ii) Refunds are not granted on cancellation of confirmed Tatkal tickets except in case of special circumstances like late running of train by more than three hours, cancellation of trains, etc.
- (iii) Duplicate Tatkal tickets are not issued under normal circumstances. In exceptional cases Duplicate Tatkal tickets are issued on payment of full fare including Tatkal charges.
- (iv) Tatkal tickets are issued only on production/indication of one of the 8 prescribed proofs of Identity mentioned in the scheme. The passenger is required to carry the same proof of Identity during the journey.
- (v) Authorized agents have been denied access to Tatkal booking both through internet as well as across the computerized PRS counters between 08:00 hrs & 10:00 hrs.
- (vi) A restriction of booking of a maximum of four passengers per PNR on Tatkal ticket has been imposed.
- (vii) Web service agents have been permitted to book only one Tatkal ticket per train per day on internet after 10:00 a.m.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The above steps have been taken to curb the misuse of Tatkal facility.

(c) The operating expenses are estimated to increase by around Rs.560 crores in the current fiscal due to the recent hikes in diesel and petroleum prices. The Railways are making efforts to absorb the increase within the existing budgetary provision.

Development of Kochuveli and Nemam Station

1384. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have initiated any scheme for development of Kochuveli and Nemam stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total estimate for each project and the total expenditure incurred till date; and
- (d) the reasons for delay in completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) and (b) Work on provision of 2nd Coaching Terminal at Kochuveli has already been taken up. Proposal for taking up work on Development of Coaching Terminal at Nemam is under consideration.

(c) Anticipated cost for provision of 2nd Coaching Terminal at Kochuveli is Rs. 34.68 crore and an expenditure of Rs. 21.30 crore has been incurred on this work so far.

Work on Development of Coaching Terminal at Nemam is not yet sanctioned.

(d) Due to limited availability of funds, work on provision of 2nd Coaching Terminal at Kochuveli is still presently underway.

Efforts to make travelling convenient

†1385. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have chalked out any plan for further improvement in maintenance of operational rail coaches, cleanliness of railway stations etc.;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the efforts being made to make travelling more convenient for passengers;
and

(d) whether Railways propose to add more general boggies in long distance trains keeping in view heavy rush of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) and (b) Indian Railways always endeavour to improve upon the standards of maintenance of the coaches and cleanliness and hygiene in coaches and stations.

For improving upon the standards of cleanliness in coaches, schemes like Intensive mechanized cleaning, On Board House-Keeping Services (OBHS) and cleaning attention to trains during their stoppage at "Clean Train Stations" etc. have also been launched. Indian Railways have also planned multi-pronged action by synergizing technology, education of users and provision of better mechanized equipments to improve upon the standards of cleanliness at stations.

(c) Indian Railways continuously endeavor to make travelling more convenient for passengers. Action taken in this direction in the recent past are as under:

- Cushioned seats/berths, fluorescent lights, fans and toilet & washbasins facilities etc. in mainline coaches.
- Mirrors, Snack tables, Magazine bags, water bottle holders, coat hooks, small luggage racks, luggage securing arrangements, mobile/laptop charging sockets etc. in reserved coaches.
- Curtains for aisles/windows, berth reading lights, dustbins etc. in AC coaches.

(d) Attachment of coaches including general class coaches in trains is an ongoing process on Indian Railways and is done keeping in view the traffic pattern of different class of passengers, operational feasibility, commercial viability and availability of resources. Besides, additional general class coaches are also attached in various trains on regular basis to clear rush of general class passengers.

Gauge conversion between Jaipur and Ganganagar

†1386. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government had accorded sanctions to convert metre gauge line into broad gauge from Jaipur to Ganganagar in the year 2008;

(b) if so, whether the work of gauge conversion has started; and

(c) if so, by when this work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Gauge conversion of Churu-Sadulpur-Suratpura has been completed & commissioned. Nawalgarh-Loharu and Sriganganagar - Hanumangarh sections are targeted for completion during 2011-12.

Gauge conversion of remaining portion of Jaipur-Sriganganagar railway line will be completed in the coming years subject to availability of resources.

Establishment of Medical college in Trivandrum

1387. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have announced establishment of a medical college in Trivandrum, Kerala;

(b) if so, the status of the project; and

(c) by when the project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present Medical Colleges identified under Phase-I are being taken up. Medical College at Trivandrum shall be taken up subsequently.

(c) No time frame can be given at present.

PCO booths at railway stations

1388. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PCO booths inside railway stations;

(b) the number of PCO booths allotted to disabled persons;

- (c) whether Railways have revised its policy for allotment of PCO booths;
- (d) if so, the number of PCO booths that have stopped operating since the policy was revised; and
- (e) whether Railways would take any proactive steps to help the disabled persons to set up PCO booths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

- (a) 1083 PCO booths are available at stations over Indian Railways.
- (b) 459 PCO booths have been allotted to the physically handicapped.
- (c) No revision has been made in STD/ISD/PCO booths policy since 2004.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) A quota of 25% has been prescribed for disabled persons in allotment of STD/ISD/PCO Booths at stations over Indian Railways.

Model railway stations in Jharkhand

1389. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of model railway stations in Jharkhand as on date;
- (b) the details of railway stations identified for development as model railway stations in the State during last three years along with the funds allocated/released and spent thereon, so far;
- (c) the number of model stations out of them that have been developed, so far; and
- (d) the time by which the remaining stations are likely to be developed/modernised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

- (a) The details of Model railway stations in Jharkhand are as under:

Baidyanathdham, Barkakana, Barharwa, Bokaro Steel City, Chakradharpur, Daltonganj, Dhanbad, Garhwa Road, Hatia, Jasidih, Koderma, Madhupur, Parasnath, Ranchi, Sahibganj and Tatanagar.

(b) The scheme of Model station was in vogue between June, 1999 and November, 2008. Thereafter, scheme of Adarsh station has been introduced.

(c) All the above mentioned stations have been developed as Model station.

(d) Does not arise.

Passenger train between India and Bangladesh

1390. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of Railways to introduce passenger trains between India and Bangladesh through Singhabad railway station situated at Indo-Bangla border, P.S. Habibpur, District Malda in West Bengal to have a better connectivity with North Bengal and North East region;

(b) if so, how soon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Manipulations in Reservation System

1391. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has recently been revealed that the tatkal and advance reservation systems of Railways are being heavily manipulated thereby denying genuine users easy and urgent access to the facility; and

(b) if so, the various fool-proof technical measures introduced recently in the entire railway passenger booking systems, so that, manipulations in booking of reservation tickets by passengers under tatkal and advance reservation is totally avoided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Some reports relating to functioning of Advance Reservation system and Tatkal reservation facility of Indian Railways have come to notice.

(b) Indian Railways have taken various steps to avoid misuse of Advance Reservation system & Tatkal reservation system, some of which are as under:

- (i) Tatkal Scheme has been thoroughly reviewed and its provisions have been made very stringent with a view to avoid its misuse e.g.
- Reduction in Advance Reservation Period (ARP) from 2 days to 1 day.
 - No refund on cancellation of confirmed Tatkal Ticket except in special circumstances like late running of trains etc., explained in the scheme.
 - Non issuing of duplicate Tatkal in normal circumstances; in exceptional cases, duplicate Tatkal ticket to be issued on payment of full fare including Tatkal charges.
 - Issuing of Tatkal tickets at computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) centres/through internet only on production/indication of one of the 8 prescribed proofs of identity mentioned in the scheme. The same proof of identity required to be carried during the journey.
 - Denial of access to Tatkal booking by authorized agents both through internet as well as across the computerized PRS counters between 08:00 hrs & 10:00 hrs.
 - Restriction of booking of a maximum of four passengers per PNR on Tatkal ticket.
 - Provision of booking only one Tatkal ticket per train per day on internet by Web Service Agents after 10:00 a.m.
- (ii) Provision in PRS to keep a watch on the counters booking abnormally high number of tickets during opening hours of reservation.
- (iii) Provision for capturing the transactions being made by Rail Travellers Service Agents (RTSAs) in the computerised PRS.
- (iv) Conducting of regular surprise checks at Reservation/Booking offices, platform and in trains.

Agreement for rail line between Iran and Afghanistan

1392. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed an agreement to construct a 900 km railway line to connect Chabahar Port in Iran to the mineral rich region Hajigak in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details and the estimated cost of the rail link; and

(c) whether this has any reaction from Pakistan; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Norms for double stack container trains

1393. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for running double stack container trains;

(b) whether Kandla - Bhatinda section meets the norms; and

(c) if so, whether Government intends to run double stack container trains on Kandla - Bhildi - Jodhpur - Bhatinda sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):

(a) Running of double stack container trains depends upon the route having sufficient clearances for accommodating the maximum moving dimensions of such trains, and is also based on customer demand and traffic materialization.

(b) No, Sir. The Kandla - Bhatinda section does not meet the above norm.

(c) Does not arise.

Unused MPLADS fund

1394. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of MPLADS fund is lying unutilized in U.P.;

(b) the time by which this amount would be distributed among incumbent Members of Parliament;

- (c) whether any policy has been formulated for this distribution; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) As on 31.10.2011, the unutilized MPLADS fund of Lok Sabha MPs and Rajya Sabha MPs from Uttar Pradesh was Rs.358.59 crore [Rs.85.84 crore (14th Lok Sabha) and Rs.272.75 crore (15th Lok Sabha)] and Rs.178.48 crore respectively.

(b) to (d) Provision to distribute the unspent balances of former Members of Parliament already exists in the MPLADS guidelines. The Ministry issues directions from time to time for distribution of unspent/uncommitted balances of the former MPs. Apart from the guidelines, the Ministry has issued circular to all State/UT Governments to conduct a review with all nodal districts regarding distribution of unspent balance of Rajya Sabha MPs. Similarly, the nodal district authorities were also directed to complete all works pertaining up to 14th Lok Sabha before 30.09.2010 and distribute unspent balance of funds positively by 31st December, 2010. As per information available with the Ministry, an amount of Rs.5,93,81,009.62 has been distributed among the sitting MPs of 15th Lok Sabha in Uttar Pradesh.

Delay in infrastructural core sector industries

1395. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of infrastructure core sector industries that have been delayed beyond a decade;
- (b) the amount of cost escalations due to the delays;
- (c) the main factors leading for their delay; and
- (d) the manner in which Government proposes to get rid of these factors and ensure timely completion of projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) As on 31st August, 2011, out of 553 central sector projects costing Rs. 150 crore and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, only 3 projects were delayed beyond a decade.

(b) The amount of cost escalation due to this delay is to the tune of Rs. 17,999.65 crore.

(c) The main factors leading for their delay include; delay in land acquisition, delay in procurement of equipment, law and order problems, inadequate infrastructure, delay in mobilization by contractors, general cost escalation due to delay, increase in prices of cement and steel and exchange rate variations.

(d) In order to reduce the delays and ensure timely completion of these projects, the Government has already taken several steps which *inter-alia* include:

- Stricter appraisal of projects by way of inter-ministry consultations and adoption of two-stage clearance system, first by PIB/EFC, secondly by CCI/CCEA.
- Monthly monitoring of output/performance of infrastructure Ministries by MOSPI;
- Monthly and quarterly monitoring of time & cost overrun of projects costing Rs. 150 crores and above by MOSPI;
- In-depth review of projects on quarterly basis by the concerned infrastructure Ministries;
- Follow up with the State Governments in respect of problems relating to land acquisition, rehabilitation related issues, forest clearances, environment/wildlife clearances, removal of encroachments & availability of Right of Way (ROW), ensuring law and order at project sites, etc. This Ministry has already advised the States to constitute the Central Sector Projects Coordination Committee (CSPCC) under respective Chief Secretaries to facilitate Central Sector Projects in the States and 13 States have since constituted the Coordination Committee in their respective States.
- Faster appraisal through Departmental Committees like Expanded Board of Railways in lieu of PIB;
- Setting up of Standing Committees by the Government in the Ministries/Departments headed by respective Additional Secretaries to fix responsibility for time and cost overruns;
- Appointment of nodal officers for each project with continuity of tenure;
- Adoption of computer network based monitoring; and

- Organising training courses and seminars on project planning, monitoring and project management for project managers of CPSUs by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा: सर, एफ.डी.आई. को वापिस लें।...(व्यवधान)...

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (2010-11) of various Public Ltd.

Companies and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (a) Sixty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Udyogamandal, Kochi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5364/15/11]
- (b) Fifty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5365/15/11]
- (c) Thirty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF), Mumbai, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5366/15/11]
- (d) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5363/15/11]

- (e) Eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited (FAGMIL), Jodhpur, Rajasthan, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5367/15/11]
- (f) Thirty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL), NOIDA, for the year, 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (g) Statements by Government accepting the above Reports. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5368/15/11]

...(Interruptions)...

- I. **Reports and Accounts (2008-09, 2009-10) of various National Institutes of Technology and related papers.**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2010-11) of Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam.**
- III. **Reports and Accounts (2009-10) of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan of various States and related papers.**
- IV. **Report and Accounts (2010-11) of Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali and related papers.**
- V. **Report and Accounts (2005-06, 2006-07) of the Bihar Education Project Council, Patna and related papers.**
- VI. **Report and Accounts (2009-10) of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Nagaland and related papers.**
- VII. **MoU between Govt. of India and EdCIL.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Silchar, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5339/15/11]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Patna, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5338/15/11]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Raipur, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5340/15/11]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Kurukshetra, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5336/15/11]
- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Jamshedpur, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5343/15/11]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tiruchirappalli, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5341/15/11]

- (ii) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above.
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Accounts of the Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Tezpur University Act, 1993. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5344/15/11]
- III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:
 - (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Union Territory Mission Authority of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5346/15/11]
 - (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Lakshadweep Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan State Mission Authority, Union Territory of Lakshadweep, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5348/15/11]
 - (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Karnataka, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5337/15/11]
- IV. (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali, for the year 2010-11.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5404/15/11]
- V.
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bihar Education Project Council (Bihar Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad), Patna, for the year 2005-06, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (V) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5408/15/11]
 - (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bihar Education Project Council (Bihar Shiksha Pariyojna Parishad), Patna, for the year 2006-07, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5409/15/11]
- VI
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, State Mission Authority, Nagaland, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (VI) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5407/15/11]
- VII
- A copy (in English and Hindi) of Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Human Resource Development) and the EdCIL (India) Limited, for the year 2010-11. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6115/15/11]

...(Interruptions)...

- I. **Notifications of Ministry of Agriculture**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2009-10) of NIPHM, Hyderabad and related papers.**
- III. **Report and Accounts (2010-11) of various National Federations and related papers.**
- IV. **Report and Accounts (2010-11) of SFAC, New Delhi and related papers.**
- V. **Statement giving reasons for not laying of Annual Report and Audited Accounts of J&K HPMC.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation), under sub-section (3) of Section 36 of the Insecticides Act, 1968:
 - (1) S.O. 2339 (E), dated the 11th October, 2011, regarding Cancellation of Certificate of Registration of M/s Syngenta India Ltd. for import of Emamectin Benzoate 5% SG.
 - (2) S.O. 2353 (E), dated the 12th October, 2011, regarding Cancellation of Certificate of Registration of M/s Dow Agro Sciences India Pvt. Ltd. for Acetamiprid Technical, Acetamiprid 20% SP Formulation, Chlorpyrifos 10% Granules Formulation and Chlorpyrifos 50% Cypermethrin 5% EC Formulation under the Insecticides Act, 1968. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5536/15/11]
- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation), under sub-section 6 of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:
 - (1) S.O. 2203 (E), dated the 22nd September, 2011, publishing the Fertilizer (Control) Third Amendment Order, 2011. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5332/15/11]
 - (2) S.O. 2426 (E), dated the 24th October, 2011, notifying certain fertilizers to be manufactured by M/s Coromandal Fertilizers Ltd., Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5333/15/11]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:
- (i) (a) Annual Report of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad, for the year 2009-10.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad, for the year 2009-10, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
 - (d) Statements giving reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5544/15/11]
- III. (i) (a) Fifty-first Annual Report of the National Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks' Federation Limited (NCARDBF), Navi Mumbai, for the year 2010-11.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Co-operative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks' Federation Limited (NCARDBF), Navi Mumbai, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5546/15/11]
- (ii) (a) Forty-eighth Annual Report of the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited (NAFSCOB), Navi Mumbai, for the year 2010-11.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Limited (NAFSCOB), Navi Mumbai, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5545/15/11]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operatives Ltd. (FISHCOPFED), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 5551/15/11]

- IV. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Consortium. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5548/15/11]
- V. Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Ltd. (J&K HPMC), Srinagar, for the years 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, within the stipulated period. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5547/15/11]

...(Interruptions)...

- I. **Notifications of the Ministry of Railways.**
- II. **Report and Accounts (2010-11) of various Railway Corporations, organizations, companies and related papers.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
Sir, I lay on the Table:

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Railways, under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989:
- (1) G.S.R. 704 (E), dated the 21st September, 2011, publishing the Calcutta Metro Railway General (Amendment) Rules, 2011.
- (2) G.S.R. 705 (E), dated the 21st September, 2011, publishing the Indian Railways (Open Lines) General (Amendment) Rules, 2011. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5373/15/11]
- II. (A) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
- (i) (a) Eleventh Annual Report and Accounts of the RAILTEL Corporation of India Limited (RCIL), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5369/15/11]
 - (ii)
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the RITES Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5370/15/11]
 - (iii)
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5426/15/11]
 - (iv)
 - (a) Thirty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the IRCON International Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5425/15/11]
 - (v)
 - (a) Thirty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited (BWEC), Patna, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5371/15/11]
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) (v) above.

(B) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), New Delhi, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5372/15/11]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Railway Welfare Organisation (IRWO), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organisation. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5427/15/11]

...(Interruptions)...

Notification of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications) Notification No. 352-4/2011-CA (QoS)pt, dated the 5th September, 2011, publishing the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference (Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2011. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5411/15/11]

...(Interruptions)...

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on Thursday, the 1st of December, 2011, allotted time for Government Legislative Business as follows:

Business	Time allotted
1. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:	
(a) The Architects (Amendment) Bill, 2010.	Two hours

Business	Time allotted
(b) The Railway Property (Unlawful) Possession) Amendment Bill, 2008	Three Hours
2. Consideration and passing of the Commercial Division of High Courts Bill, 2009., as passed by Lok Sabha and as reported by the Select Committee of Rajya Sabha.	Three Hours
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Lok Sabha:	
(a) The Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2011	Three Hours
(b) The National Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2011.	[To be discussed together]
4. Motion for modification of the Airports Authority of India (Major Airports) Development Fees Rules, 2011.	Two Hours

...(Interruptions)...

The Committee also recommended that the sitting of the Rajya Sabha fixed for Monday, the 5th December, 2011 may be cancelled and, in lieu thereof, a sitting may be scheduled for Thursday, the 22nd December, 2011. There will be no Question Hour on that day.

...(Interruptions)...

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Wednesday, the 7th of December, 2011, will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

2. Consideration and passing of the following Bills
 - (a) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Bill, 2010;
 - (b) The Architects (Amendment) Bill, 2010;
 - (c) The Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Amendment Bill, 2008; and
 - (d) The Commercial Division of High Courts Bill, 2009, as passed by the Lok Sabha and as reported by Select Committee of Rajya Sabha.
3. Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bill relating to Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2011-12, after it is passed by the Lok Sabha.

...(Interruptions)...

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

**Concern over war-like situation arising out of transportation
of turbines to a hydropower project in Assam**

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): I would like to draw your attention and seek urgent intervention towards the war-like situation occurred in the last 24 hours in Assam during transportation of turbines to the lower Subanshiri Hydro Power Project and police atrocities upon the democratically agitating common people, wherein several people received injuries. The mass agitation comes along the National Highway 52 at places, that is, Sotea, Biswanath Chariali, Gohpur, Bhogpur and in Dholpur where the situation has worsened. As you are aware, large protests and agitations are taking place against the construction of mega dam by National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) on Subanshiri River at the foothill of Arunachal Pradesh in Gerukamukh in Lakhimpur district of Assam, on the subject of downstream impact. In this connection, common people and organisations with GP have submitted several representations to stop the construction work until the final report of the Expert Group which was constituted for a comprehensive study to assess the impact on downstream due to Subanshiri Lower HE Project in May 2008, is received. In this regard, for the last two years, common people have agitated on several occasions during the

*Laid on the Table of the House.

attempt made for unloading of turbines, which were finally unloaded at Jogoghpoa Port in Assam with an assurance to keep them there only. But, deploying heavy police-armed forces while transporting these turbines to the project site at Gerukamukh reflects the intentions of both the Central and the State Government, which is to suppress the voice of common people.

May, I, therefore, request the Government to intervene into the matter, considering it urgent, and stop transporting of turbines by NH-52 in Assam towards Gerukamukh, Lakhimpur, responding to the voice of the villagers, common people, organizations, political parties and intellectual bodies. I also urge the Government to take action against the atrocities of security forces on the common mass as early as possible.

Demand to drop the proposal to develop Tambaram railway station in Chennai as Third Terminal

SHRI S. THANGAVELU (Tamil Nadu): I would like to bring to the notice of the Government about the proposal of the Southern Railways to develop Tambaram Railway Station in Chennai as the third terminus. It is also proposed to terminate here all south-bound trains instead of Chennai Egmore. The railway station in Chennai Egmore was specifically established for the benefit of people from south districts and is functioning as a bridge and link to a number of people from south districts to Chennai. Thousands of people from Thuthukudi, Kanniyakumari, Nagarkovil, Tirunelveli, Senkottai, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli are visiting Chennai every day for various purposes, especially for employment, business - Government and education. So, if the Tambaram station is made as the starting and termination point of all trains from southern part, it would be extremely difficult to those people as they have to travel further three to four hours in Chennai. It would not only increase more and more crowd in local trains and road traffic but also cause huge unnecessary expenditure and time loss to the passengers. Therefore, I request the Government to instruct the Southern Railways to drop the proposal and keep the Egmore Railway Station as the starting point of all trains to south districts, as it is functioning now. This is also the strong demand of the passengers from those districts and so it is the duty of the Government to accord such demand of the passengers who generate more income to the Southern Railways comparing with other divisions of Indian Railways.

Concern over missing children in various parts of the country

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, according to the CBI, there are over 800 gangs involved in kidnapping children for prostitution, organ-trading, begging and ransom in India, and

across the country, 68,227 children went missing in 2009. In 2010, this number had gone up to 76,896. In 2008, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) pegged the number of children gone missing at 44,000. But, as per the State Crime Record Bureaus, the number was 67,195. Of these, many remain missing. The CRY (Child Rights and You) report states, "Child trafficking is not even recognized as a separate crime in India. The Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act, 1956, the only law that applies to traffickers, does not identify trafficking children as an offence of a separate nature. It may be termed graver than trafficking women".

The number of FIRs filed in such cases has been low. The Police usually records such cases in their daily diaries instead of filing FIRs. While the number of FIRs filed is greater for people belonging to the upper strata of society, it is the people belonging to the lower strata whose kids go missing more often. The recovery rate is also low. Delhi has the highest figure with nearly 18 kids going missing everyday.

Sir, more shocking is the information that in Umakote, Odisha, in the recent past, a good number of children have become victims of so-called 'sacrifice' (bali) before Gods or Goddess by heinous criminals.

In view of the above worrying scenario of children going missing and the grief that it causes to their parents, I urge upon the hon. Union Home Minister to take immediate and effective corrective steps.

**Demand to exempt MPLAD scheme from the ambit of Code of
Conduct enforced by Election Commission**

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): The Election Commission of India enforces Code of Conduct to be observed in connection with Assembly and Parliament elections, which results in putting a bar on all developmental activities. In India, every month is a month of elections, be they of Panchayats or Parliament.

Earlier, the Code of Conduct was brought into force from the date of publication of notification of election schedule and, as a result, the Code used to remain in force for a period of little over three weeks. But, in recent years, it comes into force from the date of Press Note mentioning the date on which the notification mentioning the schedule of elections is announced. This is invariably done two

or three weeks prior to the date fixed for issuance of notification. Thus, the Code remains in force for around one-and-a-half months halting all developmental activities wherever it is in force.

The Code of Conduct should, therefore, be brought into force only from the date of notification of the election schedule and not from the date of the Press Note.

Further, there is no reason for not exempting MPLAD Scheme from the Code of Conduct, since funds are at the disposal of MPs of all parties.

Maximum that can be done is that foundation stone laying ceremony for new projects could be prohibited. But, a project completed should be allowed to be inaugurated or moveable items already recommended and in respect of which all the process has been completed should be allowed to be disbursed.

I, therefore, urge the Government to take steps to change the modalities of enforcement of the Code of Conduct by the Election Commission and exempt MPLAD Scheme from its ambit.

Demand to address the issues of backwardness among Muslims in the country

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the UPA Government made several promises to address the issues of Muslim backwardness but to our utter dismay, we found that there is nothing in the 12th Plan Approach Paper. I would like to bring the following issues to the kind notice of the concerned Ministries in this regard.

On 24th of March, 2011, a delegation of 21 Muslim sitting Parliamentarians under the leadership of Shri K. Rahman Khan met the Planning Commission with the following demands but to our utter dismay, none of the issues were covered either in the 12th Plan Approach Paper or by the concerned ministry. We demanded the need to extend the MSDP programme to block level with 15% Muslim population. We came to understand the Government of India's plan to extend the programme to 60 more Districts, rejecting the 21 MPs demand to decentralize up to block level.

To address the acute dropout rate among Muslim children, the delegation demanded 'Demand Driven Scholarships' and to facilitate the same by zero-balance accounts by the banks.

There are serious lapses in the review on the 15-point programme from State to District level. We asked for 'social audit' as the present structure of various committees is inactive and a change in

the guidelines with a monthly full-day review at District level will ensure the implementation of the programme.

Muslims being semi-skilled labourers with semi-urban living profile without any connection with traditional agro-economy, we demanded to design new schemes to cater to the needs of the community and facilitate the process of certification to tap overseas opportunities. The norm of the 'National Skill Development Board' needs to be redrafted to facilitate this.

**Demand to implement multi-sectoral development programme
for minorities more effectively at Block Level**

श्री परिमल नथवानी (झारखंड): महोदय, फिलहाल देश में Multi Sectoral Development Programme जिला स्तर पर लागू है। यही कार्यक्रम अगर ब्लॉक स्तर पर चलाया जाए तो अधिक जनसंख्या तक इसका लाभ पहुंचेगा। मिसाल के तौर पर झारखंड में वर्तमान मानदंड के मुताबिक 25 प्रतिशत से अधिक की अल्पसंख्यक आबादी वाले छह जिलों में Minority Cluster Districts का समावेश है। अगर इसी criteria को ब्लॉक लेवल पर लागू करें तो झारखंड के 13 जिलों के 44 ब्लॉक के लोग इस योजना से लाभान्वित होंगे। इस प्रकार देश के अन्य राज्यों के अल्पसंख्यकों की बहुलतावाले इलाकों में (MCDs) के अधिकतम लोग कवर होंगे। 21 मार्च, 2011 को माननीय मंत्री श्री सलमान खुरशीद द्वारा आयोजित बैठक में ज्यादातर सांसदों की भी यही राय थी।

दूसरा, अल्पसंख्यकों की 25 प्रतिशत आबादी का criteria बदलकर अगर 15 प्रतिशत कर दें, तो वर्तमान में जो अल्पसंख्यकों की बहुलतावाले 90 जिलों (MCDs) के लोगों को इस योजना का लाभ मिलता है, इससे इसमें अधिक जिलों का समावेश हो सकता है।

MsDP कार्यक्रम के तहत दिए जाने वाले फंड का प्रभावी और समूचा उपयोग हो यह जरूरी है। केन्द्र एवं राज्यों के बीच इस विषय में तालमेल हो। जिला स्तर की समिति में पंजीकृत NGO या अल्पसंख्यक संस्था के प्रतिनिधि को सम्मिलित करें, ताकि कार्यक्रम के प्रभावी अमल और फंड के उचित उपयोग पर स्वतंत्र रूप से निगरानी रखी जा सके।

मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वह सच्चर समिति की सिफारिशों के प्रकाश में अगर उक्त सुझावों को भी अपनाए तो अल्पसंख्यकों की सेवा अधिक सार्थक रूप से हो सकेगी।

**Request to make concrete efforts for equitable development
to make inclusive growth a reality**

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): We achieved annual GDP growth averaging 8 per cent during 2004-05 to 2010-11. The last quarter of 2010-11 did show downward trend of 7.8 per cent as compared to 8.5 per cent in 2010-11 as a whole. Manufacturing sector grew by 5.5 per cent due to rising interest rates thereby hurting consumption and investment. The inflation

causing increase in prices is pinching the household budgets and consumption going down further. Our compulsions to increase prices of petroleum products is having cascading effect. In this scenario, how 'inclusive growth' will be achieved and benefits percolate to poor masses require specific attention.

Statistically, five of our chronically poor states (Bihar, MP, Rajasthan, UP and Orissa) are having over 7 per cent growth. This does not automatically mean growth reaching all poor people. Major beneficiaries are creamy layer. Undoubtedly, agricultural growth in 2004-10 averaged 4.4 per cent per year, but minimum wage was raised. NREGA and other infrastructure schemes plus the telecom revolution added to rural dynamism. Simultaneously, population, terrorism, corruption, natural calamities, etc., are growing thereby eating away even limited gain. May it be Maharashtra with highest GDP or Bihar with comparatively lower growth, deprived sections of population are migrating for employment elsewhere and marginal farmers are committing suicides.

Our transition from a predominantly farm economy to a services-driven one is not sustaining 'inclusive growth'. Geographically lopsided growth must be curtailed. Financial allocations and their utilisation in social and infrastructure sectors merit drastic changes like introducing pre-determined periodic monitoring mechanism. India's moving to a global frontline economy is now irreversible. The challenge is, giving right governance, adequate infrastructure and helping hand from the Centre so that 'inclusive growth' becomes a reality.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to make concrete efforts for equitable development to make 'inclusive growth' a reality.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet on 7th December, 2011 at 11.00 a.m.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past twelve of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 7th December, 2011.