

Vol. 224

No. 4

Thursday

25 November, 2011

4 Agrahayana, 1933 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

*Friday, the 25th November, 2011/4th Agrahayana, 1933 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

**REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you are all aware, there was an assault on Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Food Processing Industries, on 24th November, 2011, while he was walking down the steps of New Delhi Municipal Council Auditorium after participating in a literary function. I am sure the House will join me in condemning the assault on Shri Sharad Pawar.

ALL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 61.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, we had given a notice for suspension of Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Can I say something? ...(Interruptions)... Please don't show any newspapers.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I just want one minute. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति : अहलुवालि या साहब , मुझे कह लेवे दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान )...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक (उत्तर प्रदेश ) : सर, हम लोग एफडीआई का वसिध करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान )...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Please...(Interruptions)... Please listen to me.

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभा ई रूपाला (गुजरात ) : सर, इससे खुदरा व्यापार को नुकसान होगा। ...(व्यवधान )...

MR. CHAIRMAN: How do I call anybody if this is going on? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सर, एफडीआई से महँगाई बढ़ेगी। ...(व्यवधान )...

श्री सभापति : सतीश जी, एक मिनट ... (व्यवधान) ... प्लीज़ बैठ जाइए। ... (व्यवधान) ... प्लीज़ बैठ जाइए। ... (व्यवधान) ... No banners please. ... (Interruptions) ...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I just want one minute. ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री ब्रजेश पाठक : सर, हम लोग एफडीआई का वसिध करते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

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

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, the Standing Committee on Commerce has given two reports recommending not to allow FDI in the retail sector. But the Government has not acceded to that recommendation. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, the Leader of the Opposition wanted to speak. He must be allowed to speak first. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, how can the Cabinet take such an important decision when the House is in session? ...(*Interruptions*)...

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

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, no FDI in the retail sector. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow me to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please listen to me. ...(*Interruptions*)... Will you please listen to me? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, how could the Cabinet decide on something when the Parliament is in session? ...(*Interruptions*)...

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

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

The House met at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair

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#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

##### **Lack of toilet facilities in Government schools**

\*61. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a survey conducted by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), nearly 45 per cent of Government schools in the country lack toilet facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Supreme Court has set a

deadline of  
31st December, 2011 for construction of toilets in all Government run  
schools; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken by  
Government in this  
regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a)  
and (b) National University of Educational Planning and Administration  
(NUEPA) compiles



elementary school data under District Information System for Education (DISE). As per DISE 2009-10, 54.31% schools have common toilets and 58.82% schools have girls' toilets at the elementary stage of education. A State-wise Statement on elementary schools having common toilets and girls' toilets is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) 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. It was 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. This matter is likely to come up for further directions of the Court on 5th December, 2011.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides for toilet in all new schools opened under the programme. SSA also provides for toilets in existing schools located in urban areas. In the case of existing schools in rural areas, toilets are provided in convergence with the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) implemented by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. Since inception, 584324 toilets have been sanctioned under SSA, out of which 127564 were sanctioned in 2011-12. Under the Total Sanitation Campaign, 1150912 toilets have been sanctioned to all levels of schools.

#### ***Statement***

##### *State-wise details of elementary schools having common toilets and girls' toilets*

Sl. No.	State	Common toilets	Girls' toilet
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	29.70	88.83

2.	Andhra Pradesh	74.30	66.66
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	38.22	37.98
4.	Assam	41.75	38.24
5.	Bihar	48.24	37.70
6.	Chandigarh	32.39	97.16

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1	2	3	4
7.	Chhattisgarh	36.84	35.29
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	21.62	51.69
9.	Daman and Diu	51.40	75.70
10.	Delhi	32.45	78.93
11.	Goa	42.45	61.01
12.	Gujarat	37.49	58.47
13.	Haryana	56.64	87.37
14.	Himachal Pradesh	38.14	56.41
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	33.93	24.23
16.	Jharkhand	30.37	49.26
17.	Karnataka	88.15	68.19
18.	Kerala	55.86	76.46
19.	Lakshadweep	59.09	70.45
20.	Madhya Pradesh	55.62	37.85
21.	Maharashtra	32.49	69.61
22.	Manipur	43.45	23.18
23.	Meghalaya	43.88	31.72
24.	Mizoram	73.81	56.56
25.	Nagaland	86.48	90.51
26.	Orissa	80.79	37.85
27.	Puducherry	45.09	89.16
28.	Punjab	86.78	98.59
29.	Rajasthan	55.98	89.35
30.	Sikkim	80.00	74.75
31.	Tamil Nadu	47.90	69.24
32.	Tripura	57.73	42.32
33.	Uttar Pradesh	43.95	71.85

1	2	3	4
34.	Uttarakhand	59.60	58.31
35.	West Bengal	79.96	48.94
ALL STATES:		54.31	58.82

#### Reclamation of degraded area

\*62. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a matter of grave concern that out of the total 3,28,725 thousand hectares of geographical area of the country, 1,46,820 thousand hectares has become degraded area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this degraded area can be reclaimed; and

(d) the steps taken to check erosion and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Process of land formation and its degradation, is a natural process. Study by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR - 2005) indicates that out of a total geographical area of India of 328.73 million hectares about 146.82 million hectares (45%) is affected by various kinds of land degradation due to water/wind erosion, salinity/alkalinity, soil acidity, water logging, etc. These degraded lands can be developed with suitable soil conservation and management practices except barren lands, (Mountain, deserts etc.) which can be brought under cultivation only at an exorbitant cost.

With a view to prevent soil erosion, land degradation, maintain balance in various types of land uses and to improve productivity of degraded agricultural land, Government is implementing various Watershed Development Programmes (WDPs), namely; National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA), Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soils (RADAS), and Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSA) across the country, Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) for restoring ecological balance by harnessing, conserving and developing degraded land across the country. Under these WDPs, since inception upto 2010-11, about 56.96 million hectare

of degraded lands have been developed. Parts of such developed lands are brought under cultivation to maintain balance in different types of land uses. Studies conducted by various agencies revealed that interventions adopted under WDPs has resulted in reduction of soil erosion and land degradation, enhancing in-situ moisture conservation, ground water recharge and mitigating adverse impact of flood.

**Promotion of co-operative farming**

\*63. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any scheme to promote co-operative farming in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various State Governments have been consulted in this regard;  
and

(d) if so, the details thereof and response of the State Governments thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) 'Cooperation' being a State subject, the States are expected to take necessary steps to promote cooperative farming. However, in view of importance of cooperatives, the National Policy for Farmers, which was formulated after consultation with the States, provides for encouraging and supporting small farmers' cooperatives to take up activities such as processing, value addition and marketing of agri products, formation of Farmers Groups; Joint Liability Groups, Self Help Groups, etc., which has helped in strengthening the cooperative sector, thus benefitting farmers. Many schemes of the Government of India, such as Centrally Sponsored scheme on National Horticulture Mission, Central Sector Scheme for Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardisation, Rural Godown Scheme, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, etc. *inter-alia* support the cooperative institutions for promotion of agriculture.

**Jhuggis along railway tracks in Delhi**

†\*64. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Jhuggis by the side of railway tracks in Delhi;

(b) the action taken to remove these Jhuggis; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) There are

approximately 8044 number of jhuggis by the side of railway tracks in Delhi.

(b) and (c) Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to remove encroachments in consultation with the State Government of Delhi keeping in view the Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) policy of Delhi Government. Normally, it is the responsibility of State Government to undertake Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) of slum dwellers as per State Government policy. However, in Delhi, Railways have agreed to bear part cost of relocation of

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

pre-1998 encroachers located on Railway land in 'Safety Zone' (i.e. land within 15m from centre line of outermost track), and on land required for execution of sanctioned projects, as per the R&R policy of the Delhi Government. For this purpose, an amount of Rs. 11.25 crore has been deposited by the Ministry of Railways with the Delhi Government in respect of rehabilitation of 4359 jhuggis in 2003 and 2004. So far, 185 jhuggis have been removed.

#### **Railway projects in Jharkhand**

\*65. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government had signed any MoU with the State Government of Jharkhand for completion of six railway projects within a span of five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the status of the projects;

(c) the reasons for delay, if any, in completion of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to expedite the work on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) to (d) As per Memorandum of Understanding signed between Ministry of Railways and State Government of Jharkhand in February, 2002, State Government had agreed to share two third cost of 6 Railway Projects falling in the State to be completed in 5 years. The MoU signed with the Government

of Jharkhand in February, 2002 has since been expired and renewal of the same is under consideration. The status of the projects is as under:-

Sl No.	Projects	Km.AnticipatedExpenditureOutlay		cost Upto 2011-12		Status
		(Rs. in crore)		March, 2011	(Rs. in crore)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Koderma-Ranchi New line	189	1157.80	987.87	20.00	Work have been taken up on entire length. Progress is affected due to adverse law and order conditions. Koderma-Barhi-Hazaribagh-Mandu-Kuju (122 km.) targeted for completion in 2011-12.
2.	Deogarh-Dumka New line	72	358.00	342.97	10.00	Completed and commissioned.
3.	Mandarhill-Rampurhat New line (sharing for Dumka-Rampurhat Only)	130	900.05	411.11	60.00	Mandarhill-Hansdia (26 km.) and Rampurhat Pinargaria (19 km.) completed. Works are in progress in balance length.



4.	Koderma-Giridih	102	452.36	330.42	13.00	Koderma-Dhanwar (49 km.)
	New line					completed. Works are in progress in balance length.
5.	Koderma-Tilaiya	68	418.17	69.48	30.00	Land acquisition done. Earth work and minor bridges are in progress. Both major bridges completed.
	New line					
	(sharing for					
	Jharkhand					
	Portion Only)					
6.	Ranchi-	113	456.45	246.56	8.00	Gauge conversion of Ranchi-Lohardaga completed. Lohardaga-Barkichampi (14 km.) also completed. Works are in progress. In balance Barkichampi-Tori section. Progress affected due to adverse law and order situation.
	Lohardaga					
	Gauge					
	Conversion					
	with extension					
	to Tori					

Projects have been delayed due to procedural formalities, forestry clearances, adverse law and order problems, failure of contracts and constraint of resources. To expedite completion of projects, forestry and other clearances have been taken up at highest level. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Government for providing adequate security at project sites.

#### **Blackmarketing and rise in prices of fertilizers**

\*66. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the rise in prices of fertilizers *vis-à-vis* their blackmarketing;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, including the current year;

(c) whether Government has made any survey to find out the reasons for rise in the prices of fertilizers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to reduce the prices of fertilizers and check their blackmarketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) 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 and 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 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 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. Government is keeping a close watch on the MRPs of the fertilizers. A statement showing the MRP of P&K fertilizers from 2008-09 to October 2011, quarter-wise is given in the Statement (See below).

Under Clause 21 of the Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1985, 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.

**Statement**

*MRP of P&K fertilizers from 2008-09 to October, 2011 quarter-wise*

in Rs./MT

#	Grades of fertilizers	2008-09, 2009-10	10-11 (Quarter-wise)				11-12 (Quarter-wise)		Current	Remarks
		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 Market
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 Market
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	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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 Market
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.

### **Reforms and restructuring of higher education**

\*67. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of reforms and restructuring of the higher education sector;

(b) the goals of such restructuring;

(c) whether equity is part of the mission of the Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details of programmes undertaken to achieve the goal of equity?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Reforms agenda of the Ministry of Human Resource Development includes legislative proposals, academic and governance reforms as well as new schemes and programmes to address issues of access, equity, inclusion, quality and excellence.

The legislative proposals include the Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010 for the adjudication of disputes in higher education sector at the State and National level; the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill, 2010 to prohibit and punish unfair practices in higher educational institutions; The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010 and Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation of Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010, etc. Besides new legislations, amendments have been proposed to the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admissions) Act and many other Acts in order to achieve the goals of equity, access and quality.

Academic reforms include semester system, choice based credit system, curricular reforms etc. Governance reforms include restructuring of existing institutions and reforms in the regulatory systems in higher education. Expansion efforts of the Government include setting up of new institutions funded by the Central Government and expansion of existing ones. It also includes incentivizing State Governments to set up new institutions in backward areas to benefit socially and educationally backward segments of

population. Restructuring also includes improving accountability frameworks and an overarching regulatory frame which can restore to universities, oversight of the entire universe of knowledge.

(c) Equity, quality and access are the cornerstones of the entire reform agenda. Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admissions) Act, 2006 has ensured reservations for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in all central education institutions of higher learning. Equitable access to all students, irrespective of economic



background, is sought to be achieved by making collection of "Capitation Fee" as a cognizable offence. The Government is ensuring that benefits of all schemes and programmes reach SCs, STs, minorities and women in an equitable manner. University Grants Commission (UGC) is giving special development grants for Universities located in backward areas. UGC provides grants for establishing Equal Opportunities Cell in Universities. Special Schemes are run by UGC for coaching SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities for National Eligibility Test (NET). Ten per cent of the budget is being earmarked for north eastern States. Educational loans upto Rs. 10 lakhs for studies in India has been declared as priority sector lending by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

(d) During the Eleventh Plan, several schemes and programmes have been undertaken in order to provide access to relevant and good quality higher education in an equitable manner. These include setting up of 374 Model Degree Colleges in districts with less than 12.4% Gross Enrolment Ratio (these include 60 Minority Concentration Districts), establishing of new Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, National Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Information Technology, Schools of Planning and Architecture and new polytechnics. Specific schemes targeting development of SCs, STs, minorities, disabled and girls have been implemented. These include scholarships and fellowships for the socially deprived. Special programmes for women like Girls' Hostels and Single Girl Child Scholarships, gender and inclusion initiatives of University Grants Commission and All India Council for Technical Education, Interest subsidy to economically backward students on educational loans etc.

**Action on recommendations of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan  
Commission**

†\*68. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had constituted Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Commission;

(b) if so, whether this Commission has submitted its report to

Government;

(c) if so, when this report of the Commission was received by Government;

(d) the responsibilities which were entrusted to the Commission by Government; and

(e) the action taken on the said report of the Commission, so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a)  
to (d) In

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

November, 2004, National Commission on Farmers (NCF) was reconstituted under Chairmanship of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan. Terms of reference of the Commission, *inter-alia*, included working out a comprehensive medium term strategy for food and nutrition security; propose methods of enhancing the productivity, profitability and sustainability of the major farming systems; suggest measures to attract and retain educated youth in farming; suggest reforms to enhance investment in agri-research; recommend measures for the credit, knowledge, skill and technological empowerment of women; and suggest methods of empowering elected members of Panchayats.

The Commission submitted five reports to the Government over a period of time starting from December, 2004. The Commission submitted its fifth and final report on 4.10.2006. Along with the final report, the Commission also submitted 'Draft National Policy for Farmers' containing important recommendations made by it.

(e) Based on 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', and after consultation with State Governments, National Policy for Farmers (NPF) 2007, was finalized and approved by Government and was laid on Table of Rajya Sabha on 23.11.2007. An inter-ministerial committee finalized Plan of Action for Operationalisation of NPF, 2007 which was circulated to all State Governments as well as central Ministries/Departments concerned for appropriate action.

#### **Central schemes for development of agriculture**

†\*69. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are almost 50 schemes which are financed by the Central Government and are being run for the development of agriculture;

(b) if not, the number of such schemes and the amount likely to be incurred on the implementation of these schemes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether any target was set for these schemes; and

(d) if so, the details of targets for each scheme and the

percentage of targets achieved in respect of each scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing 53 schemes for development of agriculture in India. Rs. 66,577 crore was approved for implementation of these schemes during Eleventh Five Year Plan against which expenditure of Rs. 61,600.07 crore is likely to be incurred. Financial targets set for these schemes and expenditure including percentage of expenditure achieved in respect of each scheme, is given in the Statement.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Statement**

*Scheme-wise approved allocation of Eleventh Plan and cumulative expenditure during Eleventh Plan and its achievements*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Division/Scheme	Allocation for Eleventh Plan	Total expenditure Eleventh Plan 2007-2012	% of achievement
1	2	3	4	5
<b>I.</b>	<b>Agri. Extension and Training</b>	<b>267000.00</b>	<b>201470.53</b>	<b>75.46</b>
1.	Extension Support to Central Institutes of DOE		7000.00	6357.93
	<b>90.83</b>			
2.	Agri-Clinics/Agri-Business Centres	15000.00	4901	<b>32.67</b>
3.	Mass Media use in Agriculture Extension	45000.00	63437.46	<b>140.97</b>
4.	Support to States Extension Services	200000.00	126774.14	<b>63.39</b>
<b>II.</b>	<b>Agriculture Census</b>	<b>8000.00</b>	<b>7955.94</b>	<b>99.45</b>
	Agriculture Census	8000.00	7955.94	<b>99.45</b>
<b>III.</b>	<b>Agricultural Economics and Statistics</b>	<b>35000.00</b>	<b>64219.01</b>	<b>183.48</b>
1.	Studies in Agricultural Economic Policy and Development		15000.00	23066.06
	<b>153.77</b>			
2.	Improvement of Agriculture Statistics	15000.00	38496.00	<b>256.64</b>
3.	Forecasting Agricultural output using Space, Agro-Meteorology and Land based observation (FASAL)	5000.00	2656.95	<b>53.14</b>
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Seeds</b>	<b>60800.00</b>	<b>206801.53</b>	<b>340.13</b>
1.	Implementation of PVP Legislation	12000.00	4067.37	<b>33.89</b>
2.	Loan to State Farms Corporation/NSC	3800.00	8689.00	<b>228.66</b>
3.	Development and Strengthening of infrastructure facilities for production and distribution of quality seeds	45000.00	189040.16	<b>420.09</b>
4.	Externally aided project on implementation of global plan of action			5.00

1	2	3	4	5
5.	National Seed Mission		5000.00	
<b>V.</b>	<b>Integrated Nutrient Management</b>	<b>59000.00</b>	<b>19220.21</b>	<b>32.58</b>
1.	Strengthening of Central Fertiliser Quality Control and Training Institute	2500.00	626.29	<b>25.05</b>
2.	National Project on Promotion of Organic Farming	11500.00	7922.78	<b>68.89</b>
3.	National Project on Management of soil Health and fertility	45000.00	10671.14	<b>23.71</b>
<b>VI.</b>	<b>Plant Protection</b>	<b>32500.00</b>	<b>22030.78</b>	<b>67.79</b>
1.	Strengthening and Modernisation of Plant Quarantine facilities in India	8000.00	6513.99	<b>81.42</b>
2.	Strengthening and Modernisation of Pest Management in the country	9000.00	9083.96	<b>100.93</b>
3.	Monitoring of Pesticide Residues at National Level	5500.00	3892.83	<b>70.78</b>
4.	National Institute of Plant Health Management	10000.00	2540.00	<b>25.40</b>
<b>VII.</b>	<b>Mechanisation and Technology</b>	<b>7600.00</b>	<b>9067.85</b>	<b>119.31</b>
1.	Strengthening of Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes	3600.00	6444.08	<b>179.00</b>
2.	Post Harvest Tech. and Management	4000.00	2623.77	<b>65.59</b>
<b>VIII.</b>	<b>Crops</b>		<b>537300.00</b>	<b>516412.48</b>
	<b>96.11</b>			
1.	Technology Mission on Jute	4000.00	3122.33	<b>78.06</b>
2.	Technology Mission on Cotton (CSS)	45000.00	21152.37	<b>47.01</b>
3.	Enhancing Sustainability of Dryland/Rainfed Farming System		0.00	
4.	National Food Security Mission	488300.00	492137.78	<b>100.79</b>
<b>IX.</b>	<b>TMOP</b>	<b>157000.00</b>	<b>249273.75</b>	<b>158.77</b>
1.	Tree borne oilseeds and bio diesel	7000.00	3944.08	<b>56.34</b>
2.	Integrated Oilseeds, Oil Palm, Pulses and Maize Development (ISOPOM)	150000.00	245329.67	<b>163.55</b>

(CSS)

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1	2	3	4	5
<b>X.</b>	<b>Rainfed Farming System</b>	<b>351800.00</b>	<b>2553.47</b>	<b>0.73</b>
1.	Watershed Development Council	0.00	124.23	
2.	National Rainfed Area Authority	1800.00	2329.24	<b>129.40</b>
3.	Rainfed Area Development Programme	350000.00	100.00	<b>0.03</b>
<b>XI.</b>	<b>Horticulture</b>	<b>1496600.00</b>	<b>1176340.02</b>	<b>78.60</b>
1.	National Horticulture Board	63200.00	68833.65	<b>108.91</b>
2.	Coconut Development Board including Technology Mission on Coconut	20000.00	28555.52	<b>142.78</b>
3.	Technology Mission on Horticulture for North East Region	150000.00	183882.08	<b>122.59</b>
4.	Micro Irrigation	340000.00	350800.00	<b>103.18</b>
5.	National Mission on Bamboo Technology and Trade (CSS)	40000.00	43848.16	<b>109.62</b>
6.	National Horticulture Mission (CSS)	880900.00	489869.04	<b>55.61</b>
7.	Central Institute of Horticulture in Nagaland	2500.00	2456.38	<b>98.26</b>
8.	Grants for replanting and rejuvenation of Coconut Gardens			7900.00
9.	Grants to Coconut Development Board for Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme		195.19	
<b>XII.</b>	<b>Secretariat Economic Service</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>3229.82</b>	<b>645.96</b>
1.	Secretariat Economic Service	500.00	3229.82	<b>645.96</b>
<b>XIII.</b>	<b>Agricultural Marketing</b>	<b>93600.00</b>	<b>117022.87</b>	<b>125.02</b>
1.	Grant in aid to National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM)	1500.00	2410.77	<b>160.72</b>
2.	Strengthening Agmark Grading and Export Quality Control	600.00	245.30	<b>40.88</b>
3.	Marketing Research Surveys and Marketing Information Network	1500.00	610.47	<b>40.70</b>
4.	Development of Market Infrastructure, Grading and Standardisation	38000.00	55641.24	<b>146.42</b>



1	2	3	4	5
5.	Construction of Rural Godowns	40000.00	47065.09	<b>117.66</b>
6.	Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC)	12000.00	11050	<b>92.08</b>
<b>XIV.</b>	<b>Information Technology</b>	<b>35000.00</b>	<b>19965.83</b>	<b>57.05</b>
1.	National e-Governance Plan Agriculture			9828.61
2.	Strengthening of IT apparatus in Agriculture and Cooperation (HQ) including Early Warning System	35000.00	10137.22	<b>28.96</b>
<b>XV.</b>	<b>NRM</b>	<b>28500.00</b>	<b>27144.36</b>	<b>95.24</b>
1.	Soil and Land Use Survey of India	4500.00	6424.36	<b>142.76</b>
2.	Control of Shifting Cultivation	24000.00	20720.00	<b>86.33</b>
<b>XVI.</b>	<b>Credit</b>	<b>390000.00</b>	<b>760318.63</b>	<b>194.95</b>
1.	Investment in Debentures of State Land Development Banks (SLDBs)	40000.00	19711.71	<b>49.28</b>
2.	National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)		350000.00	614187.92
3.	Pilot Modified National Agriculture Insurance		17500.00	
4.	Weather-based Crop Insurance		108919.00	
<b>XVII.</b>	<b>Cooperation</b>	<b>47000.00</b>	<b>51963.30</b>	<b>110.56</b>
1.	Cooperative Education and Training	15000.00	14413.30	<b>96.09</b>
2.	Assistance to NCDC for Development of Cooperatives	32000.00	26850.00	<b>83.91</b>
3.	Support to NAFED (New)		200.00	
4.	Interest Subvention on loans provided by NCDC to Cooperatives (New)			8000.00
5.	Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cooperatives (New)		2500.00	
<b>XVIII.</b>	<b>Macro Management</b>	<b>550000.00</b>	<b>462501.51</b>	<b>84.09</b>
1.	Macro Management (CSS)	550000.00	462501.51	<b>84.09</b>

1	2	3	4	5
<b>XIX. Trade</b>		<b>500.00</b>	<b>260.31</b>	<b>52.06</b>
1. Capacity Building to Enhance Competitiveness of Indian Agriculture		500.00	260.31	52.06
<b>XX. Additional Central Assistance for State Plan (RKVY)</b>		<b>2500000.00</b>	<b>2242254.93</b>	<b>89.69</b>
1. RKVY		2500000.00	2242254.93	89.69
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>6657700.00</b>	<b>6160007.13</b>	<b>92.52</b>

#Actual expenditure for the years 2007-08 to 2010-11 and BE for 2011-12.

#### **Import and availability of fertilizers**

\*70. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cash crunch has hit fertilizer imports;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government held back subsidy commitments to importers;

(c) whether shortage of fertilizers could further stoke runaway food inflation and pose risk to winter crop operations commencing next month;

(d) whether assured availability of key fertilizers is critical to food security; and

(e) if so, the steps Government is taking to make fertilizers available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No, Sir. As on date, there is no cash crunch that has hit fertilizer imports

(b) No, Sir. The Government has not held back any subsidy commitments to importers of fertilizers. Rather all the subsidy payments are being made to the importers on time.

(c) and (d) Urea is under 50% and P&K fertilizers are under 20%

movement and distribution control of the Government. The availability of decontrolled fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply. Union Government monitors availability of fertilizers at State level and State Governments are responsible for its tie-up with the manufacturers and importers and further distribution within the State. The State-wise demand (Requirement) and supply (Availability) of major fertilizers during Kharif, 2011 (April'11 to September'11) are given in the Annexure 2 [See Appendix 214 Annexure No. 2]. The requirement and availability of fertilizers during October, 2011 and November, 2011 are given in Annexure 3 and 4 [See

Appendix 224 Annexure 3 and 4] respectively. Since there is no major fertilizer shortage, it is envisaged that neither will runaway food inflation be stoked nor winter crop operations be under risk.

(e) 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](http://www.urvarak.co.in)) also called Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
- (ii) The gap between requirement and indigenous production of Urea is met through imports;
- (iii) The State Governments are advised from time to time 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.
- (v) Department of Fertilizers and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation jointly review the fertilizer availability with Agriculture departments of various States through Video Conference every week. The corrective actions, if required, are taken immediately to avoid any hardships to the farmers;
- (vi) Under NBS, Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) alongwith applicable subsidy on each of the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed MRP is punishable;
- (vii) Department of Fertilizers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, GAIL and other suppliers of Natural Gas/Liquefied Natural Gas so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met; and
- (viii) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilizers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

**Agriculture becoming a non-profitable occupation**

†\*71. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be  
pleased to  
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cost of production of agricultural  
products is constantly decreasing due to their increasing production  
in the last few years in the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to increase in the prices of seeds, fertilizers, diesel and increase in the remuneration of agricultural labour, agriculture has once again become a non-profitable occupation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Per unit cost of production of agriculture commodities has been showing an increasing trend irrespective of the increase in the size of production in the last few years. This increase has been mainly due to higher increase in cost on account of labour.

(c) and (d) The price of major agriculture inputs in 2010-11 over 2009-10 (Agriculture year) in terms of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is given below:-

Input	%age increase
Fertilisers	8.2
Electricity (Irrigation)	7.6
Pesticides	1.9
Tractors	3.7
Diesel Oil (HSDO)	11.4

The average rural agricultural wage rate (Rs. Per day) has increased by 19.84 per cent in 2010 over 2009. 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.

The effect of rising input cost, of cultivation of major crops is balanced by way of assuring Minimum Support Prices that help the farmers receive adequate return. Several Central Government agencies and State level bodies through their procurement operations in the market help the farmers sell their produce at MSP especially when market prices rule below MSP for those commodities.

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 besides improving the income earning opportunities of farmers through Minimum Support Price (MSP) for the benefit of income security of the farmers. The improvement in terms of Trade in agriculture seems to indicate that these measures have had beneficial effects.

#### **Policy for train fares**

\*72. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to follow dynamic pricing policy for train fares;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what will be its impact on common man?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) Evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalization of the fare and freight structures is an on-going process. Such exercises are yet exploratory in nature and do not constitute a proposal for systemically adopting a dynamic pricing policy in respect of train fares.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Railway flyovers in Rajasthan**

†\*73. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of under construction flyovers over rail lines and the places where they are located in Rajasthan;

(b) the time by when the work thereon would be completed alongwith the details thereof;

(c) the number of new flyovers alongwith the places where their construction is proposed; and

(d) the time by when approval thereto would be provided alongwith the details thereof?



THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) There are 48 flyovers under construction over railway lines in Rajasthan. The details of the flyovers alongwith Zonal Railway, their locations and expected time of completion are as under. These are at various stages of planning, design and construction alongwith the approach works being executed by the State Government:-

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Railway	Description of Road over Bridges (ROB) over rail lines under construction	Expected date of completion/ status
1	2	3	4
1.	North Central	Construction of ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 463 on Jhansi-Agra section.	Completed.
2.	North Central design	Construction of 4 lane ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 113 at km. 1515/8-9 on Mathura-Alwar section.	ROB is in planning and stage
3.	North Western	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 71-A at Hanumangarh	Completed
4.	North Western	Palanpur-Ajmer-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 134-B near Abu Road.	Completed
5.	North Western Completed in	Kishangarh ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 28 at km. 266/8-9 on Phulera Jn.-Ajmer section.	Railway Portion August '11. Approach portion expected by December '2011
6.	North Western	Dausa ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 181 at km. 179/6-7 on Jaipur-Dausa section.	March '2012
7.	North Western	Mandal-Bhilwara ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 63-C at km. 120/8-9 on Ajmer-Chittorgarh section.	Completed
8.	North Western	Bikaner Construction of ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 138 at km. 321/12-13 on Bikaner-Lalgarh section.	Completed
9.	North Western	Daurai-Saradhna ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 5A/2 at km. 306/8-9	Railway Portion

Completed in

on Ajmer-Marwar Jn. section.

August'11. Approach portion  
expected by December'2011

1	2	3	4
10. North Western	Jodhpur-Samdari-Barmer-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. C-325.	June'2012	
11. North Western Completed 2010-11.	Nagaur ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 63-C at km. 578/1-2 on Bikaner-Merta Road section.	Railway Portion Approach portion expected by December'2011	
12. North Western	Makrana Jn. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 36-C at km. 64/1-2 on Phulera-Merta Road section.	March'2012	
13. North Western	Alwar ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 111 -C at km. 71/3-4 on Rewari-Alwar section.	March'2012	
14. North Western	Bikaner-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 139.	ROB is in tendering stage	
15. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 228 at km. 246/5-6 on Jaipur-Phulera section.	ROB is in planning and	
16. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 89 at km. 137/8-9 on Jaipur-Ringus section.	ROB is in planning and	
17. North Western stage	Construction. ROB (2 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 76 at km. 102/0-1 bet. Nimaka ka Thana-Bagega stations on RPC section.	ROB is in planning and design	

18. North Western design stage	Rewari-Ringu-Phulera section: Construction, of ROB (2 lane) in lieu ROB is in planning and of level crossing No. C-149 at km. 212/0-1.
19. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (02 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 323/A ROB is in planning and at km. 831/3-4 on Jodhpur-Samdari-Barmer section.
20. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (02 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 74 at ROB is in planning and km. 105/3-4 on Chittorgarh-Udaipur section.
21. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (02 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 76 at ROB is in planning and km. 107/4-5 on Chittorgarh-Udaipur section
22. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 233 at ROB is in planning and km. 254/2-3 on Jaipur-Phulera section.
23. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 200 at ROB is in planning and km. 207/8-9 on Bandikui-Jaipur section.
24. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 110 at ROB is in planning and km. 161/5-6 on Jaipur-Ringus section.
25. North Western	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 232 at ROB is in planning and

design stage	km. 252/3-4 on Jaipur- Phulera section.		
26. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 234 at km. 256/6-7 on Jaipur-Phulera section.	ROB is in planning and	
27. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (02 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 116 at km. 74/8-9 on RE-BKI section.	ROB is in planning and	
28. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (04 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. C-18 at km. 19/3-4 on Rai ka Bagh-Jaisalmer section.	ROB is in planning and	
29. North Western stage	Construction of ROB (02 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. C-2 at km. 0/5-6 on Rai ka Bagh-Jaisalmer section.	ROB is in planning and design	
30. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (02 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 168 at km. 620/1-2 on Jodhpur-Merta Road section.	ROB is in planning and	
1	2	3	4
31. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (2 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 43 and 43/1 at km. 288/9-289/0 and 289/7-8 on Madar-Daurai (Bye pass)	ROB is in planning and	

	and Madar-Ajmer sections respectively.
32. North Western design stage	Construction, of ROB (2 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 108 at ROB is in planning and km. 148/8-9 bet. Ringus-Kishan Manpura stations on Ringus Phulera Cord section.
33. North Western stage	Construction. ROB (4 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 32 at ROB is in planning and design km. 272/5-6 on Phulera-Madar section.
34. North Western stage	Construction, of ROB (2 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. 165 at km. 617/4-5 bet. Jodhpur Cant. Rai ka Bagh on Jodhpur-Merta ROB is in planning and design Road section.
35. North Western design stage	Construction, of ROB (2 lane) in lieu of level crossing no C-34 at ROB is in planning and km. bet. 60/0-1 bet. Kuchaman City-Makarana on Phulera-Degana section.
36. North Western design stage	Construction of ROB (2 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. C-95 on ROB is in planning and Suratgarh-Hanumangarh-Anupgarh section.
37. North Western stage	Construction of ROB (2 lane) in lieu of level crossing No. C-119 of Sri Ganganagar-Suratgarh- Hanumangarh section. ROB is in planning and design

38. West Central	Kota - ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 109 (Rangpur Road). Completed
39. West Central	Gangapur City-Chhoti Odai-ROB in lieu of level crossing. No. 180 March'2012 @ km. 1096/810 at SH-21.
40. West Central	Dhaurmul Jaghina-Jajanpatti-ROB at level crossing No. 252-B @ March'2012 km. 1222/810 at SH-24.
41. West Central	Ramganjmandi-Morak-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 82 on SH December'2012 at km. 849/14-15.
42. West Central	Dakaniya Talav-Kota-ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 106 on SH Completed at km. 913/18-20.
43. West Central	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 244 Between Sesar-Bharatpur at June'2012 km. 1209/14-16.
44. West Central	ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 87 at Morak Dabhadeh km. 858/8-10. March'2012
45. West Central	Construction of 4-lane ROB at km. 1136/10-12 in lieu of level crossing ROB is in planning and design stage No. 201 at Hindaun City station yard of Gangapur city-Mathura section (Cost sharing basis).
46. West Central	Construction of 2-lane ROB at km. 918/02 in lieu of level crossing ROB is in planning and design stage No. 108 between Dakania Talav-Kota section
47. West Central	Construction of 2-lane ROB at km. 764/6-8 in lieu of level crossing ROB is in planning and design stage

No. 35 between Chaumahla-Nathukhedi in Kota-Nagda section in  
Jhalawar district.

48. West Central      Construction of 2-lane ROB at km. 1126/38-02 in lieu of level      ROB      is      in  
planning and design stage  
crossing No. 195 between Nandoti, Shri Mahabirji-Hindaun section  
in Karoli district.

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(c) Nil.

(d) Does not arise.

**Gaps in security system**

\*74. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the security audit performed by the CAG, Railways spent less than ` 3 per passenger on safety and also there are large gaps in the security system;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for which Railways have not been able to formulate any policy for safety of its assets in consultation with the States; and

(d) the efforts the Ministry is making to fill the gaps in security systems?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The CAGs report, while calculating the expenditure per passenger, has only included the expenditure incurred by the railways. However, expenditure on security also includes expenditure by State Governments on Government Railway Police (GRP) and also the District Police including hiring of Home Guards which is responsible for guarding of railway tracks, tunnels and bridges etc. If all the above is taken into consideration, per passenger security expenditure will be well above ` 3/- suggested in CAG's report.

(c) At present, a three tier security system consisting of RPF, GRP and District Police is prevailing over railways. Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of Law and Order in station premises and trains is the responsibility of GRP and security of railway tracks, bridges and tunnels is the responsibility of concerned District Police. RPF, under the Ministry of Railways, is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in strengthening of railway security.

(d) Security of passengers has been identified as one of the priority areas by Railways. Intensive efforts have been made to

strengthen railway security, especially in the recent past, include escorting of important Mail/Express trains, regular coordination with GRP/Civil Police, nomination of 202 stations for installation of an Integrated Security System to strengthen surveillance mechanism and procurement of modern security related equipment. Some of the new initiatives include, setting up of an All India Security Help Line, networking of RPF Posts and Security Control Rooms, setting up of a commando training center, establishment of new RPSF Battalions etc.

**Paucity of workforce in agricultural works**

\*75. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken note of the growing paucity of workforce for pursuing agricultural works in the fields and has found the same to be attributable to diversion of the agricultural workforce to jobs under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has suggested revision of MGNREGS, especially to ensure that engagement for 100 days employment of rural workforce does not overlap with agricultural seasons, with a view to ensure availability of adequate manpower for fields?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Agro Economic Research Centres under Ministry of Agriculture, have conducted State level studies for assessing impact of MGNREGA on wage rate, food security and migration. Initial studies conducted in Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab reveal that MGNREGA has put an upward pressure on general wage level in rural areas, and that there is shortage of labour for critical agricultural labour intensive operations like sowing and harvesting.

Suggestions have been received from stakeholders, notably farmers, to plan NREGA works in such a manner such that it does not lead to labour shortage during period of critical agricultural operations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

#### **Introduction of coaches based on German technology**

\*76. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to switch over from indigenous ICF coaches to German technology based coaches in all mail and express trains within the next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that German coaches would help to minimize damage and reduce the loss of lives in accidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Indian Railways plan to progressively increase the new manufacture of

LHB (Linke Hoffmann Busch) design coaches. These coaches will be selectively inducted in Mail/Express Trains as and when their population grows.

Conventional ICF (Integral Coach Factory) design coaches shall still remain to service some Mail/Express trains.

LHB coaches are designed to have superior anti-climbing and crashworthy features. These features ensure train integrity to a far greater degree particularly at higher speed, and even dissipation of energy minimizing the damage to coaches and risks to occupants in the event of an accident.

#### **National Horticulture Mission**

\*77. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is implementing National Horticulture Mission for holistic development of horticulture;

(b) if so, the major objectives of the scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that one of the objectives of the scheme is creation of market infrastructure for fruits and vegetables; and

(d) if so, the targets fixed and achieved during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for the holistic development of horticulture in the country with the following major objectives:-

(i) Provide holistic growth of horticulture sector through area based regionally differentiated strategies, which include research, technology promotion, extension, post harvest management, processing and marketing, in consonance with comparative advantage of each State/region and its diverse agro-climatic features;

(ii) Enhance horticulture production, improve nutritional security and income support to farm households;

(iii) Establish convergence and synergy among on-going and plan programmes, for horticulture development;

(iv) Promote, develop and disseminate technologies for horticulture development, through seamless blending of traditional wisdom and modern scientific knowledge; and

(v) Create employment generation opportunities for skilled and unskilled persons, especially unemployed youth.

(c) and (d) One of the objectives of the scheme is creation of market infrastructure for marketing of horticulture produce including fruits and vegetables. During last five years (2006-07 to 2010-11), 225 Rural Markets, 100 Wholesale Markets and 7 Terminal Markets were targeted in

project mode for their development by the State Governments. Out of these, Government of India has sanctioned 219 Rural Markets, 85 Wholesale Markets and 2 Terminal Markets.

#### **Suicides by farmers**

\*78. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of farmers are committing suicide because of poverty and debts;

(b) the number of suicides committed by farmers during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent such suicides?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Reasons of suicide by farmers, as reported by State Government concerned, are manifold which, *inter-alia*, include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal. Number of suicide committed by farmers due to agrarian reasons, year-wise and State-wise during last three years, as reported by State Government, is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Government of India has taken a number of steps to prevent suicide by farmers, which include implementation of:-

(i) Rehabilitation Package announced in 2006 initially for 3 years, covering 31 districts in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra, to address problems of agrarian distress. An Amount of Rs. 19910.70 crore has been released under this package till June 30, 2011. The period for implementation of non-credit components of the package was extended upto September 30, 2011.

(ii) Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 benefited about 3.69 crore farmers, involving Rs. 65,318.33 crore, as per provisional figures.

(iii) Interest subvention for timely repayment of crop loan upto Rs. 3 lakh was enhanced during 2011-12, which resulted in

lowering of effective rate of interest to 4% per annum for such farmers, who repay their crop loan on time.

(iv) Substantial enhancement of Minimum Support Prices of major cereals during last 5 years to benefit farmers.

Further, in order to revitalize agriculture sector and to improve conditions of farmers on sustainable basis, other measures taken by the 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 and Fertility management etc.

**Statement**

*The number of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons during last three years as reported by State Governments/UTs*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Period/Date of report	No. of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons as reported by State Government
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2008	469
		2009	296
		2010	152
2.	Karnataka	2007-08	182
		2008-09	156
		2009-10	138
3.	Maharashtra	2008	735
		2009	550
		2010	454
4.	Kerala	2008	11
		2009	Nil
		2010	Nil
5.	Punjab	2008	12
		2009	15
		2010	04
6.	Tamil Nadu	10.11.2010	Nil
7.	Gujarat	29.06.2011	Nil
8.	Assam	23.05.2011	Nil
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.02.2011	Nil

1	2	3	4
10.	Bihar	06.06.2011	Nil
11.	Chhattisgarh	06.01.2011	Nil
12.	Goa	27.04.2011	Nil
13.	Haryana	16.05.2011	Nil
14.	Himachal Pradesh	25.11.2010	Nil
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	24.12.2010	Nil
16.	Jharkhand	18.06.2010	Nil
17.	Manipur	02.12.2010	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	03.03.2011	Nil
19.	Madhya Pradesh	18.01.2011	Nil
20.	Mizoram	07.10.2010	Nil
21.	Nagaland	24.06.2011	Nil
22.	Odisha	26.03.2011	Nil
23.	Rajasthan	23.11.2010	Nil
24.	Sikkim	16.10.2010	Nil
25.	Tripura	01.03.2011	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	24.01.2011	Nil
27.	Uttarakhand	19.07.2011	Nil
28.	West Bengal	13.12.2010	Nil
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20.05.2011	Nil
30.	Government of NCT of Delhi	25.02.2011	Nil
31.	Daman and Diu	02.05.2011	Nil
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	05.05.2011	Nil
33.	Lakshadweep	17.03.2011	Nil
34.	Puducherry	30.03.2011	Nil
35.	Chandigarh	12.07.2011	Nil

**Poor internet services in hilly/remote areas in Maharashtra**

†\*79. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether people in several hilly remote areas of Maharashtra are facing trouble in accessing internet services provided through mobile services and landline connections in their personal computers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any written complaint in this regard;

(d) whether the people, perturbed with the services in such areas of the State, have got their phone lines disconnected; and

(e) if so, the details of the disconnected landline and mobile phone connections during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has laid down the benchmark for the various quality of service parameters of Broadband Service through the Quality of Service of Broadband Services, Regulations 2006. TRAI is in the process of laying down the quality of service standards for mobile internet access such as 3G services. As such no information is available on quality of service for Mobile Internet Access. TRAI monitors the performance of the service providers against the Quality of Service benchmarks through the quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) submitted by the broadband service providers for each License Service Area on aggregate basis. As per the performance monitoring report of broadband services of Maharashtra Circle for the quarter ending June, 2011 (copy enclosed in the Statement), the service providers are, in general, meeting the benchmarks (See below). No separate information is available for hilly or remote areas.

(c) Department of Telecom (DoT) has received a few individual grievances relating to operation of Internet Services. However, no specific written complaint with regard to access of internet services on personal computers through mobile or landline connections by people in several hilly remote areas of Maharashtra has been received in Public Grievances Cell of DoT.

(d) The Telecom Access Service Providers/Licencees (Wireless/Wireline) of Maharashtra service area have informed that there is no disconnection of phone lines on account of above.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Statement**

Performance monitoring report on quality of service of broadband Service Providers in Maharashtra for quarter ending June, 2011

[illegible]

during																			
100% >90% >99% in nos. <2% 100% 100% >60% >80% 0 0 <90% >80% >98% <1% <120 ms <350 ms																			
<800 ms																			
within																			
60 days																			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1. BSNL		99.90%	92.50%	100.00%	2044	0.10%	98.90%	100.00%	88.80%	93.30%	0	3	78.10%	90.50%	99.50%	0.04%	26.3	233.7	0
2. Bharti Airtel		100.00%	98.92%	99.18%	0	0.08%	100.00%	100.00%	87.19%	91.51%	0	NA	0.44%	99.00%	99.91%	0.00%	56	57	
3. Tata		97.00%	99.00%	1819	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	90.43%	91.65%	DNF	0	42.05%	93.26%	98.00%	0.53%	50.33	249	NA	
4. Hathway		100.00%	92.00%	98.40%	3505	0.95%	100.00%	100.00%	74.00%	91.00%	0	0	88.00%	85.00%	99.00%	0.98%	20	275	NA
5. YOU		99.00%	91.66%	98.81%	392	0.89%	100.00%	96.83%	77.00%	83.33%	NA	0	76.46%	92.48%	98.64%	0.00%	16	264	NA
6. Tata		100.00%	92.07%	100.00%	DNF	0.65%	100.00%	100.00%	84.24%	87.65%	NR	NR	47.00%	86.77%	99.55%	0.00%	32	58	NA
Teleservices																			
(Maharashtra)																			
Ltd.																			

Abbreviation:

DNF = Data not as per Format.

NR = Data not reported by the Service Provider.

NA = Not Applicable

### **Financial assistance from Ministry of Finance**

†\*80. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has recently sent a proposal for financial assistance to the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance has accepted their proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI): (a) to (e) 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, closing balances under these two Funds have become negative and Ministry of Finance was requested to extend a temporary loan of ` 2,101 crore to bridge this gap.

The Ministry of Finance has not agreed to extend the above loan and has advised the Ministry of Railways to meet this liability by raising their resources suitably in the current year (2011-12).

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### **WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**

#### **Decline in the availability of pulses**

466. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that *per capita* availability of pulses in the country has declined to 34 grams from 66 grams during the last five decades;

(b) if so, the reasons for this sharp decline; and

(c) whether Government took any initiative to encourage



cultivation of pulses, and if so, the details thereof and results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The *per capita* availability of pulses since 1960 has been as follows:-

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Per capita net availability (Grams per day)	Production (million tonnes)
1960	65.5	11.80
1970	51.9	11.69
1980	30.9	8.57
1990	41.1	12.86
2000	31.8	13.41
2010	31.6*	14.66

\*Provisional

Despite the increase in production of pulses the per capita availability of pulses has declined due to higher increase in population compared to increase of production of pulses.

(c) In recent years a higher increase in the MSP for pulses, as compared to other crops, has been given in order to incentivise the production of pulses.

In addition, the Government implements schemes to increase the production and availability of pulses in the country namely National Food Security Mission - Pulses (NFSM-Pulses), Accelerated Pulses Production Programme, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. Production of pulses has increased to 18.09 million tonnes in 2010-11.

#### **Regulation of prices of cotton seeds**

467. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) which agricultural produces are covered under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955;

(b) why cotton seed has been reintroduced in the list of essential commodities;

(c) whether Government is willing to regulate the prices of cotton seeds under the provision of ECA;

(d) whether reintroduction of cotton under the Act is not against

policies of  
reforms, liberalization, market-led economy, forward marketing and WTO  
obligations, etc. ;  
and

(e) if so, whether Government would consider to empower States to  
regulate the  
Bt. cotton prices in case it is not regulating the prices of Bt.  
cotton seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Essential Commodities Act, 1955 as amended in 2006 covers following agricultural produces:-

- (1) foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils;
- (2) raw jute;
- (3) (i) seeds of food-crops and seeds of fruits and vegetables;  
(ii) seeds of cattle fodder;  
(iii) jute seeds; and  
(iv) cotton seeds.

(b) Seeds Control (Order), 1983 issued under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides for regulation of production, supply, distribution and quality aspects of seeds including cotton seeds. However, with the deletion of cotton seeds from the EC Act, 1955 *vide* EC (Amendment) Act, 2006, there remained no statutory regulation to cover the quality and other aspects of cotton seed. Also, as the notification of varieties under Seeds Act, 1966 is voluntary, only the notified varieties of cotton seed could be regulated under the Seeds Act, 1966 thereby leaving a vacuum in respect of regulatory framework applicable to non-notified varieties of cotton seed. Further, State Governments gave representation that the deletion of cotton seeds out of the purview of EC Act has serious implication on the control of quality of cotton seeds particularly Bt Cotton. On the basis of requests received from cotton growing States and extensive consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments, cottonseed was re-included at serial No. 7(iv) of the Schedule to the Section 2(A) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 *w.e.f.* 22.12.2009 so as regulate the production, quality, distribution and other aspects of cotton seed in public interest.

(c) and (d) Seeds Act, 1966 and the Seeds (Control) Order 1983, issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 does not include provisions of pricing of seeds including cotton seeds but only regulates the production, supply, distribution and quality of seeds.

In a normal course, the Government policy is to encourage public private partnership and create a conducive environment for the growth of free, competitive and vibrant seed industry. Therefore, reintroduction of cotton under EC Act is not against policies of

reforms, liberalization, market led economy, forward marketing and WTO obligations.

(e) In view of (c) and (d) above, question does not arise.

**Cancellation of registration of pesticides**

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

(a) whether Government has cancelled registration of some pesticides which are imported;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total variety of pesticides imported into the country; and

(c) the volume of pesticides imported during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has cancelled the certificate of registration for import of Acetamiprid Technical and Emamectin Benzoate 5% SG pesticides recently.

At present 230 pesticides stand registered in the country. Most of the pesticides are introduced in the country for the first time through import and subsequently several are manufactured indigenously.

(c) The volume of imported pesticides during last three years, year-wise, is given below:-

Year of import	Quantity (Metric tonnes of technical grade)
2008-09	18,476
2009-10	22,250
2010-11	53,996

#### **Ill-effects of Global warming on production of crops**

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the recent Report of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization that one degree Celsius rise in mean temperature translates into wheat yield losses of around 6 million tonnes per year in the country;

(b) if so, how this loss, which is roughly \$1.5 billion in financial terms at the current rate, could be avoided through R&D activities by ICAR; and

(c) whether any study has been done in the country or similarly placed countries to safeguard our farmers from such a cumulative loss of income, taking into account other crops as well (estimated loss \$20 billion)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) had also launched a Network Project 'Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability of Indian Agriculture to Climate Change' in 2004 at

15 locations which was extended to 23 locations in Eleventh Plan to assess the impact of climate change on agriculture. Three limited studies conducted under this project indicated the possibility of loss of 4-5 million tons in wheat production with every rise of 1°C temperature throughout the growing period.

(b) The ICAR has undertaken initiatives to address the impact of climate change on food production by: (i) developing staple food varieties that are better adapted to future climatic conditions; (ii) screening of plant genetic material stored in gene banks keeping in view the future requirements; (iii) collection and study of additional plant genetic resources including those from wild relatives of food crops; and (iv) developing varieties of major cereals that are resistant to heat, drought, submergence and salty water.

(c) ICAR is currently implementing a Rs. 350.0 crores scheme 'National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture' (NICRA) to evolve cost effective adaptation and mitigation strategies through (i) strategic research on natural resources, major food crops, livestock, marine and fresh water fisheries for adaptation and mitigation; (ii) demonstration of available climate resilient practices on farmer's field in 100 most vulnerable districts of the country; (iii) strengthening research infrastructure and capacity building of scientists for undertaking long-term research on climate change adaptation; and (iv) sponsored research.

#### **Export of onion**

†470. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that subsequent to Government's ban on onion export during September, 2011 to control its increasing prices, farmers had lodged their protest;

(b) if so, the places where these protests took place;

(c) whether ban on export was lifted due to these protests;

(d) if so, the period during which this ban was imposed; and

(e) the number of institutions in the country which have been set up by onion growing farmers and who have right to export onion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH



RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Farmers of Maharashtra protested against imposition of ban on export of onion in September 2011.

(c) and (d) Ban on export of onion was lifted with effect from 20th September, 2011. Export of onion remained banned between 9th September, 2011 to 19th September, 2011.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) Thirteen organizations have been notified as State Trading Enterprises (STEs) which can export directly or issue No Objection Certificates (NOC) to their Associates Shippers for export of onion from the country. This includes six cooperative federations. Any onion-growing farmers' organisation can export onion with NOC from any of these thirteen STEs.

#### **Cooperative farming**

†471. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present situation of cooperative farming in the country;
- (b) whether Government has evaluated the profits gained as a result of cooperative farming in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has initiated any scheme in order to promote cooperative farming in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether various State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (g) 'Cooperation' being a State subject, the States are expected to take necessary steps to promote cooperative farming. However, in view of importance of cooperatives, the National Policy for Farmers, which was formulated after consultation with the States, provides for encouraging and supporting small farmers' cooperatives to take up activities such as processing, value addition and marketing of agri products, formation of Farmers Groups, Joint Liability Groups, etc., which has helped in strengthening the cooperative sector thus benefitting farmers. Many schemes of the Government of India, such as Centrally Sponsored Scheme on National Horticulture Mission, Central Sector Scheme for Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardisation, Rural Godown Scheme, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, etc. *inter-alia* support the cooperative

institutions for promotion of agriculture.

**MSP for food crops**

472. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the MSP declared by it for rice, jute and other food crops are not sufficient for the farmers at all this season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government in the above background is actively considering to raise the MSPs; and

(d) if so, the likely time-frame by which this would be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities including paddy (rice), jute and other food crops, *inter-alia*, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Price (CACP), the views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries. The CACP, while formulating its recommendations on price policy considers, *inter-alia*, 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.

(c) and (d) Details indicating the MSPs fixed in 2010-11 and 2011-12 are given in the Statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Minimum Support Prices fixed in 2010-11 and 2011-12*

		(Rs. per quintal)	
Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	
1	2	3	4
			5
1.	Paddy	Common	1000
		Grade 'A'	1030
2.	Jowar	Hybrid	880
		Maldandi	900
3.	Bajra		880
4.	Maize		880

5.	Ragi	965	1050
6.	Arhar (Tur)	3000	3200

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1	2	3	4	5
7.	Moong		3170	3500
8.	Urad		2900	3300
9.	Cotton	Staple length (mm) of 24.5 - 25.5 and Micronaire value of 4.3 - 5.1	2500	2800
		Staple length (mm) of 29.5 - 30.5 and Micronaire value of 3.5 - 4.3	3000	3300
10.	Groundnut in shell		2300	2700
11.	Sunflower seed		2350	2800
12.	Soyabean	Black	1400	1650
		Yellow	1440	1690
13.	Sesamum		2900	3400
14.	Nigerseed		2450	2900
15.	Wheat		1120&	1285
16.	Barley		780	980
17.	Gram		2100	2800
18.	Masur (Lentil)		2250	2800
19.	Rapeseed/Mustard		1850	2500
20.	Safflower		1800	2500
21.	Toria		1780	2425
22.	Copra	Milling	4450	4525
		Ball	4700	4775
23.	De-Husked Coconut		1200	1200
24.	Jute		1575	1675
25.	Sugarcane \$		139.12	145.00

& An additional incentive bonus of Rs. 50 per quintal was payable over the MSP.

\$ Fair and Remunerative Price.

**Equating agriculture with industry in terms of GDP**

473. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to bring agriculture and allied field at par with industry in terms of GDP instead of keeping agriculture at four per cent or five per cent; and

(b) if so, whether Twelfth Five Year Plan will reflect the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Approach Paper to the Twelfth Five Year Plan has projected that Agriculture Sector has to grow at 4% to be consistent with Growth Rate of 9% for the economy as a whole.

**Area under production of pulses and oilseeds**

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

(a) the area coverage under pulses and oilseeds respectively;

(b) whether there is any increase in the area under coverage during last ten years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of production of pulses and oilseeds during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) As per the 4th Advance Estimates for 2010-11 released on 19.07.2011, the area coverage under pulses and oilseeds in the country is estimated at 26.28 million hectares and 26.82 million hectares respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The area coverage under pulses has increased from 22.01 million hectares in 2001-02 to 26.28 million hectares in 2010-11 (4th Advance Estimates). During this period, the area coverage under oilseeds increased from 22.64 million hectares to 26.82 million hectares.

(d) Details of production of pulses and oilseeds during the last three years i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11 are as under:-

Crops	Production (Million tonnes)		
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11*
Pulses	14.57	14.66	18.09
Oilseeds	27.72	24.88	31.10

\*4th Advance Estimates released on 19.07.2011.



### Decline in the number of livestock

†475. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of livestock available in the country at present, the status of livestock availability during each of the past ten years and the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of livestock in the country is falling constantly;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether keeping in view the decreasing number of livestock, Government would consider to check it as livestock has always been the back bone of Indian agricultural system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Livestock Census is conducted once in a five year period. During the last 10 years, two Censuses were conducted viz. the 17th Livestock Census in 2003 and 18th Livestock Census in 2007. The livestock population has increased from 485.0 million to 529.7 million during the inter-censal period from 2003 to 2007 indicating a growth of 9.2%. The State-wise details of livestock numbers as per these Censuses are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

### **Statement**

#### *State-wise details of livestock population*

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Livestock population (in thousand number)	
		2003	2007
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48195	60175
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1257	1413
3.	Assam	13829	17227

4.	Bihar	27162	30342
5.	Chhattisgarh	13493	14418

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
6.	Goa	212	177
7.	Gujarat	21655	23515
8.	Haryana	8885	8859
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5116	5217
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	9899	10987
11.	Jharkhand	15826	18100
12.	Karnataka	25621	30859
13.	Kerala	3481	3587
14.	Madhya Pradesh	35617	40696
15.	Maharashtra	36763	35954
16.	Manipur	971	789
17.	Meghalaya	1551	1823
18.	Mizoram	280	328
19.	Nagaland	1349	1419
20.	Orissa	23391	23057
21.	Punjab	8608	7408
22.	Rajasthan	49136	56663
23.	Sikkim	337	270
24.	Tamil Nadu	24942	30759
25.	Tripura	1458	1869
26.	Uttar Pradesh	58531	60272
27.	Uttarakhand	4943	5141
28.	West Bengal	41619	37419
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Haveli	196	174
30.	Chandigarh	31	28
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	78	87

1	2	3	4
32.	Daman and Diu	10	7
33.	Delhi	373	418
34.	Lakshadweep	52	82
35.	Puducherry	133	162
All India		485002	529698

Source: 17th and 18th Livestock Census, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. Government of India.

#### **Reduction in the acreage of pulses**

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

(a) the total acreage of pulses in the country during the last ten years, item-wise, State-wise and season-wise *i.e.* Kharif and Rabi;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a reduction in the acreage of the current Kharif season;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) to what extent the reduction in acreage shatters the hopes of Government to become self-sufficient in production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Crop-wise, State-wise and Season-wise details of area coverage under pulses in the country during the last ten years *i.e.* 2001-02 to 2010-11 (4th Advance Estimates) are given in the Annexure (See Appendix 224 Annexure No. 5).

(b) and (c) As per 1st Advance Estimates for 2011-12 released on 14.9.2011,

total area coverage under Kharif pulses in the country is estimated at 10.84 million hectares which is lower by 1.58 million hectares as compared to the area coverage of 12.42 million hectares during 2010-11 (4th Advance Estimates). The decline in the area coverage under Kharif pulses during the current year has been on account of shift of area to other crops such as rice, sugarcane, cotton and jute.

(d) The decline in the area coverage affects production of various crops including pulses. In order to increase production and achieve

self-sufficiency in pulses, Government of India is implementing a number of Crop Development Schemes/Programmes through State Governments and demand supply gap in pulses has reduced from about three million tonnes to one million tonnes. However, despite higher area coverage and record level of production of

18.09 million tonnes of pulse (Kharif + Rabi) in the country during 2010-11, the demand-supply gap in pulses still persists and the shortfall is met through imports.

**Schemes launched by Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

477. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes/programmes launched by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) for creating awareness among the farmers during the last two years and the current year;

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom;

(c) whether the existing KVKs are inaccessible to farmers; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In order to create awareness among farmers on improved agricultural technology, the KVKs organize a number of extension activities. During the last two years and the current year, the KVKs have organized 13.42 lakh extension activities with the participation of 382.68 lakh farmers. These activities include advisory services, diagnostic visits, field days, group discussions, kisan ghosthi, film shows, self-help group conveners meetings, kisan melas, exhibitions, scientists' visit to farmers' field, plant/animal health camps, farm science clubs, ex-trainees sammelan, farmers' seminar/workshops, method demonstrations, special day celebrations, and exposure visits. Other important extension activities organized by the KVKs include, newspaper coverages/radio/TV talks and lectures, publication of extension literature and popular articles. The year-wise details of number of activities and number of farmers benefited during the last two years and the current year are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) Though not totally inaccessible to farmers, some KVKs are remotely located in rural areas. The Council has provided need based vehicle facility to the KVKs to enable its Subject Matter Specialists to visit farmers field and conduct off-

campus activities in the villages.

**Statement**

*Year-wise details of number of extension activities organized by KVKs  
and  
number of farmers benefited during the last two years and the current  
year*

Year	Number of extension activities (in lakh)	Number of farmers benefited (in lakh)
1	2	3
2009-10	3.68	100.16

1	2	3
2010-11	4.48	106.27
2011-12	5.26	176.25
TOTAL:	13.42	382.68

**Access to easy credit for farmers**

478. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total credit flow for the agricultural sector;

(b) what proportion does this constitute of the overall credit requirement; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve access to easy credit for farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In order to ensure adequate credit availability to agriculture sector, Government of India is fixing ground level credit flow target for agriculture sector on an annual basis. The total credit flow to the agriculture sector *vis-à-vis* target and percentage of achievement to target during last 3 years is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Target	Achievement	% Achievement to target
2008-09	280,000	301,908	107.82
2009-10	325,000,	384,514	118.31
2010-11	375,000	446,779	119.14

(c) The Government of India and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have taken several measures to ensure availability of credit to farmers (including small and marginal farmers) through bank. These include:-

- The interest Subvention Scheme is being implemented by the Government of India since 2006-07 to make short term crop loan



upto Rs. 3 lakh for a period of one year available to farmers at the interest rate of 7 per cent per annum. The Government of India has since 2009-10 been providing additional interest subvention to prompt payee farmers *i.e.* those who repay their loan in time. The additional subvention was

1% in 2009-10 and 2% in 2010-11. This has been increased to 3% in 2011-12 making effective rate of interest for prompt payee farmers at 4 per cent per annum.

- The Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 has de-clogged the lines of credit that were clogged due to the debt burden on the farmers. In respect of Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks and Local Areas Banks, 104 lakh farm loan accounts have been benefited under the Scheme. In respect of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperative Banks, 189.25 lakh farm loan accounts have been benefited under ADWDRS 2008.
- Banks have been advised to dispense with the requirement of "no dues" certificates for small loans upto Rs. 50,000 to small and marginal farmers, share-croppers and the like and instead obtain a self-declaration from the borrowers.
- RBI has advised banks to waive margin/security requirements for agricultural loans upto Rs. 1,00,000.
- Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) introduced in 1998-99 have emerged as one of the most effective ways of credit delivery to farmers in terms of timeliness, hassle free operations as also adequacy of credit with minimum transaction and documentation cost. Initiative has been taken to provide Kisan Credit Card to all the eligible and willing farmers in a time bound manner. To achieve this, the State Governments have been advised to launch an intensive branch/village level campaign.

#### **Roadmap for dairy development**

479. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on agriculture during each of the last three years and the percentage of GDP;

(b) the amount spent on dairy development out of this during the said period and the percentage of GDP, State-wise;

(c) the amount allocated or proposed to be allocated for year 2011-12 for agriculture and dairy development and the extent to which it is less or more in comparison to the last two years;

(d) the amount allocated to States for agriculture and dairy development during Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plans, year-wise; and

(e) the road map for dairy development during Twelfth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) The total amount spent on agriculture including dairy development in the country and

the corresponding percentages of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the Agriculture and Allied Sectors at current prices during each of the last three years (*i.e.* 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11), is given in the Statement (See below).

While, estimating GDP in the Agriculture and allied Sectors, CSO works out subsectoral GDP estimates only for Agriculture sub-sector which includes livestock, forestry and logging subsector and fishing subsector. No separate estimate is available for dairy development.

Agriculture is a State subject. Government of India supplements State efforts through fund allocations under Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The amount allocated for agriculture including dairy development during the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plans, year-wise is also given in the above mentioned Statement (See below).

(e) During the Twelfth Plan, the dairy sector will be strengthened under the proposed National Dairy Plan.

#### **Statement**

##### *Outlay and Expenditure Ministry of Agriculture*

(Rs. in crore at current prices)

Sl. No.	D/o Agriculture	D/o Animal Husbandry and Fisheries	D/o Agricultural Research and Education	Total	GDP Agriculture	Total Agriculture spent on
						and allied Sector as at current prices of GDP of prices
percentage						
Agriculture						
						and allied Sector
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>A Tenth Plan Outlay</b>	<b>13200</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>5368</b>	<b>21068</b>		
I. 2002-03 (BE)	2167	300	775	3242		

2002-03	1655.94	230.26	680.56	2566.76
(Expenditure)				
II. 2003-04 (BE)	2167	300	775	3242
2003-04	2050.34	269.35	748.98	3068.67
(Expenditure)				

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
III.	2004-05 (BE)	2670	500	1000	4170	
	2004-05 (Expenditure)	2675.61	563.45	816.01	4055.07	
IV.	2005-06 (BE)	4209.32	669.08	1150	6028.4	
	2005-06 (Expenditure)	3847.46	589.16	1046.75	5483.37	
V.	2006-07 (BE)	4840	777	1350	6967	
	2006-07 (Expenditure)	4677.7	677.2	1283.21	6638.11	
<b>B. Eleventh Plan Outlay</b>	<b>66577</b>	<b>8174</b>	<b>12588</b>	<b>87339</b>		
1	2007-08 (BE)	5560	910	1620	8090	
	2007-08 (Expenditure)	7055.76	782.21	1280.34	9118.31	1.1
II	2008-09 (BE)	10105.67	1000	1760	12865.67	
	2008-09 (Expenditure)	9464.14	865.05	1629.97	11959.16	1.3
III	2009-10 (BE)	11340	1100	1760	14200	
	2009-10 (Expenditure)	10625.02	870.7	1707.01	13202.73	1.2
IV	2010-11 (BE)	15075	1300	2300	18675	
	2010-11 (RE)	17287	1257	2300	20844	1.5
V	2011-12 (BE)	17172.1	1600	2800	21572.1	

Source: Outlays, BE, RE and Expenditures from Planning Commission and GDP from CSO, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

#### **Condonation of loan to farmers**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government package of condonation of farmers' loan is applicable for Nationalised Banks only;

(b) if so, the details of disbursement of funds for this package;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has not done anything to mitigate the cases of cultivators' loan from local money lenders;

(d) whether the loan from local money lenders is the biggest cause of farmers' suicide in the country; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Under the Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 implemented by the Government of India, all agricultural loans disbursed by Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks, cooperative Banks, Local Area Banks and Regional Rural Banks between 01 April 1997 to 31 March 2007 to farmers, overdue as on 31 December, 2007 and remaining unpaid upto 28 February 2008 were eligible for Debt Waiver/Debt Relief. In respect of Public Sector Banks, Private Sector Banks and Local Areas Banks, 104 lakh farm loan accounts have been benefited under the ADWDRS, 2008. In respect of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperative Banks, 189.25 lakh farm loan accounts have been benefited under ADWDRS, 2008. The Government of India (GoI) has so far released an amount of Rs. 52419.88 crore to the lending institutions as reimbursement under the Scheme.

(c) to (e) Farmers are indebted to both institutional and non-institutional sources of credit and borrowing from non-institutional sources is the major reason for debt related farmers' distress which is one of the reported reasons for farmers' suicide in the country. In order to reduce the dependence of farmers on private moneylenders for meeting

their credit needs and for providing relief to the indebted farmers, the Government has taken several measures for improving agricultural credit flow through institutional sources and bringing down the rate of interest on farm loans. Some of the important measures are:-

(i) A decision was taken by the Government in June, 2004 to double the flow of agriculture credit in three years with reference to base year 2003-04. The flow of agriculture credit since 2003-04 has consistently exceeded the target. Agriculture credit flow has increased from Rs. 86981 crore in 2003-04 to Rs. 446779 crore in 2010-11.

(ii) From Kharif 2006-07, farmers are receiving crop loans upto a principal amount of Rs. 3 lakh at 7% rate of interest. During 2009-10, Government provided an additional 1 % interest subvention as incentive to those farmers who repay short term crop loans as per schedule. The Government has raised the additional interest subvention for timely repayment of crop loans from 1% to 2% in the year 2010-11 and further to 3% in the year 2010-11. Thus the effective rate of interest for such farmers will be 4% p.a. in the year 2011-12.



- (iii) The limit of collateral free farm loan has been increased from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1,00,000.
- (iv) To relive the burden of overdues the Government has implemented Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008.
- (v) The Government is implementing revival package for strengthening of Short-term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure involving financial outlay of Rs. 13,596 crore.
- (vi) Banks have been advised to finance the farmers for redeeming their loans taken from private money lenders.
- (vii) Reserve Bank of India has issued comprehensive guidelines to the banks for providing debt relief to farmers affected by natural calamities including floods, droughts etc. These relief measures include, *inter alia*, restructuring of loans by way of conversion/rescheduling of loans, provision of fresh crop loans for affected farmers, treatment of converted/rescheduled agriculture loans as 'current dues' and not to charge penal interest in respect of current dues in default, relaxed security and margin norms etc.

#### **Cases of farmers' suicides**

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

- (a) the number of cases of farmers' suicide between 2004 and 2011;
- (b) the details thereof, year-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Number of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons during 2004 and 2011 year-wise and State-wise, as per information received from State Government concerned, is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Government of India implemented Rehabilitation Package, 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. The period for implementation of non-credit components of the package was extended upto September 30, 2011.

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

Interest subvention for timely repayment of crop loan upto Rs. 3 lakh was enhanced from 2011-12, which resulted in lowering effective rate of interest for such farmers who repay their crop loan on time to 4% per annum.

Minimum Support Prices of major cereals were increased substantially during last 5 years for benefit of farmers.

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

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

#### ***Statement***

*Table showing number of suicide by farmers due to agrarian reasons during 2004 and 2011 as reported by State Governments/UTs.*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Period/Date of report	No. of suicides by farmers due to agrarian reasons as reported by State Government
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2004	1181
		2005	654
		2006	556
		2007	493
		2008	469
		2009	296
		2010	152

	2011	42
2. Karnataka	2004-05	114
	2005-06	94

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1	2	3	4
		2006-07	176
		2007-08	182
		2008-09	156
		2009-10	138
		2010-11	77
3.	Maharashtra	2004	347
		2005	367
		2006	1033
		2007	801
		2008	735
		2009	550
		2010	454
		2011	123
4.	Kerala	2004	163
		2005	186
		2006	112
		2007	68
		2008	11
		2009	Nil
		2010	Nil
		2011	Nil
5.	Tamil Nadu	2004	Nil
		2005	01
		2006	01
		2007	01
		2008	Nil
		2009	Nil
		2010	Nil

1	2	3	4
6.	Punjab	2007	24
		2008	12
		2009	15
		2010	04
7.	Gujarat	29.06.2011	01 (2004); Nil in other years
8.	Assam	23.05.2011	Nil
9.	Bihar	06.06.2011	Nil
10.	Goa	27.04.2011	Nil
11.	Haryana	16.05.2011	Nil
12.	Meghalaya	03.03.2011	Nil
13.	Nagaland	24.06.2011	Nil
14.	Sikkim	04.03.2011	Nil
15.	Tripura	01.06.2011	Nil
16.	Uttarakhand	19.07.2011	Nil
17.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	20.05.2011	Nil
18.	Government of NCT of Delhi	25.02 2011	Nil
19.	Daman and Diu	02.05.2011	Nil
20.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	05.05.2011	Nil
21.	Puducherry	22.09.2011	02 (2005); Nil in other years
22.	Chandigarh	12.07.2011	Nil

**Strategy to deal with potential distress of farmers**

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

(a) whether Government has no clear strategy to deal with potential distress of farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the views of each State in this regard; and

(d) the steps being taken to avoid such situation in the remaining period of the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) The problems faced by farmers are multi-dimensional and dynamic which are being resolved gradually with joint efforts of the Government of India and the State Governments.

Government accords high priority to agriculture sector and has taken many initiatives in recent years for revitalization of the sector to increase production and productivity, reduction of distress to farmers and enhancement of their incomes. The initiatives, *inter-alia*, includes- (i) Substantial increase in investment in Agriculture sector during the Eleventh Five Year Plan through launching of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Food Security Mission (NFSM) with outlay of Rs. 25,000 crore and Rs. 4882.48 crore, respectively; (ii) Strengthening of existing schemes such as National Horticulture Mission, Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme and Micro Irrigation scheme during current plan period; (iii) Implementation of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008 benefitting about 3.69 crore farmers, involving relief/waiver of Rs. 65318.33 crore; (iv) Implementation of Rehabilitation Package of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 suicide prone districts in four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala; and (v) Substantial increase of Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops in recent years to make farming more remunerative.

These initiatives have resulted in desired outcomes as evidenced by the record production of foodgrains, pulses, oilseeds and cotton during the year 2010-11.

Further, Initiatives like bringing Green Revolution to Eastern Region, Rainfed Area Development Programme, Integrated Development of 60,000 pulses villages in rainfed areas, promotion of Oil Palm, Initiative on Vegetable Clusters, Nutri-cereals, National Mission for Protein Supplements, and Accelerated Fodder Development Programme, short term crop loans to farmers at 7 per cent interest with 3 per cent interest additional subvention for timely repayment, etc. announced in Union Budget 2011-12 are also being implemented to boost



agricultural productivity, removal of distress to the farmers and make agricultural sector play its desired role in economic growth of the country.

**Supply of cono weeders to farmers**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are not able to cater to the demand of farmers to supply cono weeder, a simple, hand-operated device to remove weeds from the paddy field;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise, where KVKs could not match with the demand; and

(c) the steps the Ministry would take to supply the weeder to farmers at subsidized rates and popularize it among farmers across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) do not generally supply or sell cono weeders or other equipments to farmers. KVKs are mandated to test and demonstrate technologies; train farmers and extension personnel; and create awareness on improved agricultural technologies. In order to popularize and to test and demonstrate the usefulness of this tool in paddy cultivation among farmers across the country, as many as 190 KVKs have taken up various activities on cono weeder benefiting 1.23 lakh farmers during Eleventh Plan.

(c) Financial assistance to the farmers, upto Rs. 3,000/- or 50% of the cost whichever is less, is being provided through the State Governments under the schemes "Macro Management of Agriculture" and "National Food Security Mission" for purchase of cono weeder. There are six leading manufacturers in the country having annual combined manufacturing capacity of nearly 3 lakh cono weeders, per annum.

#### **Death of fishermen**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that recently there were deaths of fishermen in the sea in Mumbai due to sinking of their boats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Central scheme is in place to help the distressed families of such fishermen who lose their lives during fishing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in the Raigad and Thane districts of the State, due to stormy winds and heavy rainfall five mechanised fishing vessels had sunk and six fishermen from Raigad

district lost their lives during September'2011.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Under the component 'Group Accident Insurance for Active Fishermen' of the Centrally Sponsored 'National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen' there is a provision to help the distressed families of such fishermen by providing insurance coverage of `1,00,000/- for death or permanent/total disability and ` 50,000/- for partial disability. The

annual premium of this insurance is shared between the Central and State Government. In the case of Union Territories the entire premium amount is borne by the Central Government.

**Cold storages in rural areas**

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

(a) whether Government has put in place an action plan for providing chain of cold storages in rural areas to help the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of cold storages proposed to be constructed in rural Maharashtra, particularly to benefit the onion growers of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM) since 2005-06 and Horticulture Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States (HMNEH) since 2001-02 for holistic development of horticulture, which includes post harvest management infrastructure including cold storages, controlled atmosphere storages and refrigerated transport. Similarly National Horticulture Board (NHB) since 1999-2000 is implementing Scheme for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storages/storages, controlled atmosphere storage for horticulture produce and refrigerated van/containers and specialized transport vehicle.

Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation and Ministry of Food Processing are also implementing schemes for development of cold chain in the country.

(c) Cold Storages are not preferred for storage of onion. The storage of onion is done in ventilated storage. Assistance is provided for setting up of ventilated storage in onion growing Districts. An assistance of Rs. 59.78 lakh has been provided for setting up of 215 ventilated onion storages with capacity of 5375 MT under NHM scheme. State Government of Maharashtra under its marketing board scheme has

provided an assistance of Rs. 4986.00 lakh for 17866 onion storages with capacity of 425000 MT. A target of 1000 MT of ventilated storages in onion growing Districts of Maharashtra has been fixed during current year under the ongoing programmes of NHM.

**Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act**

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

(a) whether Government is considering to bring fresh amendments to the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act;

(b) whether it is a fact that an innovative legislation originally designed to protect farmers from exploitative traders, the APMC Act implemented as a national model in the 70s' is now being blamed for rising vegetable prices;

(c) whether APMC laws make it mandatory for farmers to sell all produce through local committees;

(d) whether it is a fact that most APMCs harbour monopolistic practices; and

(e) if so, by when the APMC Act would be amended to provide more teeth to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) As 'Agriculture Marketing' is a State subject, States/Union Territories have their own Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act. However, in order to facilitate better price realization to the farmers through improved and alternative marketing channels, enhance investment in development of post-harvest marketing infrastructure and reduce the marketing cost and post-harvest losses, the Ministry of Agriculture prepared a model APMC Act and circulated it to all the States/Union Territories in 2003 for their consideration and adoption. It is, therefore, for State Governments to make amendments in their APMC Act for effecting market reforms.

(b) Several factors, such as, supply and demand of the produce, income and preference of consumers, international prices, status of marketing channels, etc., affect the prices of agriculture produce, including vegetables.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The APMCs are required to ensure smooth and orderly development of agriculture marketing by ensuring competition and fair play of trade practices and market forces. The Model APMC Act provides for more efficient and competitive marketing channels to the producers. The Ministry of Agriculture has been pursuing the States/UTs to make amendments in their APMC Acts on the lines of Model Act.

#### **Sluggish agricultural growth**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is investing progressively less in agriculture whereas investment by the private sector is growing at a faster pace;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this has not led to increase in productivity;

(c) whether it is a fact that growth of agriculture, targeted to grow at 4 per cent in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, has been sluggish; and

(d) if so, the steps Government is going to take to raise food supply to meet the rising demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The level of investment (Gross Capital Formation), in the agriculture sector has been increasing over the years from Rs. 76096 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 133377 crore in 2009-10 which include public sector investment from Rs. 16187 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 23635 crore in 2009-10 and private sector investment from Rs. 59909 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 109742 crore in 2009-10 at 2004-05 prices.

(b) The productivity of the foodgrains has increased from 1715 kg./hectare in 2005-06 to 1798 kg./hectare in 2009-10 and further to 1921 kg./hectare in 2010-11.

(c) The average annual growth in the agriculture and allied sectors realized during the first four years of the Eleventh Plan Period i.e. 2007-08 to 2010-11 is 3.2% against the targeted growth rate of 4%. The average growth in GDP of agriculture and allied sectors suffered a setback due to severe drought in most parts of the country during 2009-10 and drought/deficient rainfall in some States namely Bihar, Jharkhand, East Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in 2010-11. However, as a result of the corrective actions taken by the Government to boost the growth rate, GDP for the 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.

(d) The Government of India has launched several schemes in consultation with States to increase investments in agriculture sector and raise food supply to meet the rising demands. 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.

**Schemes for development of animal husbandry,  
dairy and fisheries sector**

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

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has formulated several projects/schemes for development of animal husbandry, dairy and



fisheries sector in the State;

(b) if so, as per the submission of a detailed report by Andhra Pradesh, has the Government pleaded for sanction of Rs. 130/- crores for the year 2009-10 from the Centre for Animal Husbandry, dairy and Fisheries and Veterinary University;

(c) if so, whether Government would sanction the said amount for fast development of the said projects in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if not, detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Against the proposed amount of 1200.94 lakhs for Fisheries sector by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Government of India (GoI) sanctioned 546.98 lakhs during 2009-10 to the State. Scheme-wise sanction amounts are as follows:-

**Fisheries Sector:**

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme	Schemes proposed for sanction	Amount sanction by Centre Government
1.	Strengthening of data base and net working (100:0)	-19.06	27.86
2.	Fishermen Development Rebate on HSD oil (100:0)	- 150.00	149.64
3.	Prime Minister package for construction of fish ponds and inputs (100:0)	569.00	138.00
4.	Costal security	0	86.48
5.	Housing scheme for Fishermen - (State Share by Housing Department)	300.00	100.00
6.	Relief cum Savings Scheme - (50:50)	105.88	0.00
7.	Motorization of Traditional Crafts - (50:50)	45.00	45.00
8.	Training and Extension - (80:20)	12.00	0.00
TOTAL:		1200.94	546.98

As regards Animal Husbandry Sector, an amount of Rs. 16.32 crores was released by GoI as Central Share during 2009-10. Scheme-wise released amounts are as under:-

**Animal Husbandry Sector:**

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount released during 2009-10	Central Share	State Share
1	2	3	4	5

1. Assistance to States for Control of	588.3	0
Animal Disease (ASCAD)		

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1	2	3	4	5
2.	ASCAD - Health Care to the animals inducted under PM Package	24.94	24.94	0
3.	Foot and Mouth Disease Control Programme (FMDCP)	35.00	35.00	0
4.	National Control Programme on Rinderpest Eradication (NCPRE)	20.00	20.00	0
5.	Professional Efficiency Development (PED)	4.00	4.00	8.00
6.	18th Quinquennial Livestock Census (LCC)	886.11	886.11	0
7.	Integrated Sample Survey Schemes (ISSS)	40.12	20.06	20.06
8.	Assistance to State Poultry Farm at Kadapa	34.00	34.00	0
TOTAL:		1632.47	1612.41	28.06

As regards Dairy sector, an amount of Rs. 26.65 crores was released by GoI under RKVY (Rashtriya Kisan Vikas Yojana) during 2009-10. The item-wise released amounts are as under:-

**Dairy Sector:**

Year	Activity	Rupees in crores
2009-10	M.C.C. Kankipadu	4.00
	M.C.C. Rajahmundry	1.00
	Bulk Milk Cooling Units	5.00
	Godavari Milk Grid Project	16.65
TOTAL:		26.65

(c) As indicated above, Government of India has been providing financial assistance under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries to the State Government. The proposals received from the States are processed and sanctioned within the financial year based on the budget allocation and subject to availability of funds.



(d) Does not arise.

#### Modification in NAIS

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

(a) whether National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has been extended to entire Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is the percentage of Agricultural families covered under NAIS in Andhra Pradesh, during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11;

(c) what steps had been taken and proposed to be taken at present to cover maximum percentage of agricultural families in Andhra Pradesh under NAIS;

(d) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has suggested certain modifications and changes in the existing NAIS; and

(e) if so, what are the changes to be made by Union Government in the existing NAIS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) As per provisions of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), the Scheme is voluntary for the States and UTs. State Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing the scheme in 22 districts out of the total 23 districts. The percentage of farmers covered in the State under NAIS during 2008-09 to 2010-11 is given below:-

Year	No. of farmers covered (in lakhs)	%age of farmers covered to State's total farmers
2008-09	21.52	18.7
2009-10	33.48	29.0
2010-11	26.64	23.1

(c) Continued efforts are being made to create awareness about ongoing NAIS by the implementing agency in coordination with State. The salient activities for campaigning involve the publicity of features and benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading

National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets, participation in agriculture fairs/mela/gosthi and organization of workshops/trainings etc.

(d) and (e) Based on the experience gained during implementation of NAIS and suggestions of the State Governments, many improvements have been incorporated in NAIS to make it easier and more farmer friendly. These improvements include: (i) actuarial premium with

subsidy in premium ranging 40% to 75% to farmers (ii) Unit area of insurance reduced to village panchayat level for major crops (iii) coverage of prevented sowing/planting risk (iv) coverage of post harvest losses due to cyclone in coastal areas (v) on account payment upto 25% advance of likely claims as immediate relief (vi) more proficient basis for calculation of threshold yield (vii) minimum indemnity level of 70% instead of 60% etc. A new pilot scheme in the name of "Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS)" was approved by Government of India for implementation in 50 districts in the country from Rabi 2010-11.

### **III effects of chemical fertilizers**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 96 per cent out of the 1,000 farmers surveyed were of the opinion that the use of chemical fertilizers led to soil degradation but they continue to use them as there was no other option;

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

(c) the steps to be taken to help the farmers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Greenpeace has carried out a study in the form of survey for social audit of soil health in selected districts of Assam, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Punjab wherein it has been reported that 98 per cent of the 1,000 farmers surveyed were ready to use organic fertilizers if, these are subsidized and made easily accessible.

(c) The Government is already promoting organic fertilizers and has taken following steps in this regard:-

(i) Under National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), financial assistance is provided for setting up fruit and vegetable market waste compost production units and bio-fertilizer production units.

(ii) Under National Project on Management of Soil health and Fertility (NPMSH&F), financial assistance is provided for promoting balanced use of chemical fertilizers, bio-



fertilizers and locally available organic manures like Farm Yard Manure (FYM), vermin-compost, green manure, etc. through setting up/strengthening soil testing laboratories, training and field demonstrations and promotion of organic manures/soil amendments.

- (iii) Financial assistance is also provided for setting up organic input production units and promotion of organic manure/fertilizers under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA) Scheme and National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

#### **Construction of rural godowns in Rajasthan**

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

(a) the present number of rural godowns constructed by Warehousing Corporation of India in Rajasthan;

(b) whether they have adequate capacity to hold foodgrains annually procured from Rajasthan; and

(c) the additional godowns proposed to be constructed during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) has informed that it has not constructed any rural godowns in Rajasthan. However, CWC is one of the agencies providing storage facility for procured stocks. The CWC has a total capacity of 4.15 lakh MTs in Rajasthan having

100% utilization. In addition, total storage capacity of Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation (RSWC) across the State is 7.86 lakh MTs as on 30th September, 2011 out of which a capacity of 7.16 lakh MTs is utilized. The CWC propose to construct a capacity of 56,700 MTs during 2011-12 and 2012-13. The RSWC has informed that the capacity of godowns proposed to be constructed in each of the next five years is 16,200 MTs.

#### **Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Rajasthan**

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

(a) the details of Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in Rajasthan;

(b) whether such Krishi Vigyan Kendras run schemes/programmes for benefit of farmers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has identified those Krishi Vigyan Kendras which are in need of upgradation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when they are likely to be upgraded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has established 32 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Rajasthan till date. The list is placed in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) The Krishi Vigyan Kendras aim at assessment, refinement and demonstration of technology/products. The activities include on-farm testing to identify the location specific agricultural technologies under various farming systems, frontline demonstrations to establish

the production potentials of improved agricultural technologies on the farmers' fields, and training of farmers and extension personnel to update their knowledge and skills.

(c) The Krishi Vigyan Kendras have organized number of training programmes for farmers, farm women, rural youth, extension personnels and conducted frontline demonstrations on oilseed, pulses and other crops. The Krishi Vigyan Kendras also assessed and refined number of technologies at farmer field. The details of achievements made during the period 2010-11 is given in the Statement-II (See below).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Krishi Vigyan Kendras-wise details of strengthening are placed in the Statement-III (See below). Proposals for strengthening are approved by the ICAR and are implemented by the KVKs concerned. All KVKs in Rajasthan are being strengthened subject to requirement and availability of funds.

**Statement-I**

*List of Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in Rajasthan*

Sl. No.	Name of KVK	Host Institute	Address
1	2	3	4
1.	Jodhpur	CAZRI, Jodhpur	CAZRI Campus, JODHPUR - 342 005, Rajasthan
2.	Pali	CAZRI, Jodhpur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jodhpur Road, PALI - MARWAR - 306 401 (Rajasthan)
3.	Ajmer	SKRAU, Bikaner	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, N.H. No. 8, TABIJI FARM, AJMER - 305 001 (Rajasthan)
4.	Alwar	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NAVGAON, Distt. ALWAR - 301 025 (Rajasthan)
5.	Bharatpur	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KUMHER,

			Distt. BHARATPUR - 321 001 (Rajasthan)
6.	Bikaner	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Beechwal, BIKANER, Distt. BIKANER - 344 006 (Rajasthan)
7.	Dausa	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Khedla Khurd, P.O. - Hingotiya, Distt. DAUSA - 303 303 (Rajasthan)

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1	2	3	4
8.	Dholpur	SKRAU, Bikaner	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RIICO Industrial Area, DHOLPUR, Distt. DHOLPUR - 328 001 (Rajasthan)
9.	Jaisalmer	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 42, CAZRI Area, JAISALMER, Distt. JAISALMER - 345 001 (Rajasthan)
10.	Jalore	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KESHWANA, Distt. JALORE - 343 001 (Rajasthan)
11.	Jhunjhunu	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ABUSAR, P.B. No. 4, Distt. JHUNJHUNU - 333 001 (Rajasthan)
12.	Karauli	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.P.O. AKORASHI, Via. HINDON, Distt. KAROULI - 322 230 (Rajasthan)
13.	Nagaur	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 36. ATHIYASAN, Distt. NAGAU - 341 001 (Rajasthan)
14.	S. Madhopur	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KARMODA, Distt. SAWAI MADHOPUR - 322 001 (Rajasthan)
15.	Sikar	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, FATEHPUR SHEKHAWATI, Distt. SIKAR - 332 301 (Rajasthan)
16.	Sri Ganganagar	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural Research Station, Karni Marg, SRI GANGANAGAR, Distt. SRI GANGANAGAR - 335 001 (Rajasthan)
17.	Banswara	MPUA&T,	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BORWAT FARM,

	Udaipur	Dahod Road, Distt. BANSWARA - 327 001 (Rajasthan)
18. Baran	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Station Road, ANTA, Distt. BARAN - 325 502 (Rajasthan)

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1	2	3	4
19. Bhilwara	MPUA&T,  Udaipur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 56, Gandhi Nagar, BHILWARA, Distt. BHILWARA - 311 001 (Rajasthan)	
20. Bundi	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 4, Nainwa Road, BUNDI, Distt. BUNDI - 323 001 (Rajasthan)	
21. Chittorgarh	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RITHOLA, Distt. CHITTORGARH - 312 001 (Rajasthan)	
22. Dungarpur	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badal Mahal, Shastri Colony, DUNGARPUR - 314 001 (Rajasthan)	
23. Jhalawar	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 16, Kota Road, JHALAWAR, Distt. JHALAWAR - 326 001 (Rajasthan)	
24. Kota	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. - BORKHERA, Distt. KOTA - 324 001 (Rajasthan)	
25. Rajsamand	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, DHOINDA, Distt. RAJSAMAND - 313 342 (Rajasthan)	
26. Sirohi	-do-	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 15, SIROHI, Distt. SIROHI - 307 001 (Rajasthan)	
27. Barmer	SURE, Nr.  Malgodown Road,  P.B. No. 29, Barmer - 344401	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Village - DANTA, Post - MARADI, Distt. BARMER - 344 001 (Rajasthan)	
28. Churu	Gandhi Vidya	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SARDAR SHAHAR,	



	Mandir, Sardar	Distt. CHURU - 313 001 (Rajasthan)
	Shahar, Churu - 331401	
29. Hanumangarh	Gramothan Vidya Pith, Sangaria, Hanumangarh - 335063	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SANGARIA, Distt. HANUMANGARH - 335 063 (Rajasthan)

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1	2	3	4
30. Jaipur	Pragati Trust,  B-17, Dev Nagar,  Tonk Road, Jaipur - 302018	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V/P - TANKARDA, CHOMU, Distt. JAIPUR - 303 702 (Rajasthan)	
31. Tonk	Banasthali  Vidya Pith, Banasthali, Distt. Tonk - 304002	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banasthali Vidya Pith, BANASTHALI, Distt. TONK - 385 535 (Rajasthan)	
32. Udaipur	Vidya Bhawan  Society, Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta Marg, Fatehpur, Distt. - Udaipur - 313004 (Rajasthan)	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BADGAON, Distt. UDAIPUR - 313 001 (Rajasthan)	

**Statement-II**

*The details of various activities during 2010-11*

Activities	No. of courses	No. of participants
<b>Trainings</b>		
Farmers and farm women	2450	67087
Rural Youth	217	5622
Extension Personnel	135	4326
Extension Activities	No. of activities	Total participants
1	2	3
Field Day	163	1312
Kisan Mela	78	79300
Kisan Ghosthi	275	24669
Exhibition	124	75461

Film Show	583	31060
Method Demonstrations	446	9007

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1	2	3
Farmers Seminar	20	1348
Workshop	133	3276
Group meetings	131	3667
Lectures delivered as resource persons	3086	50051
Newspaper coverage	1313	As per readership/ membership/listenership
Radio talks	286	As per readership/ membership/listenership
TV talks	118	As per readership/ membership/listenership
Popular articles	378	As per readership/ membership/listenership
Extension Literature	1899	6942
Advisory Services	17299	17856
Scientific visit to farmers field	1840	18380
Farmers visit to KVK	21227	36571
Diagnostic visits	328	1696
Exposure visits	144	5534
Ex-trainees Sammelan	36	1197
Soil Health Camp	22	1177
Animal Health Camp	68	12293
Agri Mobile Clinic	2	2000
Soil Test Campaigns	1098	10534
Farm Science Club Conveners meetings	74	2856
Self Help Group Conveners meetings	1615	3126
Manila Mandals Conveners meetings	13	256
Celebration of important days (specify)		499 6950

**Front line demonstration**

<b>Crops</b>	<b>Area (ha.)</b>	<b>No. of farmers</b>
Oilseeds	331.3	771
Pulses	282.35	704
Cotton	46.1	160
Cereals	634.7	1551
Milletts	139.9	321
Vegetables	56.25	402
Spices and Condiments	170.5	256
Commercial crops	192.5	405
Fodder crops	56.25	174

**On farm trials**

<b>Assessed</b>	<b>No-of OFTs</b>	<b>No. of Trials</b>
Crops	96	562
Livestock	13	166
Other enterprise	4	93

**Refined**

Crops	16	117
Livestock	3	18

<b>Soil and water testing</b>	<b>No. of samples</b>	<b>No. of farmers</b>
Soil	15988	11132
Water	3296	2308

<b>Seed produced and distributed</b>	<b>Quintals</b>	<b>Numbers of farmers benefited</b>
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	6026.56	5843
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<b>Planting material produced and distributed</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number of farmers</b>
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	2472261	6896
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**Statement-III**

*Details of the upgradation of KVKs*

Sl. KVK district No.	Address
1	2
3	
<b>(a) Soil and water testing laboratory (28)</b>	
1. Sikar	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, FATEHPUR SHEKHAWATI, Distt. SIKAR - 332 301 (Rajasthan)
2. Jhunjhunu	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, ABUSAR, P.B. No. 4, Distt. JHUNJHUNU - 333 001 (Rajasthan)
3. Ajmer	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, N.H. No. 8, TABIJI FARM, AJMER - 305 001 (Rajasthan)
4. Sirohi	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 15, SIROHI, Distt. SIROHI - 307 001 (Rajasthan)
5. Bundi	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 4, Nainwa Road, BUNDI, Distt. BUNDI - 323 001 (Rajasthan)
6. Baran	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Station Road, ANTA, Distt. BARAN - 325 502 (Rajasthan)
7. Barmer	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Village - DANTA, Post - MARADI, Distt. BARMER - 344 001 (Rajasthan)
8. Udaipur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BADGAON, Distt. UDAIPUR - 313 001 (Rajasthan)
9. Churu	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SARDAR SHAHAR, Distt. CHURU - 313 001 (Rajasthan)
10. Jaipur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V/P - TANKARDA, CHOMU, Distt. JAIPUR - 303 702 (Rajasthan)
11. Tonk	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banasthali Vidya Pith, BANASTHALI, Distt. TONK - 385 535 (Rajasthan)
12. Hanumangarh	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SANGARIA, Distt. HANUMANGARH - 335 063 (Rajasthan)

13. Jalore                      Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KESHWANA, Distt. JALORE -  
343 001 (Rajasthan)

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1	2	3
14.	Bharatpur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KUMHER, Distt. BHARATPUR - 321 001 (Rajasthan)
15.	Nagaur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 36, ATHIYASAN, Distt. NAGAUER - 341 001 (Rajasthan)
16.	Alwar	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, NAVGAON, Distt. ALWAR - 301 025 (Rajasthan)
17.	Jaisalmer	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 42, CAZRI Area, JAISALMER, Distt. JAISALMER - 345 001 (Rajasthan)
18.	S. Madhopur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KARMODA, Distt. SAWAI MADHOPUR - 322 001 (Rajasthan)
19.	Dholpur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RIICO Industrial Area, DHOLPUR, Distt. DHOLPUR - 328 001 (Rajasthan)
20.	Dausa	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Khedla Khurd, P.O. - Hingotiya, Distt. DAUSA - 303 303 (Rajasthan)
21.	Sri Ganganagar	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural Research Station, Karni Marg, SRI GANGANAGAR, Distt. SRI GANGANAGAR - 335 001 (Rajasthan)
22.	Banswara	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BORWAT FARM, Dahod Road, Distt. BANSWARA - 327 001 (Rajasthan)
23.	Kota	Krishi Vigyan Kendra. P.O. - BORKHERA, Distt. KOTA - 324 001 (Rajasthan)
24.	Bhilwara	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 56, Gandhi Nagar, BHILWARA, Distt. BHILWARA - 311 001 (Rajasthan)
25.	Dungarpur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badal Mahal, Shastri Colony, DUNGARPUR - 314 001 (Rajasthan)
26.	Jhalawar	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 16, Kota Road, JHALAWAR, Distt. JHALAWAR - 326 001 (Rajasthan)
27.	Rajsamand	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, DHOINDA, Distt. RAJSAMAND - 313 342 (Rajasthan)



28. Karauli                      Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V.P.O. AKORASHI, Via  
   HINDON,  
   Distt. KAROULI - 322 230 (Rajasthan)

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**(b) Plant diagnostic lab (7)**

1. Banswara                      Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BORWAT FARM, Dahod Road,  
Distt. BANSWARA - 327 001 (Rajasthan)
2. Sirohi                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 15, SIROHI, Distt.  
SIROHI - 307 001 (Rajasthan)
3. Kota                         Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. - BORKHERA, Distt.  
KOTA - 324 001 (Rajasthan)
4. Bundi                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 4, Nainwa Road,  
BUNDI,  
Distt. BUNDI - 323 001 (Rajasthan)
5. Jaipur                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V/P - TANKARDA, CHOMU,  
Distt. JAIPUR - 303 702 (Rajasthan)
6. Udaipur                      Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BADGAON, Distt. UDAIPUR -  
313 001 (Rajasthan)
7. Hanumangarh                Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SANGARIA, Distt.  
HANUMANGARH - 335 063 (Rajasthan)

**(c) Water harvesting with micro irrigation system (16)**

1. Ajmer                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, N.H. No. 8. TABIJI FARM,  
AJMER - 305 001 (Rajasthan)
2. Sirohi                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 15, SIROHI, Distt.  
SIROHI - 307 001 (Rajasthan)
3. Bundi                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 4, Nainwa Road,  
BUNDI,  
Distt. BUNDI - 323 001 (Rajasthan)
4. Barmer                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Village - DANTA, Post -  
MARADI,  
Distt. BARMER - 344 001 (Rajasthan)
5. Udaipur                      Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BADGAON, Distt. UDAIPUR -  
313 01 (Rajasthan)
6. Churu                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SARDAR SHAHAR, Distt.  
CHURU - 313 001 (Rajasthan)
7. Jalore                        Krishi Vigyan Kendra, KESHWANA, Distt. JALORE -  
343 001 (Rajasthan)

8. Nagaur                      Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 36. ATHIYASAN,  
Distt. NAGPUR - 341 001 (Rajasthan)

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1	2	3
9.	Jaisalmer	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 42, CAZRI Area, JAISALMER, Distt. JAISALMER - 345 001 (Rajasthan)
10.	Banswara	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BORWAT FARM, Dahod Road, Distt. BANSWARA - 327 001 (Rajasthan)
11.	Bhilwara	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 56, Gandhi Nagar, BHILWARA, Distt. BHILWARA - 311 001 (Rajasthan)
12.	Jhalawar	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.B. No. 16, Kota Road, JHALAWAR, Distt. JHALAWAR - 326 001 (Rajasthan)
13.	Tonk	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banasthali Vidya Pith, BANASTHALI, Distt. TONK - 385 535 (Rajasthan)
14.	Dungarpur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badal Mahal, Shastri Colony, DUNGARPUR - 314 001 (Rajasthan)
15.	Chittorgarh	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RITHOLA, Distt. CHITTORGARH - 312 001 (Rajasthan)
16.	Bikaner	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Beechwal, BIKANER, Distt. BIKANER - 344 006 (Rajasthan)
<b>(d) Portable Carp Hatcheries (3)</b>		
1.	Banswara	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, BORWAT FARM, Dahod Road, Distt. BANSWARA - 327 001 (Rajasthan)
2.	Kota	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.O. - BORKHERA, Distt. KOTA - 324 001 (Rajasthan)
3.	Hanumangarh	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, SANGARIA, Distt. HANUMANGARH - 335 063 (Rajasthan)
<b>(e) Minimal Agro-processing Units (2)</b>		
1.	Chittorgarh	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, RITHOLA, Distt. CHITTORGARH - 312 001 (Rajasthan)
2.	Jaipur	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, V/P - TANKARDA, CHOMU, Distt. JAIPUR - 303 702 (Rajasthan)

#### Setting up of new seed banks

493. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

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

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

(c) whether Government proposes to set up new seed banks in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) 18 seed banks are being operated in the country through State Seeds Corporations, State Departments of Agriculture and through the two national public sector undertakings namely State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) and National Seeds Corporation (NSC). The seed banks exist in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Kerala.

(b) The existing seeds banks are adequate to fulfill the requirement of farmers.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Seed banks are established based on needs expressed by the States.

#### **Contract farming**

494. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received reports that certain foreign firms are engaged in contract farming in collaboration with Indian firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such firms are permitted to export their produce;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to regulate their working considering the food security scenario of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (e) As 'Agriculture Marketing' is a State subject, the State Governments are competent to make provisions for contract farming in their laws. As per information collected from States and Union Territories, the status of contract farming is given in the Statement

(See below).

According to Foreign Trade Policy, export of some agricultural items namely pulses and edible oils are prohibited. Similarly, items like seeds, etc. are also restricted for export. These policies are applicable to all exporters. The export of agriculture commodities is regulated taking into consideration their requirement and availability in the country.

In order to regulate the working of contract farming, the Ministry of Agriculture has framed a Model State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2003 and Model

State Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Rules, 2007 for adoption by States/Union Territories. The Model Act, *inter-alia*, provides provisions for the registration of contract farming sponsors, recording of contract farming agreements with the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) or a prescribed authority under the Act and a dispute settlement mechanism. It also provides for protection of title or rights of the farmers over the land under such contracts. These are intended to protect the interest of farmer.

#### **Statement**

##### *Status of contract farming*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Multinationals and others under contract farming as reported by the States
1	2	3
1.	Assam	M/s Kishlay Snack Products, Dewan Patty, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati.
2.	Bihar	Golden Chips Company, Coimbatore Chennai engaged in contract farming in Begusarai district of Bihar.
3.	Goa	Godrej Agrovat Pvt. Ltd., Khadki Velgem Sattari Goa (for oilpalm) and Sanjivani Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Dharbandora Tisk Usgao, Ponda Goa (for Sugarcane) are engaged in contract farming in State of Goa.
4.	Gujarat	Agrocell Corporation, McCain India Ltd. and Desai Cold storage. Desai Fruits and Vegetables (Banana). McCain India Ltd., a foreign company has applied to register their agreement of contact farming with State Marketing Board.
5.	Haryana	Public sector undertaking Haryana Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd. (HAFED) has undertaken contract farming in 795 Acres of Basmati Rice during Kharif 2006 and 621 Acres of



wheat variety C-306. M/s SKOL Breweries Pvt. Ltd. (Barley), M/s United Breweries Pvt. Ltd. (Barley), M/s Techno Agri Sciences Ltd. (Potato) and M/s Malt Company Pvt. Ltd. (Barley).

6. Mizoram Godrej Agrovet Pvt. Ltd., Food and fertilizers Ltd., Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd., Eco-first India Ltd.

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1	2	3
7.	Maharashtra	<p>Cotton</p> <p>1.NCC Ganpat Cotton Pvt. Ltd., Malkaur</p> <p>2.NCC Matoshri Cotton Pvt. Ltd., Malkaur</p> <p>3.NCC Shree Cotton Pvt. Ltd., Hiverkhed</p> <p>4.NCC Jaylaxmi Fibres Pvt. Ltd., Dhule</p> <p>5.NCC Narsinh Pvt. Ltd., Pathri</p> <p>6.NCC C.J. Cotton Pvt. Ltd., Telgaon</p> <p>7.NCC Abhinandan Cotton Pvt. Ltd., Majalgaon</p> <p>8.NCC Santosh Fibres Pvt. Ltd., Jaina</p> <p>Banana</p> <p>Desai Fruits and Vegetables Pvt. Ltd., Kandhar</p>
8.	Orissa	M/s Welspun India Private Ltd., M/s Super Spinning Mill, M/s Amit Green acre and M/s Eco Farm
9.	Punjab	<p>Tata Chemicals Ltd., Pepsi Foods Ltd., Mahendra Shubhlabh Services Ltd., Escorts Ltd., Chambal Agritech Ltd., AM Todd Ltd., Hindustan Liver Ltd., Niranjana Rice Exports Pvt. Ltd., KRBL Ltd., United Beverages Ltd. (Barley), Markfed, Gee Gee Agro Tech, Tata Chemicals, Ltd., Vee Tee Fine Foods, Pagro Foods Ltd. (Vegetables), Technico Agri Sciences Ltd. (Potato/Potato seed).</p>
10.	Tamil Nadu	<p>Appachi CARE Foundation, Pollachi and Super Spinning Mills, Shiva Textile Ltd., Suguna Poultry Farm Ltd., Pioneer Hatcheries, Pollachi Pongalur Sakthi Chiken Private Ltd., M/s Mohan Breweries and Distilleries Ltd., M/s Shiva Distilleries Ltd., M/s Kaveri Palm Oil Ltd., Godrej Agrovvet Ltd., Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd. and Vaidehi Properties Pvt. Ltd.</p>

Source: Information received from the States.

**Ban on use of Endosulfan**

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

(a) whether Supreme Court has prohibited the production and use of Endosulfan pesticide in the country;

(b) how does Government propose to implement the ban and under what time-frame;

(c) what are the alternate pesticides proposed to be advocated by Government;

(d) what are the natural methods of pest control that Government proposes to implement; and

(e) will the Central Government give any assistance for rehabilitation of Endosulfan victims in Kasaragod in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In writ petition (civil) No. 213 of 2011 "Democratic Youth Federation of India vs Union of India and Ors", Hon'ble Supreme Court passed an ad-interim order on 13.05.2011 banning production, sale and use of Endosulfan in the country till further orders and appointed a Joint Committee headed by the Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Agriculture Commissioner to conduct a scientific study on the question whether the use of Endosulfan would cause any serious health hazard to human beings and would cause environmental pollution. Accordingly, the Central Government issued instructions on 14.05.2011 to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to implement interim order of the Court in toto, which are binding on all manufacturers.

(c) The Joint Committee appointed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court has also been directed by the Court to suggest alternatives to Endosulfan.

(d) Under a central sector scheme titled "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India", Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is promoted as main plank of plant protection strategy. IPM is an environment friendly broad ecological approach for managing pest problems. It encompasses pest control techniques such as cultural, physical, mechanical and biological with minimum dependence on chemical pesticides.

(e) All activities proposed by the State Government under the National Rural Health Mission Programme Implementation Plan 2011-12 for Kasargod district have been approved by the Central Government.

#### **CBI inquiry on Dow Chemicals**

496. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answers to the Starred Questions 423 and 467 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4 May, 2007 and 25 April, 2008 respectively and state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) completed its inquiry against M/s Dow Chemicals of USA and duly submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, the details of submission of the said Report by the CBI alongwith the salient details of its findings;

(c) the details of actions initiated, if any, by Government based thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has reported that during investigation, it has been established that M/s De-Nocil Crop Protection Ltd., presently known as M/s Dow Agro Sciences India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai paid illegal gratification as well as pecuniary advantages to the Government officials for expediting registration of 3 of its products viz. Nurella D. Pride and Dursban 10G during the period from 1996 to 2001. M/s Agro Pack, a product formulator of the company facilitated the payment of illegal gratification. A charge-sheet has been filed against a former Plant Protection Adviser by CBI under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

(c) and (d) Based on the investigation conducted by CBI, the following action has been taken by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in the matter:-

(i) M/s Dow agro Sciences India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai and M/s Agro Pack have been blacklisted and excluded from purchases of pesticides made by the Government for a period of five years vide order dated 16.09.2010.

(ii) Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) vide Notification dated 12th October, 2011 has cancelled Certificates of Registration issued under section 9(3) of the Insecticides Act, 1968 in the name of M/s De-Nocil Crop Protection Ltd., (now M/s Dow Agro Sciences India Pvt. Ltd.) for Acetamiprid Technical. Acetamiprid 20% SP Formulation, Chloropyriphos 10% Granules Formulation and Chloropyriphos 50% + Cypermethrin 5% EC Formulation. All Certificates of Registration under Section 9(4) for Chloropyriphos 50% + Cypermethrin 5% EC Formulation have also been cancelled.

**Study of NCAER**

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

(a) whether the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has proposed to undertake a regular and periodic study of the prevailing scenario in the farm sector;

(b) if so, whether NCAER has submitted its proposal for consideration of Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the stance of Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) had submitted a proposal for Integration of Information on Food Crop Production, Markets and Consumption and Assessment of Alternative Scenarios for the Food Crop Sector to this Ministry, A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) and NCAER with the objective to bridge the important gap in analytical inputs for understanding the emerging agricultural scenarios both in the short term of one or two quarters and also in the medium to long-term with focus on foodgrains crops.

**Expert Committee Report on deep-sea fisheries**

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

(a) whether the Expert Committee on deep-sea fisheries has submitted its report as per schedule on 31 October, 2011;

(b) if so, whether Government has examined this report;

(c) what steps will be taken to remove diverse bottlenecks related to permissions from other agencies like DG-Shipping, etc.; and

(d) the date by which the entire report will be implemented to encourage deep-sea fisheries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (d) The Sub-Committee formed on the directives of the Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee on Marine Fisheries (EC) has submitted its report on 22.11.2011. The Sub-Committee has examined the need for simplification of procedures involved in grant of various clearances. The report of the Sub-Committee has to be approved by the EC before implementation.

**Employment in farm sector**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that farm sector provides one of the largest number of employment opportunities;



(b) if so, the details thereof during the Tenth and Eleventh Plan periods;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof and the achievements made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) Agriculture sector provides livelihood for more than 58 per cent of the population of India.

According to the Eleventh Plan document brought out by the Planning Commission, against, the Tenth Plan target of 9.47 million, employment created in the agriculture sector was 8.84 million. 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. According to Key Indicators of Employment and Unemployment in India 2009-10 released by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), in rural areas, nearly 63 per cent of the male usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) workers were engaged in the agriculture sector while 79 per cent of the female were dependent on agriculture sector. The share of urban workforce in agriculture was nearly 6 per cent in respect of male and 14 per cent in respect of female workers.

#### **Reservation in promotion**

500. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation in promotion is strictly followed and implemented in the Ministry as per 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 would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Reduction in fertilizers quota for Andhra Pradesh**

501. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has cut down the fertilizers quota

to Andhra Pradesh by 2.41 lakh tonnes in the just concluded Kharif season;  
and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The  
availability of urea, phosphatic

fertilizers (DAP/NPK) and MOP in Andhra Pradesh during Kharif, 2011 are as under:-

(Figures in lakh MT)

**Kharif, 2011**

Fertilizer Grade	Requirement	Stock pre-positioned	Availability with pre-positioning stock
Urea	15.00	—	14.66
Phosphate (DAP+NPK)	18.80	1.60	*18.83
MOP	3.25	—	0.82

\*including stock pre-positioned

As can be seen, the availability of urea is adequate. Similarly, the availability of phosphatic fertilizers i.e. DAP/NPK (together with stock pre-positioned) during the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) has been comfortable. There is tightness in availability of MOP during current year. There is no viable source of Potash in the country as such the entire demand of MOP is met through imports. During the current year, contracting for import of MOP could not be materialized due to substantial increase of prices and cartelization by MOP producers in the International market. However, the breakthrough in contracting of MOP has been achieved. As a result, MOP availability for direct application as well as for indigenous production of NPK fertilizers is comfortable during Rabi'11-12.

**Shortage of fertilizers**

†502. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are not getting chemical fertilizers according to their demands;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to the shortage in availability of fertilizers, these are being sold at high rates in the black market; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) Urea is the only fertilizer under 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 the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) are given in the Statement (See below). As can be seen, the availability of urea is adequate. Similarly, the availability of phosphatic fertilizers i.e. DAP/NPK during the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) has been adequate throughout the country. There is tightness in availability of MOP during current year. There is no viable source of Potash in the country as such the entire demand of MOP is met through imports. During the current year, contracting for import of MOP could not be materialized due to substantial increase of prices and cartelization by MOP producers in the International market. However, the breakthrough in contracting of MOP has been achieved. As a result, MOP availability for direct application as well as for indigenous production of NPK fertilizers is comfortable in Rabi'11-12.

Under clause 21 of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985, it is mandatory to print the maximum retail price on the container of all kinds of fertilizers, whether under statutory price control or out of the purview of the statutory price control. No person shall charge higher than the price printed on the bag. Any person violating this mandatory provision of FCO is held liable to be proceeded against for administrative/punitive measures under the provisions of FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices.



**Statement**

*Cumulative Availability of fertilizers during 11-12 (April to October)*

State	Urea		MOP		Phosphatic fertilizers (DAP + NPK)		
	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Stocks	pre-positioned
Availability with pre-positioned stock							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andhra Pradesh	1820.00	1724.48	405.00	131.07	2230.00	159.68	2326.82
Karnataka	950.00	905.89	350.00	144.54	1428.00	385.20	1737.05
Kerala	115.00	100.33	115.00	75.54	203.00	11.81	169.70
Tamil Nadu	628.00	516.01	286.00	157.84	640.00	65.01	727.26
Gujarat	1310.00	1280.58	138.00	82.39	934.20	114.71	932.89
Madhya Pradesh	871.47	918.90	122.28	31.89	1101.14	189.88	992.93
Chhattisgarh	497.50	427.14	89.50	21.33	339.67	64.47	330.01
Maharashtra	1695.00	1654.62	375.00	110.58	2276.00	265.07	2085.52
Rajasthan	715.00	831.85	35.00	13.19	639.50	70.45	631.92
Haryana	995.00	1022.81	45.00	18.35	595.00	72.98	573.40



Punjab	1550.00	1531.40	71.00	35.10	905.00	51.95	734.96
Himachal Pradesh	41.00	31.23	3.50	0.00	28.00	2.00	9.96
Jammu and Kashmir	81.20	5.98	14.38	1.33	47.79	0.99	33.79
Uttar Pradesh	2900.00	3019.47	215.00	58.33	2105.00	256.93	1870.19
Uttarakhand	130.00	141.37	6.60	0.79	57.00	0.00	48.13
Bihar	1085.00	948.98	125.00	25.55	535.00	0.40	429.65
Jharkhand	181.25	150.52	26.00	1.83	153.00	0.55	84.59
Orissa	475.00	406.41	130.17	27.80	404.23	7.88	337.85
West Bengal	595.00	589.73	181.96	41.73	790.25	27.12	678.42
Assam	154.40	145.52	67.20	13.24	32.90	7.50	32.65
ALL INDIA:	16789.82	16457.62	2801.59	1001.05	15434.68	1754.57	14777.23

**Representation from Fertilizer Association of India**

503. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

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

(a) whether Government has received any representation from the Fertilizer Association of India to consider in urea production cost for marketing margin of natural gas;

(b) the action taken by Government in this regard and by when this issue would be resolved; and

(c) how much losses have been incurred by PSUs and Cooperative Fertilizer Producers of Gujarat till date due to non-consideration of marketing margin of natural gas?

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

(b) Department of Fertilizers has recommended the same to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for decision. The decision of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is awaited.

(c) The amount of marketing margin incurred by urea producing units and not reimbursed, in the State of Gujarat, is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

2009-10	22.05
2010-11	23.07

**Multinational drug companies**

†504. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

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

(a) the number of pharmaceutical companies set up in the country by multinational companies and the amount incurred thereon during the last five years;

(b) the number of indigenous pharmaceutical companies acquired by multinational companies during the same period;

(c) the extent to which prices of medicines had been hiked after

acquisition of indigenous pharmaceutical companies and the  
justification for such price-hike;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government would impose a ban on the participation of multinational companies in indigenous pharmaceutical industry for protection thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The concerned authorities dealing with foreign direct investment and prices of medicines have informed that information requested is not maintained by them.

(d) and (e) The Press Note 3 (2011) issued by the Department of Industrial Policy Promotion on 7.11.2011 lays down Foreign Direct Investment Policy in the Pharmaceutical Sector as under:-

(i) FDI, upto 100%, under the automatic route, would continue to be permitted for greenfield investments in the pharmaceuticals sector.

(ii) FDI, upto 100%, would be permitted for brownfield investments (i.e. investments in existing companies), in the pharmaceuticals sector, under the Government approval route.

**Measures for bringing down prices of fertilizers**

505. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether Ministry's attention has been drawn to the fact that prices of various fertilizers have shot up several times following the decontrol of those fertilizers resulting in hardship for the marginal, poor and common farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is actively considering to take measures to bring down the prices of various fertilizers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) 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 and 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 were fixed by the Government below the actual cost and the difference between the actual cost and the MRP's 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 international prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials and that of US dollar have gone up substantially, as a result of which, the MRPs of P&K fertilizers have almost doubled. However, the MRP of Urea is controlled by Government and is fixed at Rs. 5310/- PMT.

Government is keeping a close watch on the MRPs of the fertilizers.

#### **Growth in production of fertilizers**

506. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated any step to increase production of fertilizers during the last ten years; and

(b) if so, the details of annual production growth in different fertilizers during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Yes. Government has notified New Investment Policy 2008 to encourage increase in production Urea Sector. The policy resulted in increase in production of approximate two million tonne of urea due to revamp of existing plants. A slight increase in production of Phosphatic fertilizer (Single Super Phosphatic) has also been noticed as a result of the Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme implemented w.e.f. 1st April, 2010.

#### **FDI in pharmaceutical sector**

507. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any policy regarding hike in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in pharmaceutical sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any study has been conducted about the impact of FDI in pharma industry and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The extant policy in the Pharmaceutical sector issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is as under—

- (i) FDI, upto 100%, under the automatic route, would continue to be permitted for greenfield investments in the Pharmaceuticals sector.
- (ii) FDI upto 100%, would be permitted for brownfield investment (i.e. investments in existing companies), in the pharmaceuticals sector, under the Government approval route.
- (c) Ministry of Commerce on the advice of Department of Pharmaceuticals had entrusted through Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council to conduct a study.

The study report has since been received from Department of Commerce. The study has focused on Industry Overview, Review of FDI policy in terms of recent acquisitions addressing India's sovereign concerns, Facilitating an environment of aspiration and growth in pharmaceutical innovation and Aiding Indian companies to harness the global opportunity in generics.

#### **Revival of closed/sick fertilizer plants**

508. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of closed/sick fertilizer plants in the country alongwith the reasons for their closure/sickness;
- (b) whether Government proposes to revive these plants;
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (d) whether fertilizer plant in Himachal Pradesh is also included in the revival programme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the details of modernization programmes proposed for the public sector fertilizer units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The details are given in the Statement (See



below).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The following steps have been taken:-

**A. Closed Units**

(i) Pursuant to Cabinet decision dated 30.10.2008, an  
Empowered Committee of

Secretaries (ECOS) was constituted with the mandate to examine all financial options for revival of the closed units of FCIL/HFCL

- (ii) Based on the recommendations of the ECOS, a proposal was sent to Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).
- (iii) The CCEA in its meeting held on 4th August, 2011 considered the proposal and approved the same with the stipulation that Board for Industrial and Financial Restructuring (BIFR) proceedings be expedited and thereafter, the matter including changes, if any, required in bid parameters, be placed before the Committee for a final decision.
- (iv) The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) have submitted the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) to BIFR for approval.
- (v) Board for Industrial and Financial Restructuring (BIFR) has considered the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme on 18.8.2011 and appointed State Bank of India as Operating Agency.

**B. Sick Units:**

- (i) Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL) had submitted a financial restructuring proposal seeking *inter alia* waiver of Government loan of Rs. 390.79 crore and interest thereon besides sanction of Rs. 376.64 crore as Plan Loan and continuation of New Pricing Scheme beyond 31.03.2010 and upto conversion of its urea plant to Natural Gas etc. The proposal was circulated for inter ministerial consultation. The comments received from the stakeholder Ministries/Departments have been examined and a note for consideration of Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) has been prepared for submitting to BRPSE.
- (ii) The Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited

(BVFCL) has recently submitted a financial restructuring and rehabilitation proposal for consideration of Department of Fertilizer and recommending it to BRPSE.

(d) and (e) There is no Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) fertilizer Plant in Himachal Pradesh lying closed. Hence the question of revival does not arise.

(f) PSUs normally undertake modernisation projects as per their requirement. Whenever, they seek financial assistance from the Government the Department considers such proposals on case to case basis.

**Statement**

*Revival of Closed/Sick plants*

Sl. No.	Name of Closed/Sick Plants	Reasons for Closed/Sick Units
1	2	3

**Closed PSU fertilizer plants**

1. Sindri Unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) Consistent losses due to a variety of reasons including obsolete technology, design and equipment deficiencies,
2. Gorakhpur Unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited power shortages, problems in industrial relations, surplus manpower and resources constraints.
3. Talcher Unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited
4. Ramagundam Unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited
5. Korba (Never Commissioned) Unit of FCIL
6. Barauni Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited
7. Durgapur Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited
8. Haldia (Never Commissioned) Unit of HFCL

**Sick PSU Fertilizer Plants**

9. Namrup Plants of Brahmaputra Valley • Namrup-II and Namrup-II plants of Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) BVFCL are based on old and vintage technology.
- Lower efficiency of Centrifugal Compressors and Turbines.

10. Madras Fertilizer Limited

(i) Frequent shut down of Urea Plant due to certain design problems after its revamp, which led to low capacity utilization, financial deficiency and Liquidity Problem.

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1	2	3
		(ii) The Company could not get adequate compensations after introduction of New Pricing Scheme (NPS) as NPS did not provide for reimbursement/payment of interest on Loan, repayment of Loan and depreciation.

**Shortage of fertilizers in the current Rabi season**

509. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demand and supply of various fertilizers in the country, State-wise and fertilizer-wise for current Rabi season;

(b) whether Government is aware that farmers in Uttar Pradesh are facing acute shortage of fertilizers, particularly DAP during current Rabi season;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is aware that in Eastern Uttar Pradesh sowing of wheat and pulses has been badly affected due to shortage of DAP and other fertilizers; and

(e) the details of steps Government would take to ensure availability of fertilizers, particularly DAP in Eastern Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/decanalized since 1992. Department of Fertilizers gives State-wise/month-wise supply plan indicated by manufacturers/importers of these fertilizers as per the requirement and ensures availability through the instrument of subsidy. 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, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizer including Uttar Pradesh during the current Rabi'11-12

(October'2011) is given in the Statement (See below). Department of Fertilizers is in continuous touch with officials of State Government of Uttar Pradesh through weekly video conference. There is some tightness in availability of DAP during October, 2011. However, the railway rakes of DAP were despatched to various destinations, as per requirement of State Government.

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

- (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](http://www.urvarak.co.in)) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
- (ii) The gap between requirement and indigenous availability of Urea is met through imports;
- (iii) The State Government 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 and 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) alongwith 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 Fertilizers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum and 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 Fertilizers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

**Statement**

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

(Figures in tonnes)

State	UREA		DAP		NPK		MOP	
	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Assam	14,400.00	15,766.50	3,600.00	2,498.20	1,800.00	1,720.65	7,200.00	2,624.15
Bihar	160,000.00	150,628.15	85,000.00	58,112.95	50,000.00	40,865.35	45,000.00	10,303.00
Chhattisgarh	22,500.00	25,377.00	6,500.00	10,943.55	8,175.00	12,047.35	4,500.00	2,631.55
Gujarat	210,000.00	209,176.19	120,000.00	52,068.35	74,200.00	76,844.55	28,000.00	6,895.70
Haryana	145,000.00	152,853.84	225,000.00	118,949.85	15,000.00	9,865.30	10,000.00	7,229.20
Himachal Pradesh	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	29.20	2,500.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	13,700.00	5,233.45	7,791.00	1,321.35	0.00	0.00	4,379.00	1,324.85
Jharkhand	21,250.00	27,727.70	15,000.00	9,252.35	20,000.00	5,385.95	6,000.00	0.00
Karnataka	150,000.00	125,235.73	55,000.00	87,146.90	128,000.00	111,155.80	60,000.00	60,815.90
Kerala	25,000.00	15,568.01	8,000.00	1,791.35	40,000.00	31,006.92	25,000.00	15,923.05
Madhya Pradesh	246,471.00	209,030.44	217,080.00	163,040.30	94,058.00	68,627.00	32,284.00	10,300.75

Maharashtra	195,000.00	203,989.75	100,000.00	111,564.60	201,000.00	159,742.75	50,000.00	30,777.45
Orissa	25,000.00	35,071.70	11,685.00	11,210.10	-12,545.00	9,287.55	10,170.00	2,633.10
Punjab	300,000.00	215,024.00	225,000.00	174,425.10	30,000.00	40,601.70	15,000.00	11,715.20
Rajasthan	140,000.00	174,126.45	137,000.00	134,285.04	32,500.00	43,153.45	5,000.00	5,400.35
Tamil Nadu	178,000.00	90,154.81	70,000.00	77,198.34	99,000.00	83,329.73	75,000.00	57,695.20
Uttar Pradesh	400,000.00	448,181.86	355,000.00	196,066.30	175,000.00	176,616.25	65,000.00	12,186.55
Uttaranchal	5,000.00	7,213.93	2,500.00	2,715.55	9,500.00	7,424.50	2,000.00	0.00
West Bengal	95,000.00	106,338.36	76,200.00	58,341.82	64,050.00	99,020.14	31,960.00	10,229.25
TOTAL:	2,689,891.00	2,492,258.90	1,848,839.00	1,422,492.50	1,295,365.00	1,293,600.53	566,520.00	299,605.75

### Shortage of fertilizers

510. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of fertilizers in Left Wing Extremists districts; (LWE)

(b) whether fertilizers bags are short in weight and sub-standard;

(c) the steps proposed to remedy the problems; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) Urea is the only fertilizer under 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/decanalized 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 the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to U.S.Q. No. 502 part (a) to (d)] As can be seen, the availability of urea is adequate. Similarly, the availability of phosphatic fertilizers i.e. DAP/NPK during the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) has been adequate throughout the country. There is tightness in availability of MOP during current year. There is no viable source of Potash in the country as such the entire demand of MOP is met through imports. During the current year, contracting for import of MOP could not be materialized due to substantial increase of prices and cartelization by MOP producers in the International market. However, the breakthrough in contracting of MOP has been achieved. As a result, MOP availability for direct application as well as for indigenous production of NPK fertilizers is comfortable in Rabi'11-12.

Fertilizers have been declared as essential commodities under the Essential Commodities Act, (ECA) 1956. In order to ensure adequate availability of good quality of fertilizers at reasonable price to the farmers, the Government of India under section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act has promulgated the Fertilizer (Control) Order, (FCO), 1985. FCO empowers the Government to regulate the price, distribution and quality of fertilizers. Under clause 19 of FCO sale/manufacture of such fertilizers which are not of prescribed standard is strictly prohibited. Under clause 8 of FCO, it is mandatory to obtain the Authorization Letter from the notified Authority for sale of fertilizers. The State Governments are adequately empowered to

take appropriate action against the sale of non-standard fertilizers. Violation of provisions of FCO can invite penal action, including prosecution of offenders. The offender who is convicted may be awarded the sentence upto seven years imprisonment under ECA, besides cancellation of authorization certificate. Moreover State Governments have been sensitized from time to time on the issue of sales, manufacture, distribution and quality of fertilizers conforming of FCO standards.

#### **Acquisition of Indian pharma companies by MNCs**

511. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in the light of the acquisition of Indian pharma companies by MNCs, it is a fact that a stage is not far off when we may not have a company ready to manufacture drugs on behalf of Government in spite of invoking 'compulsory licence' provisions; and

(b) if so, how Government is planning to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Pharmaceuticals had requested the Department of Commerce to conduct a study on the recent takeovers of Indian companies by the MNCs. Thereafter, the recommendation could be placed before the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister and/or the Competent Authority. The report from Ernst and Young has since been received. With a view to examine the issues involved in a broader perspectives, Planning Commission has with the approval of the Hon'ble Prime Minister constituted a High Level Committee (HLC) under the Chairpersonship of Shri Arun Maira, Member (Industry), Planning Commission to consider all the relevant aspects. This High Level Committee has since submitted its report to the Hon'ble Prime Minister. As per recent press note 3(2011) issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion on 07.11.2011:-

(i) FDI, upto 100%, under the automatic route, would continue to be permitted for greenfield investments in the Pharmaceuticals sector.

(ii) FDI upto 100%, would be permitted for brownfield investment (i.e. investments in existing companies), in the

pharmaceuticals sector, under the Government approval route.

**Import of fertilizers**

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

(a) the quantum and value of various fertilizers imported during each of the last three years in the country;

(b) the names of the countries from where these fertilizers are being imported; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the import of fertilizers and boost the production of fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and it is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) i.e. MMTC, STC and IPL to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production. Government is also importing approximately 20 LMT urea from Oman India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO) under Long-Term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) between GoI and OMIFCO. The import of urea from OMIFCO is made through M/s IFFCO and M/s KRIBHCO. The year-wise quantity and value of urea imported during the last three years are as under:-

Yea	Quantity of urea imported (in lakh MT)			Value (Million US \$)
	From Oman	Through STEs	Total	
2008-09	19.06	37.61	56.67	2416.00
2009-10	20.62	31.48	52.10	1212.65
2010-11	20.64	45.46	66.10	1832.50

Fertilizers, other than Urea are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). Companies import these fertilizers as per their commercial judgment. Government do not maintain the value of these imports. However, Government is paying subsidy on P&K fertilizers under Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme. The year-wise quantity of P&K fertilizers imported during the last three years are as under:-

(Quantity in lakh MT)			
Product	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
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

(b) The countries from where the fertilizers have been imported during the last three years are Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Canada, Chile, CIS, Egypt, Estonia,

Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Korea, Kuwait, Latvia, Libya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Oman, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Russia, S. Arabia, S. Africa, Singapore, Spain, Turkey, Tunisia, Thailand, UAE, USA, UK, and Vietnam

(c) Government is always encouraging production of fertilizers 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 and 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

#### **National Pharmaceutical Policy**

513. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to adopt a new National Pharmaceutical Policy bringing all essential medicines under price control; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) 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](http://www.pharmaceuticals.gov.in). In the draft

policy it is proposed to bring the NLEM-2011 and associated medicines under price control.

**Support for production and use of organic fertilizers**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that only one per cent of the farmers received any kind of support for production and use of organic fertilizers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) As per latest Input Survey 2006-07, percentage of operational holding using Farm Yard Manure in the country is 40.84. Government is assisting farmers for setting up of organic manure/fertilizer production facilities under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Horticulture Mission (NHM).

(b) Under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) scheme, assistance is provided for setting up of vermi-compost units @ 50% of the cost subject to maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per beneficiary and funds are also provided @ 50% of the cost subject to maximum of Rs. 10,000/- per hectare for a maximum area of 4 hectare per beneficiary for adoption of organic farming. Similar norms of assistance are applicable for assistance given under. RKVY.

**Use of Ammonium Nitrate as explosive**

†515. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ammonium Nitrate, an ingredient of chemical fertilizer, is being used as explosive material;

(b) whether it poses a threat to the whole country;

(c) the measures being taken by Government to deal with this;

(d) whether a campaign to promote use of organic and conventional manure in place of chemical fertilizers is proposed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Ammonium Nitrate as such is not used as an explosive, however, it is a major ingredient in the manufacture of explosives. Accordingly, it may become a cause of threat, when used unscrupulously for explosive purposes.

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of Section 2 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908 (6 of 1908), the Central Government has specified 'Ammonium Nitrate or a Combination thereof' as a special category explosive substance for the purposes of the above said Act. Further, a notification for declaring Ammonium Nitrate as an explosive

under Section 17 of the Explosives Act, 1884 and framing of separate rules for Ammonium Nitrate under Section 5 and 7 of the Explosives Act has been published in the Gazette of India on 21.7.2011. Subsequently, the draft Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2011 have been framed, *vide* Gazette

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Notification No. 647 (E), dated 16.9.2011 by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion with a view to regulate its use for bonafide purpose by incorporating provisions relating to the sale, manufacture, transport, storage, use, import/export etc. of Ammonium Nitrate. Final notification will be issued after examining the comments received from various stake holders and in consultation with Ministry of Law and Justice.

Ammonium Nitrate as such, is not a fertilizer under the Fertilizer (Control) Order. However, three fertilizer companies, M/s National Fertilizer Ltd. (NFL), M/s Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) and M/s Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals Ltd. (DFPCL) are the manufacturers of Ammonium Nitrate. M/s NFL and M/s RCF produce Ammonium Nitrate as a by-product of the fertilizers produced by them. M/s DFPCL manufacture Ammonium Nitrate as one of their main activities. Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN), which is produced out of the Ammonium Nitrate melt is one of the fertilizers covered under the Fertilizer (Control) Order. M/s Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers Co. Ltd. (GNVFC) is the manufacturer of CAN. M/s NFL, M/s RCF and M/s DFPCL sell Ammonium Nitrate to their notified dealers. The quantity of Ammonium Nitrate sold by these companies to the notified dealers is monitored by the companies. The dealers give their undertaking to the companies that they will/they have used the Ammonium Nitrate purchased from the companies for their respective industrial purposes. Since, CAN is a fertilizer, M/s GNVFC sell this product to the dealers approved by the State Governments for agricultural purposes. The Ammonium Nitrate produced by the fertilizer companies is covered under the above said Acts.

(d) and (e) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation promotes the concept of balanced and integrated use of fertilizers. Alongwith chemical fertilizers, the use of organic manure, bio fertilizers, green manuring, city compost, vermi-compost, poultry manure, castor de-oiled cake etc. is also being promoted. In the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985, two organic fertilizers namely City Waste Compost and Vermicompost, five bio fertilizers namely Rhizobium, Azospirillum, Azotobacter, Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria and Mycorrhizal Bio fertilizers and one de-oiled cake namely Castor De-oiled Cake have been specified. Assistance for promotion of organic inputs is provided under the National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility,

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Horticulture Mission and National Project on Organic Farming.

**Export of fertilizers inspite of their shortage**

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

(a) whether Government has allowed several firms in the last three years to export fertilizers;

(b) if so, the quantity of fertilizers exported from the country during the last three years;

(c) whether fertilizers are exported clandestinely even though farmers in the country are facing shortage of fertilizers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Fertilizers has allowed export fertilizers with specific reasons such as (i) where material was imported with the pre-declaration for re-export, (ii) to export Pharmaceutical Grade of Fertilizers like MOP and Urea after ensuring that the same was manufactured by using Industrial grades of these fertilizers obtained by paying full market price and not the concessional prices and (iii) for export of a little quantity of fertilizer to Nepal keeping in view the diplomatic relations of our Country. The quantity for which permissions are given by this Department for export of fertilizers during the last three years is given below:-

Year	Quantity (metric tonnes)
2008-09	36000
2009-10	38000

(c) and (d) During the year 2010-11 this Department received information about illegal export of fertilizers in the name of some other Chemicals. Customs Authorities have seized illegally diverted quantities of fertilizers and confiscated the same. Necessary legal proceedings under applicable laws are in progress. The Department of Fertilizers requested the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to instruct all the respective Customs Authorities in the matter so that fertilizers are not smuggled out of the Country in violation of prevailing Exim Policy and relevant regulations.

**Availability of essential medicines at reasonable prices**

517. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that cost of medicines specially essential medicines have been increased manifold during last 2-3 years;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that essential medicines are not available to the poor at reasonable prices;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has dropped lot of essential medicines from price control list in last one decade; and



(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to provide atleast essential medicines on reasonable prices to the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the Audit Reports submitted by IMS

Health, number of formulation packs marketed has been approximately 60,784 upto June, 2011. The details of percentage number of packs, whose prices have increased, decreased and remained stable on the monthly base-in percentage terms as per Retail Audit Reports of IMS Health for the last three financial years is detailed below:-

**1. Percentage number of packs whose prices increased**

Year	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
2008-09	0.07	0.12	0.30	0.05	0.11	15.89	1.73	2.44	0.10	0.07	0.02	8.74
2009-10	1.99	0.62	4.75	0.01	0.07	3.21	0.14	0.003	2.92	0.03	0.02	2.66
2010-11	0.09	0.02	1.98	0.22	0.09	2.28	0.08	0.03	2.46	0.30	0.01	1.89
2011-12	0.07	0.02	1.49									

**2. Percentage number of packs whose prices decreased:**

Year	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
2008-09	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.02	0.09	10.85	1.32	2.41	0.29	0.02	0.03	6.67
2009-10	1.32	0.48	5.15	0.02	0.02	2.96	0.02	0.01	1.31	0.02	0.03	0.87
2010-11	0.06	0.01	1.45	0.14	0.03	1.15	0.01	0.02	0.88	0.15	0.01	0.62
2011-12	0.01	0.04	0.89									

**3. Percentage number of packs whose prices remained stable:**

Year	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
2008-09	99.93	99.85	99.62	99.92	99.80	73.26	96.95	95.15	99.61	99.91	99.95	84.59
2009-10	96.69	98.90	90.10	99.96	99.92	93.83	99.84	99.99	95.76	99.95	99.96	96.47
2010-11	99.85	99.97	96.57	99.65	99.88	96.57	99.91	99.95	96.66	99.55	99.98	97.49
2011-12	99.92	99.94	97.62									

Source: IMS-Health

As can be seen from the details above, prices of only small number of packs have increased during the last three years while the prices of most of the packs have remained stable.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Department of Pharmaceuticals has launched 'Jan Aushadhi Campaign' with the objective of making available medicines at affordable prices for all. Under this campaign less

priced quality unbranded generic medicines are made available through Jan Aushadhi Stores. Till date 113 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened in different States/UTs. in the country.

Further, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has prepared a draft National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy (NPPP-2011) based on the criteria of essentiality and requirements as stipulated by the Ministry of Health and family Welfare. The draft NPPP-2011 has been circulated among the concerned Ministries/Stakeholders. The draft policy envisages bringing the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM)-2011 and associated medicines under price control.

#### **New Investment Policy for urea**

518. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that amendments to the Urea Investment Policy of 2008 are likely to be delayed further, as the Ministry has formally opposed the move to raise urea prices;

(b) whether a panel headed by the Planning Commission had also recently suggested freeing the retail price of urea;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when new investment policy for urea would come into force; and

(e) the likely benefits, farmers would get due to new investment policy for urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a), (d) and (e) A proposal to amend the policy for New Investment in Urea sector notified by the Department of Fertilizers is under consideration of a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission. Once the report is submitted the same will be placed before Group of Ministers for consideration. It is expected that the policy would facilitate new investments in the Urea sector resulting in lesser import dependence.

(b) and (c) The Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission has submitted the report on pricing policy of Urea beyond New Pricing Policy (NPS)-III. The report has, *inter alia* recommended freeing of the retail price of urea 'within reasonable limits'. The Group of Ministers, considered the report in its meeting held on 5th August, 2011 and directed to place the report before CCEA. GoM further directed that while placing the above proposal before CCEA, the observations of Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers be clearly spelt out and directions of the CCEA sought. The proposal is under consideration of Government.

### Import of fertilizers

519. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the value of import of different fertilizers during each of the last three years; and

(b) the efforts made/being made by Government to reduce the foreign exchange outgo on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Urea is the only fertilizer under statutory price control and it is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) i.e. MMTC, STC and IPL to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production. Government is also importing approximately 20 LMT urea from Oman India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO) under Long-Term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) between GoI and OMIFCO. The import of urea from OMIFCO is made through M/s IFFCO and M/s KRIBHCO. The year-wise value of urea imported on Government account during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Value (Million US \$)
2008-09	2416.00
2009-10	1212.65
2010-11	1832.50

Fertilizers other than Urea are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). Companies import these fertilizers as per their commercial judgment. Government do not maintain the value of these imports. However, Government is paying subsidy on P&K fertilizers under Nutrient Based Subsidy Scheme. The year-wise subsidy paid on P&K fertilizers during the last three years are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Subsidy paid on decontrolled P&K fertilizers (Indigenous and Imported)
2008-2009	65554.79
2009-2010	39452.06
2010-2011	41500.00

(b) Government is always encouraging production of fertilizers 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 and 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. In case of P&K fertilizers the country is almost fully dependent on imports, by way of either imports of raw material/intermediates or import of finished P&K fertilizers. However Government has 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

#### **Production of bio-fertilizers**

520. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the study made by the Ministry regarding production of bio-fertilizers in the country;

(b) the production of bio-fertilizers during last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Ministry to encourage farmers to use organic manures alongwith bio-fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) National Centre of Organic Farming under Department of Agriculture and Cooperation collects production reports submitted by licenced producers of the country. Study of data available indicates that bio-fertilizers use is increasing but the total area covered under bio-fertilizer use is less than 3% of total cultivable area in the country.

(b) The total production of bio-fertilizers, was 25,065 MT, 20,040 MT and 37,998 MT during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively.

(c) Use of organic manures and bio-fertilizers is being promoted through various schemes such as National Project on Organic Farming



(NPOF), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North-East and Himalayan States (HMNEHS) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

**New drugs under price control regime**

521. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more drugs are being brought under the price control regime;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the percentage of drugs in the market that would be under price control regime;

(c) whether bringing these drugs under control regime is connected with the formulation of Pharmaceutical Policy; and

(d) if so, how long Government would take to frame the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) 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](http://www.pharmaceuticals.gov.in). In the draft policy it is proposed to bring the NLEM-2011 and associated medicines under price control.

(d) No time-frame can be given as the views of all the concerned stakeholders which are received have to be examined and concerned Ministries/Stakeholders consulted after which the GoM is to be approached for their recommendation.

**Information available on NPPA website**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that all the notices issued to drug companies for overcharging are not displayed on the website of NPPA;

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

(c) the up-to-date list of such notices issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) till 31st October, 2011 has issued demand notices in 812 cases involving an amount of Rs. 2357.95 crore (overcharging alongwith interest) for selling the medicines at a price higher than the prices fixed under DPCO, 1995 based on detection of overcharging cases since its inception. Detailed list of such cases updated upto 31.10.2011 is available on the website of NPPA i.e. [www.nppaindia.nic.in](http://www.nppaindia.nic.in).

**Blackmarketing of fertilizers**

†523. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether farmers in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh are not getting fertilizers (DAP) for sowing, and whether it is being sold through middlemen at double the prices;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to tackle the problem of farmers not getting fertilizers for Rabi Crop; and

(c) whether Government is working on a long-term plan to provide fertilizers to farmers and stopping blackmarketing thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/decanalized since 1992. Department of Fertilizers gives State-wise/month-wise supply plan indicated by manufacturers/importers of these fertilizers as per the requirement and ensures availability through the instrument of subsidy. 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 availability of urea, phosphatic fertilizers (DAP/NPK) and MOP in Uttar Pradesh during current year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) are as under:-

(Figures in lakh MT)

2011-12 (April'11 to October'11)

Fertilizer Grade	Requirement	Stock pre-positioned	Availability
Urea	29.00	-	30.19
Phosphate (DAP+NPK)	21.02	2.57	*18.70
MOP	2.15	-	0.58

\*Including stock pre-positioned.

As can be seen, the availability of urea is adequate. Similarly, the availability of phosphatic fertilizers i.e. DAP/NPK during the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) has been adequate throughout the country. There is tightness in availability of MOP during current year. There is no viable source of Potash in the country as such the

entire demand of MOP is met through imports. During the current year, contracting for import of MOP could not be materialized due to substantial increase of prices and cartelization by MOP producers in the International market. However, the breakthrough in contracting of MOP has been achieved. As a result, MOP availability for direct application as well as for indigenous production of NPK fertilizers is comfortable in Rabi'11-12. Department of Fertilizers is in continuous touch with officials of State

Government of Uttar Pradesh through weekly video conference. There is some tightness in availability of DAP during October, 2011. However, the railway rakes of DAP were despatched to various destinations, as per requirement of State Government.

Under clause 21 of the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO), 1985, it is mandatory to print the maximum retail price on the container of all kinds of fertilizers, whether under statutory price control or out of the purview of the statutory price control. No person shall charge higher than the price printed on the bag. Any person violating this mandatory provision of FCO is held liable to be proceeded against for administrative/punitive measures under the provisions of FCO and Essential Commodities Act. The State Governments are the enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action against the offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices.

#### **Capacity of gas-based fertilizer plants**

524. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the average capacity of gas-based fertilizer manufacturing plants in the country;

(b) the quantum of gas required by these plants at full load;

(c) the quantum of indigenous natural gas available for these plants;

(d) the quantum of long term contracted Regasified Liquified Natural Gas (RLNG) available for these plants;

(e) how much capacity of these plants is lying idle on account of inadequate availability of gas on long term basis;

(f) the steps Government is taking for utilization of idle capacity of these plants;

(g) whether Government is considering to allocate more natural gas for these plants; and

(h) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The average capacity of gas-based fertilizer

plants is 17.13 million tonnes of urea per annum.

(b) The quantum of gas required by the gas-based fertilizer plants is about 44 MMSCMD.

(c) Indigenous available is of the order of 33 MMSCMD.

(d) The quantum of long term RLNG contracted is 9.5 MMSCMD.

(e) There is no idle capacity for want of gas as alternative fuel is allowed to be used to achieve production.

(f) to (h) In view of (e) above, question does not arise.

#### **Shortage of fertilizers**

525. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of fertilizers in the country and the farmers have faced hardships and suffered losses;

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

(c) the details of assistance provided to farmers, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide fertilizers as per demands of the State Government and to increase the production and availability of fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer under 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/decanalized 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 the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to U.S.Q. No. 502, Part (a) to (d)] As can be seen, the availability of urea is adequate. Similarly, the availability of phosphatic fertilizers i.e. DAP/NPK during the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) has been adequate throughout the country. There is tightness in availability of MOP during current year. There is no



viable source of Potash in the country as such the entire demand of MOP is met through imports. During the current year, contracting for import of MOP could not be materialized due to substantial increase of prices and cartelization by MOP producers in the International market. However, the breakthrough in contracting of MOP has been achieved. As a result, MOP availability for direct application as well as for indigenous production of NPK fertilizers is comfortable in Rabi'11-12.

(c) and (d) Further, the details of assistance provided and steps taken by Government in making availability of fertilizers in the country are as under:-

- (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](http://www.urvarak.co.in)) also called as Fertilizer 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 and 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) alongwith 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 Fertilizers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, GAIL and other prospective suppliers of NG/LNG so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met; and
- (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.

**Management quota in Engineering, Medical, Dental,  
Ayurvedic and Pharmacy colleges**

†526. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court had given a verdict of ending management quota from Engineering, Medical, Dental, Ayurveda and Pharmacy colleges throughout the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to implement it; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed three landmark decision in case of TMA Pai, Islamic Academic Education and P.A. Inamdar dealing with issues like commercialization of education, management seats etc. The admissions to the professional colleges under various categories including charging of fees is done in compliance with the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court through competent authority of the State Government, notified for the purpose.

**Demand of fertilizers**

†527. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards acute shortage of fertilizers in various parts of the country, including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(b) if so, the demand of various fertilizers for Kharif and Rabi crops in the current season State-wise and the extent to which it has been met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer under 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/decanalized since 1992 and are imported under Open General Licence

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(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) including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during the Kharif, 2011 and Rabi'11-12 (October'11) are given in the Statement-A [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to U.S.Q. No. 502 Part (a) to (d)] and Statement-B [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to U.S.Q. No. 509 Part (a) to (e)]. As can be seen, the availability of urea is adequate. Similarly, the availability of phosphatic fertilizers i.e. DAP/NPK during the year 2011-12 (April'11 to October'11) has been adequate throughout the country. There is tightness in availability of MOP during current year. There is no viable source of Potash in the country as such the entire demand of MOP is met through imports. During the current year, contracting for import of MOP could not be materialized due to substantial increase of prices and cartelization by MOP producers in the International market. However, the breakthrough in contracting of MOP has been achieved. As a result, MOP availability for direct application as well as for indigenous production of NPK fertilizers is comfortable in Rabi'11-12. Department of Fertilizers is in continuous touch with officials of State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar through weekly video conference. There is some tightness in availability of DAP during October, 2011. However, the railway rakes of DAP were despatched to various destinations of Uttar Pradesh, as per requirement of State Government. In case of Bihar, supply of fertilizer was slow because of lower off-take initially because of low rain fall pattern. However, the supplies of fertilizers were speeded up during the later season.

#### **Launching of 4G and 5G technologies**

528. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has closely monitored the propagation of 3G technology to all rural and semi-urban areas;

(b) if so, the position of demand and supply; and

(c) whether Government contemplates to bring out 4G and 5G technologies at a stroke, so that, the country can be at par with developed nations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) 3G spectrum was auctioned through simultaneous ascending e-auction during April, 2010. 4 Blocks of  $2 \times 5$  MHz of spectrum in 2.1 GHz band has been auctioned in 17 service areas and 5 blocks  $2 \times 5$  MHz of spectrum has been auctioned in 5 Telecom Service Areas including BSNL/MTNL.

The details of 3G spectrum allotted to the Service providers, is given in the Statement (See below). As per the provisions of Notice Inviting Applications issued for 3G auction, the following roll-out obligation conditions were incorporated.

**(1) Roll-out obligations for 3G Spectrum:**

**(i) Metro service area:**

The licensee to whom the spectrum is assigned shall be required to provide required street level coverage using the 3G Spectrum in at least 90% of the service area within five years of the Effective Date.

**(ii) Category A, B and C service areas:**

The licensee to whom the spectrum is assigned shall ensure that at least 50% of the District Headquarters ("DHQ") in the service area will be covered using the 3G Spectrum, out of which at least 15% of the DHQs should be rural Short Distance Charging Areas ("SDCA"), within five years of the Effective Date. Further:-

- the operator shall be permitted to cover any other town in a District in lieu of the DHQ;
- coverage of a DHQ/town would mean that at least 90% of the area bounded by the municipal/local body limits should get the required street level coverage;
- the DHQ shall be taken as on the Effective Date;
- the choice of DHQs/towns to be covered and further expansion beyond 50% of DHQs/towns shall lie with the operator.

(c) TRAI has released pre-consultation paper on 4G technologies on 10.02.2010 to identify the issues involved in allocation and pricing of spectrum for such services and issues related to licensing. Based on views received from the stakeholders, TRAI has released a consultation paper on 19.08.2011.

***Statement***

*Circle-wise details of successful bidders awarded for 3G spectrum*



Service area	Successful bidder	Frequency (in MHz)
1	2	3
Delhi	Vodafone Essar Limited	1959-1964
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1969-1974
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1974-1979

1	2	3
Mumbai	Reliance Telecom Limited	1959-1964
	Vodafone Essar Limited	1969-1974
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1974-1979
Maharashtra	Tata Teleservices Limited	1959-1964
	Idea Cellular Limited	1969-1974
	Vodafone Essar Limited	1974-1979
Gujarat	Tata Teleservices Limited	1959-1964
	Vodafone Essar Limited	1969-1974
	Idea Cellular Limited	1974-1979
Andhra Pradesh	Bharti Airtel Limited	1959-1964
	Idea Cellular Limited	1969-1974
	Aircel Limited	1974-1979
Karnataka	Tata Teleservices Limited	1959-1964
	Aircel Limited	1969-1974
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1974-1979
Tamil Nadu	Bharti Airtel Limited	1959-1964
	Vodafone Essar Limited	1969-1974
	Aircel Limited	1974-1979
Kolkata	Vodafone Essar Limited	1959-1964
	Aircel Limited	1969-1974
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1974-1979
Kerala	Idea Cellular Limited	1959-1964
	Tata Teleservices Limited	1969-1974
	Aircel Limited	1974-1979
Punjab	Idea Cellular Limited	1959-1964
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1964-1979
	Tata Teleservices Limited	1969-1974
	Aircel Limited	1974-1979

1	2	3
Haryana	Idea Cellular Limited	1959-1964
	Tata Teleservices Limited	1969-1974
	Vodafone Essar Limited	1974-1979
Uttar Pradesh (E)	Aircel Limited	1959-1964
	Idea Cellular Limited	1969-1974
	Vodafone Essar Limited	1974-1979
Uttar Pradesh (W)	Bharti Airtel Limited	1959-1964
	Idea Cellular Limited	1969-1974
	Tata Teleservices Limited	1974-1979
Rajasthan	Reliance Telecom Limited	1959-1964
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1969-1974
	Tata Teleservices Limited	1974-1979
Madhya Pradesh	Idea Cellular Limited	1959-1964
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1969-1974
	Tata Teleservices Limited	1974-1979
West Bengal	Bharti Airtel Limited	1959-1964
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1964-1969
	Vodafone Essar Limited	1969-1974
	Aircel Limited	1974-1979
Himachal Pradesh	Bharti Airtel Limited	1959-1964
	S Tel Private Limited	1964-1969
	Idea Cellular Limited	1969-1974
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1974-1979
Bihar	S Tel Private Limited	1959-1964
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1964-1969
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1969-1974
	Aircel Limited	1974-1979

1	2	3
Orissa	S Tel Private limited	1959-1964
	Aircel Limited	1969-1974
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1974-1979
Assam	Reliance Telecom Limited	1959-1964
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1969-1974
	Aircel Limited	1974-1979
North East	Aircel Limited	1959-1964
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1969-1974
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1974-1979
Jammu and Kashmir	Idea Cellular Limited	1959-1964
	Aircel Limited	1964-1969
	Reliance Telecom Limited	1969-1974
	Bharti Airtel Limited	1974-1979

Note: The above frequencies are Uplink frequencies.

#### **New National Telecom Policy**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has recently released a new National Telecom Policy;

(b) how the new Telecom Policy is different from the earlier one; and

(c) how the recently released National Frequency Allocation Policy Plan work helps in better management of spectrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) The Draft Telecom Policy, 2011 (NTP-2011) has been announced by Hon'ble Minister of Communications and IT on 10th October, 2011 and has been put in public domain for wider consultation.

(b) National Telecom Policy, 2011 is only at draft stage currently.

(c) National Frequency Plan (NFAP-2011) enables provisions for variety of applications of radio communications service in the different frequency bands taking into consideration the

requirements projected by various stakeholders and decisions of World Radio Communication Conference-2007 of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) so that various services/ applications can work in an interference free environment. The NFAP gives confidence to the industry for development of equipment/technology in India and also provides information for prospective service providers to submit their proposals for new services.

**Unsolicited and hoax calls from public telephone booths**

530. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

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

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that criminals are harassing police department by making hoax calls and sexual harassment to housewives from public telephone booths;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Ministry to stop such a menace; and

(c) whether the Ministry is in the process to regulate calls from public telephone booths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) A number of telephone calls are received by various Government departments, including Security Agencies informing them about impending bomb blasts. All these calls are earnestly pursued by the Police Security Agencies and found to be untrue. Further, complaints have been received regarding harassment to ladies/girls/housewives in respect of telephonic calls related to sexual matters. Subscribers are advised to approach Police in such matters.

(c) There are provisions in Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951 for prohibition of improper use of telephones. Provisions of CrPC may be invoked for violation thereof.

**Increase in cyber crime cases**

531. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be

pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a steep rise in cyber crimes causing irreparable damage to a person's reputation by putting an obscene video on the internet or by hacking somebody's bank account, etc.;

(b) whether the Ministry is mulling over to update the existing cyber crime laws enabling stringent punishments to cyber criminals, who tamper with computer source documents, hack computer systems and publish obscene information, in electronic form; and

(c) whether the Ministry would use advanced technology in combination with our existing laws, to provide a legal framework for electronic commerce and to enable electronic governance to prevent this menace of cyber crime?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) There have been incidents reported to Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) by Law Enforcement agencies on the hacking of email accounts and posting of objectionable contents including videos on the internet especially on social networking websites damaging reputation of individuals. A large no. of phishing incidents leading to hacking of bank accounts have also been reported to CERT-In by the Banks and Financial Institutions. A total no. of 508 and 386 phishing incidents have been reported to CERT-In in the year 2010 and during January – October, 2011 respectively.

(b) The Information Technology Act, 2000 has already been amended by the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008 and provide legal framework to address prevalent cyber crimes. Section 66, 66A, 66B, 66C, 66E, 66F, 67, 67A, 67B provides stringent punishment ranging from imprisonment of three years to life imprisonment and fine for various acts of cyber crime including tampering with computer source documents, hacking of computer and publishing of obscene information.

(c) The Information Technology Act, 2000 is a comprehensive Act to provide a legal framework for electronic commerce and to enable e-Governance.

**Irregularities in allocation of spectrum to DTH broadcasters**

532. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

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

(a) whether serious irregularities have been reported in allocation of spectrum to Direct to Home (DTH) broadcasters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an enquiry has been initiated in the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;



(f) the details of the loss incurred due to irregularities in allocation of spectrum to DTH broadcasters;

(g) whether accountability has been fixed in this regard;

(h) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of beneficiaries; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

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

(c) No, Sir, however two files related to the spectrum allocation of DTH operators, namely, M/s Dish TV Ltd. and M/s Sun Direct TV Pvt. Ltd. were given to CBI at their request in connection with 2G spectrum case.

(d) to (i) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Roll-out of network in Maoist affected areas**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked multiple operators to roll-out network in Maoist affected areas;

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

(c) how it will be helpful to the forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) No, Sir. However, Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is in the process of formulation of a scheme to provide mobile communication services in 9 Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected States at 1898 locations out of 2199 where Ministry of Home Affairs has requested for erection of mobile communication towers and identified by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in consultation with State Security Agencies and the Ministry of Home Affairs. At 301 locations already radiating Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) are existing.

(b) The details of 2199 Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected locations, District and State-wise are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) This would be helpful in providing mobile communication services in the LWE affected areas.

**Statement**

*District and State-wise details of 2199 LWE affected locations*

Sl. No.	State	District	No. of locations
---------	-------	----------	------------------

1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad	25

1	2	3	4
		East Godavari	2
		Karimnagar	11
		Khammam	150
		Visakhapatnam	11
		Vizianagram	28
	ANDHRA PRADESH TOTAL:		227
2.	Bihar	Arwal	16
		Aurangabad	37
		Gaya	31
		Jamui	53
		Jehanabad	7
		Nawada	29
		Rohtas	11
	BIHAR TOTAL:		184
3.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar	96
		Bijapur	14
		Dantewada	46
		Dhamtari	7
		Jashpur	10
		Kanker	66
		Kawardha	26
		Koriya	50
		Narayanpur	19
		Raipur	9
		Rajnandgaon	35
		Sarguja	119
	CHHATTISGARH TOTAL:		497

1	2	3	4
4.	Jharkhand	Bokaro	24
		Chatra	30
		Deoghar	19
		Dhanbad	7
		Dumka	25
		Garhwa	2
		Giridh	1
		Godda	31
		Gumla	52
		Hazaribagh	15
		Jamtara	3
		Khunti	73
		Kodarma	7
		Latehar	57
		Lohardaga	51
		Pakaur	2
		Palamu	72
		Paschimi Singhbhum	122
		Purbi Singhbhum	15
		Ramgarh	11
		Ranchi	58
		Sahebganj	38
		Saraikela	39
		Simdega	28
JHARKHAND TOTAL:			782
5.	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	6
		Gadchiroli	37
		Gondia	17
MAHARASHTRA TOTAL:			60

1	2	3	4
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat	22
	MADHYA PRADESH TOTAL:		22
7.	Odisha	Angul	5
		Bargarh	4
		Deogarh	7
		Dhenkanal	15
		Gajapati	11
		Ganjam	22
		Jajpur	11
		Jharsuguda	4
		Kalahandi	8
		Kandhamal	23
		Keonjhar	7
		Koraput	22
		Malkangiri	28
		Mayurbhanj	15
		Nayagarh	3
		Nowrangpur	11
		Nuapada	9
		Rayagada	21
		Sambalpur	8
		Sonepur	2
		Sundergarh	17
	ODISHA TOTAL:		253
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Chandoli	6
		Mirzapur	6
		Sonebhadra	66
	UTTAR PRADESH TOTAL:		78

1	2	3	4
9.	West Bengal	Bankura	10
		Paschim Medinipur	38
		Purulia	48
WEST BENGAL TOTAL:			96
GRAND TOTAL:			2199

#### **Exit policy for telecom operators**

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

(a) whether DoT has decided to make a reference to TRAI with regard to exit policy for telecom operators;

(b) if so, by when TRAI is likely to come up with its recommendations on the matter;

(c) whether TRAI plans to hold any consultations as required under section 11(4) of the TRAI Act, before finalizing its recommendations on the exit policy;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) how does Government proposes to protect its revenues and prohibit windfall gains for private parties in case of an exit policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) to (d) Sir, on 10th October, 2011, the Government sought the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on exit policy for the licensees who want to exit from the provisioning of telecom services under a licence. In response, the TRAI, on 3rd November, 2011 has conveyed that TRAI will need to carry out a consultation with the stakeholders and the recommendations on this subject will be sent in due course to the Government.

(e) As TRAI's recommendations are awaited, it is not considered appropriate to make any comments in the matter at this stage.

#### **National Telecom Policy, 2011**

535. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any key stakeholders have responded in writing or on the DoT portal until the launch of the draft National Telecom Policy, 2011 (NTP-2011) and since its launch, till date;



(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government will be able to meet its objective of announcing the final NTP-2011 in January, 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. About 26 references were received in writing from various stakeholders, individuals, associations etc. prior to the release of draft NTP-2011. An indicative list of the same is given in the Statement-I (See below). Since the launch of draft NTP-2011 on 10th October, 2011, about 22 responses have been received, an indicative list of which is given in the Statement-II (See below). Further, about 487 responses from 93 individuals have been received on the Department of Telecommunication policy portal till date.

(c) The last date for receipt of comments/views/suggestions on the draft NTP-2011 is 9th December, 2011. After the receipt of feedback and their due consideration, NTP-2011 would be approved by the competent authority.

**Statement-I**

*Indicative list of suggestions, view points, inputs received from various stakeholders for National Telecom Policy, 2011 formulation (before launching of Draft NTP-2011 for wider public consultation)*

Sl. No.	Received from
1	2
1.	ASSOCHAM letter dated 29.1.2011 and 22.3.2011
2.	ISPAI letter dated 1.2.2011
3.	ITU-APT Foundation of India letter dated 7.2.2011
4.	TATA Teleservices letter dated 8.2.2011
5.	Association of Competitive Telecom Operators (ACTO) letter dated 2.2.2011
6.	Bombay Telephone Users Association letter dated 4.2.2011
7.	Reliance Communications Limited letter dated 9.3.2011
8.	Sub-Committee of the Prime Minister's Council on promoting PPP for R&D and Clean Energy-ref from DIT received on 7.4.11
9.	Telecom Users Group India letter dated 4th April, 2011

10. From WPC Wing Dated 6.5.2011 forwarding letter from Vodafone  
Essar Limited dated 28.4.2011

11. IETE recommendation on NTP-2011 dated May, 2011

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1	2
12.	PPT and PDF files from Reliance Communications Limited on NTP-2011
13.	IIM-Idea TCOE, IIM Ahmedabad
14.	The Centre for Internet and Society, Bangalore letter dated 31st March, 2011
15.	(a) FICCI letter dated 1st April, 2011 (b) PMO letter dated 19.4.11 forwarding the same letter from FICCI (c) FICCI-E&Y Report dated 15.4.2011
16.	Letter dated 16.3.2011 from Shri S.M. Agarwal, Chairman, Futures Group to Hon'ble Prime Minister forwarded by PMO
17.	Skoch Consultancy Services Private Limited dated 17.4.2011
18.	VSAT Services Association of India dated 2nd April, 2011
19.	Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Hon'ble MP, Rajya Sabha and Member, Standing Committee on IT letter dated 30th March, 2011
20.	Director, LBSNAA, Mussoorie, dated 20.4.2011
21.	COAI letter dated 7th June, 2011
22.	AUSPI e-mail dated 20.7.2011
23.	COAI letter dated 10.8.11
24.	ISPAI letter dated 9.8.11
25.	Vodafone Essar letter dated 30.8.11
26.	BSNL Associations/Unions Joint Action Committee letter dated 6.6.11

**Statement-II**

*Indicative list of Suggestions, view points, inputs received from various stakeholders on draft National Telecom Policy, 2011 (After hosting draft NTP-2011 in the website for wider public consultation)*

Sl. No.	Received from
1	2
1.	RCOM letter given on 20.10.2011

2. Letter from Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Hon'ble MP addressed to Hon'ble MOS (P) C&IT dated 13.10.2011
3. Letter from Shri Vinod Kumar, ITS (Rtd.) dated 17th October, 2011

1	2
4.	Letter from Shri Sreekumar S., Kayamkulam, Kerala dated 17.10.2011
5.	Secretary General AUSPI letter (e-mail) received on 21.10.2011
6.	COAI letter dated 18.10.2011
7.	Letter from Shri Hemant S. Patil, Kanpur Road, Lucknow dated 12.10.2011
8.	Letter from Shri R. Krishnamurthy, Dy. Secy., Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment dated 6.11.2011
9.	E-mail from Shri Nicolas Fetchko, Director, International and Government Affairs, Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA), Washington dated 5.11.2011.
10.	Letter from Shri G.L. Jogi, General Secretary, Sanchar Nigam Executives' Association (India) dated 31.10.2011
11.	Letter from Shri G.L. Jogi, General Secretary, Sanchar Nigam Executives' Association (India) dated 4.11.2011
12.	Letter from Mr. Peter BERZ, European Commission, Directorate General for Trade, Brussels, Belgium dated 7.11.2011
13.	Letter from Shri Satya N. Gupta, President, ACTO dated 7.11.2011
14.	Letter from Shri Ashok Aggarwal, Director General, TEMA dated 24.10.2011.
15.	Letter from Shri L.B. Chand, Brig. DACIDS JCES, HQ Integrated Defence Staff, Ministry of Defence, Plot No. 108 (East), Church Road, New Delhi-110 001
16.	Letter from Shri G.S. Gundu Rao, President, Consumer Care Society, Bangalore dated 24th October, 2011.
17.	Letters from Ms. Juhi Chawla Mehta and Shri Parkash R. Munshi, Neighbours of Sahyadri State Guest House, B.G. Kher Marg, Mumbai
18.	Letter from Shri Virat Bhatia, Chairman, FICCI dated 28.10.2011
19.	Letter from Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Secretary General FICCI dated 11.10.2011
20.	Letter from Shri Virat Bhatia, Chairman, FICCI dated 4.11.2011
21.	Letter from Shri G.L. Jogi, General Secretary, Sanchar Nigam Executives' Association (India) dated 4.11.2011
22.	Letter from Shri R.A. Venkitachalam, Vice President and MD, Underwriters Laboratories-Emerging Markets dated 27.10.2011.

**Stamp duty collected by telecom companies**

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

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Indian Stamp Act is applicable to the agreement made by mobile service provider telecom companies of the country with customers while providing them mobile connections;

(b) if so, whether stamp duty collected by telecom companies is being deposited in the treasury under Indian Stamp Act, 1899, Article 32, Schedule 1 and by when this stamp duty is being deposited;

(c) if so, the details of stamp duty collected and deposited during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) if not, whether Government is contemplating any action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Indian Stamp Act does not apply to the Customer Acquisition Form (CAF), containing the terms and conditions for availing mobile services, which is filled by the customer while taking a mobile connection.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### **Wireless telephone connections and services**

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

(a) the number of wireless telephone connections functioning in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) the percentage of such telephone connections out of the total telephone connections in the State;

(c) whether Central Government has taken some appropriate steps to improve the quality of telephone services provided in all the States including Maharashtra or special policy/plan is being formulated in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The information with regard to number of telephone connections is maintained telecom service area-wise only and not District-wise. The Maharashtra service-area includes entire area falling within the State of Maharashtra and Union Territory of Goa, excluding areas covered by Mumbai Metro Service Area. The Mumbai Service area includes local

areas served by Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Kalyan Telephone Exchanges. The information in respect of wireless telephone connections in Maharashtra service area and Mumbai service area, as on 30th September, 2011, is as follows:-

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



Name of the telecom service area	Wireless telephone connections (in million)	Wireline telephone connections (in million)	Total telephone connections (in million)	Percentage of wireless connections out of total connections
Maharashtra	66.82	2.73	69.55	96.07%
Mumbai	36.96	2.99	39.95	92.51%

(c) and (d) Following steps are taken/being taken by the Government to improve the quality of telephone services provided in the country including Maharashtra and Mumbai telecom service areas:-

1. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of telephone services against the benchmarks given for the various parameters laid in Quality of Service Regulations through Quarterly and Monthly Performance Monitoring Reports. In addition, Point of Interconnection (POI) congestion is also being monitored on monthly basis.
2. TRAI also undertakes objective assessment of the Quality of Service of Wireline as well as Wireless telephone services through an independent agency. A customer satisfaction survey is also conducted quarterly through this agency. The results of these audit and survey were widely published for public/stakeholders knowledge.
3. Wherever deficiencies in achieving the quality of service benchmarks have been noticed through close monitoring of the performance of service providers by way of periodic reports, audit and assessment of quality of service through independent agencies, TRAI has been following up with the service providers for addressing such deficiencies in achieving the benchmarks for the various parameters. TRAI also publishes information about the quality of service performance by service providers through its website and through advertisements in regional newspapers for the information of stakeholders.

#### **Jobs earmarked for SC/ST category**

538. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total sanctioned staff strength in the Ministry, Group-wise i.e. Group A to Group D;

(b) the number of jobs earmarked for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category out of the total strength as per Government of India's reservation policy; and

(c) the reasons, if any, for the staff strength not being in accordance with the reservation policy of the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) The information in respect of Department of Information Technology is as under:—

		Sanctioned strength	Reservation earmarked for SC/ST
Group 'A'	—	247	19
Group 'B' (Gazzeted)	—	72	11
Group 'B' (Non-Gazzeted)	—	129	24
Group 'C' and 'D'	—	278*	39

\*As per Department of Personnel and Training OM dated 30th April, 2010, the erstwhile Group 'D' posts have been upgraded as Group 'C'.

(c) There is adequate representation of SC/ST with reference to existing filled posts in the Department of Information Technology. However, vacant posts including those reserved for SC/STs have been advertised and action is in process to fill these posts as per Government of India instructions on reservations.

The information in respect of Department of Telecommunications and Department of Posts is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Unsolicited calls on mobile phones**

539. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of a ban imposed by the Union Government on pesky calls from 27th September, 2011, mobile users are still receiving unsolicited calls;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received by Government regarding pesky calls from customers during the last two months;

(c) whether the National Customer Preference Registry has been refusing registration to new customers who wish to use the facility for avoidance of pesky calls; and

(d) if so, the action Government proposes against the telecom operators who have failed to provide services against unsolicited

calls to its customers?

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 Unsolicited Commercial Communications. All the provisions of the said regulation

have come into force 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). The number of complaints has come down after implementation of this regulation with effect from 27th September, 2011. As per the data on Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) complaints lodged by customers with Access Providers, a total of 5979 complaints were lodged by telecom customers from 27th September, to 15th November, 2011.

(c) and (d) As per the provisions of the regulations, the telecom customers have to register with their service providers for registration in National Customer Preference Registry. No complaints have been received regarding the Access Providers refusing registration to new customers with the National Customer preference Registry as intimated by TRAI.

#### **Assistance to Food Processing Industries**

540. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to promote Food Processing Industries;

(b) the financial assistance provided to the units of food processing industries during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for providing marketing facilities to sell the processed food products in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Government has formulated and is implementing several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for the establishment and modernization of Food Processing Units, Creation of Infrastructure, Support to R&D, Human Resources Development, Food Testing Labs, Implementation of Quality Systems such as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Moreover, the Government has taken several steps like tax reduction, waiver/reduction of excise duty, reduction of custom duty on specific food items with a view to encourage the growth of Food Processing Industries and make them more competitive.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its plan scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance to food processing units in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and 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, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas to compete the global market. The details of financial assistance provided to the food processing units during last four years is given in the Statement (See below).

As far steps taken for marketing facilities to sell the processed food products in foreign countries is concerned, it does not fall under the purview of Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

**Statement**

*Number of units assisted and financial assistance provided during the years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and current year State-wise under the scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPIs\**

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12 (as on 31.10.2011)	
		Approved	Amount released	Approved	Amount released	Approved	Amount released	Approved	Amount released	Approved	Amount released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43	947.49	48	908.999	41	677.05	30	562.096	41	786.68
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	1	17.67	3	376.14	2	66.420	0	0
4.	Assam	12	442.17	17	176.79	22	418.74	26	875.701	5	78.47
5.	Bihar	5	83.915	2	42.3	2	35.59	6	136.681	3	39.66
6.	Chandigarh	6	138.08	0	0	0	0	1	25.000	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	10	163.725	4	45.46	27	297.574	26	234.87
8.	Delhi	0	0	7	160.65	2	50	3	82.600	12	320.21
9.	Goa	1	17	1	24.57	1	24.26	1	25.00	1	25.00

10. Gujarat	32	544.06	39	714.81	42	665.18	52	1419.72	66	1242.04
11. Haryana	19	418.72	23	349.415	11	134.96	14	325.280	10	184.58
12. Himachal Pradesh	12	325.09	5	152.745	10	269.58	7	204.530	11	289.07
13. Jammu and Kashmir	9	109.855	3	22.05	7	59.73	5	89.095	2	18.180
14. Jharkhand	2	9.09	0	0	3	44.09	4	85.425	0	0
15. Karnataka	34	529.62	35	629.895	24	269.55	14	377.790	16	238.25
16. Kerala	47	876.8	32	545.37	33	567.53	19	411.72	28	539.67
17. Madhya Pradesh	10	172.32	14	201.87	18	273.03	14	211.294	13	194.05
18. Maharashtra	95	1696.805	121	1802.633	113	1717.3	56	1006.524	107	1452.83
19. Manipur	3	61.74	3	45.51	6	163.75	1	23.975	5	92.15
20. Meghalaya	1	8.19	2	159.57	2	123.02	2	100.045	0	0
21. Mizoram	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	0	0	0
22. Nagaland	1	27.485	4	178.205	1	64.99	1	6.205	0	0
23. Orissa	6	129.41	2	38.6&	6	84.4	8	200.875	2	8.44
24. Pondicherry	2	31.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25. Punjab	32	481.45	61	841.36	13	172.37	9	149.495	22	316.12



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
26. Rajasthan		35	566.075	44	551.975	27	27325.46	48	691.123	63	806.10
27. Sikkim		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. Tamil Nadu		53	951.79	36	594.355	41	672.11	24	493.582	43	797.45
29. Tripura		2	39.98	1	13.86	0	0	0	0	0	0
30. Uttar Pradesh		63	1123.425	43	875.475	32	560.63	47	1078.638	37	635.89
31. Uttarakhand		9	339.78	6	163.15	12	307.57	6	168.523	1	2.460
32. West Bengal		35	653.56	19	390.135	10	136.48	10	317.945	10	206.51
TOTAL:		569	10725.2	579	9765.767	487	8249.97	437	9432.862	524	8508.66

\*Data is under reconciliation with coordinating Bank i.e. HDFC Bank

### **Development of Food Processing Industry in Jharkhand**

541. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Food Processing Industries functioning in Jharkhand, as on date, location-wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided to them during the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government for co-ordination with the State Government for development and modernization of Food Processing Industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Ministry of Food processing Industry does not maintain the data on food processing industries functioning in the country. As per Annual Survey of Industries (2007-08) there were 26,221 registered food processing units in the country including Jharkhand. Details are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its plan scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance to food processing units in the form of *grant-in-aid* @ 25% of the cost of plant and 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, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. The details of financial assistance provided to the food processing units in the country including Jharkhand during last years and current year is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to U.S.Q. No. 540 part (b) and (c)]. The State Government has been requested from time to time for inspection and physical verification of the units assisted by the Ministry under the decentralized scheme.

### **Statement**

*Number of registered food processing units (2007-08)*

State	Factories in operation number
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	6127
Tamil Nadu	3589

1	2
Maharashtra	2316
Uttar Pradesh	1700
Punjab	2072
Karnataka	1604
Gujarat	1401
West Bengal	1271
Kerala	1183
Assam	876
Haryana	501
Chhattisgarh	730
Orissa	580
Madhya Pradesh	533
Rajasthan	516
Uttaranchal	288
Bihar	179
Jharkhand	114
Delhi	116
Himachal Pradesh	112
Jammu and Kashmir	114
Goa	74
Puducherry	60
Tripura	54
Daman and Diu	28
Chandigarh (U.T.)	24
Nagaland	16
Meghalaya	14
Manipur	10

1	2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	14
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5
TOTAL:	26,221

Source: Central Statistical Organization (CSO) – Annual Survey of Industries Time Series data, March, 2011.

#### **Financial assistance to Food Processing Industries**

542. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to budgetary constraints of funds for Food Processing Industries under the schemes of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernisation, a large number of cases are pending at various stages;

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

(c) the funds allocated to these schemes during Eleventh Plan period and the funds so far utilized;

(d) whether some FPIs have not been sanctioned financial assistance due to delay in submission of deficiency free documents;

(e) if so, the details in this regard and reasons for delay in submission of such documents, State-wise; and

(f) the action taken against such FPIs during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): {a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per e-portal data maintained by HDFC Bank Ltd. under the decentralized procedure, a total 2742 applications are pending (as on 21.11.2011) for disbursement for want of budgetary support. State-wise details of pending applications is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) During Eleventh Plan period a total allocation of Rs. 600.00 crores was made by Planning Commission for the scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernization of Food Processing Industries. Out of total allocation, an amount of Rs 488.51 crore has been provided under the scheme so far including

Rs. 98 crore BE of 2011-12. Ministry has already utilized almost the entire budget provided under this scheme (except NER) and has assisted 2596 Food Processing units during Eleventh Plan till 31.10.2011. A State-wise detail of units assisted is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to U.S.Q. No. 540 part (b) and (c)].

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. Ministry has taken initiatives to make the industry/entrepreneurs aware through advertisements, organizing investors meet and special meetings in NER. In so far as general areas is concerned, the Ministry has been reviewing the status with the focal point banks on quarterly basis. Ministry has also engaged a professional agency to maintain the status of proposals under the scheme. Under this arrangement, the details of all the pending applications alongwith their present status has been kept in the public domain on the website of the Ministry. Any applicant can find out current status of his application by clicking on to "<http://www.mofpi@nic.in>" e-portal status of applications OR "<http://cmi/mofpi/status>".

**Statement**

*State-wise number of cases pending under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries*

As on 21st November, 2001

Sl. No.	State	No. of cases pending
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	328
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
3.	Assam	18
4.	Bihar	11
5.	Chandigarh	8
6.	Chhattisgarh	182
7.	Delhi	63
8.	Goa	7
9.	Gujarat	194
10.	Haryana	125
11.	Himachal Pradesh	24
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	18
13.	Jharkhand	8

14.	Karnataka	246
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15.	Kerala	109
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1	2	3
16.	Madhya Pradesh	73
17.	Maharashtra	451
18.	Manipur	15
19.	Meghalaya	3
20.	Nagaland	3
21.	Orissa	35
22.	Punjab	300
23.	Rajasthan	144
24.	Tamil Nadu	150
25.	Uttar Pradesh	157
26.	Uttarakhand	12
27.	West Bengal	56
TOTAL:		2742

**Establishment of food processing industry in Orissa**

†543. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Government of Orissa has sent many proposals to Union Government for establishment of Food Processing Industry in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Union Government in this direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries (FPIs) has been decentralized with effect from 01.04.2007. Under the decentralized procedure, an entrepreneur/applicant can file application with the neighbourhood Bank branch/Financial Institution (FI). The Bank/FIs would then appraise the project, calculate the

eligible grant amount as per the guidelines of the scheme and  
recommend for release

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of grant to the Ministry through e-portal set up for this purpose. After receipt of the recommendations and requisite documents from the Bank/FIs, the Ministry sanctions the grant and transfer the funds through the e-portal to the concerned applicant through Nodal Bank. Thus the proposals are not sent by any of the State Government including State of Orissa. The Ministry has been receiving proposals from the entrepreneurs of States of Orissa through this procedure.

The Ministry has been continuously reviewing the status and organizing meetings with the focal point banks on a regular basis. Ministry has also engaged a professional agency to maintain the data and to monitor the scheme closely. Under this arrangement, the details of all the pending applications alongwith their present status has been put in the public domain on the website of the Ministry. Any applicant can find out current status of his application by clicking on to "<http://www.mofpi@nic.in>" e-portal-status of applications OR "<http://cmi/mofpi/status>".

#### **Setting up cold storages for fruits and vegetables**

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

(a) whether the cold storage facilities have been less in the country especially in heavy harvest areas of fruits and vegetables;

(b) if so, whether Government will come forward to set up such cold storage godowns in every district of the country to enable the farmers to store the vegetables and fruits harvest; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) Requirements projected and estimated in National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL) study of 2010 on the basis of peak season production and highest arrival/harvesting of storable fruit and vegetables in a month is 61.13 million tonnes. There is a gap between demand and supply of cold storage in the country.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) through its various schemes for financial assistance and other promotional measures, facilitates creation of post harvest processing

infrastructure including processing facilities aimed at reducing wastages, enhancing value addition and increasing shelf life in the country.

Under the Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure financial assistance in the form of *grant-in-aid* @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas, and @ 75% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works is provided by the Ministry in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of

cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging and processing for horticulture including organic produce, marine, dairy, poultry, etc. Other agencies of the Government like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Government also provide assistance for cold storages under their respective schemes.

#### **Mega Food Parks**

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

(a) whether the Mega Food Parks planned for completion within 2011 under schemes of Infrastructure development has not been established by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay in establishing such Mega Food Parks; and

(c) the total number of Mega Food Parks proposed by Government, State-wise, during the next plan period, and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The 30 Mega Food Parks envisaged in the Eleventh Plan, have been approved by the Government in 3 phases. In the 1st phase 10 projects were approved on 11.09.2008, in the 2nd phase 5 project were approved on 18.11.2010 and in the 3rd phase 15 projects have been approved on 25.10.2011.

(b) Details of projects approved is given in the Statement (See

below). As has been stated at (a) above, the projects have been approved in a phased manner and each approval was based on successful implementation of the earlier phase.

(c) Twelfth Plan document has not been finalized by the Government.

**Statement**

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

Sl. No.	Name of SPV	State	Location	Project cost (crore)	Date of in-principle approval	Date of final approval	Amount of grant approved (crore)	Amount of grant released (crore)	Actual expenditure (crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Patanjali Food and Herbal Park Ltd.		Uttarakhand	Haridwar	95.08	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	30.00
							65.55		
2.	Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	Chittoor	126.54	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	30.00	73.51
3.	North East Mega Food Park Ltd.		Assam	Nalbari	75.98	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	15.00
							15.86		
4.	Jharkhand Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.		Jharkhand	Ranchi	113.95	16.12.2008	27.03.2009	50.00	5.00
							7.24		
5.	Tamil Nadu Mega Food Park Ltd.		Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri	133.45	16.12.2008	16.03.2010	50.00	5.00
							6.14		
6.	Jangipur Bengal Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Bengal	West	Jangipur	111.04	16.12.2008	16.03.2010	50.00	5.00
							10.25		
7.	M/s Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd.		Karnataka	Tumkur	144.33	03.08.2010	27.03.2011	50.00	5.00
							17.50		

8. M/s International Mega Food Park Ltd.	Punjab	Ferozpur	153.40	03.08.2010	25.05.2011	50.00	5.00	4.75
9. M/s Shaktiman Mega Food Park Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	Sultanpur	168.65	24.09.2010	DPR has been submitted and the same has been appraised. SPV has been granted extension of time upto 31.12.2011 to comply certain observations.			
10. M/s Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	120.76	05.04.2011	"In principle" approval was accorded on 05.04.2010. The DPR has been submitted which is under scrutiny.			
11. M/s Keventer Food Park Infra Ltd.	Bihar	Bhagalpur	153.30	29.04.2011	DPR has been submitted by SPV which has been appraised by PMA and scrutinized by TC. Based on the recommendation of TC, the proposal was placed before IMAC for consideration of final approval on 17.11.2011. The IMAC has accorded final approval.			
12. M/s Anil Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Gujarat	Vadodara	179.37	29.04.2011	DPR is awaited. SPV has sought extension of time for submission of DPR.			
13. M/s MITS Mega Food Park Ltd.	Orissa	Rayagada	116.77	29.04.2011	DPR has been submitted by the SPV which			

						has been appraised by PMA and scrutinized by TC. Based on the recommendation of TC the SPV has been instructed to fulfill all the prescribed conditions.
14. M/s Sikaria Infra Projects Pvt. Ltd.	Tripura	Agartala	85.25			29.04.2011DPR has been submitted by SPV which has been appraised by PMA and scrutinized by TC. Based on the recommendation of TC, the proposal was placed before IMAC for consideration of final approval on 17.11.2011. The IMAC has accorded final approval.
15. M/s Madhya Pradesh Mega Food Park Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	Khargon	161.75	10.10.2011		"In Principle" approval has been accorded on 10.10.2011. The DPR is awaited.
CCEA has approved setting up of 15 additional Mega Food Parks on 25.10.2011. EOI for seeking proposals has been issued.						



### **Standard of Deemed Universities**

†546. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Deemed Universities in the country at present;
- (b) whether some of these universities are very much below the standard;
- (c) if so, the decision that Government is taking to revoke their recognition;
- (d) the number of students studying in the below standard institutions functioning as Deemed Universities; and
- (e) the measures adopted by Government to secure their future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There are 129 Deemed to be Universities in the country at present.

(b) Yes, Sir. Review Committee constituted by the Government had found 44 such institutions unfit to continue as Deemed to be Universities.

(c) The matter is presently sub-judice as the Hon'ble Apex Court has directed the Government to maintain *status-quo vis-à-vis* the 44 institutions found unfit to continue as institutions Deemed to, be Universities.

(d) The number of students in these 44 institutions, as gathered from the details furnished by the institutions during the process of review, was 1,95,020.

(e) The Government constituted a Task Force to advise the Government on action plan regarding the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Committee. The terms of reference included suggesting a plan of action for protecting the interests of the students. The Task Force has given its report containing their suggestions on protecting the interests of the students on revoking declaration of the respective Deemed to be Universities. The Government has, in principle, accepted the report of the Task Force.

### **Promotion of foreign capital investment in the field of education**

†547. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to

state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has prepared a five point agenda for promoting foreign capital investment in the field of education in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the said agenda;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether this agenda would promote foreign capital investment in the field of education; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Government has taken various initiatives for promoting foreign capital investment in the field of education including allowing foreign direct investment upto 100 per cent in automatic route. Legislation for prescribing a framework for the entry and operations of foreign educational institutions in India- has been introduced in Parliament.

**Survey on standard of education carried out by NGO**

†548. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the survey regarding conditions and standard of education of primary schools in rural areas carried out by domestic NGO Pratham, which is supported by international organisations like U.N.I.C.E.F. and U.N.E.S.C.O.;

(b) if so, whether the survey report is disappointing on the parameters of Right to Education;

(c) if not, the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(d) the salient features of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Pratham, an NGO has carried out a survey in 5 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand and Rajasthan with support from U.N.I.C.E.F. and U.N.E.S.C.O. The study has noted that in the last two decades, impressive strides have been made in India in terms of providing school buildings, classrooms, teachers, textbooks and other facilities. These have been matched by very significant improvements in enrollment. The Annual Study Status of Education Report (ASER) study "Inside Primary Schools" tracked 30,000 rural children in Std. 2 and Std. 4 in 900 schools spread over five States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. The key

recommendations emerging from this study are as below:-

- (i) Textbooks need urgent revisions. They need to start from what children can do and be more realistic and developmentally appropriate in what children are expected to learn, with clear learning goals and sequence.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (ii) Systems must be put into place to track attendance, not just enrollment, and ensure regular reporting and monitoring of this attendance.
- (iii) Mother tongue instruction and programmes for language transition need to be introduced and expanded.
- (iv) Teacher recruitment policies need to assess teachers' knowledge, but more importantly their ability to explain content to children, make information relevant to their lives and use teaching learning materials and activities other than the textbook.
- (v) State teacher education plans should invest in human resource capacity academic structure, like Block Resource Centres (BRCs) and Cluster Resource Centres (CRCs) and District Institutes of Education and Training (DIET) to enable them to help improve teaching and learning quality via in-service training and classroom visits.
- (vi) As per The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, child-friendly education needs to be defined and measured regularly as apart of the indicators of quality education.
- (vii) Libraries, with take home books for reading practice at the household level, should be monitored as part of RTE indicators. Family reading programmes could also be part of innovations to help support first generation school goes.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 1st April, 2010 and SSA norms have been revised to correspond with the provisions of RTE Act, 2009 in order to ensure quality elementary education to children of age group from 6-14 years through out the country including these five States.

#### **New laws for providing loans to students for higher education**

†549. 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 new laws have recently been made to provide loans to students for higher education;

(b) if so, the details of these amended laws;

(c) the reasons that necessitated amendments in the old laws; and

(d) whether these new laws would curb the increase in the number of students who want to take loan?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University, Wardha**

550. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the corrective steps taken by the Ministry to improve reputation and efficiency of Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University; Wardha;

(b) the action taken by the Ministry on allegations of unlawful recruitment of employees in this university;

(c) whether the Ministry has conducted or is in the process of conducting any inquiry for poor quality of various buildings of this university; and

(d) if so, what punitive action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya (MGAHV), Wardha, is an autonomous body established under the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya Act, 1996, and the University is governed by the said Act and the Statutes and Ordinances made thereunder. As per the information received from MGAHV, Wardha, the University has recently added four new Schools and started new courses. As a result the number of students enrolled in the University has gone up from 207 students in 2007-2008 to 656 students in 2011-2012.

(b) The University Grants Commission (UGC) had constituted a Committee to examine the alleged irregularities committed by MGAHV, Wardha, and in January, 2011, the minutes of the meeting of the committee were sent to the Vice-Chancellor, MGAHV, Wardha, for taking appropriate action. The said Committee had *inter-alia* recommended that the University may not fill up the teaching and non-teaching posts, which were sanctioned in earlier Plans and could not be filled up during these plans and were treated as lapsed. The University was advised to prepare a comprehensive proposal for requirement of their

teaching and non-teaching staff keeping in view the teacher-student ratio and teaching to non-teaching ratio prescribed by the UGC.

(c) The UGC has not conducted any inquiry relating to poor quality of various buildings of MGAHV, Wardha. The University has informed that it has entrusted the construction work to four Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) viz. Central Public Works Department (CPWD), Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Maharashtra Jeevan Pradhikaran, and Uttar Pradesh Samaj



Kalyan Nigam, and these agencies/PSUs have their own internal vigilance mechanism for taking corrective measures as and when required.

(d) In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.

**Report on leakage of AIEEE question paper**

†551. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that examination paper of All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) held on 1st May, 2011 was leaked out;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it was enquired into by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE);

(c) if so, the date when Government had received the report of CBSE and the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee of experts constituted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has inquired into the matter.

(c) and (d) The Government have received the Inquiry Report from the Chairman, CBSE on 4th November, 2011. The Committee is of the view that the leakage may have occurred at the printing press. An FIR in the matter was lodged by CBSE and the U.P. Special Task Force has since filed the charge sheet. The matter is *sub judice*. Based on the recommendation of the Committee, the CBSE has debarred the Printing Press for award of any work.

**Observations of CAG on appointment and promotion  
of officers and staff in JNU**

†552. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has made any comments regarding appointment and promotion of officers and staff in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU);

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

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that 33 per cent posts of teachers are lying vacant in JNU; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to fill these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) is an autonomous body, established under the Jawaharlal Nehru University Act, 1966, and is governed by this Act and Statutes and Ordinances made thereunder.

As per the information furnished by the University, the C&AG, in its draft Performance Audit Report for 2011-12, had commented on relaxing the eligibility criteria for appointment of Deputy Registrar/Assistant Registrar, etc. However, on being satisfied with the reply of the University, the C&AG had dropped the aforementioned comment from its final Performance Audit Report, 2011-12.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) University Grants Commission has informed that it has directed the University vide its communication dated 21.9.2011 to fill up the vacant teaching posts as per UGC's Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of teachers and other academic staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2010.

#### **Proposal to provide Aakash tablets to students**

553. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI :

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the recently released world's cheapest Tablet 'Aakash' bring down digital divide between rich and poor students in the country;

(b) how the Ministry is planning to distribute one crore 'Aakash' tablets to students;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide 'Aakash' to poor students of SC, ST and OBC category on subsidized rates; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) aims to leverage the potential of ICT in providing high-quality, personalized and interactive knowledge modules over the internet in any-time, any-where mode. To do so, a computing device that was low in cost but rich in features, was seen as an imperative. The low cost tablet PC 'Aakash' launched by Government will bring down the digital divide to a good extent.

(b) to (d) In the Eleventh Plan, under NMEICT, there is a provision for providing 50% subsidy to colleges and universities for procuring computing devices like 'Aakash' as per their requirements. The colleges and universities could then issue these devices to financially weak students from the library on the pattern of the Book Bank Scheme. Thus, the individual subsidy to poor students like SC, ST and OBC for buying Aakash tablets may not be needed.

#### **Scholastic Aptitude Test**

554. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is contemplating single test on the lines of the Scholastic Aptitude Test in the US to reduce stress for students and improve access to education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the system would be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No such proposal is under consideration of the Ministry.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Central funds to States under SSA**

555. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the basis for allocation of Central funds to various States under SSA;

(b) the details of funds allocated to Andhra Pradesh under above schemes during Tenth Five Year Plan and so far in Eleventh Five Year Plan and for the rest of the country during the period, year-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) whether funds allocated to Andhra Pradesh have been spent for the specified purpose;

(d) if so, the results achieved year-wise and scheme-wise;

(e) whether any complaints of diversion/misuse of funds have come to the notice of Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) In the Tenth Five Year Plan the funding pattern under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) between Central and States was in the ratio of 75:25 (90:10 for NE States). The funding pattern between the Centre and States for Eleventh Plan was on a

sliding scale, viz. 65:35 during the first two years of Eleventh Five Year Plan, 60:40 in third year, 55:45 in the fourth year and 50:50 thereafter (90:10 for NE States). With the enactment of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, the funding pattern has been revised in the 65:35 ratio between the Central and State Governments, and is applicable from 2010-11 onwards. The existing funding pattern of 90:10 ratio for the States in the NER remains unchanged.

(b) Details of the funds released during Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The details of the achievement made by Andhra Pradesh are tabulated below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)					
Year	GoI Share	State Share	Total	Expenditure	% Expenditure
2002-03	8226.10	2547.00	10773.10	3952.10	36.68%
2003-04	9884.41	4383.57	14267.98	3952.10	27.69%
2004-05	28000.00	9076.36	37076.36	3952.10	10.66%
2005-06	37999.00	12605.15	63352.11	55816.48	88.11%
2006-07	46245.56	14415.18	75640.64	72236.73	95.50%
2007-08	28100.00	15107.61	45708.28	43699.91	95.61%
2008-09	71031.78	20995.66	122026.77	93526.52	76.64%
2009-10	38569.90	10885.05	74170.59	72257.36	97.42%
2010-11	81000.00	63508.72	148813.94	144004.80	96.77%

(e) and (f) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has an intensive Financial Management System which includes annual audit by Chartered Accountants empanelled with Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, concurrent financial review by Institute of Public Auditors of India (IPAI) as well as system for internal audit. SSA conducts Quarterly Review Meetings with Finance Controllers of all States/UTs for monitoring the utilization of funds. Whenever misappropriation of funds meant for SSA are reported through audit by CA firms, Accountant General (AG) of States, CAG of India and IPAI Reviews and action is taken thereon. Investigations have been made on the misappropriation of funds in West Bengal in 2004-05, Haryana in 2005-06, 2008-09 and 2009-10, Himachal Pradesh in 2005-06, Andhra Pradesh in 2006-07 and

2010-11, Karnataka and Rajasthan in 2007-08 and Gujarat in 2009-10. Besides initiating departmental proceedings against the persons found guilty, police complaints have been filed and investigation through State CID/Vigilance Department has been conducted. The persons concerned have either been transferred, suspended or terminated and recoveries affected. In Andhra Pradesh, orders attaching the properties of the two main accused parties have been issued.



**Statement**

*Release of central funds to various States during Tenth and Eleventh Five year plan (upto to 2010-11)*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8226.10	9884.41	28000.00	37999.00	46245.56	28100.00	71031.78	38569.90	81000.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1412.00	675.35	3009.00	4442.51	7143.74	11043.55	13683.64	11427.95	20401.77
3.	Assam	10175.92	12190.43	20654.00	13850.00	51464.72	28903.62	42740.91	47480.00	7685435
4.	Bihar	7914.97	19515.75	31970.56	32399.56	107744.39	135417.64	186158.47	121739.06	204789.63
5.	Chhattisgarh	3639.73	6589.02	20786.76	30184.39	50182.20	46787.76	51853.86	55592.82	87863.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	728.12	724.12	899.57	804.41	550.58	671.27
7.	Gujarat	14004.30	11660.13	14072.00	15084.84	14806.97	22658.26	25432.47	20031.73	44065.01
8.	Haryana	2735.87	6895.55	1288135	10196.55	25647.12	14220.00	20546.87	27600.00	32786.11
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1717.62	5462.17	6144.00	7614.66	6250.75	7638.30	8552.99	8608.00	13786.66
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1948.85	5326.62	7747.18	18530.65	22083.37	20063.27	20532.59	37363.27	40348.79
11.	Jharkhand	3244.32	11474.31	16568.50	28568.50	51515.00	80748.99	69041.09	70940.22	89562.26
12.	Karnataka	8270.46	10426.67	26280.70	28303.78	54206.98	40604.78	51578.19	44220.60	66903.00

13. Kerala	2250.78	4966.00	8939.00	5939.00	6382.00	8323.42	10854.04	11989.50	19660.73
14. Madhya Pradesh	11017.10	35237.91	44608.92	77173.12	110879.68	86769.94	85569.35	113249.00	176783.00
15. Maharashtra	11000.00	20526.67	35489.79	50235.31	52158.56	45729.96	67386.02	56432.00	85537.00
16. Manipur	0.00	500.00	1225.00	3208.44	9.24	1850.95	321.21	1500.00	13253.77
17. Meghalaya	711.37	825.77	2930.81	1921.00	4294.00	9359.63	9440.36	9383.00	18540.90
18. Mizoram	903.29	1182.37	3300.24	2559.15	3441.69	4212.02	5112.59	6617.75	10115.31
19. Nagaland	973.28	0.00	2088.49	2323.01	2315.20	4596.00	2867.87	4913.00	8636.83
20. Orissa	2214.15	13453.27	21807.27	32792.50	44010.95	62853.68	49080.90	63061.60	73177.85
21. Punjab	4868.00	6492.49	3040.00	14683.89	12879.92	10493.88	13808.10	20044.00	39612.74
22. Rajasthan	9995.58	15627.00	23549.40	60313.43	75809.82	101307.20	108326.80	127124.00	146182.29
23. Sikkim	425.14	269.73	1000.25	1062.50	402.14	1036.25	1075.31	1736.00	4469.19
24. Tamil Nadu	13526.90	10505.84	26517.00	35329.53	37329.65	53125.09	45414.47	48366.00	69068.57
25. Tripura	1162.18	2752.39	4703.96	7070.19	5330.01	4178.49	6464.12	7473.00	17121.48
26. Uttar Pradesh	20245.40	34043.30	87761.00	182799.00	206654.00	204758.00	212884.89	196011.90	310462.88
27. Uttarakhand	2067.69	3522.02	9144.71	10004.00	16934.00	13162.80	11444.45	16006.29	25793.94
28. West Bengal	10867.61	16748.23	46024.36	34199.79	61736.80	90571.68	65169.37	104142.00	174703.17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0.00	283.96	272.58	163.00	419.62	187.10	780.54	412.44	357.78
30. Chandigarh		0.00	224.54	447.95	350.00	300.00	934.95	820.52	1100.72	2155.89
31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0.00	447.42	111.91	0.00	100.00	418.54	104.63	350.18	413.78
32. Daman and Diu		12.00	0.00	0.00	111.91	-	-	0.00	169.00	162.99
33. Delhi		161.27	1959.62	0.00	1100.00	4230.24	1671.55	1529.01	3088.62	3552.71
34. Lakshadweep		19.98	28.31	12.03	0.00	87.47	-	70.00	143.80	127.39
35. Pondicherry		116.46	141.06	225.53	529.40	-	577.07	638.59	669.96	485.38
TOTAL:		155828.32	269838.31	511314.44	751770.73	1083719.91	1143203.94	1261120.41	1278107.89	1959407.42
36. National Component		0.00	3390.29	2660.85	952.00	1115.04	1328.58	1459.41	2383.53	780.72
GRAND TOTAL:		155828.32	273228.60	513975.29	752722.73	1084834.95	1144532.52	1262579.82	1280491.42	1960188.14

**Achievements of implementation of RTE Act**

†556. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that children from 6 to 14 years of age in the country have obtained the Right to Free and Compulsory Education in the year 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any study regarding achievements made at the completion of one year of its implementation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, has become operative from 1st April, 2010. The RTE Act provides *inter alia* for (i) the right of every child in the 6-14 age group to elementary education, (ii) the duties of appropriate Government, local authority and parents, (iii) the responsibilities of schools and teachers, (iv) curriculum and evaluation procedure, (v) protection of right of children. The States/UTs have undertaken the task of implementing the provisions of the RTE Act.

(c) to (e) The Government has made an analysis of the various developments and achievements which have taken place in the first year of enactment of the RTE Act, which is reported in the document titled "*The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009: The 1st Year*". This document was released on 1st April, 2011, and is placed at the website [www.education.nic.in](http://www.education.nic.in). 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 the five UTs without legislature;

(ii) 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 SSA has been revised;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (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; and
- (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.

**Misuse of funds by universities for faculty travel**

557. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to the CAG Report, some universities have misused money for faculty travel;
- (b) if so, the names of those universities and the amount of fund misused; 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) No such report has come to the notice of Ministry of Human Resource Development.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Funds for RTE Act**

558. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has sought Rs. 45,000 crores every year to implement the Right to Education Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how the Ministry is planning to ensure to ameliorate the learning levels, reading and comprehension skills which are not up to the mark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free  
and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come into force with  
effect from April 1, 2010. The Government has revised the Framework of  
Implementation and norms for interventions for the Sarva Shiksha

Abhiyan (SSA) to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act. Government has also approved an estimate of Rs. 2,31,233 crore to be shared between the Central and State Governments for implementation of the RTE-SSA programme for a five year period from 2010 to 2015 for *inter alia* the following interventions:-

1. *Child entitlements*, which include requirements for out of school children to be admitted to age appropriate class; uniforms; textbooks; inclusive education for children with disabilities.
2. *Teacher related costs*, which include provisions for teachers as per pupil teacher ratio mandated under the RTE Act.
3. *Infrastructure costs*, which include provisions for additional classrooms, drinking water, toilets, libraries, school repairs, etc.
4. *School related costs*, including school grant, teacher grant, costs for Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, teaching learning equipment grant, training of School Management Committee members, etc.
5. *Research, Evaluation and Management costs*, which include support for research and evaluation and management at State and District level.

Government has also revised the fund sharing pattern between the Central and State Governments in the 65:35 ratio. In the case of the States in the North East Region, however, the fund sharing pattern continues in the 90:10 ratio between the Central and State Governments.

(c) To improve quality of education the RTE Act lays down norms and standards for maintaining the stipulated Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) in all schools. During the first two years of RTE implementation, 6,31,830 posts of teachers have been sanctioned in the Annual Work Plans and Budgets of States and UTs.

The RTE Act also lays down factors which should be taken into account for the curriculum and evaluation procedure, including (i) conformity with Constitutional values, (ii) all-round development of the child, (iii) building-up the child's knowledge, potentiality and talent, (iv) development of physical and mental abilities to the



fullest extent, (v) learning through activities, discovery and exploration in a child friendly and child-centred manner, (vi) the child's mother tongue serving 'as far as practicable' as the medium of instruction, (vii) making the child free of fear, trauma and anxiety and helping the child to express views freely, and (viii) comprehensive and continuous evaluation of the child's understanding of knowledge and the ability to apply it. These factors provide comprehensive coverage of the indicators of a child-centred curricular policy for the elementary stage of education, and States have been asked to institute curricular reforms in keeping with the above factors mandated under the RTE Act.

**Non-implementation of RTE Act by States**

559. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many of the economically sound States of the country have failed to implement the Right to Education Act;

(b) if so, the names of the States which have implemented and the States which have not implemented the Act;

(c) whether Government has made any assessment of the progress in the implementation of the Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 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.

(c) and (d) The Government has made an analysis of the various developments and achievements which have taken place in the first year of enactment of the RTE Act which is reported in the document titled "*The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009: The 1st Year*". The document was released on 1st April, 2011, and is placed at the website [www.education.nic.in](http://www.education.nic.in). Since the enactment of the RTE Act, several steps have been taken by the Central Government and the State Governments, including the following:—

(i) The Central RTE Rules were notified on 9th April, 2010, which are applicable to the five UTs without legislature;

(ii) 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 SSA 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; and

(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.

#### **Recognition of CBSE institutions in States**

560. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several State Education Boards do not recognize CBSE institutions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in some States admission of students who had studied in Kendriya Vidyalayas have not been considered; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliated schools are recognized by all the State Education Boards.

(c) and (d) No such case has been reported either by CBSE or Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) where admission was denied by a State Education Board.

#### **Setting up of polytechnics**

561. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many districts in the country still don't have polytechnics;

(b) how many of them are Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts; and

(c) the plans to locate polytechnics not only in districts but also in blocks especially in LWE affected districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) At the time of sanction of the scheme of "Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under Coordinated Action for Skill Development" in the year 2008-09, there were 234 districts in the country which did not have any Government polytechnics in the country. Out of 83 Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts identified by

the Ministry of Home Affairs under their Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme, 41 districts did not have any Government polytechnics. These 41 districts are included in the 234 districts mentioned above. Out of 234 districts, 213 districts have already been provided financial assistance under the scheme of setting up of new polytechnics. These 213 districts include all the 41 districts affected by LWE. 21 districts out of 234 districts have not still availed financial assistance under this scheme for setting up of new polytechnics. Presently, under the above mentioned scheme, there is no plan to provide financial assistance for setting up of new polytechnics at block level in LWE affected districts.

#### **Education projects in Jharkhand**

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

(a) the details of various ongoing/pending education projects in Jharkhand;

(b) whether Government has received any complaints with regard to irregularities in the construction of schools in various districts of the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of funds allocated and spent by the Union Government till date on education projects in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) At present, the major educational projects being implemented by Ministry of Human Resource Development in the State of Jharkhand are Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Manila Samakhya (MS) and Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). The RMSA scheme has been in operation since 2009-10.

(b) and (c) No complaint has been reported with regard to irregularities in the construction of schools in various districts of the State.

(d) The details of funds released by Government of India for the above said projects are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
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educational  
project

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SSA	51515.00	80748.99	69041.09	74940.22	89562.26	41903.46
						(As on 24.11.11)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MS	100.00	105.00	425.00	311.00	576.00	253.00 (As on 24.11.11)
RMSA	-	-	-	941.00	6943.00	1794.00 (As on 21.11.11)

**Proposal to set up more universities**

563. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to set up more universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is satisfied with the performance/standard of education in universities; and

(d) if not, the remedial measures taken/ being taken by Government to maintain high standards of education in universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) 16 new Central Universities were set up during Eleventh Five Year Plan. Twelfth Five Year Plan is under finalization.

(c) and (d) Quality control and improvement of standards in higher education is an ongoing process. For maintenance of standard of education in Universities several steps have been taken which include, among others, Semester System, choice based credit system and curriculum reforms. University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued Regulations, namely, UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2010.

**Additional investment for universal primary and  
secondary education**

564. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:



(a) the total additional investment estimated to meet the goal of providing universal primary and secondary education to the children up to the age of 16 years in the country, with details of components of expenditure;

(b) how much of this investment is planned to be provided by the Central Government, State Governments and private sector, and the time frame thereof;

(c) the total investment made by Government and State Governments for the above purpose during the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) how does Government propose to fill the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come into force with effect from 1.4.2010 for elementary education of all children in 6-14 age group. The Government has revised the Framework of Implementation and norms for interventions for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act. Government has also approved an estimate of Rs. 2,31,233 crore to be shared between the Central and State Governments for implementation of the RTE-SSA programme for a five year period from 2010 to 2015 for *inter alia* the following components:-

1. *Child entitlements*, which include requirements for out of school children to be admitted to age appropriate class; uniforms; textbooks; inclusive education for children with disabilities.
2. *Teacher related costs*, which include provisions for teachers as per pupil teacher ratio mandated under the RTE Act.
3. *Infrastructure costs*, which include provisions for additional classrooms, drinking water, toilets, libraries, school repairs, etc.
4. *School related costs*, including school grant, teacher grant, costs for Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, teaching learning equipment grant, training of School Management Committee members, etc.
5. *Research, Evaluation and Management costs*, which include support for research and evaluation and management at State and District level.

Further, the Government implements the Mid-Day-Meal (MDM) Scheme to provide a hot, cooked meal to all children at the elementary stage of education in Government, local body and Government aided schools.

For enhancing access of children to secondary education, the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) programme was launched in

2009-10. RMS A provides support for opening of new schools, strengthening of existing schools, appointment of additional teachers, and quality interventions, including teacher training. In addition, Government implements the Girls' Hostel scheme and the National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE) to enable girls to participate in secondary education. Further, with a view to encouraging Public-Private Partnership (PPP), the Government has also formulated a Model Schools scheme to set up 2500 schools in PPP mode.

The details of investment made by the Central and State Governments in the SSA and RMSA programme during Eleventh Plan is as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of programme	2007-08 to 2010-11 (Rs. in crore)			2011-12 (till 30.09.2011) (Rs. in crore)		
		GoI	State	Expenditure	GoI	State	
	Expenditure	releases releases			releases releases		
1.	SSA	56418.39	31170.99	86977.00	14493.26	5119.70	16564.19 (till 30.9.11)
2.	MDM	28585.77	9433.00	38018.77	5257.61	1734.00	1572.45 (till 03.11.11) (till 30.06.11)
3.	RMSA	2027.93	506.11	1778.25	2423.90#	-	1800.41*
4.	Girls Hostel	121.19@	14.40	28.85	3.70	-	-
5.	NSIGSE\$	219.91	Not applicable	219.91	14.26	-	14.26

#BE 2011-12 provision.

\*Releases till 20.11.2011.

@Scheme started in 2008-09.

\$Girls Hostel Scheme implemented from 2009-10.

#### Achievement of targets by Universities under Official Languages Act

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

(a) the names of the universities affiliated to the Ministry which have achieved the targets of correspondence on their end as per Official Languages Act; and

(b) if not, the steps being taken by the Ministry itself or on the suggestions of Parliamentary Advisory Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) None of the Central Universities have been able to achieve the targets of correspondence as per Official Languages Act. However, University Grants Commission (UGC), who is nodal agency for implementation of Official Languages

Policy of the Government, has constituted

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

a Monitoring Committee to monitor the progress made in the use of Hindi by these Universities. It has also sanctioned one post each of Hindi Officer, Hindi Translator and Hindi Typist in every Central University. Further, instructions have been issued to all the Central Universities to adhere to directions of the Parliamentary Committees on Official Languages.

**Non-updation of curriculum by AMU**

566. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) is not updating curriculum of its various courses;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the university is not keeping pace with International developments and requirements; and

(c) if so, the strategy proposed to meet this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) is an autonomous body, established under the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920, and is governed by this Act and Statutes and Ordinances made thereunder. The Government does not have any role *vis-à-vis* the academic and administrative functioning of the University. However, as per the information provided by the University, the university is updating its curriculum as per the academic requirements and on approval of the competent statutory authorities of the University.

**Opening of Centre of AMU in Bihar**

567. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had announced opening of one Centre of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in Kishanganj, Bihar in year 2008;

(b) if so, the status of this Centre;

(c) whether State Government has already allotted land for the Centre at Kishanganj;

(d) whether proper sanction has been obtained from Hon'ble President of India who is a visitor of the University; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) is an autonomous body, established under the Aligarh Muslim University Act, 1920, and is governed by this Act and Statutes and Ordinances made thereunder.

(b) and (c) The University has informed that a decision to establish a Centre of the University in Bihar was taken by it and accordingly, the Government of Bihar was requested to make available 250-300 acres of contiguous land, free of cost and free from all encumbrances. The Government of Bihar has not made available a suitable land.

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

#### **Implementation of RTE Act**

568. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress on the implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act providing for universal education upto 14 years of age, State-wise;

(b) the States that have not notified the rules for implementation of the law;

(c) the steps Government is going to take in this connection so that these States fall in the line with the rest of the country; and

(d) how long will it take for complete implementation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has come into force with effect from April 1, 2010. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Framework of Implementation and norms for interventions have been revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act. This includes interventions, *inter alia* for (i) opening new primary and upper primary schools as per the neighbourhood norms notified by State Governments in the RTE Rules, (ii) support for residential schools for children in areas which are sparsely populated, or hilly or densely forested with difficult terrain, and for urban deprived homeless and street children in difficult circumstances, (iii) special training for admission of out-of-school children in age appropriate classes, (iv) additional teachers as per norms specified in the RTE Act, (v) two sets of uniforms for all girls, and children belonging to SC/ST/BPL families, (vi) strengthening of academic support through block and cluster resource Centres, schools, etc. Since RTE Act came into force 50672 new schools, 4.98 lakh additional classrooms, 6.31 lakh



teachers, etc. have been sanctioned to States and UTs under SSA. The fund sharing pattern between the Central and State Governments has also been revised to a sharing ratio which is more favourable to States Governments.

(b) to (d) So far 27 States have notified the State Rules under the RTE Act, including five Union Territories which have adopted the Central RTE Rules. These States are Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh, Daman and Diu, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Andaman and Nicobar Island and Lakshadweep. The

States of Karnataka, Gujarat, West Bengal, Goa, Delhi, Puducherry, Uttarakhand have not yet notified the RTE Rules, and these States have been reminded to expedite the notification of the State RTE Rules.

The RTE Act mandates the following time frame for implementation of its provisions:-

Activity	Time Frame
Establishment of neighbourhood schools	3 years (by 31st March, 2013)
Provision of school infrastructure:	
• All weather school buildings	
• One-classroom-one-teacher	
• Head Teacher-cum-Office room	
• Library	
• Toilets, drinking water	
• Barrier free access	
• Playground, fencing, boundary walls	3 years (by 31st March, 2013)
Provision of teachers as per prescribed PTR	3 years (by 31st March, 2013)
Training of untrained teachers	5 years (by 31st March 2015)
Quality interventions and other provisions	With immediate effect

#### **Opening of Model schools in Odisha**

†569. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether not even a single Model School has been opened in Odisha till now;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The centrally sponsored scheme to set up 6000 model schools at block level was launched in November, 2008. Out of these, 3,500 schools are to be set up in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) in Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) template

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

through State/UT Governments and the remaining 2,500 schools are proposed to be set up under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode in blocks which are not educationally backward. Presently, only the component for setting up of 3,500 model schools under State/UT Governments is operational.

Since inception of the scheme, 111 Model Schools have been sanctioned in Odisha and first installment of central share of Rs. 128.85 crore has been released in September, 2011.

#### **Schemes for elementary education**

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

(a) the details of schemes for elementary education, streamlined and rationalized based on Zero Base Budgeting Exercise;

(b) whether Government has brought a number of schemes under the umbrella of SSA;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which primary goal of SSA has been achieved till date;

(e) the details of funds allocated for SSA during current Five Year Plan period;

(f) the details of funds utilized under SSA during the said period;

(g) the number of persons benefited against the target fixed till date; and

(h) the steps taken by Government to achieve primary goal of SSA in a time bound period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme was launched as a centrally sponsored scheme in 2000-01 for universalizing elementary education. With the launch of the SSA programme, the then existing schemes, including *inter alia* Operation Black Board and Non Formal Education comprising Centres under the Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative Education Scheme were integrated into-the SSA fold. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV),

which was a separate scheme for setting up residential schools at upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minority communities, was merged with SSA from 1st April, 2007.

Consequent upon the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 becoming operative with effect from 1.4.2010, the SSA Framework of Implementation and norms for intervention were revised to correspond with the provisions of the RTE Act. Consequently, the requirement of funds for implementation of the combined RTE-SSA programme was estimated at Rs. 2,31,233 crore for a period of five year during 2010-15.

(d) to (h) SSA programme provides for universalisation of elementary education for children in the age group 6-14 year in a time bound manner. SSA programme has contributed to the following improvement in elementary education:-

Parameter	2005-06	2009-10
Primary enrolment	124 million	133.4 million
Upper primary enrolment	43.6 million	54.4 million
Elementary enrolment	168 million	187.8 million
GER primary	103%	115.6%
NER primary	84.5%	98.2%
GER upper primary	59.2%	75.8%
NER upper primary	43.1%	58.2%
Out of school children	13.4 million	8.1 million

In the Eleventh Plan the central outlay for SSA was Rs. 71,000 crore. Against this outlay, the Central Government has released Rs. 56418.39 crore as per the approved sharing pattern to States/UTs in the first four years of the Eleventh Plan. For the year 2011-12, a Central outlay of Rs. 21,000 crore has been provided in the budget, against which Rs. 16233. 27 crore has been released to States and UTs so far.

#### **Pupil-Teacher ratio**

571. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the ideal pupil-teacher ratio for primary and upper Primary school levels;

(b) the pupil-teacher ratio at present;

(c) how far the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been able to bring an improvement in the pupil-teacher ratio; and

(d) the position so far as Jharkhand is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which became operative with effect from 1st April, 2010, prescribes that

Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) in schools should be maintained as per the following specified levels:-

**A. For classes I to V:**

- (i) Two teachers for upto sixty admitted children.

- (ii) Three teachers for 61-90 children.
- (iii) Four teachers for 91-120 children.
- (iv) Five teachers for 121-200 children.
- (v) One Head Teacher, other than the five teachers, if the number of admitted children exceeds 150; and the PTR (excluding Head Teacher) shall not exceed forty if the number of admitted children is above 200.

**B. For Classes VI to VIII:**

- (i) At least one teacher per class so that there shall be at least one teacher each for (a) Science and Mathematics; (b) Social Studies; and (c) Languages.
- (ii) At least one teacher for every 35 children.
- (iii) Where admission of children is above 100, there shall be
  - (a) a full time head-teacher and (b) part time instructors for Art Education, Health and Physical Education and Work Education.
- (b) and (c) Since inception of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in 2001-02, 19.14 lakh posts of teachers have been sanctioned till October, 2011. The PTR at National level has improved from 36 at Elementary level in 2005-06 to 33 and 31 at Primary and Upper Primary level respectively as per District Information System for Education (DISE) – 2009-10.
- (d) In respect of Jharkhand, the PTR is 45 and 47 at Primary and Upper Primary level, respectively as per DISE – 2009-10.

**Teachers education**

572. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether teachers' education is one of the major schemes under elementary education in the country;
- (b) if so, the objectives of the scheme;
- (c) how far these objectives have been achieved;
- (d) what has been the performance of different States;
- (e) whether in a recent examination conducted in Bihar for primary



school teachers, the result have been poor; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored  
Scheme of Teacher

Education provides academic resource support to elementary and secondary teachers through training, action research and experimentation, and developing decentralized institutional structures for pre-service and in-service teacher training. Under the Scheme, the Central Government provides resource support to the State Governments for establishment and functioning of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs), strengthening of secondary teacher education institutions into Colleges of Teacher Education (CTEs) and Institutes of Advanced Study in Education (IASEs) and strengthening of the State Councils of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs).

(c) and (d) Since inception of the Teacher Education Scheme in 1987, 571 DIETs, 106 CTEs and 32 IASEs have been sanctioned in various States/UTs. State-wise position is given in the Statement (See below). National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), New Delhi in its Report on Comprehensive Evaluation of the Teacher Education Scheme (August, 2009) has reported that the institutions of DIETs, CTEs and IASEs have played a pivotal role in providing pre-service and in-service training of teachers and teacher educators as an important quality input for school education in the country. However, the performance of these institutions has been uneven across States, with States such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh having shown relatively better performance than some other States such as Bihar and Jharkhand.

(e) and (f) The Government of Bihar has informed that it had conducted Teachers' Achievement Tests in 2009 and 2010 in which the percentage of teachers who were successful was 83.52 and 90.38, respectively.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise no. of DIETs, CTEs and IASEs sanctioned and functional*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Number of DIETs/CTEs/Number of DIETs/CTEs/ Districts IASEs sanctioned IASEs functional						
			DIETs/ DRCs	CTEs	IASEs	DIETs/ DRCs	CTEs	IASEs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	23	8	2	23	8	2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15	11	0	0	11	0	0

3. Assam	23	23	8	2	18	8	2
4. Bihar	37	24	6	0	24	4	0
5. Chhattisgarh	16	16	1	1	16	1	1
6. Goa	2	1	0	0	1	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7.	Gujarat	25	26	8	2	26	8	2
8.	Haryana	19	19	0	1	19	0	1
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12	12	1	0	12	1	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	14	2	0	14	2	0
11.	Jharkhand	22	22	1	0	19	1	0
12.	Karnataka	27	27	9	2	27	9	2
13.	Kerala	14	14	3	1	14	3	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	45	45	6	3	45	6	2
15.	Maharashtra	35	34	12	2	34	12	2
16.	Manipur	9	9	1	0	9	1	0
17.	Meghalaya	7	7	2	0	7	2	0
18.	Mizoram	8	8	0	1	8	0	1
19.	Nagaland	8	8	1	0	6	1	0
20.	Orissa	30	30	10	2	30	10	2
21.	Punjab	17	17	2	1	17	2	1
22.	Rajasthan	32	32	9	2	30	9	2
23.	Sikkim	4	3	0	0	1	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	30	29	5	2	29	5	2
25.	Tripura	4	4	1	0	4	1	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	70	70	3	3	70	3	3
27.	Uttarakhand	13	13	3	1	13	3	1
28.	West Bengal	18	18	4	2	16	4	2
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	1	0	0	1	0	0
30.	Delhi	9	9	0	2	9	0	2
31.	Puducherry	4	1	0	0	1	0	0
32.	Lakshadweep	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
34. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35. Chandigarh		1	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:		599	571	106	32	555	104	31

#### **Shutting down of SSA schools**

573. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan schools that have been shut down since 2008 till date, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the reasons for shutting down of these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No State Government has reported that schools opened under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan have been shut down.

(b) Question does not arise.

#### **Computer education in Kendriya Vidyalayas**

†574. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether students of Kendriya Vidyalayas are not being taught computer in computer labs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any complaint in this matter; and

(d) the students of which class are supposed to have computer practical classes in computer lab according to the rules of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Students of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) are being imparted computer literacy in computer labs wherever computer labs are available. Out of 1086 KVs in the country, only 100 KVs do not have computer labs. The region-wise details of KVs with or without computer labs are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) No, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) Students of Class-III onwards have computer practical classes in computer lab.

**Statement**

*Region-wise computer lab status of Kendriya Vidyalayas*

Sl. No.	Region	Total KVs	Number of KVs having computer labs	Number of KVs having no computer labs
1.	Ahmedabad	46	44	2
2.	Bangalore	54	50	4
3.	Bhopal	66	57	9
4.	Bhubaneswar	85	60	25
5.	Chandigarh	67	61	6
6.	Chennai	72	68	4
7.	Dehradun	59	57	2
8.	Delhi	60	57	3
9.	Guwahati	47	42	5
10.	Hyderabad	53	49	4
11.	Jabalpur	63	56	7
12.	Jaipur	65	62	3
13.	Jammu	62	55	7
14.	Kolkata	62	56	6
15.	Lucknow	66	59	7
16.	Mumbai	46	46	0
17.	Patna	60	58	2
18.	Silchar	53	49	4
TOTAL:		1086	986	100

**Construction of girls' hostels in Maharashtra**

575. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has accepted the revised proposal sent to

it regarding technical changes in the construction plan of girls' hostels in Maharashtra;



- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Centre's share of funding has been disbursed for the proposed project;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the expected time frame for approval and release of the grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Government of India had received the revised proposal sent by the State Government of Maharashtra in January, 2011 but the same could not be accepted as the revised building plan with technical changes as per Scheme norms was not submitted by the State Government.

(d) to (g) Does not arise.

**Job earmarked for SC/ST category in the Ministry**

576. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of total sanctioned staff strength in the Ministry, Group-wise i.e. Group A to Group D;
- (b) the total strength, the number of jobs earmarked for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes category as per Government of India's reservation policy; and
- (c) the reasons, if any, for the staff strength not being in accordance with the reservation policy of the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The total sanctioned staff strength of Ministry of Human Resource Development is 1227 which consists of Group 'A' - 190, Group 'B' - 608 and Group 'C' - 429 posts. All Group 'D' posts have been up-graded to Group 'C' posts in pursuance of Government of India's decision for implementation of Sixth Central Pay Commission recommendation.

(b) As total sanctioned staff strength of the Ministry consists of cadre, ex-cadre and co-terminus posts. Policy of reservation in services under the Government of India is being implemented as per

instructions issued by the Department of Personnel and Training from time to time. Number of jobs earmarked for Group 'C' ex-cadre posts in Ministry of Human Resource Development is 31 and 16 posts for SC and ST against which 68 and 21 staff are working respectively, which is more than the number of posts earmarked. Detailed information is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) Does not arise.

**Statement**

*Details of the Staff Strength, Jobs/Posts earmarked for SC/ST and occupied by them in the Ministry of HRD*

Group	Sanctioned Staff Strength			No. of Jobs/posts earmarked for SC/ST category total strength/posts occupied by SC/ST					
	Cadre posts	Ex-cadre post	Co-terminus posts	Cadre posts	Ex-cadre post	Co-terminus posts	Cadre posts	Ex-cadre post	Co-terminus posts
Group 'A'	165	19	06	Reservation applicable on cadre posts is maintained by their concerned cadre	As per reservation policy of the Government	The provisions of reservation policy are not applicable	SC-14 ST-07	SC-03 ST-01	SC-00 ST-00
Group 'B'	585	12	11	controlling Ministries/Departments as per reservation policy of the Government of India.	post/(s).##on co-terminus	post meant for the personal staff of Hon'ble HRM and Hon'ble MOS (HRD).	SC-80 ST-20	SC-01 ST-00	SC-01 ST-00
Group 'C'	182	232 (209+23)*	15				SC-13 ST-05	SC-68 ST-21	SC-01 ST-00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>32</b>						

**Notes:**

# The reservation policy of Government of India, wherever applicable, in respect of the posts belonging to various Cadres like Indian Economic Service (IES), Indian Statistical Service (ISS), Central Secretariat Service (CSS), etc. and allocated to M/o Human Resource Development is applied by the concerned cadre controlling Departments/Ministries.

## Nineteen Group 'A' and six Group 'B' ex-cadre posts have been declared to be dying cadre and to be abolished as and when they fall vacant.

\* Includes 23 isolated posts.

• Some ex-cadre posts like co-terminus posts, isolated single posts, posts filled by composite method (i.e.

promotion/transfer on deputation) etc., do not attract the provisions of the reservation policy of the Government of India.

**Irregularities in Delhi Universities Medical Entrance Test 2011**

577. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints regarding irregularities in the process of Delhi University Medical Entrance Test (DUMET) 2011;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the University authorities have sought a CBI probe into the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the current status thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has received a complaint from Delhi Medical Association (DMA) alleging irregularities in the conduct of DUMET-2011. According to the DMA, many of the candidates, who scored abysmally low in the Medical Entrance Examinations conducted by Central Board of Secondary Education and Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University held during the same period and having similar standards, have got selected in DUMET-2011.

(c) to (e) On the request of the University of Delhi dated 26.8.2011, CBI has registered a preliminary inquiry into the matter.

**Representation of SC/ST members in Bodies and  
Institutions under the Ministry**

578. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the various Bodies and Institutions like Central Universities, other National and State level Bodies coming under the Ministry, alongwith the details thereof;

(b) whether representation is being given to the SC/ST members in the selection committees and in the membership of these Bodies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The details of various Bodies, Central Universities etc. under the Ministry of Human Resource Development are available in the Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 2010-11. The same can also be accessed from the web-site of the Ministry at [www.education.nic.in](http://www.education.nic.in).

(b) and (c) In the Governing Council of the National Mission of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), there is a provision for three persons working among SCs/STs in the field of Elementary Education to be nominated by Government of India. Representation is given in Selection Committees in National Institutes of Technical Teachers' Training and Research (NITTR). There is a provision made in the Memorandum of Association (MoA) and Rules of all Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) except IIMs Ahmedabad and Shillong to represent the SC/ST members in their Board of Governors (BoGs). Composition of the Governing Body of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) i.e. Board of Governors is as per the provisions contained in Sections 11 and 12 of the Institutes of the Technology Act, 1961. Membership of various bodies in the Central Universities is as per the Act of the concerned Central and State University. Membership of various bodies and Selection Committees in the State Private Universities is as per the Act of the concerned State Private University. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has reported that in accordance with 'The All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987', members in various Committees/Boards are nominated to Group A, B and C posts. University Grants Commission (UGC) has reported that so far as UGC is concerned, proper care is taken to ensure that Nominees/Experts considered for such nominations are drawn from every section of the Society including SC, ST, Minorities and Women.

**Inclusion of salary for additional teachers under SSA budget**

579. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SSA norms did not provide for inclusion of teachers' salary of additional teachers required for existing schools and due to this teachers recruited by Government of Gujarat during 1st April, 2001 to 31st March, 2010 were not included in SSA budgets of the State;

(b) if so, whether Central Government proposes to include the salary for teachers recruited during that period for funding under SSA budget; and

(c) whether Government proposes to reimburse Rs. 16,146 crores spent by the State Government of Gujarat on teachers' salary during

this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) norms originally provided for (i) one teacher for every forty children in Primary and Upper Primary schools, (ii) at least two teachers in a Primary school and (iii) one teacher for every class in the Upper Primary school.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative on 1st April, 2010, and the SSA norms for sanctioning teachers have been revised to



conform with the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) prescribed in the Schedule to the RTE Act, namely:-

**A. For classes I to V:**

- (i) Two teachers for upto sixty admitted children.
- (ii) Three teachers for 61-90 children.
- (iii) Four teachers for 91-120 children.
- (iv) Five teachers for 121-200 children.
- (v) One Head Teacher, other than the five teachers, if the number of admitted children exceeds 150; and the PTR (excluding Head Teacher) shall not exceed forty if the number of admitted children is above 200.

**B. For Classes VI to VIII:**

- (i) At least one teacher per class so that there shall be at least one teacher each for (a) Science and Mathematics; (b) Social Studies; and (c) Languages.
- (ii) At least one teacher for every 35 children.
- (iii) Where admission of children is above 100, there shall be (a) a full time head-teacher and (b) part time instructors for Art Education, Health and Physical Education and Work Education.

SSA assistance is not available for the salary of teacher posts in the State sector which may have fallen vacant on account of attrition and retirement. States are required to rationalize teacher deployment to address imbalances in their placement, and also fill State sector teacher vacancies from their State budgets. The requirement of additional teachers under SSA is considered after deducting vacancies from the State sector and considering the rational re-deployment of teachers to meet the PTR laid down under the RTE Act, 2009.

- (c) No, Madam.

**Achievements under National Literacy Mission**

580. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds sanctioned and spent on National Literacy Mission (NLM) during the years 2010-11 and 2011-12, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) the achievements made, so far, under the said scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that many States are lagging behind in achieving the targets; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to improve the level of literacy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The State-wise details of funds released under Saakshar Bharat, the new variant of National Literacy Mission (NLM), during 2010-11 and 2011-12 are given in the Statement (See below).

(b) The programme has been sanctioned in 372 districts. Preparatory activities such as constitution of State, District, Blocks 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 and 2011-12.

(c) The functioning of the programme in West Bengal, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Haryana, Punjab, Odisha and Jammu and Kashmir has been found to be below par.

(d) Government have enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and Saakshar Bharat, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, to raise literacy level in the age group of 6-14 years and 15 years and above respectively in the country. The focus of Saakshar Bharat is on low adult female literacy districts. Government of India has taken several steps to give impetus to the Saakshar Bharat programme including orienting and building the capacities of States and sub-States level implementing agencies including PRIs in different management, academic and technical aspects of Saakshar Bharat. Saakshar Bharat is being monitored at different levels regularly, providing technical back stopping to different stakeholders to accelerate the pace of implementation of the programme to improve the level of literacy in the country.

#### **Statement**

*Details of funds sanctioned and spent of NLM during the years 2010-11 and 2011-12*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the States/ UTs	Funds released during 2010-11	Funds released during 2011-12
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(upto 31.10.2011)			
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8466.69	6454.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	487.03	0.00
3.	Assam	858.08	0.00

1	2	3	4
4.	Bihar	8518.93	37.63
5.	Chhattisgarh	1961.53	2867.51
6.	Gujarat	0.00	1440.13
7.	Haryana	727.59	511.12
8.	Himachal Pradesh	146.34	0.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	887.24
10.	Jharkhand	2576.09	46.42
11.	Karnataka	4562.92	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2070.01	3216.34
13.	Maharashtra	479.54	0.00
14.	Meghalaya	362.02	0.00
15.	Nagaland	196.26	0.00
16.	Odisha	0.00	664.38
17.	Punjab	1561.33	0.00
18.	Rajasthan	0.00	8111.12
19.	Tamil Nadu	1139.63	0.00
20.	Uttarakhand	190.93	2841.73
22.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	15542.10
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	17.95	0.00
TOTAL:		34322.87	42620.64

#### **Frequent train accidents**

581. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were three major train accidents in less than a week in July, 2011;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways have not met with much

success when it comes to accident prevention; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 10.07.2011 at 12.20 hrs., while the Train No. 12311 Kalka Mail was passing through Malwan station of Allahabad Division of North Central Railway, its locomotive and 15 coaches derailed blocking both up and down lines. In this unfortunate accident, 71 persons lost their lives, 91 suffered grievous injuries and 173 suffered simple injuries. Statutory inquiry into the derailment of Kalka Mail has been conducted by the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety (CCRS) under the Ministry of Civil Aviation based at Lucknow. CCRS, in his Preliminary Report has concluded that the accident had occurred due to breakage of rail across the weld between left tongue and lead rails and accordingly, he has attributed the cause of the accident to 'Failure of Equipment-Permanent Way'.

In the second incident, on 10.07.2011 at about 20.15 hrs., while the train No. 15640 Guwahati-Puri Express was on run between Rangiya and Ghograpar stations of Rangiya Division of Northeast Frontier Railway, there was an explosion on the track and due to its impact, the locomotive alongwith four coaches derailed and four other coaches were thrown off the track. In this incident, no fatality took place; 03 persons suffered grievous injuries and 13 others received simple injuries. Statutory inquiry into the derailment of Guwahati-Puri Express has been conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Northeast Frontier Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation based at Kolkata. In his preliminary report, CRS has stated that the derailment was caused due to an act of train wrecking by planting certain explosive device/bomb in the track and triggering the same by a remote control or otherwise in the face of the approaching train by some unknown person(s). Accordingly, the cause of the accident has been attributed to 'Sabotage'.

Another unfortunate incident took place at an unmanned level crossing wherein one Bus carrying a marriage party dashed against Train No. 15108 Mathura-Chhapra Express at about 01.47 hrs. on 07.07.2011 between Patiyali and Daryaoganj stations of Kasganj-Farrukhabad Section of Izatnagar Division of North Eastern Railway. In this incident, 39 persons travelling in the Bus lost their lives and 31 persons were injured, out of which 7 suffered grievous injuries. No

passenger or railway personnel of the train suffered any injury. This incident has been inquired into by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), North Eastern Circle based at Lucknow. In its preliminary report, Commissioner of Railway Safety, North Eastern Circle has observed that the above accident had occurred due to the negligent driving by the driver of the bus. The bus driver did not stop his bus at the Stop Board at the level crossing to check for approaching train as prescribed under Section 131 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(c) No, Sir. The number of consequential train accidents on account of Collisions, Derailments, Fire, Manned Level Crossings and other Miscellaneous reasons on Indian Railways



have declined from 335 in 2001-02 to 269 in 2002-03, 239 in 2003-04, 169 in 2004-05, 169 in 2005-06, 123 in 2006-07, 129 in 2007-08, 115 in 2008-09, 100 in 2009-10 and further to 93 in 2010-11, registering a decline of 7% in comparison to the previous year. In the current year during April to 15th November 2011 also, number of these consequential train accidents have come down from 62 to 48 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year. The above figures do not include incidents of trespassing at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **High density routes**

582. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of high density routes in entire railway network; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the carrying capacity of the congested sections on these routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) There are 7 High Density routes on the Indian Railway network which are Delhi - Howrah, Delhi - Mumbai, Mumbai - Howrah, Howrah - Chennai, Mumbai - Chennai, Delhi - Guwahati and Delhi - Chennai.

(b) Railways are undertaking a large number of capacity augmentation works such as doubling, new lines, gauge conversion, construction of 3rd and 4m lines, provision of automatic signalling, upgradation of station signals, provision of loop lines, conversion of halt to crossing stations, provision of Intermediate block signalling, electrification, strengthening of tracks, yard remodelling, construction of fly-overs and bye-pass lines to ease congestion on the network especially on the High Density routes.

#### **Security arrangements at Railway Stations**

583. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the aftermath of terrorist attack on 26th November, 2008 at Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminal (CST) station, it was

decided to strengthen security at railway stations to check recurrence of such terrorist attacks;

(b) if so, measures taken to strengthen security and vigil at railway stations;

(c) whether entry and exit points at stations are unmanned and there is no check on ingress and egress of unauthorised vendors, etc.; and

(d) whether CAG conducted a sample check of 74 stations to ascertain measures taken by Railways to strengthen security at railway stations and if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of Law and Order in station premises and trains is the statutory responsibility of State Governments which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). Railways, through Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing the efforts of State Government and also sharing 50% cost on GRPs with respective State Governments.

Security, alongwith other concerns, has been identified as one of the priority areas for strengthening and upgradation by Railways. Intensive efforts made to strengthen railway security, especially in the recent past, include escorting of important Mail/Express trains, regular coordination with GRP/Civil Police and intelligence agencies, videography of general coaches against drugging of passengers, nomination of 202 stations for installation of an Integrated Security System at an estimated cost of Rs. 353 crores to strengthen surveillance mechanism over such stations, procurement of modern security related equipment for the use of RPF/Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF) personnel, acquisition of modern weapons, creation of additional posts, setting up of an All India Security Help Line, networking of RPF Posts and Security Control Rooms, setting up of a commando training center etc.

(c) No, Sir. Entry and exit points of important stations are manned by RPF, GRP and Commercial staff. Action against unauthorized vendors is initiated under relevant provisions of the Railways Act, 1989.

(d) CAG has conducted Performance Audit on Security Management in Indian Railways for the year ended March, 2010. Issues relating to protection of passengers and their belongings, safety of railway property, preparedness of Indian Railways to handle the enhanced threat environment etc. have been dealt in the above report. Recommendations on the issues pertaining to cooperation/coordination with State Governments, availability of FIR forms in trains, size of train escorting party, integration of railway disaster management infrastructure with those of civil authorities, armed forces etc. have been made in the CAG Audit Report.

**Dedicated Freight Corridor between Delhi and Howrah**

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

(a) the progress of Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC);

(b) whether it is a fact that \$ 975-mn loan from World Bank has  
been approved for DFC project from Delhi to Howrah;

(c) if so, the details of terms and conditions imposed; and

(d) the action Government proposes to speed up the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) on Eastern (Dankuni-Ludhiana) and Western (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal to Tughlakabad/Dadri) routes have been sanctioned. The status in respect of both the Corridors is as under:-

**Eastern Corridor:**

Construction work is in progress in 66 kilometres of Sonnagar-Mughalsarai portion of the corridor. The work on the Mughalsarai-Ludhiana portion (1183 kms) of the corridor is being funded through World Bank Loan. The Loan Agreement for the Phase-I (Khurja-Kanpur, 343 kms section) has been signed with the World Bank and process for finalisation of tender for civil works of this section has commenced.

**Western Corridor:**

Work on 54 major and important bridges between Vaitarna and Surat is in progress.

Loan Agreement with JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), which is funding the entire Western Freight Corridor work, has been signed for Phase-I of the work between Rewari and Vadodara.

Tendering process for execution of civil work on the 625 kms. Rewari-Iqbalgarh portion has also commenced.

(b) Yes, Sir, but this covers the portion from Khurja to Kanpur (343 kms) of 1183 kms of the Ludhiana-Mughalsarai portion of the Eastern DFC being funded by World Bank.

(c) World Bank loan is of 22 years repayment period including 7 year of grace period and with variable spread over London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR).

(d) Project implementation schedule, timelines and milestones have been drawn and are being periodically monitored to ensure timely completion of work of both the Corridors.

**Removal of encroachment of railway land at Yavatmal station**

585. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 8 hectares of railway land at Yavatmal narrow gauge Railway station had been encroached upon twice

by anti-social elements and it was got vacated through persistent efforts of sitting Member of Rajya Sabha with the help of railway police and local administration; and

(b) if so, whether this land is being converted into a "Rail Udyan", with jogging track, etc. for meeting the multi-purpose requirements of (i) ensuring unauthorized and anti-social elements not again resorting to encroachment (ii) beautification/fencing, and (iii) gifting this Rail Udyan to local citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) There were about 185 encroachments on Railway land near Yavatmal station area. These were removed in December, 2006. Presently, there is no encroachment on railway land at Yavatmal station.

To prevent future encroachments, fencing of the land and creation of greenery has been undertaken on Railway land.

**Stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Sidhpur Railway  
Station, Gujarat**

586. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any specific proposal under consideration with Government for stoppage of "Swarna-Jayanti" Rajdhani Express at Sidhpur Railway Station, Gujarat in view of its historical, commercial and religious importance;

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

(c) whether, during his recent visit to Siddhapur, he has assured to take up this issue on priority basis and consider the same on sympathetic grounds in the context of emotions of the people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Presently, one pair of daily and one pair of weekly Mail/Express trains are serving Siddhapur Railway Station for Delhi bound passengers. Rajdhani Express trains are long distance fast moving prestigious trains primarily meant for connecting National capital with State capitals with limited halts enroute. Proliferation of more stoppages is not encouraged as it will decelerate the train and delay its arrival at destination. Stoppage of 12957/12958 New Delhi-Ahmedabad "Swarna Jayanti" Rajdhani Express at Siddhapur Railway Station is not found feasible at present. However, provision of stoppage at a station is an ongoing process on Indian Railways keeping in view traffic justification, operational feasibility, commercial viability, availability of alternative services, etc.

**Gauge conversion in Gujarat**

†587. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:  
SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of the railway lines in Gujarat regarding which surveys have been conducted for their conversion into broad gauge during the last five years;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



(b) the steps taken by the Ministry till date for the conversion of said railway lines into broad gauge on the basis of these surveys; and

(c) the details of the time-frame by which these railway lines are planned to be converted into broad gauge and the amount provided for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The details of railway lines falling fully/partly in Gujarat for which surveys have been conducted for conversion into broad gauge during the last five years as well as current year and their status are as under:-

Rs. in crore					
Sl. No.	Name of the survey	Length in km.	Year of sanction of the project	Outlay provided for the sanctioned project during 2011-12	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur	299.20	2008-09	40.00	Work has been taken up.
2.	Mehesana-Taranga Hill extension upto Ambaji	57.4	2006-07	30.00	Work taken up as a material modification to Bhildi-Viramgam gauge conversion project.
3.	Bhuj-Naliya with extension upto Vayor	126.00	2008-09	60.00	Work has been taken up.
4.	Kosamba-Umarpada	64.35	-	-	Shelved due to un-remunerative nature.

5. Miyagam-Karjan- Dabhoi-Samialya	96.46	2011-12	1.00	Work has been taken up.
6. Botad-Ahmedabad	170.48	-	--	Project has not been sanctioned.
7. Dhasa-Jetalsar	104.44	-	-	Project has not been sanctioned.

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1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Saradiya-Shapur- Junagarh	104.49	2011-12	1.00	Work has been taken up as a material modification to Rajkot-Viraval, Wansjalia-Jetalsar gauge conversion project.
9.	Ahmedabad-Mehsana	68.78	-	-	Project has not been sanctioned.

(c) All the sanctioned projects are progressing as per availability of resources.

#### **Quality of food provided in long distance trains**

†588. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no arrangement of sugar-free tea and coffee in long distance trains and at stations and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that complaints about quality of food provided by Railways have kept pouring in, if so, the arrangement in place for their examination from time-to- time and the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to make sound arrangement for providing fresh food to passengers and if so, efforts being made regarding this and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Sugar free tea and coffee are being supplied to passengers, on demand only, in long distance trains and at stations.

(b) Yes, Sir. Complaints are being received which are being regularly redressed. After the introduction of New Catering Policy, 2010, issued on 21.07.2010, the management of catering services has been shifted from Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation

(IRCTC) to Zonal Railways. Due to intensive supervision and monitoring by Zonal Railways the complaints have been reduced by 49.9% during October, 2010 to September, 2011, in comparison to the corresponding period of last year, when the management of catering services was under IRCTC.

(c) For provision of fresh food arrangements of attachment of pantry car in important trains like Rajdhani/Duronto Express trains and some Mail/Express trains have been made. For other trains, Train Side Vending facility is being gradually extended wherein fresh meals are picked up at enroute stations.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Incidence of looting between Moradabad and  
Rampur junctions**

589. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA:

SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three trains were looted within 35 minutes between Moradabad and Rampur junctions in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the loot suffered by passengers;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the looted passengers; and

(d) the action taken against the gang responsible for the incident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) On 07.09.2011, miscreants looted the passengers travelling in trains no. 14674 (Amritsar – Jaynagar) Saheed Express, 12230 (New Delhi – Lucknow) Lucknow Mail and 14512 (Saharanpur – Allahabad) Nauchandi Express in Mundapandey – Dalpatpur section between 03.25 hours and 05.35 hours between Moradabad and Rampur Junctions of Northern Railway in Uttar Pradesh.

Seven lady passengers lost their ear-rings, cash Rs. 3,600/-, one mobile phone and one payal in the above three incidents.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government Railway Police (GRP)/Rampur has registered case crime nos. 199/2011 and 200/2011 under section 395 Indian Penal Code and 201/2011 under section 392 Indian Penal Code. GRP/Rampur has arrested one accused in case crime no. 199/2011 registered in respect of incident in Saheed Express.

**Scam in SER by iron ore miners**

590. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a massive scam has come to light in South East Railway by many iron ore miners who passed off iron ore export consignments meant for domestic consumption by paying only 1/6th of freight

charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether multi-disciplinary probe has revealed that one company avoided

Rs. 750/- crore over three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether CVC has called for CBI enquiry and has asked Railways to identify guilty officials across all ranks who facilitated the huge scam; and

(f) the details of railways officials identified so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (f) A case of misleading declaration by a company has recently been detected by South Eastern Railway. The case has been handed over by Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for further investigation.

**Train accident at Arakkonam, Tamil Nadu**

591. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an EMU train rammed into a stationary passenger train near Arakkonam junction in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the number of passengers died/ injured;

(c) whether Government has announced *ex-gratia* payment to kin of deceased;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of compensation paid, so far;

(e) whether reasons for mishap have been identified;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken to check rising trend of accidents in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) On 13.09.2011 at 21.25 hrs., while the train No. 56007 Dn (Arakkonam - Katpadi) Passenger was waiting at Down Home Signal at Chitteri station of Arakkonam - Katpadi section of Chennai Division of Southern Railway, train No. 66017 Dn (Chennai Beach - Vellore) Mainline Electrical Multiple Unit (MEMU) collided in the rear of train No. 56007 Dn (Arakkonam -Katpadi) Passenger resulting into derailment of two coaches of 56007 Dn Passenger and five coaches of

train No. 66017 Dn MEMU blocking through communication. 11 persons lost their lives (three railway staff and eight passengers), 23 passengers sustained grievous injuries and 66 passengers suffered simple injuries in this accident.

(c) and (d) Considering the human sufferings, Ministry of Railways has announced enhanced *ex-gratia* amount of Rs. 5 lakhs to the next of kin of each deceased, Rs. 1 lakh to



each grievously injured and Rs. 25,000/- to each simple injured. *Ex-gratia* amount totaling to Rs. 87.50 lakhs has since been released to the next of kin of deceased and 81 injured passengers. Compensation shall be additionally payable to the victims on the basis of claims to be filed by them in the Railway Claims Tribunal (RCT) and decrees awarded by the Tribunal.

(e) and (f) Statutory inquiry into the above train accident has been conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Southern Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. As per the Preliminary Report of Commissioner of Railway Safety, the accident was caused due to signal passing at danger by the Motorman of train No. 66017 Dn (Chennai Beach – Vellore) MEMU without stopping and then proceeding at more than prescribed speed.

(g) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continuing basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Vigilance Control Device (VCD), Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS)/Anti Collision Device (ACD), etc.

#### **Effect of losses incurred on developmental schemes**

†592. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have registered losses this years;
  - (b) if so, the extent of impact that this loss is likely to have on the developmental schemes of Railways;
  - (c) whether Railways are considering measures for increasing its resources;
  - (d) whether these measures also include hike in the railway fare;
- and

(e) if so, the details of the extra revenue to be generated by  
Railways in this  
way?

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 accounts in May, 2012. However, there is shortfall in earnings realization as compared to the target by Rs. 1997 crore (Approx.) to end of October, 2011. Railway may therefore have to regulate expenditure, both in plan and non-plan accordingly.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Evaluation of alternatives relating to rationalization of the fare and freight structures is an on-going process. Such exercises are yet exploratory in nature.

(e) Does not arise.

**Recommendations of HLC on Composite Security  
Plan for Railways**

593. PROF. ANIL KUMR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a High Level Committee (HLC) on Composite Security Plan for Railways was constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Director General/RPF to study the requirements of a security system and to formulate a composite plan for the Railways;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations and if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) whether the said HLC identified 202 stations all over the country and Metro, Kolkata as sensitive for terrorist/insurgent attacks and if so, the details of the measures taken to strengthen their security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A High Level Committee comprising of officers from NSG, IB, Delhi Police, RPF and Railways was constituted in the year 2007 for recommending a composite security plan for the Indian Railways. The High Level Committee submitted its report on the Composite Security Plan in the year 2008. 21 recommendations have been made in the Composite Security Plan on various issues pertaining to railway security. As a follow up to the recommendations made in the Composite Security Plan, following measures have been taken up by railways for strengthening of railway security:-

(i) Integrated Security System.

(ii) Procurement of modern security related equipment.

(iii) RPF Mitra Yojana.

(iv) Posting of senior RPF officer in the RDSO for standardization of security technology.

- (v) Nomination of coordinating officer for liaisons with international railway security organization.
- (vi) Budgetary allocation for development of security infrastructure for setting up of new RPSF battalions, commando training center, networking of security control rooms and setting up of all India Security Help Line etc.

- (c) The committee identified sensitive and vulnerable stations of Indian Railways. Based on their report and feedback from field units and intelligence agencies, 202 stations have been identified for implementation of Integrated Security System at an estimated cost of Rs. 353 crore. The project is already sanctioned under works programme and efforts are being made for early completion of the project.

**Introduction of emergency response system**

594. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no emergency response system exists at many important railway stations across the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that many train accidents can be prevented if Railways adopt stringent methods; and

(d) whether Railways are considering introducing such methods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Indian Railways has an established system of emergency response system which consist of a network of Accident Relief Trains (ARTs) and Accident Relief Medical Vans (ARMVs) placed at identified locations which include most of the important railway stations and covers the entire rail network of Indian Railways. The ARMVs and ARTs are equipped with rescue and relief equipments required to be used at the accident site. On receiving information of an accident, ARMVs and ARTs are dispatched to the accident site alongwith the personnel trained in rescue and relief operations. ARMVs and ARTs are given precedence over all other trains while proceeding to the site of the accident. Many a time railway doctors, paramedics and other officials reach the accident site by road depending upon accessibility of the site by road.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely

replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Anti Collision Device (ACD)/Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS), Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), and Vigilance Control Device (VCD), etc.

**Shortage of manpower in RPF**

595. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of manpower has crippled railway security with as many as 15,000 vacancies in the Railway Protection Force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that out of 11,500 trains running everyday, security escorts of four to six personnel are provided to mere 3,500 trains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Prevention and detection of crime and maintenance of Law and Order in station premises and trains is the responsibility of respective State Governments which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP). Railways, through Railway Protection Force (RPF), are supplementing the effort of State Governments in strengthening railway security.

Arising and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. At present 12136 vacancies exist in RPF which includes 5134 newly created posts.

(c) and (d) Considering the vulnerability of the area and availability of manpower, the important trains are escorted by RPF and GRP in the affected and sensitive areas. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.

**Recruitment of project affected families by KRC**

596. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Konkan Railway Corporation (KRC) has conducted written test for the post of Accounts Assistant specially for project affected families;

(b) if so, the outcome of the test;

(c) whether it is a fact that some posts were filled even before

results of the written test were declared and without an interview;  
and

(d) whether it is also a fact that KRC has outsourced the work of  
this recruitment to an agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH  
SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 6 candidates have been selected as per the vacancies notified  
for Landlosers.



(d) KRCL did not outsource the work of this recruitment to any side Agency.

597. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(b) the details of train accidents, zone-wise, year-wise, for the last four years; and

(c) the details of number of deaths in train accidents, zone-wise, year-wise, for the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The number of casualties in train accident is essentially fortuitous and not strictly susceptible to comparison. The number of persons who lost their lives in consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing at unmanned level crossings during 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 were 43, 80, 68 and 250, respectively. However, loss of lives in these accidents have come down to 97 during the current year from April to 15th November, 2011 in comparison to 246 in the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) and (c) Zone-wise and year-wise number of consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing at unmanned level crossings during 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and the current year from April to 15th November, and the loss of lives involved therein is as under:-

Railway	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		April to 15th November, 2011	
	Number of accidents	Loss of lives	Number of accidents	Loss of lives	Number of accidents	Loss of lives	Number of accidents	Loss of lives	Number of accidents	Loss of lives
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Central	5	1	9	5	13	2	3	0	3	0
Eastern	2	0	7	0	3	1	5	67	2	0
East Central	6	0	14	0	15	6	11	0	1	0
Northern	14	21	18	17	10	4	16	3	5	0
North Eastern	8	1	9	1	2	0	4	1	2	0

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Northeast Frontier	11	9	3	1	7	1	6	1	6	1
North Western	10	2	3	0	4	7	3	0	1	0
Southern	6	1	4	0	4	4	3	0	2	11
South Central	8	3	7	32	8	0	6	0	5	0
South Eastern	10	0	9	1	7	2	8	152	0	0
Western	7	0	2	0	7	1	2	0	0	0
East Coast	12	3	7	9	7	1	9	1	3	10
South Western	6	0	4	0	4	0	4	23	2	0
West Central	5	0	5	2	2	0	2	2	7	4
North Central	12	2	13	12	6	39	8	0	8	71
South East Central	6	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Metro Railway Kolkata	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Konkan Railway	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL:	129	43	115	80	100	68	93	250	48	97

**Status of construction of ROBs/RUBs**

598. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage status of Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges (ROBs/ RUBs) out of the 1252 ROBs/RUBs targeted to be completed by 2013;

(b) whether the progress made so far has been of the desired level;

(c) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the manner in which the rate of work would be stepped up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) There are 951 sanctioned ROB/RUB works on cost sharing basis. Out of

these, 122 numbers have been completed as on 1.10.2011 and the balance are in various stages of planning, design and execution. Works are progressing satisfactorily as per the availability of resources and the Zone-wise details of ongoing cost sharing works is as under:-

Sl. No.	Railway	Total No. of work	Works completed	Works likely to be completed	Works likely to be completed
		as per Pink Book	as on September, 2011	completed during 2011-12	completed during 2012-13
1.	Central	14	0	2	4
2.	Eastern	59	12	5	2
3.	East Central	69	14	7	1
4.	East Coast	34	7	1	4
5.	Northern	132	14	7	23
6.	North Central	60	7	2	12
7.	North Eastern	26	2	4	8
8.	Northeast Frontier	6	4	0	0
9.	North Western	46	11	3	4
10.	Southern	211	5	16	28
11.	South Central	101	16	10	11
12.	South Eastern	24	2	3	5
13.	South East Central	29	5	2	2
14.	South Western	62	10	4	4
15.	Western	42	7	2	0
16.	West Central	36	6	2	6
TOTAL:		951	122	70	114

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Duronto Express for Hyderabad**

599. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is starting Duroto express trains in future;

- (b) if so, the details thereof especially for Hyderabad;
- (c) the parameters adopted therefor; and
- (d) the demands still pending in this regard from each zone and State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 22203/22204 Secunderabad-Visakhapatnam AC Durgam Express, a tri-weekly service, has been announced in Railway Budget 2011-12.

(c) Introduction of new trains including Durgam Express on Indian Railways, depends *inter-alia* on traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources.

(d) Demands for introduction of new trains including Durgam services are received at various levels of Railway administration. The demands are examined and action as found feasible and justified is taken. Besides, introduction of new trains on Indian Railways is an ongoing process. However, a compendium of such demands are not maintained.

#### **Sanction of rail lines**

600. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by when Government would consider to sanction three rail lines viz. Rupsa Burhamara to Chakulia (35 km.), Nuapada Gunupur B.G. rail link to Theravali (75 km.) and Banspani Badabil rail link

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): Extension of Rupsa-Bangripasi line from Burhamara to Chakulia (50 km.) is a sanctioned project.

Updating Survey for Gunupur-Theravali has been taken up. Reconnaissance Engineering cum Traffic Survey for new railway line between Banspani and Badabil has been taken up. Further decision on the projects would be taken after scrutiny of survey reports.

#### **Bullet Train**

†601. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made regarding the project of running bullet-train in the country with the assistance of Japan;

(b) the details of the proposed routes for running of bullet trains in the country;

(c) the details of the target set for the running of bullet trains;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



(d) whether any outline has been prepared regarding the problems being faced in this project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No decision has been taken to implement project for running of Bullet trains with assistance of Japanese Government.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Stoppage of train at Gwalior**

†602. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the work at Birla Gram Railway Station near Gwalior Railway Station would be completed;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide stoppage of Hazrat Nizamuddin Khajuraho train at Gwalior keeping in view the number of local passengers from nearby areas of Gwalior; and

(c) the details of new stoppages in different zones during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The work of up loop line has been sanctioned for Birla Nagar (not Birla Gram) Station located near Gwalior Railway Station. The work is in progress. Target date of completion for the work has not yet been fixed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Approximately 845 stoppages of trains including Mail/Express and Passenger trains have been provided during the last three years i.e. 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 till date over different zones of Indian Railways.

#### **Encroachment of railway land in Punjab**

603. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the railway land under encroachment in the State of Punjab as on date;

(b) the steps taken by Government to get back the land; and

(c) the manner in which Government proposes to develop the encroachment free land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The State of Punjab is covered by Northern

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Railway and North Western Railway. 220 and 19 hectare of Railway land is under encroachments in Northern Railway and North Western Railway respectively.

(b) Railways protect Railway land/property from further encroachments by providing boundary walls, fencing, tree plantation, etc., at vulnerable locations on a programmed basis. As regards existing encroachments on Railway land, Railways have decided to deal with the issue in a humane manner.

(c) Railway land is mostly in the form of narrow strips along tracks and is generally required for Railways' own developmental works such as doubling, third line, quadrupling, gauge conversion, freight corridors, yard remodelling, traffic facility works, workshops, etc. as well as for servicing and maintenance of track and other infrastructure. In the interim period Railways have undertaken/plan to undertake commercial development and various other Railway related developmental works on land which is not immediately required for its operational needs, wherever feasible, within the ambit of guidelines laid down from time to time.

#### **Purchase of electricity for running trains**

604. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government purchases electricity from State Electricity Boards for running electric trains;

(b) if so, the electricity purchased by Railways during each of the last two years; and

(c) the details of the outstanding recoverable from Government as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of the electricity purchased by Railways during 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) The electricity bills submitted by State Electricity Boards and Power Companies are generally paid in time.

#### **Statement**

*Details of the electricity purchased by Railways from State Utilities*

and  
*Power companies for running electric trains (traction application)*  
*during year 2009-10 and 2010-11*

Sl.Name of State Utilities and Total energy bill paid Total energy			
bill paid			
No.	Power companies	(Rs. in crore) during	(Rs. in crore)
during		2009-10	2010-11
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	609	684

1	2	3	4
2.	Bihar	203	214
3.	Chhattisgarh	296	319
4.	Delhi	37	35
5.	DVC	299	215
6.	Gujarat	372	368
7.	Orissa (GRIDCO)	273	363
8.	Haryana	128	125
9.	Jharkhand	277	309
10.	Kerala	66	66
11.	Karnataka	24	26
12.	Madhya Pradesh	705	830
13.	Maharashtra	681	777
14.	NTPC	296	356
15.	Punjab	73	75
16.	Rajasthan	142	133
17.	Tamil Nadu	314	344
18.	Uttar Pradesh	279	347
19.	Uttaranchal	3	3
20.	West Bengal	356	430
21.	TATA	369	413
22.	Kolkata (CESC)	36	44
GRAND TOTAL:		5839	6475

#### **Laying down of rail tracks**

†605. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the places in border States, Himachal Pradesh and North-East where laying-down of rail tracks is planned and action taken thereon?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): New line/gauge conversion projects taken up to provide connectivity to border States are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of project	State	Length (in km.)	Tentative target (Wherever fixed)
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>				
1.	Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla (1994-95)	Jammu and Kashmir	290	December '17
<b>Uttarakhand</b>				
2.	Rishikesh-Karnprayag (2010-11)	Uttarakhand	125.1	-
<b>North East Region</b>				
3.	Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal (2003-04)	Manipur	125	March ' 16
4.	Rail-cum-Road Bridge over river Brahmaputra near Bogibeel with linked lines on North and South Bandh (1997-98)	Assam	73	December ' 15
5.	Tetelia to Byrnihat (21.5 km.) : (alternative new alignment originally Azra-Byrnihat (2006-07)	Meghalaya, Assam	21.50	March ' 14
6.	Bhairabi to Sairang (2008-09)	Mizoram	51	March ' 15
7.	Dimapur to Kohima (2006-07)	Nagaland	88	March ' 15
8.	Agartala to Sabroom (2008-09)	Tripura	110	March ' 14
9.	Kumarghat-Agartala (1996-97)	Tripura	110	Commissioned
10.	Sivok to Rangpo (2008-09)	Sikkim, West Bengal	50.87	March ' 15 (Tentative)
11.	Byrnihat to Shillong (2010-11)	Meghalaya	108	March ' 17
12.	Lumding to Silchar to Jiribam to Badapur-Kumarghat (1996-97)	Assam, Tripura, Manipur	408.24	December ' 13
13.	Rangia-Murkongselek alongwith linked fingers (2003-04)	Assam	510.33	March ' 14

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>				
14.	Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (2009-10)	Himachal Pradesh, Punjab	63.1	-
15.	Nangal Dam-Talwara (1981-82)	Himachal Pradesh, Punjab	83.74	-

#### **Railway projects in Jharkhand**

606. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Railway projects proposed for implementation in Jharkhand in the Eleventh Plan and those for implementation in the annual plans of his Ministry year-wise since 2004-05 *vis-à-vis* current status thereof;

(b) the details of projects taken up for implementation in Jharkhand on cost-sharing basis with the State Government since 2004-05 indicating current status of their implementations;

(c) whether Government has received any representation from the State Government seeking expeditious implementation of the cost-shared projects and/or restructuring of their schedule of meeting financial commitments, etc.; and

(d) if so, current status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) 8 New Line, 1 Gauge Conversion and 8 Doubling projects falling fully/partly in Jharkhand are under various stages of execution in Eleventh Five Year Plan. 1 New Line and 3 Doubling projects have been completed in Eleventh Five Year Plan. Details of ongoing projects are as under:-

Sl No.	Projects	Km.	Outlay 2011-12 (Rs. in crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5



1*	Koderma-Ranchi new line	189	20.00	Work have been taken up on entire entire length. Progress is affected due to adverse law and order conditions. Koderma- Barhi-
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1	2	3	4	5
				Hazaribagh-Mandu-Kuju (122 km.) targeted for completion in 2011-12.
2*	Mandarhill-Rampurhat new line (sharing for Dumka-Rampurhat Only)	130	60.00	Mandarhill-Hansdia (26 km.) and Rampurhat-Pinargaria (19 km.) completed. Works are in progress in balance length.
3*	Koderma-Giridih new line	102	13.00	Koderma-Dhanwar (49 km.) completed. Works are in progress in balance length.
4*	Koderma-Tilaiya new line (sharing for Jharkhand Portion only)	68	30.00	Land acquisition done. Earthwork and minor bridges are in progress. Both major bridges completed.
5*	Ranchi-Lohardaga Gauge Conversion with Extension to Tori	113	8.00	Gauge conversion of Ranchi-Lohardaga completed. Lohardaga-Barkichampi (14 km.) also completed. Works are in progress. In balance Barkichampi-Tori section. Progress affected due to adverse law and order situation.
6	Gaya-Bodhgaya new line	97	13.20	Work is in Planning State.
7	Gaya-Daltanganj new line	136.88	2.00	FLS for balance portion is in progress.
8	Hansdiha-Godda new line	30	1.0	New Work included in

				budget 2011-12. Work will be taken up after requisite clearances.
9	Chandrapura-Rajabera- Chandrapura-Bhandaridah	10.6	10.00	Preliminary works have been taken up.
10	<i>Dangoaposi-Rajkharswan</i> 3rd line	65	15.00	Final location survey is in progress Tender for Preliminary works finalized. Targeted date of completion is March, 2014.
11	Muri-North Outer cabin/ Muri-Doubling of section with provision of 2nd bridge over Subarnarekha	1	15.00	Tender for engineering work awarded and work started. Earthwork completed. Foundation work on bridge started.

1	2	3	4	5
12	Rajkharswan-Sini 3rd line	15	15.00	Composite tenders for Engineering, Electrical and S&T works opened and Discharged. Earthwork has been started. Target date of completion is 2012-13.
13	Sahibganj-Pirpainti	10.45	25.00	Detailed consolidated estimate sanctioned. Tenders for Sahibganj-Karamtola section awarded.
14	Tinpahar-Sahibganj as Phase-I of Doubling of Tinpahar-Bhagalpur	37.81	25.00	Detailed estimate sanctioned. Tender for earthwork and Bridges for sections Tinpahar-Tiljhari and Taljhari-Maharajpur awarded.

\*Work on cost sharing basis with State Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The revised MoU incorporating latest anticipated target date of completion of projects and other modalities is under approval.

#### **Revision of train fares**

607. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether train fares are slated for revision on demand basis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Evaluation of various alternatives relating to rationalization of the fare and freight structures is an on-going process. Such exercises are yet exploratory in nature and do not constitute a systemic proposal for revision of fares on the basis of demand.

(b) Does not arise.

**Illegal food stalls at Jaipur Railway Station**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that eight food stalls at Jaipur Railway station are running without licence in an unauthorized manner for the last many years;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether despite the High Court's orders no solution could be found because of the negligence of the local officers; and

(c) the financial losses incurred by Railways till date because of this negligence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The matter is sub-judice in the Hon'ble Rajasthan High Court, Jaipur.

**Response to representation from Forum on Social and  
Human Rights**

609. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether South Central Railway has received a representation from the Forum on Social and Human Rights, alongwith the response from the National Human Rights Commission, demanding that the Level crossing gate in Tanuku, West Godavari be opened immediately;

(b) if so, the reasons for refusal of South Central Railway to respond immediately to the NHRC related complaint;

(c) by when response would be given to the Forum on Social and Human Rights; and

(d) the action proposed against those responsible for the delay in giving a response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Road Over Bridge (ROB) has been constructed- and commissioned in lieu of level crossing no. 152, at Tanuku in Vijaywada Division, on cost sharing basis. After commissioning of the ROB, the level crossing has been closed with the consent of State Government as per terms and conditions of construction of ROB on cost sharing basis. Opening of the level crossing is not desirable from safety considerations.

(c) and (d) Railway has already replied to the National Human Rights Commission vide letter No. W. Con. 195/XV/V/Vol. XIX/1 dated 19.01.2011. Further, Railways and the State Government have jointly

inspected the level crossing site to work out a solution. Under Bridge is not feasible at this location. State Government Officials had agreed to construct stairs for the benefit of the local people.

**Ban on vendors in trains**

610. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to ban vendors in trains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government has taken any step to protect the interests of vendors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Proper identity cards with travelling authorities are issued to the authorised staff of catering/vending licencees to enable them to manage catering service on mobile and static units effectively.

#### **Expansion plan of Railways by 2020**

611. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been sluggish in expanding its rail network while China has set an ambitious expansion plan of high-speed rail network to connect the remotest parts of the country to its fastest growing regions by 2020;

(b) if so, the details of expansion plan of Railways upto 2020 zone-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government indicating whether cheap technology of China could be used for railway expansion in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Expansion of Indian Railways has been planned under a well laid out plan which has been brought out in the Vision 2020 document, already presented in both Houses of the Parliament. Expansion plan on each of the Zonal Railways is subject to availability of funds and relative priority of projects which undergoes review on a continuous basis. No State-wise planning is done in this regard.

(c) Based on the design specifications approved by RDSO (Research Designs and Standards Organisation), Indian Railways deploy technology through a process of open and competitive bidding irrespective of the country of origin.

#### **Rise in crimes in Railways**



612. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a rise in crimes in Railways especially against women passengers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the zone-wise budget allocation for RPF;

(d) the average ratio of RPF policemen and policewomen to the total number of railway passengers in the country;

(e) whether Government is planning to recruit more RPF patrolling staff;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Zone-wise budget allocation for RPF is as under:-

Zones	Amount (In crores of rupees)
Central	129.57
Eastern	194.35
Northern	222.52
North Eastern	97.5
Northeast Frontier	127.29
Southern	139.76
South Central	108.09
South Eastern	130.9
Western	121.79
East Central	192.11
East Coast	73.24
North Central	92.32
North Western	67.36
South East Central	40.87
South Western	35.93
West Central	44.93
METRO	6.5
TOTAL:	1825.08

(d) The average ratio of Railway Protection Force personnel to the passengers carried by Indian Railways is 1:288 approximately per day.

(e) to (g) No, Sir. Track patrolling is the duty of the State Governments concerned.

#### **Railway projects in Punjab**

613. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many railway projects in Punjab are either incomplete or running much behind schedule in view of the indifferent attitude of Government;

(b) the reasons for delay in completing these projects;

(c) whether it is a fact that in some of the projects the State Government has completed its task and action is required on part of the Railways;

(d) if so, the details and reasons for delay in such cases; and

(e) the efforts being made to complete all these projects without further cost and time escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The work of Chandigarh-Baddi new line work falling partly in the State of Punjab has been stalled following refusal by State Government of Punjab and Chandigarh Administration to provide land for the work. All other ongoing railway projects in Punjab are progressing satisfactorily as per availability of resources.

(c) Does not arise, as there is no cost sharing by State Government of Punjab in any of the ongoing railway projects in the State.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Stoppage of trains of Sidhpur Railway Station, Gujarat**

614. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has received some detailed proposal and D.O. letter from the Member of Parliament with

regard to stoppage of some of the important trains at Sidhpur Railway Station of Gujarat in view of it's historical and religious importance as well as commercial earnings;

(b) if so, the broad details of the said proposal and letter and the action taken thereon so far;

(c) the time by when the proposal of stoppage of the said trains is likely to be considered; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Representations including from Hon'ble Member of Parliament have been received for stoppage of some trains like 14707/14708 Bikaner-Bandra (Terminus) Express etc. at Sidhpur station. The same has been examined but not found commercially justified.

**Setting up Rail Coach factory in Singur, West Bengal**

615. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways and SAIL are looking to set up a coach factory in Singur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether process for acquiring land for the project has started;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of jobs, the project will create for locals; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) All options are being explored to set up a coach factory at Singur.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Do not arise at this stage.

**Delay in Dedicated Freight Corridor Project**

616. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any delays are being faced in the Dedicated Freight

Corridor Project;

- (b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;
- (c) the new deadline set for the completion of the project;
- (d) whether process is being undertaken for re-tender; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The target for commissioning of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor had to be reviewed from December 2016 to March 2017 due to change in alignment on certain segments.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The Pre-Qualification for 2 Packages of civil and track works in Rewari-Iqbalgarh Section of Western Dedicated Freight Corridor has been re-invited due to poor response at the Pre-Qualification stage and is scheduled to be opened by 28.12.2011.

#### Rail density

617. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Rail density zone-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the criteria to select a project for laying new rail lines;
- (c) the details of pending projects in Andhra Pradesh alongwith the ROR; and
- (d) the time-frame to complete these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The details of Zone-wise and State-wise rail density as on 31.3.2011 is given below:-

Zone-wise*			State-wise		
Name of the Railway Zone	Route kilometres	Name of State/ Union Territory	Route kilometres	Density per one lakh population	Density per 1000 square kms. of area
1	2	3	4	5	6
Central	3905.47	Andhra Pradesh	5264.15	6.33	19.14
Eastern	2435.21	Arunachal Pradesh	1.26	0.11	0.02
East Central	3655.50	Assam	2433.99	9.13	31.03
East Coast	2646.40	Bihar	3612.02	4.36	38.36

Northern	6968.40	Chhattisgarh	1187.47	5.71	8.73
North Central	3150.85	Delhi	183.23	1.33	123.55



1	2	3	4	5	6
North Eastern	3720.74	Goa	69.31	5.14	18.72
Northeast Frontier	3908.02	Gujarat	5270.89	10.40	26.89
North Western	5463.78	Haryana	1540.14	7.28	34.84
Southern	5102.12	Himachal Pradesh	296.26	4.87	5.32
South Central	5809.99	Jammu and Kashmir	255.67	2.52	1.15
South Eastern	2631.61	Jharkhand	1984.27	7.37	24.89
South East Central	2454.98	Karnataka	3076.24	5.82	16.04
South Western	3176.50	Kerala	1049.74	3.30	27.01
Western	6440.35	Madhya Pradesh	4954.48	8.20	16.09
West Central	2964.84	Maharashtra	5601.62	5.78	18.20
Metro Railway, Kolkata	25.14	Manipur	1.35	0.06	0.06
GRAND TOTAL:	64459.90	Mizoram	1.50	0.17	0.07
		Nagaland	12.85	0.65	0.78
		Orissa	2461.05	6.69	15.81
		Punjab	2133.89	8.76	42.37
		Rajasthan	5784.16	10.24	16.90
		Tamil Nadu	4062.06	6.51	31.23
		Tripura	151.40	4.73	14.43
		Uttarakhand	344.91	4.06	6.45
		Uttar Pradesh	8762.30	5.27	36.37
		West Bengal	3936.89	4.91	44.36
		<b>Union Territory</b>			
		Chandigarh	15.70	1.74	137.72
		Puducherry	11.10	1.14	23.17

\*Rail density is not compiled zone-wise.

Note:- The remaining States/Union Territories have no railway line.

(b) The policy followed for taking up new line projects was enunciated by the National Transport Policy Committee, 1980 and the following criteria was prescribed:-

- (i) Project oriented lines to serve new industries for tapping mineral and other resources;
- (ii) Missing links for completing alternative routes to relieve congestion on existing saturated routes;
- (iii) Lines required for strategic reasons; and
- (iv) Lines for establishment of new growth centers or giving access to remote areas.

Besides the above, new lines are also taken up as socially desirable projects for the development of the economically backward areas.

(c) and (d) The status of on-going new lines, gauge conversion and doubling rail line works in Andhra Pradesh are as under:-

Sl.No	Name of the Project	Rate of Return (%)	Status/Target wherever fixed
1	2	3	4
<b>New line</b>			
1.	Cuddapa-Bangalore (255.4 km.)	14	Government of Andhra Pradesh is sharing 50% cost. Project being executed through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). In Phase-I, work taken up in Cuddapa-Pendlimari section.
2.	Attipattu-Puttur (88.3 km.)	13	Final location survey completed. Land acquisition under process.
3.	Rayadur-Tumkur (213 km.)	10	Land acquisition taken up.

4.	Jaggayyapet-  Mallacheruvu  (19.1 km.)	22	Earth, bridge works in advance stage. Section targeted for completion in 2011-12.
5.	Peddapal-Karimnagar  Nizamabad  (177.4 km.)	6	Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Jagtiyal (83.53 km.) completed. Jagtiyal-Nizamabad (95.62 km.) land acquisition, earthwork, bridges etc. taken up.

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1	2	3	4
6.	Gadwal-Raichur (60 km.)		Gadwal-Panduraga-Swamy Road (30 km.) work already completed. Earthwork, bridge works taken up in Panduraga-Swamy Road-Raichur section.
7.	Macherla-Nalgonda (92 km.)	6	Preliminary activities taken up.
8.	Kakinada-Pithapuram (21.50 km.)	8	Preliminary activities taken up.
9.	Nandyal-Yerraguntla (126 Km.)	8	Yerraguntla-Nossam (50 km.) completed. Land acquisition, earthwork, bridges etc. taken up in balance portion.
10.	Munirabad Mahabubnagar (246 km.)	2	Yeramaras-Yadalapur (14.5 km.) completed. Land acquisition, earth work, major/minor bridge work taken up in balance portion.
11.	Obulavaripalle-  Krishnapattnam (113 km.)	13	Venkatachalam-Krishnapattnam completed and commissioned. Land acquisition taken up in balance portion.
12.	Kotipalli-Narsapur (57.21 km.)	0	Land acquisition, earth work, bridge work etc. taken up.
13.	Vishnupuram-Janpahar (11 km.)	22	Land acquisition, earth work, bridge work etc. taken up.
14.	Tindivanam-Nagari (179.2 km.)	-1	Requests for land requisition placed with State Government, bridge work etc. taken up wherever feasible.
15.	Manoharabad-Kotapalli	-1	Preliminary activities taken up.

(148.9 km.)

16. Bhadrachalam Road-	37	Final location survey taken up. M/s SCCL
Sattupalli (56 km.)		has been requested to deposit funds.
17. Nadidude-Srikalahasti (309 km.)	21	Preliminary activities taken up.
18. Gudur-Durga- Rajapatnam (42 km.)	-13	Preliminary activities taken up.

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1	2	3	4
<b>Doubling</b>			
19.	Raichur-Guntakal  (81.1 km.)	17	Macherla-Aspari (22 km.) completed and commissioned. Aspari-Adoni (22 km.) completed.
20.	Simhachalam North- Gopalpatnam (2.07 km.)	0	Preliminary activities taken up.
21.	Gooty-Renigunta (151 km.)	14	Completed and Commissioned.
22.	Raghavapuram-  Mandamari (Patchtrip- ling) (24.47 km.)	18	Earth work and bridges in progress. Mancherial-Mandamari and Raghavapuram-Pedampet section targeted for completion in 2011- 12.
23.	Viziyanagaram-  Kottavalasa 3rd line  (34.7 km.)	22	Land acquisition earthwork, bridge work etc. taken up. Vijainagaram- Korkunda (10.64 km.) and Kantakpatch- Kottavalasa (7.75 km.) targeted for 2011-12
24	Kottavalas-  Simhachalam North  line (16.69 km.)	0	Earthwork, minor/major bridges, ROB/ RUBs and ballast supply work is taken up.
25	Mancheryal Peddampet Patchtripling (4.37 km.)	0	Preliminary activities taken up.
26	Guntur-Tenali  (24.18 km.)	15	Preliminary activities taken up. Work entrusted to RVNL.
27	Mudkhed-Parbhani (81.43 km.)	17	Preliminary activities taken up.

28	Vijayawada-	18	Preliminary activities taken up.
			Work
	Machlipatnam		entrusted to RVNL.
	(221 km.)		

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Targets are fixed every year based on availability of resources and progress made in respective project.

**New proposals for rail lines etc.**

618. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by Railways from various State Governments especially Haryana and Punjab for construction of new railway lines, stations and/or upgradation of existing stations, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken thereon by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Proposals for railway projects are received at all levels viz. Zones, Divisions, Stations and details of each and every demand received is not centrally maintained. However, as per records available, proposal has been received from State Government of Haryana for construction of Rohtak-Meham-Hansi new railway line. Proposal for construction of Ellenabad-Sirsa new line has been received from State Government of Punjab. No proposal has been received from State Governments of Haryana and Punjab for new stations and upgradation of existing stations.

(b) Surveys for Rohtak-Hansi and Ellenabad-Sirsa new lines have been completed. Necessary approval has been obtained from Planning Commission for Rohtak-Meham-Hansi new line. As regards Ellenabad-Sirsa new line, State Government of Punjab has been approached with cost sharing proposal to which they have not responded.

#### **Losses due to train accidents**

619. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have to incur huge losses due to train accidents and providing compensation to victims from its own resources instead of charging from the Insurance Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the compensation paid by Railways to the victims since 2009; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Loss of railway property in consequential train accidents excluding cases of trespassing at unmanned level crossings



during 2009-10, 2010-11 and the current year from April to October, 2011 has been estimated to Rs. 53.71 crores (approx.), Rs. 73.93 crores (approx.) and Rs. 79.84 crores (approx.), respectively. Payment of compensation to the victims of train accidents is statutory liability under the Indian Railways Act, 1989 and hence, any payment on this account can not be linked to loss to the exchequer.

(c) The amount of compensation paid by the Railways in train accident cases during 2009-10, 2010-11 and the current year from April to October, 2011 was approximately

Rs. 265.81 lakhs, Rs. 585.79 lakhs and Rs. 317.27 lakhs, respectively. This amount is over and above the *ex-gratia* paid by the Railways as immediate relief to the victims after the accidents.

(d) Does not arise.

**Criteria for selection of implementing agency for  
MPLADS work**

620. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria of selecting implementing agency under MPLADS at the \_\_\_\_\_ village level;

(b) whether uniform policy is maintained for all MPs or there is different criteria for different MPs;

(c) usually 5 per cent security is cut from the bill of work, if it is done departmentally who is taking that 5 per cent security after the work is completed; and

(d) whether it is refunded to the MPLADS account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) As per the MPLADS guidelines, the Panchayati Raj Institutions will preferably be the Implementing Agencies in the Rural Areas. The District Authority may also choose either Government Department/Agency or reputed Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) who are capable of implementing the works satisfactorily as Implementing Agencies. For purpose of execution of works through Government Departments, District Authority can engage Public Health Engineering, Rural Housing, Housing Boards, Electricity Boards, and Urban Development Authorities etc., as Implementing Agencies.

(b) The guidelines are required to be followed uniformly for all MPs.

(c) and (d) The MPLADS guidelines provide that State procedures are to be followed.

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**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, there should not be any FDI in retail sector...(Interruptions)...

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, we oppose FDI in retail sector...(Interruptions)...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Papers be laid first...(Interruptions)...

**I. Accounts (2008-00 and 2009-10) of the various I.I.Ts and the Audit Reports thereon**

**II. Reports (2009-10 and 2009-11) and Accounts of the various I.I.Ts and the related papers**

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I lay on the Table--

I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961:--

(a) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi (Himachal Pradesh), for the year 2009-10, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5289/15/11]

(b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Rajasthan, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5286/15/11]

(c) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Rajasthan, for the year 2009-10, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5284/15/11]

(d) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5288/15/11]

(e) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Patna, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5299/15/11]

(f) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Patna, for the year 2009-10, and

the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5347/15/11]

- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (i) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM), Chennai, for the year 2010-11.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5285/15/11]

(ii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2010-11.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5291/15/11]

(b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961.

(c) Statement by Government accepting the above Reports mentioned (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5345/15/11]

(iii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar, for the year 2009-10.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5290/15/11]

(iv) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Allahabad, for the year 2009-10.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5335/15/11]

(v) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, for the year 2010-11.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5342/15/11]

...(Interruptions)...

#### **I. Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture**

#### **II. Report (2008-09) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur and related paper**

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. 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. 1893 (E), dated the 12th August, 2011, notifying the specifications of certain fertilizers imported in India for a period of two years.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5122/15/11]

- (2) S.O. 1949 (E), dated the 23rd August, 2011, notifying the specification of Bentonite Sulphur with Zinc for a period of three years.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5279/15/11]

II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 29 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992:—

(a) Annual Report of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2008-09.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5278/15/11]

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we will not allow FDI in retail sector ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please go to your seats ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't come into the well...*(Interruptions)*...

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#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the Members that a letter has been received from Shri Shivpratap Singh stating that he has been admitted in Nephrology Department of AIIMS due to health problems. He has, therefore, requested for grant of Leave of Absence for the entire



current (224th) Session of the Rajya Sabha from 22nd November, 2011, to 21st December, 2011.

Does he have the permission of the House to remain absent from all meetings of the House during the current Session?

*(No Hon. Member dissented)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we have announcement regarding Government Business for the next week. Mr. Rajeev Shukla.

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**STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, I beg to announce that the Government Business in this House for the week commencing 28th November, 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 Chartered Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
  - (b) The Costs and Works Accountants (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
  - (c) The Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
  - (d) The Architects (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
  - (e) The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore, Bill, 2010.
  - (f) The Copyright (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
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.
4. Consideration and passing of the Damodar Valley Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2011, after it is passed by the Lok Sabha.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we do not allow FDI in retail sector ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, FDI should not be permitted in retail sector...(*Interruptions*)...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we don't want FDI in retail sector...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us take up the Special Mentions  
...(Interruptions)... Now, a statement from the Commerce  
Minister...(Interruptions)...

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# STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

## (I) Revival, reform and restructuring of Handloom Sector

## (II) Opening up of FDI in multibrand retail trading and further liberalization of FDI Policy in single brand retail trading

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): Sir, I beg to make the following Statements:-

### (I)

Sir, in the Budget speech for 2011-12 on 28.2.2011, the Finance Minister

had announced that the Government of India would provide Rs. 3000 crore for implementing the financial package for handloom sector for waiver of overdue loans. As a follow up of the Budget announcement, the Government has now approved the following:-

(i) To implement the "Revival, Reform and Restructuring Package for Handloom Sector" starting with the current financial year as a new Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme with a total outlay of Rs. 3884 crore. The component-wise details of the Financial Package are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Component	Rs. crore
1.	Loan waiver and recapitalization of handloom weavers cooperative societies as on 31.03.2010.	3021
2.	Waiver of individual weaver loans as on 31.3.2010	500
3.	Strengthening of weaver cooperative societies	88
4.	3% Interest Subsidy for fresh loans	180
5.	Credit Guarantee for fresh loans	+5
6.	Training for the functionaries	30
7.	Loss assessment exercise and Cost of Implementation	40
TOTAL:		3884

(ii) Out of the total amount of Rs. 3884 crore, the share of the Government of India will be Rs. 3137 crore and that of the

State Governments will be Rs. 747 crore.

- (iii) The funds required for loan waiver and recapitalization of handloom weavers cooperative societies and that for individual weavers (Sl.No. 1 and 2 respectively in

the table above) will be shared in the following ratio between the Government of India and States concerned:-

Sl. No.	Beneficiary	General Category States (Centre: States)	Special Category States (Centre: States)
(i)	State level apex societies	75: 25	90: 10
(ii)	Primary handloom cooperative societies	80: 20	90: 10
(iii)	Individual weavers/SHGs etc.	80: 90: 10	20

- (iv) Under the scheme, funds will be provided for repayment of 100% of principal and 25% of interest, which is overdue as on 31.03.2010 in respect of viable and potentially viable Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies and Apex Societies as well as in respect of individual handloom weavers, master weavers, Self Help Groups and Joint Liability Groups who have taken such loans for handloom weaving purposes, provided the banks agree for sanctioning fresh loans. There would be an overall ceiling of Rs. 50,000 per individual beneficiary as far as funding under this scheme is concerned in respect of waiver of over dues of individual handloom weavers.
- (v) The Government has further approved an interest subvention of 3% for 3 years to be extended from the date of disbursal of the fresh loan extended by banks to the eligible handloom cooperative societies and individual handloom weavers covered under this Scheme. The interest subvention would not be made available from the date on which a loan becomes non-performing asset.
- (vi) The Government will make necessary provision for credit guarantee for a period of three years for the fresh loans extended as per para (v) above.
- (vii) The Government has further approved the constitution of three levels of Committees at the national, state and district levels for implementing and monitoring the

scheme.

- (viii) The Government has also approved the releasing of 80% of the share of Government of India on signing of MoU with the State Governments and NABARD, and on completion of loss assessment exercise in a particular State.

**(II)**

Sir, my second statement is:

The Government has approved the proposal of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion for allowing FDI in Multi-Brand Retail Trading and liberalization of the policy in Single-Brand Retail Trading. The details of the proposals approved are as under:-

**(1) FDI in Multi-Brand Retail Trading:**

- (i) FDI in Multi Brand Retail Trade may be permitted upto 51%, with Government approval;
- (ii) Fresh agricultural produce, including fruits, vegetables, flowers, grams, pulses, fresh poultry, fishery and meat products, may be unbranded.
- (iii) Minimum amount to be brought in, as FDI, by the foreign investor, would be US \$ 100 million.
- (iv) At least 50% of total FDI brought in shall be invested in 'back-end infrastructure', where 'back-end infrastructure' will include capital expenditure on all activities, excluding that on front-end units; for instance, back-end infrastructure will include investment made towards processing, manufacturing, distribution, design improvement, quality control, packaging, logistics, storage, ware-house, agriculture market produce infrastructure etc. Expenditure on land cost and rentals, if any, will not be counted for purposes of back-end infrastructure.
- (v) At least 30% of the procurement of manufactured/processed products shall be sourced from 'small industries' which have a total investment in plant and machinery not exceeding US \$ 1.00 million. This valuation refers to the value at the time of installation, without providing for depreciation. Further, if at any point in time, this valuation is exceeded, the industry shall not qualify as a 'small industry' for this purpose.
- (vi) Self-certification by the company, to ensure compliance of the condition at serial nos. (iii), (iv) and (v) above, which could be cross-checked as and when required. Accordingly, the investors to maintain accounts, duly certified by statutory auditors.



- (vii) Retail sales locations may be set up only in cities with a population of more than. 10 lakh as per 2011 Census and may also cover an area of 10 kms around the municipal/urban agglomeration limits of such cities; retail locations will be restricted to conforming areas as per the Master/Zonal Plans of the concerned cities and provision will be made for requisite facilities such as transport connectivity and parking;
- (viii) Government will have the first right to procurement of agricultural products;

**(2) FDI in Single-Brand Retail Trading:**

- (i) FDI in single brand retail trading may be permitted upto 100% with Government approval;
- (ii) Products to be sold should be of a 'Single Brand' only.
- (iii) Products should be sold under the same brand internationally i.e. products should be sold under the same brand in one or more countries other than India.
- (iv) 'Single Brand' product-retailing would cover only products which are branded during manufacturing.
- (v) The foreign investor should be the owner of the brand.
- (vi) In respect of proposals involving FDI beyond 51%, 30% sourcing would mandatorily have to be done from SMEs/village and cottage industries artisans and craftsmen. 'Small industries' would be defined as industries which have a total investment in plant and machinery not exceeding US \$ 1.00 million. This valuation refers to the value at the time of installation, without providing for depreciation. Further, if at any point in time, this valuation is exceeded, the industry shall not qualify as a 'small industry' for this purpose. The compliance of this condition will be ensured through self-certification by the company, which could be subsequently checked, by statutory auditors, from the duly certified accounts, which the investors will be required to maintain.

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**SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 2011-12**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General), for the year 2011-12.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 5308/15/11]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will, now, take up Special Mentions.

These will be laid by hon. Members.

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**SPECIAL MENTIONS\*\***

**Concern over the acute shortage of coal for generation of  
power in the country**

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar): Sir, endemic coal shortages have  
jeopardised India's

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\*\*Laid on the table of the House.

energy security. The growing disequilibrium between supply and demand coupled with inefficient transportation make it increasingly difficult for power targets to be met. This also has severe implications for aluminium, cement and other non-power consumers. The demand-supply mismatch of coal is expected to be 137.03 million tonnes at the end of 2011-12. Additionally, coal consumption in the country is expected to take off in the coming decade. As per the Planning Commission, domestic coal demand will increase to 1.0 billion tonnes by the end of the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017), necessitating about 200 million tonnes of imports to bridge the shortfall in domestic output.

Increased reliance on imports is inhibited by long-haul transportation costs, internal movements and because coal equities have been foreclosed by other countries. The reforms of the coal sector are long overdue and increased competition, productivity, improved technology and environment controls need to be implemented without any delay. Therefore, I urge the Government to take bold steps in ensuring India's coal supply, since it is integral to our energy security.

**Demand to enhance the compensation to the people who lost their  
eyesight  
in the eye operation camp organized by a Government Hospital in  
Durg, Chhattisgarh**

श्री मोती लाल वोरा (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, दक्षिण 29  
सितम्बर, 2011 को छत्तीसगढ़ स्थित बाबोद, जिला दुर्ग में  
सरकारी अस्पताल द्वारा आयोजित नेत्र शिबिर में एकसाथ 93  
लोगों के आंख के आपरेशन कए गए। बलि पर्याप्त तैयारी के  
इतनी बड़ी संख्या में आपरेशन कएि जाके तथा आपरेश न कराने  
आये गरीब कसिन और मजदूर तबके के लोगो को उसी दनि, बलि  
समुचित जांच कएि, कैम्प से डिस्चार्ज कर दयि गया, जसिके  
परिणामस्वरूप 48 लोगो की नेत्र ज्योति समाप्त हो गई तथा 4  
लोगो की मृत्यु हो गई। आयोजकों द्वारा पीड़ितों के साथ  
मानवीय व्यवहार नहीं कयि गया। जब पीड़ित लोग अगले दनि, यानी  
30 सितम्बर को कैम्प पहुंचे तब उनकी भली-भांति देखभाल करने  
की बजाय उन्हें दुर्ग, बलिई एवं रायपुर के अस्पतालों में  
रफिर कर दयि गया तथा अस्पताल की एम्बुलेंस से भेजने की  
बजाय बसों से जाने को कहा गया, जो मानवीय दृष्टि से उचित  
नहीं था।

इससे पूर्व 12 जुलाई, 2011 को सामाजिक संस्था उदयाचल के नेत्र शक्तिर में जहां 7 लोगों को आपरेशन के बाद परेशानी आई थी, उनका इलाज उदयाचल के खर्च पर रायपुर स्थित अस्पताल में कराया जा रहा है। बालोद की उक्त घटना के समय भी इसी तरह का आचरण होना चाहिए था।

मेरा केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि सभी पीड़ितों की सरकारी खर्च पर किसी अच्छे अस्पताल, जैसे कि दिल्ली स्थित डॉ. राजेन्द्र प्रसाद नेत्र केन्द्र, में जांच करानी चाहिए और यदि नेत्र ज्योति वापस आने की संभावना है तो वहां उनका इलाज कराया जाना चाहिए।

राज्य सरकार ने प्रत्येक पीड़ित व्यक्ति को 50,000/- रुपये का अनुदान दिया है, किन्तु वह बहुत ही कम है। मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वह प्रत्येक पीड़ित को 2,00,000/- (दो लाख रुपये) तथा मृतकों के परिवार को 4,00,000/- (चार लाख रुपये) की सहायता दे तथा राज्य सरकार उनके परिवार के एक सदस्य को सरकारी नौकरी दे।

**Demand to provide permanent Commission to women officers  
commissioned through Short Service Commission**

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Punjab): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Defence Minister towards the plight of women Officers commissioned through the Short Service Commission in the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. In the year 2011, there are 1055 women officers in the Army, 232 in the Navy and 936 in the Air Force, excluding the Army Medical Corps, Army Dental Corps and Military Nursing Services, who have been inducted as Short Service Commission officers in select support arms and services. The Government, *vide* its order

dated 26.09.2008, have granted permanent commission prospectively to S.S.C women officers to be inducted in the Judge Advocate General, Army Education Corps of Army and the corresponding Branch/Cadre in the Navy and the Air Force, *i.e.* Accounts Branch of the Air Force and Naval Constructor of the Navy. Thus discriminating against other Short Service Commissioned women officers who are serving in other branches of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force.

As the women in no way are inferior to men, as has been proved by Major Mitali Madhusmita, who has become the first Indian women officer to be awarded the Sena Medal for Gallantry, they must be provided with permanent commission retrospectively in all the arms of Army, Navy and Air Force based on the principles of Equality as enshrined in Article 14 of our Constitution and natural justice. Without discriminating on flimsy grounds based on surmises and conjectures, I urge the Defence Minister to take decisive positive action in this direction.

**Demand to set up a regulatory mechanism on sale and  
use of stents in the country**

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, stents help unclog arteries of heart, but these have become a major source of fast bucks for many hospitals and doctors. In the absence of any monitoring and regulatory mechanism on stents, hospitals have developed this as a profit-generating commission system in connivance with cardiologists and foreign stent manufacturers. Even though Indian stents are good in quality, hospitals and doctors seldom use them on patients, since

these do not fetch them any commission. The result is that patients are forced to pay hefty amounts.

The *modus operandi* is very interesting. There are four or five imported stent companies vying for contract with some hospitals. The company that supplies imported stent at a very low price than others is recommended by cardiologist and chosen by hospital. Only that stent will be used for a fixed period of time on all patients. In the absence of a regulatory framework, the company compromises on quality, because it really cannot maintain quality standards at such a cheap price. So, the company first ropes in cardiologist by giving him commission. Then, it

takes cardiologist-approved stent to hospital management for approval and eventually fixes commission for the hospital too. For example, Bare Metal Stent costs Rs. 8,500-16,000 to a hospital, but the hospital charges Rs. 30,000-55,000 from a patient. Cobalt-Chromium Stent costs Rs. 14,000-30,000, but charged Rs. 50,000-70,000. Drug-Eluting Stent costs Rs. 75,000-80,000, but charged Rs. 1,00,000-1,50,000. In addition, hospitals charge fifteen to twenty per cent as handling charges.

In view of this, I request the Government of India to set up a regulatory body on the lines of U.S. Food and Drug Administration to contain this malpractice by hospitals and doctors in the country.

**Request to accord the status of classical language to  
Marathi language**

SHRI SANJAY RAUT (Maharashtra): Sir, I would like to bring to the kind attention of the Government, through you, that 95 million people speak Marathi fluently all over the world. It is one of the ancient languages of the world and owes its origin to Vedic Sanskrit. In fact, it is said to be the first language among all the 'Sanskrit-udbhov' languages. Though it is a much older language, yet, its first written record, a document in Marathi, was found in Karnataka and that dates back to 700 A.D.

Marathi has a proven historical legacy and a very rich literature of its own. It was commonly spoken over large parts of central and western India. It also had the distinction of being the official and court language of the Satavahana Empire and also the subsequent Yadava Empire of Devgiri.

Later on, during the reign of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and other Maratha/Peshava kings, Marathi language prospered furthermore and it also became the official language in kingdoms outside Maharashtra.

Over the ages, poet saints such as Mukundaraj, Gyaneshwar, Thukaram and Namdev have also made great contributions through their epic works to take the Marathi language to its zenith. Some of the Abhangas of Sant Namdev have been included in the Guru Granth Sahib. Some of the Abhangas written by Sant Namdev in Marathi have been found in Lyalpur in Pakistan.



Marathi is not only the official language of Maharashtra but also of Goa and the two Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

Marathi has the distinction of being the fourth most spoken language in India and the fifteenth most spoken language in the world. In this connection, I also wrote a letter to the hon. Prime Minister on 3rd May, 2010, to which I did not get any reply, except an acknowledgment. In view of these facts, I urge the Government of India to declare Marathi as a classical language immediately.

**Demand for CBI inquiry to investigate the brutal killing of a  
social activist in Jharkhand**

MS. MABEL REBELLO (Jharkhand): Sir, Valsa John, who had been leading an anti-displacement movement against some coal mines, was brutally murdered on the night of November 15, 2011, at Pachubera village in Amarapara block of Pakur District, Jharkhand. Valsa John had been living in Jharkhand for the last 12 years and she had been fighting against the injustice meted out to local people and, therefore, she had been under threat from the mining mafias.

I condemn the brutal killing of Valsa John. We believe that the killing of Valsa is a result of the nexus amongst the corporate sharks, mining mafias etc. It is also a conspiracy to suppress and terrorize anti-displacement activists and social activists, who mobilize people to fight against the alienation of land.

In Jharkhand, several human right activists, RTI activists and social activists like Lalit Mehta, Niyamat Ansari, Kameshwar Yadav, Somay Gagrai and others were killed in the past.

Valsa John fought against the land sharks who were acquiring the lands of Adivasis by terrorizing the villagers. She mobilized the villagers of Pachubera, Alubera and other adjoining villages and started the protests. As a result, she was dragged into a number of controversies and was living under constant life threat. Since then, the villagers, mostly women, had been providing her security with their traditional arms. Her organization was demanding proper compensation like alternative agricultural land, employment to local youths and proper drinking water facility, etc.

She was a member of the Rajmahal Pahar Bachao Andolan (RPBA). She was also running a school for Adivasi children in Amrapara.

I request the Government to institute a CBI probe to investigate the brutal killing of Valsa John.

**Demand to take immediate steps to check the spread of Japanese  
Encephalitis in the country**

श्रीमती माया सहि (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, गत तीन दशकों से उत्तर प्रदेश के गोरखपुर मंडल और बहिर के कुछ जनपदों में जापानी बुखार “इन्सेफलाइटिस” बीमारी से सरकारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार 15 हजार लोग मारे गए हैं और इससे कहीं अधिक लोग वकिलांग हुए हैं। इस वर्ष जुलाई से अब तक तकरीबन 501 लोगों की

मृत्यु हो चुकी है। 1978 से इसका प्रकोप बढ़ना शुरू हुआ और आज इसने विक्राल रूप धारण कर ली है।

मानसून के समय धान की पैदावार के दौरान किसानों और खेतिहर मजदूरों को यह बीमारी अपना शिकार सबसे अधिक बनाती है। ये गरीब लोग होते हैं, जो आर्थिक तंगी के कारण इलाज कराने में पूरी तरह समर्थ नहीं होते हैं। वर्तमान समय में यह बीमारी भयावह रूप धारण कर चुकी है। इसकी भयावहता का अंदाजा गोरखपुर मेडिकल कॉलेज के आंकड़ों से लगाया जा सकता है।

प्रदेश और केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा इसके नदिन हेतु जो कदम उठाए गए हैं , वे पर्याप्त और संतोषजनक नहीं हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में स्वास्थ्य की बढ़ती हासत से जनता कराह रही है। इससे नष्टिने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा अभी हाल ही में मंत्रियों का एक समूह गठित किया गया है , पर उसकी रिपोर्ट जब तक आएगी तब तक न जाने कितनी जायें इस बीमारी की वजह से असमयकाल के गाल में समा चुकी होंगी। गोरखपुर स्थित मेडिकल कॉलेज के वस्तार के लिए केन्द्र द्वारा जो राशि स्वीकृत की गई है , उसका असर कई वर्षों में निर्माण के बाद कारगर होगा।

मेरी माँ है कि केन्द्र सरकार देश में फैले जापानी बुखार “इन्सेफलाइटिस ” बीमारी से नष्टिने के लिए तत्काल इसे राष्ट्रीय आपदा घोषित करे और इस लहज से सभी आवश्यक कदम उठाए।

#### **Concern over malnourishment among teenage girls in the country**

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): United Nations Children's Fund, UNICEF released 'The State of World's Children 2011 – Adolescence: An Age of Opportunity', which reveals an alarming scenario of prevalence of Malnourishment among teenage girls, resulting in anemia and underweight, in developing countries. As per the above Report, 56% girls aged 15-19 are anemic in India. The survey data of developing countries (sub-Saharan and South Asia) as provided in the Report indicated high prevalence of anemia in Mali - 68%, Senegal - 66%, Ghana - 63%, Benin - 59%, Congo - 57% and low prevalence of anemia in Burkina Faso - 52%, Guinea - 51%, Sierra Leone - 51%, United Republic of Tanzania - 49% as compared to India - 56%.

As per the Report, India has high percentage of underweight adolescent girls 15-19 years - 47%, as compared to Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia countries, i.e., Eritrea - 40%, Bangladesh - 35%, Niger - 34%, Senegal - 34%, Ethiopia - 33%, Namibia - 30%, Chad - 29%, Cambodia - 28% and Burkina Faso - 27%.

Anemia affects the physical and mental development of children. It leads to decreased work capacity and increased susceptibility to infection. Women with severe anemia are more vulnerable to infections during pregnancy and child birth and also have increased risk of death due to obstetric haemorrhage and poor operative risk in case of caesarian deliveries. Anemia during pregnancy also leads to infants

with low birth weight and thereby all its related complications and health risks.

In view of above worrying scenario, I would urge Hon. Minister for Health and Family Welfare to save Indian girlhood from the curse of Malnourishment.

**Demand to provide proper infrastructure for smooth functioning of  
the Vamsadhara Water Disputes Tribunal**

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): The Government of India constituted Vamsadhara Water Disputes Tribunal (VWDT) for adjudication of the water disputes on the Inter-State River Vamsadhara by issuing a notification on 24.2.2010. The Tribunal met for the first

time on 9.9.2010 and its 2nd sitting was held on 23.11.2010. The Tribunal was supposed to have the hearing on 1.2.2011 but it could not do so as the meeting was cancelled due to the resignation of the Chairman of the Tribunal. The Chairman resigned due to non-provision of infrastructure for holding the proceedings and also accommodation to the Chairman and others of the Tribunal by the Government of India. I am given to understand that the Chief Justice of India had on 1.2.2011 nominated Dr. Justice Mukundakam Sharma, a sitting Judge of Supreme Court to be the Chairman of the Tribunal and he would start functioning as Chairman of the Tribunal only on his retirement on 18th September, 2011. However, the real issue due to which the former chairman of the Tribunal had resigned, that is, lack of residential accommodation has not yet been solved. I am given to understand that the accommodation to the Chairman of the Tribunal cannot be given due to the decision of the Cabinet Committee on Accommodation. Even after the new Chairman takes over, lack of accommodation may again be a handicap for him to function. I, therefore, request the Minister of Water Resources to take up the matter with the Cabinet Committee for providing suitable residential accommodation to Chairman and Members and make the Chairman and Members of VWDT eligible for GPRA. I also request the hon. Prime Minister to kindly intervene and have the matter settled at the earliest so that the Tribunal starts functioning at the earliest. Thank you.

**Demand to take suitable action to protect the fishermen of Tamil Nadu  
from frequent attacks by the Sri Lankan Navy**

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to urge the Government to give importance to the letter of our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu requesting the Government to take immediate action to control the "rogue elements in the Sri Lankan Navy" who continue to indulge in acts of physical assault on innocent fishermen from Tamil Nadu. I would also like to remind the Central Government that on many occasions our dynamic leader, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, had urged the Government to take effective action to save fishermen against the brutal attack of Sri Lankan Navy. Even though, many hon. Members from our State had raised this issue here continuously, but the attacks by Sri Lankan Navy are continuing unabated and the

situation is worsening. Such attacks and harassment on the Tamil fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy has caused great unrest amongst the people in the State. Recently, on 15th November, a fisherman of Tamil Nadu was seriously injured by the brutal attack of Sri Lankan Navy personnel near International Maritime Boundary Line of Katchchateevu. The unordinary silence of the Central Government allows the Sri Lankan Navy to continue their brutal attacks against Indian fishermen in our sea border. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to treat the attacks as a national issue and take necessary action in this regard to safeguard the life and livelihood of our fishermen.

**Demand for legislation on pay and service conditions for nurses and other para-medical personnel working in private hospitals**

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, nurses and other para-medical staff working in private hospitals in the country are routinely subjected to untold miseries and various exploitations, such as:-

1. Compulsory withholding/capture of their original certificates by the management as 'security' to ensure their continued service;
2. Making them execute 'bond' or 'contract' for serving the hospital for any specified period, with 'oppressive' and unjustifiable terms and conditions for recovering huge monetary penalty and/or refusal to return the original certificates;
3. Absurdly low wages;
4. Long hours of work, with no overtime allowance; and
5. Absence of any Provident Fund, ESI/Group Insurance Scheme, pension/gratuity, etc.

In no other profession or sector in India this practice of withholding the original certificates or executing 'bonds' with harsh terms exist.

While every other organised labour/workers have enacted law to protect their interests and ensure compliance with the minimum standards of service conditions, it is unfortunate that this most essential service, comprising of lakhs of hospital staff in India, does not have a comprehensive law to save them from such exploitations and poor salary-service conditions.

I request the Government to take immediate steps to enact a comprehensive law to ensure strict adherence to the minimum salary-service conditions for nurses and other para-medical staff working in the private sector in India and to completely stop all kinds of their exploitation by the employers/management.

**Demand to celebrate 26th November as Constitution Day**

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, we have given to ourselves a written Constitution, which is the supreme law of India. By having



our own Constitution, we are sovereign and no more 'ruled'. The Constitution sets out the framework and the principal functions of the organs of the Government.

Sir, after making much efforts and studying all the then existing constitutions in different countries, Constituent Assembly under the Chairmanship of Dr. Ambedkar drafted the Constitution. The same was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26th November, 1949. The

Constitution came into force on 26th November, 1950, which is celebrated as the Republic Day throughout the country.

In view of the fact that ours being a large democracy, it is high time to celebrate a particular day as a Constitution Day. As the Constituent Assembly had adopted the newly drafted Indian Constitution on 26th November, 1949, it will be more appropriate to celebrate that day as 'Constitution Day', on the lines of October 2nd as Gandhi Jayanti and 14th November as Children's Day. This celebration will also be a befitting honour to the founding father of our Constitution, Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, and other Members of the Constituent Assembly viz., Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Alladi Krishnaswamy Iyer, Dr. Radha Krishnan, etc. who conceived a new Constitution for a new-born Republic.

Thus, there is a need to celebrate a particular day as 'Constitution Day' and I urge upon the Government to celebrate 26th November of every year as a Constitution Day.

**Demand to set up an autonomous body for protection of  
environment in the country**

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): Is our existing institutional architecture capable of addressing tomorrow's environmental challenges?

The role of central bureaucracy has waxed and waned depending on the personality of the Minister. The Ministry which is at its dynamic peak is incapable of doing much to lift the quality of environmental governance on the ground. Our Nation will face in the coming decades daunting challenges: balancing claims over our natural resources with ecological considerations at all levels of decision makings, our population will climb to over 1.4 billion, larger cities will come up, water stress will grow, shift in rainfall due to climate change, retreat of the Himalayan glaciers, air quality, disposal of waste, preserving our forest and bio-diversity, protecting wild life and promoting the welfare of our tribals. Despite four decades of national legislation to control pollution, we have failed to build a single credible pollution control institution. Not a single

control board (SPCB) has the capacity or institutional integrity to implement effective programme or police industry which has played havoc with the life of tribals and environment in their habitats.

Hence, there is an urgent need to create a new autonomous Environment Protector of India (EPI) to lay Institutional foundation for our environmental security and protect the tribals from the looming disaster. The EPI would be Constitutional custodian of our forests, rivers and other natural resources. The agency would report to Parliament and develop into an institution the people and tribals trust – a role being discharged by the Supreme Court in respect of our forests.

**Demand for reservation of seats in both Houses of  
Parliament for Armed Forces veterans**

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, the nation is aware of the services and sacrifices made for the country by the Armed Forces personnel in times of war, natural calamities and civil turmoil. While the Armed Forces selflessly guard and protect the nation, there is a feeling that the country does not understand their concerns and that they do not have a forceful platform to voice their grievances and demands. The time has come for the nation to address this concern.

To facilitate this, I demand that the Government should seriously consider giving an independent, non-political voice to the Armed Forces veterans by reserving at least one Parliament seat – anywhere in India – for a representative of the Armed Forces veterans. Alternatively, the Government must nominate one representative each from the veterans to the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha by making suitable amendments to the Constitution of India, to ensure that they are able to represent the voice of over 26 lakh ex-servicemen and their families.

I urge the Government to seriously consider giving representation to the Armed Forces veterans in Parliament. This will certainly send a message to the Armed Forces personnel and their families that the nation understands their concerns and accords the highest priority to their welfare. Thank you.

**Safety of the Kudankulam nuclear power project in Tamil Nadu**

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the controversial issue of the safety regarding the nuclear plant at Kudankulam must be promptly addressed by the Government. It is the democratic right of the people to protest and the democratic will of the Government to be accountable. The plant will generate power that will resolve Tamil Nadu's power problems. It clearly has positive outcomes.

However, it is the safety aspect of the project that is being questioned. The former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is of the opinion that the fears of the local people must be removed. Safety must be assured in a time-bound manner so that the work can be commissioned. Since international safety standards have been met, the Government must educate and convince the people that no danger will occur in future. Communication is the key here.

The Government must take necessary steps to connect with the people at the grassroots level. It should establish a mission comprising eminent persons and also people's representatives like MLAs and MPs. By engaging them, people's fears should be allayed. People will be convinced that their security is being considered important by the Government. Only when the people have confidence, can the Government proceed ahead. Since we represent the people, it is our duty to assure them of their security.

I would request the Prime Minister to kindly look into this matter personally and urgently.

**Concern over the devaluation of rupee in the market**

श्री नरेश चन्द्र अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, पछिले चार महीने में रुपए के अवमूल्यन के कारण डॉलर की कीमत 16 फीसदी तक बढ़ गई है। उद्योग, शिक्षा, आयात एवं निर्यात तथा तेज आदि सभी क्षेत्रों पर इसका प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। RBI कुछ नहीं कर रही है। रज़िर्व बैंक ने अपने खाते में जमा डॉलर को भी मार्केट में उपलब्ध नहीं कराया।

रुपए की इस गतिवट से जहाँ शेयर बाजार टूट गया, वहीं महंगाई भी बढ़ गई है, लेकिन सरकार शांत बैठी है और ऐसा लग रहा है कि देश की अर्थव्यवस्था समाप्त की जा रही है।

अतः इस विशेष उल्लेख के द्वारा मैं सरकार से इस संबंध में स्थिति स्पष्ट करने का अनुरोध करता हूँ।

**Demand for inquiry into alleged leakage of the report of an inquiry Commission**

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): The Ministry of Mines, Government of India, by a notification dated 22nd November, 2010, appointed a Commission of Inquiry, headed by Justice M.B. Shah, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court of India, to inquire into and determine the nature and extent of illegalities reportedly committed at various places within the country. Accordingly, the Commission has visited Goa and is, reportedly, making necessary inquiries into the matter. No one would suggest shielding of culprits.

However, NDTV, one national TV channel, has claimed that they are aware of the recommendations made by the Commission, and that they have narrated them in their special programmes, as also in their news bulletins on several occasions. Based on the NDTV's alleged claim, newspaper reports have also appeared. The NDTV's telecasts have named Goa Government and certain politicians being responsible for the alleged illegalities.

Even presuming that the content material of NDTV report is fully or partly true, the TV channel has violated the laws of the land in the

name of freedom of Press.

Further, Programme Code specified under The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, prohibits transmission of "defamatory, deliberate, false and suggestive innuendos and half truths" which is punishable upto two years imprisonment.

The Government of India should, therefore, immediately inquire into the matter and the persons responsible for the alleged leakage and the persons telecasting or in any manner publishing a report claiming the same to be Commission's report, be prosecuted as per the law.

**Demand to take steps for compliance of the constitutional provisions in respect of official language**

**श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास** (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, संविधान के अनुच्छेद 120 (1) में यह प्रावधान है कि संसद में कार्य हब्दी या अंग्रेजी में किया जाएगा। कठिनाई होने पर मातृभाषा के प्रयोग का भी प्रावधान है। इसी अनुच्छेद के (2) में कहा गया है कि जब तक संसद विधि द्वारा अन्यथा उपबंध न करे, तब तक इस संविधान के प्रारंभ से पन्द्रह वर्ष की अवधि की समाप्ति के पश्चात् यह अनुच्छेद ऐसे प्रभावी होगा मानो “या अंग्रेजी” शब्दों का उसमें से लोप कर दिया गया हो। इसका अर्थ मैं यह समझता हूँ कि अब साधारणतया कार्य हब्दी में होना चाहिए। सभी जानते हैं कि इसका उल्लंघन कहीं न कहीं, चाहे अनजाने में ही क्यों न हो, रोज हो रहा है।

मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि वह संविधान के प्रावधान का पालन करने के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाए एवं इसकी जानकारी सदन को देती रहे।

धन्यवाद।

**Demand for inclusion of the name of Assam and other North Eastern States in the National Anthem**

**SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam):** Seclusion of Assam as well as North East in the National Anthem is an ignominy for the people of the region. After the Constituent Assembly officially adopted Rabindra Nath Tagore's 'Jana Gana Mana' as the National Anthem of India on January 24, 1950, the freedom fighters, national leaders and other patriots of the region approached the Central Government, including the then Prime Minister of India, for inclusion of Assam in the Anthem as the entire region was ignored in it, but without any result. The omission of the region in the Anthem, however, was not Kabi Guru's flaw. Kabi Guru mentioned only those provinces that were under the British Rule, i.e., Punjab, Sindh, Gujarat etc. at that time. The princely States of Kashmir, Rajasthan, Andhra, Mysore or Kerala were not recognized since they were directly under Portuguese rule at that time. Even mention of name of the mighty Brahmaputra or any of the most rescued assets of the explored paradise of the North Eastern Region in that National Anthem would have given recognition to the North East. In view of this, it is desired and demanded that a mention of Assam and North East in the National Anthem be made.



The feeling of alienation which is increasing by everyday for such type of ignorance may manifest separatist attitude among the North Eastern youth. Therefore, such inclusion may help to unite the nation strongly with prosperity and peace of the country.

**Demand to take effective measures to ensure protection of air  
passengers  
from ill-treatment by certain aviation companies**

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): With the increase in air passenger traffic, it has become necessary to take measures to ensure protection of the air travelers in case of wrongful denial of boarding, flight delays, disruptions and cancellations.

Recently, Comtel Air, an Austria-registered airline, held passengers to ransom after leaving their planes grounded on the runway. A plane bound for Birmingham, due to carry 220 passengers to the UK on 18th November, did not take off from Amritsar until it received an additional 27,000 pounds from passengers.

A few days earlier, a plane carrying 180 people to Birmingham was grounded at Vienna for six hours until the passengers raised 24,000 pounds. The aircraft was held on the tarmac while those on board were taken to cash machines to find the money needed.

If boarding is denied, the airline has to compensate passengers in accordance with CAR provisions, in addition to refund of tickets. In the past week, seven flights of Comtel to Birmingham Airport have been cancelled. Passengers, whose flights have been disrupted, have been forced to make alternative travel arrangements, according to the APAI.

The increase in complaints necessitates some affirmative action to safeguard the interest of the travelling public. Recently, the US has amended rules to expand protection offered to airline passengers.

I urge upon the Minister of Civil Aviation to take strong punitive action against unscrupulous airlines that are violating basic international protocol so as to protect the interests of the Indian travellers.

**Concern over the adverse impact of development activities on  
environment in coastal areas**

SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, today, the Indian coast is the Government's newest development zone, one that is believed to be able to accommodate country's bursting economic ambitions. The east coast – Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha – is poised to be an energy corridor with each State having signed between three and twenty-three thermal projects. The west is being mined for its rare minerals, and its beaches leased for tourism. There will soon be one port every 28 km. of the Indian coast. Each port will be linked to a private industrial hub, housing chemical factories, power plants and automobile units.

More than 3.5 million fisherfolk already live on the same coastline. There is a village every three kilometres. They have been

left with no option but to move. Thirty per cent of our shoreline is already heavily eroded. Massive structures are forcing water to shift elsewhere, to eat into 1,112 acres every year, swallowing villages, thinning beaches, and crashing into houses and hotels. Of Karnataka's 300 km. coastline, 250 km. face erosion. Thirty-six per cent of Odisha's beaches are under threat. As mangrove forests are cut and creeks blocked to reclaim the shore, global marine experts show that the stock of 320 commercially important fish in Indian waters has dropped below sustainable levels.

Rapid development cannot be pursued by turning a blind eye to local communities whose livelihood is affected or with complete disregard to environmental impacts. The Government must seriously take stock of the situation and address the problem at hand with great urgency.

**Demand to review the laying route of the Kochi-Bangalore gas pipe  
line to protect the interest of people**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, the GAIL has decided to lay gas pipeline from Kochi Puthuvypu LNG Terminal to Bangalore for transporting exclusively gas for industrial purpose. The line is passing through the thickly populated area of Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palaghat, Malappuram, Kazhikode, Kannur and Kasargode districts of Kerala State. It is learnt that it will have width of 20 metre and length of 912 kilometres, that is, about 4562 acres of land is going to be acquired for this purpose.

The GAIL has finalised the route without considering the prevailing objective realities. They have taken unilateral decision without holding any discussion either with people's representatives or with the residents of the proposed site. They have not conducted any public hearing, ground survey and environmental studies.

So, I urge upon the Government to intervene in this issue and reconsider the proposed route of the gas pipeline and avoid the residential areas.

**Threat of fishing community from under sea LNG pipeline**

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Gas Authority of India has decided to lay a pipeline from Cochin LNG Terminal to Kayamkulam under the sea. Of the total length of 93.5 km., 90 km. passes under the sea. The pipeline under the sea will have disastrous consequences on the fishing community and environment. This will damage the marine eco system in this area. The leakage from the gas pipeline will damage the fish rearing capacity and pose great threat to the environment. This will affect the life of tens of thousands of fishermen along this area. The people in this area are agitating against the pipeline.

So, I urge upon the Government to reconsider the decision to lay the LNG pipeline under the sea.

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STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS - *Contd.*

FIRST Meeting of Prime Ministers' Committee on National  
e-Governance Plan (NeGP) held on November 23, 2011

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): Sir, I am happy to inform  
you that the

first meeting of the Prime Minister's Committee on National e-Governance (NeGP) was held on 23.11.2011.

Under National e-Governance Plan, initiatives like Income Tax, MCA 21, Passports, Central Excise have started delivering online services to the citizens. It is the endeavour of the Government to expand the number of public services that are available to citizens in electronic mode. Accordingly, the Committee emphasised the urgent need for adoption of e-Governance in all walks of Governance to enhance accountability, transparency and efficiency and to realize the objective of inclusive growth with equity.

The PM's Committee also decided to introduce the Electronic Delivery of Services (EDS) Bill in the Winter Session of the Parliament to mandate e-Delivery of all Public Services within five years of the commencement of the Act in all Ministries of the Central Government.

To give further impetus to e-Governance, it has also been decided to constitute an Expert Group to review each Mission Mode Project and suggest measures to address critical issues including process re-engineering, augmentation of project teams where needed, standards, creation of common platforms and integration across projects.

The high growth rate of our economy has resulted in a significant increase in the Government procurements and it is the policy of the Government to ensure the highest degree of transparency and accountability in Public Procurement. Accordingly, it has been decided that e-Procurement will be adopted mandatorily in a phased and time-bound manner. The Department of Expenditure will drive the adoption of e-Procurement by Central Ministries/Departments, Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and Autonomous/Statutory bodies and the e-Solutions would be certified by DIT on technology and security.

The Government has also decided to initiate new e-Governance projects for Education, Health, Public Distribution System and Postal Services. This would ensure access to quality education, cost efficient and quality health care and postal services to the common man at an affordable cost. The initiatives for PDS will help bringing in transparency and efficiency and also eliminate corruption.

In order to leverage the rapid growth in penetration of mobile technology and connectivity, the PM's Committee on NeGP decided that public services under all e-Governance projects will be delivered through Mobile Devices like Mobile phones and Aakash Tablets also to ensure reach and accessibility of all services to the common man.

Further, basic Banking services, i.e. cash withdrawal, cash deposit, balance inquiry and transfer of money from one account to another will be extended to every Panchayat through

CSCs and money transfer facility will be extended to every village by December, 2013, leveraging ICT and mobile technology. This will ensure that financial inclusion becomes a reality.

These initiatives will have a significant impact on improving governance and reducing corruption and hardships that the citizens have to face in accessing public services and will go a long way in ensuring inclusive growth with equity and transparency.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet on Monday, the 28th November, 2011.

The House then adjourned at eight minutes past twelve of the clock  
till  
eleven of the clock on Monday, the 28th November, 2011.