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Tuesday
8 May, 2012
18 Vaisakha, 1934 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT

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NEW DELHI

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RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, 8th May, 2012/18th Vaisakha, 1934 (Saka)

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

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Pradip Kumar Balmuchu (Jharkhand)

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Patitpaban Pradhan, a former Member of this House on the 6th of May, 2012, at the age of 77 years.

Born at Jarachhat in Sambalpur District of Odisha in June, 1934, Shri Pradhan had his education at Bangabasi College, Kolkata, St. Paul's College, Kolkata and University College of Arts and Law, Kolkata.

An agriculturist, social worker and a trade unionist, Shri Pradhan worked for the upliftment of the working class and stood for the nationalization of the Coal Mining Industry in the country. He was also President of many trade unions in Sambalpur and Dhenkanal districts of Odisha.

Shri Patitpaban contributed articles of public importance to daily and weekly newspapers and monthly magazines of Odisha.

Shri Patitpaban Pradhan represented the State of Odisha in this House from July, 1977 to April, 1982.

In the passing away of Shri Patitpaban Pradhan, the country has lost a noted trade unionist, a dedicated social worker and a distinguished parliamentarian.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Patitpaban Pradhan.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for the one minute)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

Demand to Suspend Question Hour

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 441. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please ...(*Interruptions*)... what is this? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, हमने प्रश्न काल स्थगित करने का नोटिस दिया है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : Sir, we have given notice for suspension of the Question Hour. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला : सर, ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सर, हमने प्रश्न काल स्थगित करने का नोटिस दिया है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please don't show newspapers. ...(*Interruptions*)... No display of banners and newspapers. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Sir, America is interfering in the internal affairs of the country ...(*Interruptions*)... The US intervention in the internal affairs of the country ...(*Interruptions*)... They are dictating our oils imports. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Government of India is silent. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति : कृपया आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... कृपया आप बैठिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...(*Interruptions*)... You can't be heard. ...(*Interruptions*)... What is this?

प्लीज, आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... Please ...(*Interruptions*)... You can't be heard ...(*Interruptions*)... Please...(*Interruptions*)... What is this? ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, बैठ जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... Mayaji, please ...(*Interruptions*)... बैठ जाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... I can't hear anything ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN : Sir, America is ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal) : Sir, this is a serious issue ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You take it up at an appropriate time ...(*Interruptions*)... No newspapers please ...(*Interruptions*)... He hasn't asked for the floor ...(*Interruptions*)... This is very wrong ...(*Interruptions*)... Please sit down ...(*Interruptions*)... Please resume your places ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, Mayaji ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. Maitreyan ...(*Interruptions*)... This is very bad ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, we have given a notice on this issue. We just want your assurance that we will be allowed to raise this issue tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the notice come. We will examine it and take a decision on it ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Notice has been given ...(*Interruptions*)... Notice has already been given ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your places ...(*Interruptions*)... बैठ जाइए।
...(व्यवधान)...

The House is adjourned for ten minutes.

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

The House reassembled at seventeen minutes past eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM SAUDI ARABIA

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, I have an announcement to make. We have with us, seated in the Special Box, Members of a Parliamentary Delegation from Saudi Arabia. They are currently on a visit to our country under the distinguished leadership of His Excellency Dr. Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh, Speaker of Majlis Ash-Shura (Consultative Council) of the Parliament of Saudi Arabia.

On behalf of the Members of the House and on my own behalf, I take pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to the Leader and other Members of the delegation and wish our distinguished guests an enjoyable and fruitful stay in our country. We hope that during their stay here, they would be able to see and learn more about our Parliamentary system, our country and our people, and that their visit to this country will further strengthen the friendly bonds that exist between India and Saudi Arabia.

Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the Parliament and the friendly people of Saudi Arabia.

Let us take up Q. No. 441 ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, the Government has misled the country.
...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, This is not ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government cannot
...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

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

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

**The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,
The Vice Chairman (Prof. P.J. Kurien) in the chair.**

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

‡441. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the demand and availability of clean drinking water in proportion to the population of the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that only four percent of the water available in the country is fit for drinking whereas the consumption of drinking water is more in comparison to the population;
- (c) if so, whether Government has formulated a policy to provide clean drinking water to all;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when clean drinking water would be available to all the people of country?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) As per the National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) guidelines, 40 liters per capita per day (lpcd) of safe drinking water is identified as the requirement for humans to meet basic minimum needs. Out of this 3 lpcd is for drinking purpose. As reported by States on the online monitoring system of the Ministry 81.5% of the rural population in the country have access to safe and adequate drinking water.

(b) Out of the total water resources available in the country, it is estimated that about 5% is used for drinking and other domestic purposes. Out of the total drinking water sources in the rural areas of the country, 5.46% are reported as contaminated with excess chemical and bacteriological contamination.

(c) and (d) Water is a state subject. The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation administers the centrally sponsored scheme, the National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) for providing technical and financial assistance to the States, to supplement their efforts to provide adequate and safe drinking water in rural areas. The State Governments are vested with powers to plan, approve and implement rural drinking water supply projects under NRDWP. As per the National Water Policy drinking water is given priority over other competing demands like agriculture and industry in the use of available water resources.

(e) The Government of India is taking steps to cover the remaining partially covered and quality affected habitations with safe and adequate drinking water supply on a continuous basis.

‡ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Anti-dam protests in North Eastern Region

*442. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of power projects cleared by the Minister during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware of the anti-dam protests in the North Eastern (NE) region;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Brahmaputra region is not suitable for construction of big dams;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that developing countries are not indulging in construction of big dams for power generation or otherwise; and
- (e) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) A total of 165 power projects were granted environmental clearance and 143 power projects were granted forest clearance by the Ministry of Environment and Forests during last three years. The details are given in Annexure. [See Appendix 225 Annexure No. 14]

(b) Representations against construction of some hydro power projects in North East region have been received by the Government. These relate to safety of dams and downstream impacts.

(c) to (e) No conclusive study on non-suitability of construction of large dams in the Brahmaputra Region has come to the notice of this Ministry. However, dams are designed taking into account the geological features and seismicity of the areas as per the codal provision of Bureau of Indian Standards. Construction of large dams for production of power or otherwise is permitted after detailed and through investigations and review by various organizations like Planning Commission, Central Water Commission, Central Electricity Authority and the Ministry of Environment & Forests. Site-specific seismic parameters to be adopted for design of a dam are approved by the National Committee on Seismic Design Parameters (NCSDP) under the Central Water Commission (CWC). Other dam safety related issues are approved by the Dam Safety Organisation (DSO) of CWC. Technical concurrence of CEA is also required for setting up of large hydro power projects. Environmental and forest clearances are accorded by the Ministry of Environment and Forests after through appraisal by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) constituted under the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) under Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

Measures for checking adulteration of food articles

*443 SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has developed any system to test the adulteration/pollution/contamination of food articles in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases registered annually during the last three years; and
- (d) the major types of adulteration and contamination identified in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The food Safety and Standards Authority of India has prescribed standards for different food items under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the regulations made thereunder. Under this Act, the States/UT Governments are mandated to enforce the Act and the Regulations. Random samples of various food articles are drawn regularly by the Food Safety Officers of State/UT Governments and are tested in the Food Testing Laboratories as per the prescribed standards.

(c) As per available information received from State/UT Governments, the number of cases registered annually in three years is as under:-

Year	No. of prosecutions launched
2008	6506
2009	11061
2010	7064

(d) As per available information received from State/UT Governments, major areas where adulteration was reported in 2010 include milk, milk products and fruit products. Non conformity to the prescribed standards in the case of milk is generally on account of extraction of milk fat the addition of glucose & water. Similarly, starch is generally added to milk products such as *Khoa*. Calcium carbide is used for early ripening of fruits.

Irregularities in Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank

*444. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank is plagued with irregularities;

- (b) if so, the action taken against the Board of Directors of the Bank; and
- (c) whether the Ministry would institute a CBI inquiry into these irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Statutory inspection of the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank conducted by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) with reference to the financial position as on March 31, 2010 revealed that the bank's financial position has deteriorated further and irregularities reported earlier were persisting in its functioning. NABARD recommended for the supersession of the Board of Directors of the Bank.

Reverse Bank of India vide its letter dated 4.5.2011 requested the Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar Cooperative Societies, Maharashtra State to make an order for the supersession of the Board of Directors of the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank Ltd. and for appointment of an Administrator therefor.

Registrar Cooperative Societies Govt. of Maharashtra vide its order dated 7.5.2011 superseded the Board of Directors of Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank Ltd. and appointed Board of Administrators to manage the affairs of the Bank.

(c) The bank is already under direction of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under section 35 A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. Decision on any further investigation in such case is to be taken by the RBI considering all facts and circumstances.

Deficiency in indigenous natural gas production

445. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) the existing external sources for the country to acquire natural gas;
- (b) whether India is planning to import natural gas from Israel;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the present status of the proposed Iran-India gas pipeline;
- (e) whether any improvements have been made in this regard;
- (f) whether the country is facing deficiency in terms of natural gas production; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) To acquire natural gas from external sources, India imports LNG through various entities *viz.* Petronet LNG Ltd. (PLL), Hazira LNG Pvt. Ltd. (HLPL), Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC) and GAIL (India) Ltd. India imports Liquefied

Natural Gas (LNG) on long term contract as well as spot purchase basis. Currently 7.5 MMTPA of LNG is imported on long term contract basis by PLL from RasGas, Qatar. PLL has also tied up import of 1.4 MMTPA of LNG imports from Gorgon, Australia for its Kochi LNG terminal. GAIL has signed an agreement for importing 3.5 MMTPA of LNG from the Sabine Pass Terminal in USA. Beside long term contracts, GAIL and PLL have entered short term/medium term contracts of around 1.6 MMTPA for the next 3 years. As regards procurement of LNG on spot purchase basis, India's gas companies in the recent years have sourced LNG from countries such as Oman, Trinidad & Tobago, Malaysia, Nigeria, Australia, Egypt, U.A.E, Russian Federation, Equatorial Guinea, U.S.A, Algeria, Yemen and Norway.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The present state of the proposed Iran-Pakistan-India Gas pipeline is that several rounds of discussions have taken place between India, Pakistan and Iran. However, several critical issues such as the project structure, delivery point of Iranian gas, guarantees related to the safety of the pipeline and security of supply besides contractual issues, including the pricing of gas, are yet to be resolved.

(f) and (g) The domestic availability of natural gas during June, 2011 was around 120 MMSCMD while imported RLNG comprised 46 MMSCMD totalling 166 MMSCMD of domestic consumption.

The availability of domestic natural gas during 2012-13 to 2014-15 is projected to be as follows :

	(MMSCMD)		
Source	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Pre NELP/ CBM	13	17	24
KG-D6	28	24	20
ONGC	55	55	58
OIL	8	9	10
TOTAL AVAILABILITY FROM DOMESTIC SOURCE	104	105	112

As against this, the projected cumulative additional demand over and above the current consumption of 166 MMSCMD, during the 2012-13 to 2014-15, is as follows :

(MMSCMD)

Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Cumulative Additional Demand			
TOTAL	254.2	284.27	356.16

As the domestic gas availability is projected to decline in the next two to three years the additional demand will have to be primarily met through imported LNG.

IT Demand letters to tax payers

*446 SHRI SALIM ANSARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Income-tax Department has issued demand letters to several lakh honest income-tax payers for the year from 2001-02 onwards;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for sending such demand letters after a lapse of several years; and

(c) the details of action Government proposes to take against officers who are harassing honest tax payers.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Sir, no such demand letters have been sent to any Income Taxpayer. In fact, the Centralized Processing Centre (CPC), Bengaluru, which is processing all electronic returns filed across the country, has only issued communication letters to the taxpayers intimating the outstanding tax dues in cases where the tax arrears were uploaded on the CPC portal by the jurisdictional Assessing Officers. It was clearly stated that this communication was not a demand notice and it did not in any manner supercede the details of demand as per the records of the Assessing Officer and hence is subject to modification at any juncture.

This was done in the process of the departmental records from manual maintenance to digitized mode. The Income Tax Department has created a central repository of all tax demands for better demand management and to achieve this, all officers were asked to collate demand lying at multiple places including manual registers and upload them on to the CPC portal. Considering that the entire exercise involved massive data handling, during a meeting with Bangalore Chartered Accountant's Association, it was suggested that taxpayers should be informed about the uploaded demands, so as to enable them to take necessary action if the uploaded demands were incorrect. This measure was aimed at providing greater transparency and is a taxpayer friendly exercise which was undertaken to comply with the statutory provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 (which stipulated prior intimation before adjustment of any refund).

(c) In view of the above reply, it is submitted that there was no intention of harassing the honest taxpayers. The grievances, if arisen to some taxpayers due to incorrect uploading of data were inadvertent and all field formations stand directed to dispose-off the applications for corrections on priority.

SBI regional offices in Jammu and Kashmir

*447 SHRI G. N. RATANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of India (SBI) had a zonal office in Srinagar in 1989 with three regional offices under it;

(b) whether the zonal office Headquarter was shifted to Jammu;

(c) if so, when the shifting was made and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the only regional office headquartered to Srinagar and looking after SBI operations in Kashmir valley has been bifurcated to carve out a 4th regional office in Jammu & Kashmir to look after the SBI branches in South Kashmir's four districts;

(e) whether this new regional office will be headquartered at Jammu; and

(f) if so, the reasons for not establishing the regional office in South Kashmir itself?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) State Bank of India has informed that it had a Zonal Office in Srinagar in the year 1989.

(b) & (c) Due to disturbances & worsening law and order situation, the Zonal Office was shifted to Jammu in 1992.

(d) SBI has informed that the Regional Business Office (RBO) located in Srinagar was supervising 53 branches, which had become unmanageable. Therefore, they have carved out a new Region comprising of 38 branches by taking out 12 branches from Jammu Division, 12 from Ladakh and 14 from Kashmir Valley.

(e) and (f) Since 24 of the 38 branches of the upcoming RBO-4 are already being controlled and supervised by RBO-3 at Jammu, RBO-4 has been stationed at Jammu.

Toilet facilities in Bihar

*448 SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of families without toilets in the country; and

(b) the number of families without toilets in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) As per Census 2011 report, there are 53.10% households in India having no latrine within the premises.

(b) As per Census 2011 report, there are 1,45,73,393 households in Bihar not having latrine facility within the premises.

Target for providing safe drinking water

*449. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of habitations not covered with supply of safe drinking water across the country;

(b) the details of habitations covered till date with safe drinking water supply;

(c) whether Government has fixed any target for providing safe drinking water during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) As per reports entered by the States on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry out of 16,64,186 rural habitations in the country, there were 99,379 water quality affected habitations, in which at least one source is affected by water quality problem like excess Iron, Fluoride, Arsenic, Salinity and Nitrate contamination, that are remaining to be covered with provision of safe drinking water facility.

(b) The remaining 15,64,807 habitations have been fully or partially covered with safe and adequate water facilities as on 1/4/2012.

(c) and (d) The targets and achievements for providing safe drinking water to water quality affected and partially covered habitations in the last three years is as under :

Year	Target	Achievement
2009-10	1,58,589	1,48,879
2010-11	1,21,812	1,19,401
2011-12	1,45,169	1,38,391

Withdrawal of TV advertisement by IT department

*450. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Income Tax Department has decided to withdraw a TV advertisement which was seen as projecting the Gupta community as tax evaders ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for arising of such a situation; and
- (d) the steps being taken to avoid such disrespectful advertisement indicting any community in future?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) The T. V. advertisement released by the Income Tax Department for reminding taxpayers about the last date for payment of Advance Tax in March 2011, contained a fictional episode of a person shown to be raided by the Income Tax Department who was addressed as 'Guptaji'. There was nothing in the advertisement to suggest that the conduct of the fictional character was reflective of the conduct of any specific community in general. The use of the name in the advertisement was just by chance. Since the said advertisement was a reminder for advance tax due by 15th March 2011, its telecast ended on that day. Subsequently, representations were received objecting to the use of surname 'Guptaji'. Considering the perceptual sensitivity of the issue, directions were issued not to use surnames for fictional characters in the media campaigns carried out by the Income Tax Department, and empanelled advertising agencies were also advised accordingly. Since March, 2011 surnames have not been used in the advertisements released by the Income Tax Department.

Expansion of Oil Refineries

*451 SHRI D. RAJA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that oil refineries in the country are set to expand their refining capacities in the near future;
- (b) if so, the details of the existing capacity of each of the refineries in the country and the domestic demand for fuels; and
- (c) the crude requirement for these refineries and how much is indigenously available?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir The present name plate refining capacity of the country is

213.066 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA). The refining capacity of the country is projected to reach upto 310.86 MMTPA by the end of 12th Plan (by end of 2016-17) as per the Draft Report of Working Group on Refinery for 12th Plan.

(b) The details of the existing refining capacity of each of the refineries in the country is as under :

Sl. No.	Name of the company	Location of the Refinery	Present Name Plats Capacity (MMTPA)
1	2	3	4

Public sector

1.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)	Guwahati	1.00
2.	IOCL	Barauni	6.00
3.	IOCL	Koyali	13.70
4.	IOCL	Haldia	7.50
5.	IOCL	Mathura	8.00
6.	IOCL	Digboi	0.65
7.	IOCL	Panipat	15.00
8.	IOCL	Bongaigaon	2.35
9.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited	Mumbai	6.50
10.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited	Visakhapatnam	8.30
11.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	Mumbai	12.00
12.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	Kochi	9.50
13.	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited	Manali	10.50
14.	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited	Nagapattinam	1.00
15.	Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.	Numaligarh	3.00
16.	Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals	Mangalore	15.00
17.	Tatipaka Refinery (ONGC)	Andhra Pradesh	0.066
TOTAL (A)			120.066

Joint venture

18.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited & Oman Oil Company, a joint venture	Bina	6.00
-----	--	------	------

1	2	3	4
19.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited & Mittal Energy Investments Pvt. Ltd., a joint Venture	Bathinda	9.00
TOTAL (B)			15.00
Private sector			
20.	Reliance Industries Ltd. (Domestic)	Mothikhavdi, Jamnagar	33.00
21.	Reliance Petroleum Ltd.	SEZ, Jamnagar	27.00
22.	Essar Oil Limited	Vadinar	18.00
TOTAL (C)			78.00
GRAND TOTAL (A+B+C)			213.066

(Source: Oil Companies)

The domestic demand of petroleum products, as per the Working Group Report - 12th Five Year Plan is 152.937 MMT for the year 2012-13.

(c) The crude requirement is normally equal to the refining capacity. The availability of indigenous crude oil is projected to be 42.264 MMT during the year 2012-13. The balance requirement of crude oil is met through imports.

Assessment of educated and uneducated unemployed persons in North Eastern States

*452. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMONI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has assessed or proposes to assess the number of educated and uneducated unemployed persons in rural areas of the North Eastern States of the country, particularly in Nagaland;

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

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by Government to solve this problems in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) :
 (a) and (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). The last such survey was conducted during 2009-10. As per the NSS report No. 537 (66th Round); the usual status (adjusted) unemployment rates for persons in labour force in rural areas for Arunachal Pradesh is 13 per 1000, Assam 39 per 1000, Manipur 38 per 1000, Meghalaya 4 per 1000, Mizoram 13 per 1000, Nagaland 106 per 1000, Sikkim

43 per 1000 and Tripura 92 per 1000. The usual status (adjusted) unemployment rates for the educated persons of age 15 years and above for Arunachal Pradesh is 19 per 1000, Assam 115 per 1000, Manipur 73 per 1000, Meghalaya 27 per 1000, Mizoram 81 per 1000, Nagaland 274 per 1000, Sikkim 96 per 1000 and Tripura 249 per 1000.

(c) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing various employment generation and self employment programmes in rural areas of the country through State Governments and UT Administrations including in North Eastern States. These include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)/ National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM). MGNREGA has been implemented with the objective to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. The SGSY/NRLM is self-employment programme with the objective of facilitating beneficiaries to access credit and other services for taking up economic activities.

Food Adulteration

*453 SHRI SABIR ALI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to set up a network of laboratories in various districts of the country to meet the threat of adulteration and contamination of food products;

(b) the number of existing laboratories functioning in the country, State-wise and the reason for which these laboratories could not meet the rising demand to check food adulteration at various points; and

(c) the mechanism evolved to ensure effective functioning of these laboratories to meet the country-wide challenge of food adulteration?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) There are 123 Food Testing Laboratories in the country for testing food items as per standards prescribed under the Food Safety and Standards Authority (FSS) Act, 2006 and Rules/Regulations, 2011. Out of these, 72 laboratories have been set up by the State/UT Governments. State-wise details of Food Testing Laboratories are given in statement. (*See below*)

It is the primary responsibility of the State/UT Governments to implement Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006 and the Rules/Regulations made thereunder. State/UT Governments have been requested to strengthen their food regulatory enforcement mechanisms. They are also requested, from time to time, to take samples

of various food articles regularly and to take action in cases of samples not found conforming to the prescribed standards. Setting up of new laboratories as well as upgradation of existing laboratories is a continuous process.

Statement

State-wise details of the food testing laboratories

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Central Laboratories	No. of State Government Laboratories	NABL Accredited Private Laboratories
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh		2	3
2.	Assam		1	
3.	Bihar	1 (CFL, Raxaul)	1	
4.	Jharkhand		1	
5.	Gujarat		6	3
6.	Goa		1	
7.	Haryana		2	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh		1	
9.	Jammu and Kashmir		2	
10.	Karnataka	1 (CFTRI, Mysore)	4	2
11.	Kerala		3	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh		3	3
13.	Chhattisgarh		1	
14.	Maharashtra	1 (CFL, Pune)*	11	10
15.	Meghalaya		1	
16.	Nagaland		1	
17.	Orissa		1	
18.	Punjab		3	1
19.	Rajasthan		8	
20.	Tamil Nadu		7	4

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Tripura		1	
22.	Uttar Pradesh	2 (CFL, Ghaziabad & Sanauli)	3	1
23.	West Bengal	1 (CFL, Kolkata)	5	4
24.	Delhi		1	6
25.	Andaman and Nicobar Island		1	
26.	Pondicherry		1	
TOTAL		6	72	45

* Laboratory at Pune is under the State Government of Maharashtra but used as a Central Food Laboratory.

Increase in ceiling of insurance deposit limit

*454 SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is considering to increase existing deposit insurance ceiling limit from rupees one lakh;
- (b) if so, when RBI is going to increase the ceiling limit and how much would be the maximum ceiling limit; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not honouring strong demand of people for it?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) In terms of the third Proviso to sub-section (1) of section 16 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) Act, 1961, the DICGC may, having regard to its financial position and to the interest of the banking system of the country as a whole, increase the limit of deposit insurance cover, from time to time with the previous approval of the Central Government. The Proposal of the DICGC for increasing the deposit insurance cover for banks from the existing Rs. 1 lac to Rs. 2 lac has been examined, and the Government has advised the DICGC and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to adopt a risk-based deposit insurance premium structure, before the proposal of the DICGC is considered for approval.

Sanction of funds for Low Cost Latrines by CAPART

*455. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) sanctions funds to NGOs for construction of Low Cost Latrines (LCLs) in rural areas;

(b) whether CAPART has stopped sanctioning funds for the purpose after abandoning the Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP);

(c) if so, the details of orders thereof;

(d) whether construction activity of LCLs was permitted under the Public Cooperation (PC) scheme of CAPART;

(e) the upper limit fixed for unit cost of LCLs under PC scheme; and

(f) the details of NGOs that were sanctioned funds for construction of LCLs under PC scheme between 1 April, 1999 and 31 March, 2005, with unit cost in each case?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Vide CAPART's Order No. 100-10(6)/99-CD dated 16.7.1999, the Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Panchayati Raj. Million Wells scheme. Housing, Disaster Management, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), and Social Forestry were discontinued. The order specified that :

1. However schemes related to these areas will be taken up provided they meet the conditions stipulated in the Public Cooperation (PC) Scheme Guidelines.
2. The above schemes, which have been discontinued, have to be completed.
3. The discontinued schemes were to be categorized as one in which balance funds are available and second where there are no funds. Regarding the former, the Heads of the Department (HODs) will make an assessment of the amount required to complete the ongoing sanctioned projects.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No upper limit was fixed for unit cost of low cost latrines under PC scheme of CAPART.

(f) The details of NGOs that were sanctioned funds for construction of low cost latrines under PC scheme of CAPART between 1st April, 1999 and 31st March, 2005 with unit cost in each case are given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of NGOs that were Sanctioned funds

Sl. No.	Name and Address of the NGO	State	Amount & Date of Sanction (in Rs.)	Unit cost of low cost latrine (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Sri Lakshmi Mahila Mandali D.No.12/657-E, Adarsha Nagar, New State Bank Colony, Anantapur Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 479200 & 29-12-2000	1500/-
2.	Sri Sathya Sai Mahila Mandali H/o, Mangalam Quarters, Tirupati-7, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 195600 & 26-05-2004	2500/-
3.	Development Education for Liberation Organisation and Power 13-182, Plot No. 25, Madhusudan Nagar Colony, Malkajagiri, Dist. Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 789550 & 19-07-2001	8000/- (School Sanitation) 1500/- (Demonstration Latrine)
4.	Association for Rural improvement in Socio-economic status Plot No. 47, Flat No. 202, Badam Sarunagar Apartments, Huda Complex, Sarunagar, Hyderabad-500 660, A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 434650 & 26-05-2004	2500/-
5.	Centre for Action Research and Peoples Development 8-3-228/267, Rahmath Nagar, Hyderabad, A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 662500 & 07-07-2003	2500/-

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Potana Educational Society H. No. 5-1-100/1, Maripeda, Warangal Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 516250 & 28-12-2001	15000/- (School Latrine Block)
7.	Sadhana H. No. 2-2-1107/A5, 2nd Floor, Tilak Nagar, New Nallakunta, Hyderabad, A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 750825 & 07-07-2003	2500/-
8.	Society for the Transformation of economically poor (Step) 10-1-18/6, Shyam Nagar, Near Masab Tank, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 640000 & 07-07-2003	2500/-
9.	Ravicherla Integrated Development and Educational Society Sneha Building, Rajeev Circle, Nuzvid, Krishna Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 822600 & 07-10-2002	2500/-
10.	Nava Jyothi Youth Club H. No. 16-71, Nizampet Road, Ramayampet, Medak Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 541000 & 07-07-2003	2500/-
11.	Association for the Improvement of Masses near Rama Mandiram, Eduru (V&P), Thotapalli Guaur Mandal, Nellore Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 316765 & 22-10-2003	2500/-
12.	Janahita Vatsalya Complex, Vatsalyapuri, Kondayapalem Road, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 594888 & 15-02-2001	12000/- (Latrines & Urinals in School)

13. Janahita Vatsalya Complex, Vatsalyapuri, Kondavapalem Road, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 1292550 & 28-03-2002	2500/-
14. Simhapuri Vydyya Seva Samithi 16/2884, Somasekharapuram, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 795270 & 26-03-2001	1500/-
15. Future India Social Service Society Hariprasadnagar, Perala-chirala Post, Chirala Mandal, Prakasam Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 300000 & 31-08-2000	1500/-
16. Youth Club of Bejjipuram D.No. 4/29-A, Bejjipuram Village, Murapaka S.O. Ranastalam Taluk, Srikakulam Dist., A.P.- 532403	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 611150 & 26-05-2004	2500/-
17. Payakaraopeta STRI Sangala Abhivruthi Samakya, near Govt. Junior College, Main Road, Payakaraopeta, Visakhapatnam Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 616668 & 26-03-2001	34388/- (school Sanitation)
18. Shirdi Sai Baba Yuvajana Sangham Near Kodi Sattiyya Meda, Nallajerla, West Godavari Dist., A.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 188000 & 30-10-2000	1500/-
19. Sipajhar Diamond Club Community Centre, P.O. Sipajhar, Darrang, Assam- 784145	Assam	Rs. 4,40,000/- 13/08/1999	Rs 2500/-
20. Tezpur District Mahila Samity, P.O.- Tezpur, District- Sonitpur, Assam- 784001	Assam	Rs. 3,32,200/- 13/08/1999	Rs 2500/-

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Yogjee Sewa Sansthan, Vaisali, Bihar	Bihar	Rs. 4,51,000/- & 05.03.2002	Rs. 2500/-
22.	Gangoi Area Small Farmer's Association, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Bihar	Rs. 7,21,000/- & 05.03.2002	Rs. 2460/-
23.	Shri Daroga Prasad Roy Pustakalaya, Avam Suchana Kendra, Saran, Bihar	Bihar	Rs. 4,07,000/- & 23.04.2003	Rs. 3200/-
24.	Uthan, Supaul, Bihar	Bihar	Rs. 7,04,800/- & 21.10.2000	Rs. 3800/-
25.	Mahila Shilpi Prashikshan Sansthan, Shivhar, Bihar	Bihar	Rs. 3,47,000/- & 24.04.2003	Rs. 3200/-
26.	Kasturba Gandhi Shanti Kendra, Banka, Bihar	Bihar	Rs. 13,99,000/- & 02.01.2003	Unit cost for construction of House and Latrine is Rs. 18,200/ (separate unit cost for latrine is not mentioned)
27.	Sulabh International Social Service Organisation, S.C.O. 842, 2nd Floor, Kalka Road, Manimajra, Chandigarh	Chandigarh	Rs. 6,55,666/- & 06.01.2003	6 Seater toilet block (complex)
28.	Gourav Rachnatmak Samiti. Surendranagar, Gujarat	Gujarat	Rs. 4,54,750/- & 31.08.2001	Unit cost for construction of house and Latrine Rs. 27000/-*

29. Asmita Smwardhan Trust, Rajkot, Gujarat	Gujarat	Rs. 6,65,280/- & 14.04.2001	Unit cost for construction of House and Latrine Rs. 22,000/-*
30. Shree Kabir Ashram, Surendranagar, Gujarat	Gujarat	Rs. 13,86,000/- & 24.04.2001	Unit cost for construction of House and Latrine Rs. 22,000/*
31. Surendranagar District Sarvoday Vikas Mandal, Surendranagar, Gujarat	Gujarat	Rs. 12,88,198/- & 22.03.2001	Unit cost for construction of House and Latrine Rs. 22,000/-*
32. Sri Mangalam Khadi Gramodyog Trust, Surendranagar, Gujarat	Gujarat	Rs. 8,31,600/- & 24.04.2001	Unit cost for construction of House and Latrine Rs. 22,000/-*
33. Shramik Sewa Samiti, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	Gujarat	Rs. 1,51,200/- & 15.09.2000	Unit cost for construction of House, Smokeless Chulla and Latrine Rs. 17,500/-*
34. Matrubbhoomi, Surendranagar, Gujarat	Gujarat	Rs. 15,89,280/- & 26.03.2001	*Unit cost for construction of Houses earth quake proof & Sanitary Latrines Rs. 22,000/-*
35. Lok Kalyan Sangthan, Haryana Plot No. 20 Industrial Area, Sector-2, Kurukshetra, Haryana, Kurukshetra, Haryana	Haryana	Rs. 872852/- & 19-06-2003	Rs. 2400/-

1	2	3	4	5
36.	The Liberty Youth Club, 205, Radha Ganga Arcade, 2nd Floor, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar-124507, Jhajjar, Haryana	Haryana	545784/- & 24-05-2004	Rs. 2200/-
37.	Nav Nirman Kalyan Samiti, Vill. Kachhor, P.O. Darkata Via Ramital, Block Dehra, Distt. Kangra, H.P., Kangra, Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 681000/- & 07-04-1999	Rs. 2500/-
38.	Hind Social Welfare Society, Zari Mohalla, Lal Bazar, Srinagar-190011 Sri Nagar J&K	Jammu and Kashmir	Rs. 346000/- & 15-03-2005	Rs. 2500/-
39.	S.S. Institute Of Professional and Technical Education (Girls), 564, Subash Nagar, Distt. Jammu, J&K Jammu J & K	Jammu and Kashmir	Rs. 576800/-& 13-12-2004	Rs. 2500/-
40.	Society Sanitation Deeconomic Narayan Villa, 253 - Rehari Chungi Jammu, J&K, Jammu J&K	Jammu and Kashmir	Rs. 942600/- & 24-05-2004	Rs. 2000/-
41.	Rural Artisans Welfare Society. 65, Sec. A-1, Laxmi Puram Colony Batalab, Jammu-180013 Jammu J & K	Jammu and Kashmir	528457/- & 13-02-2003	Rs. 2167/-
42.	Social Action for Social Development Lane No. 2, Tara Vihar, Paloura (behind Soap Factory), Jammu, J&K, Jammu J & K	Jammu and Kashmir	Rs. 1118920/- & 31-07-2002	Rs. 2000/-

43. Johar, Lohardaga, Jharkhand	Jharkhand	Rs. 6,00,000/- & 27.03.2002	Rs. 3834/-
44. International Human Development and Upliftment Academy, 600-601, Irwin Road, Mysore, Karnataka-570001	Karnataka	Rs. 3,07,000/- & 28-03-2002	Rs. 2,000/-
45. Grama Bharathi Trust, Karanagiri, Haniya, P.O., Hosanagar Taluk, District Shimoga-577418	Karnataka	Rs. 3,35,500/- & 30-11-2004	Rs. 2,500/-
46. Malenadu Vidya Kendra, Amrutha-garthikere, Shimoga, District Karnataka	Karnataka	Rs. 2,65,000/- & 27-02-2003	Rs. 2700/-
47. The Andhyoday, M.C. Road, Angamaly, Ernakulum, Dist., Kerala-683572	Kerala	Rs. 10,37,500/- & 31.03.2001	Rs. 15,000/-
48. The Bright Rural Development Society, Nagpur, Maharashtra	Maharashtra	Rs. 3,45,396/- & 16.09.2001	Unit cost for construction of House, Smokeless Chulla and Latrine Rs. 17,500/-* *Unit cost of latrines was recommended by the monitor is Rs. 2500/- in pre funding report.
49. Institute for Social Action and Research Activities, Berhumpur, Odisha PC/ORR/12/68/1999	Odisha	Rs. 8,30,037/- & 28.02.2000	Multi activities are sanctioned including low cost sanitary latrines (Unit cost of latrine is Rs. 2500/-

1	2	3	4	5
50.	Public Welfare Organisation, Jagatsinghpur, Odisha PC/ORR/12/58/1999	Odisha	Rs. 2,87,050/- & 28.04.2000	Multi activities are sanctioned including low cost sanitary latrines (Unit cost of Latrine is Rs. 2500/-)
51.	Maa Maheswari Library, Puri Odisha PC/OR/12/185/1999	Odisha	Rs. 3,60,120/- & 27.02.2000	Multi activities are sanctioned including low cost sanitary latrines (Unit cost of Latrine is Rs. 2500/-)
52.	Nava Diganta Yubak Sangha, Bhadrak. Odisha	Odisha	Rs. 3,11,881/- & 26.09.2002	Multi activities are sanctioned including low cost sanitary latrines (Unit cost of Latrine is Rs. 2500/-)
53.	Mahila Samukhya (Women Front), Bhubaneswar, Odisha	Odisha	Rs. 9,80,045/- & 23.01.2003	Multi activities are sanctioned including low cost sanitary latrines (Unit cost of Latrine is Rs. 2500/-)
54.	Maa Dakhina Kali Club, Cuttack, Odisha	Odisha	Rs. 3,34,083/- & 23.01.2003	Multi activities are sanctioned including low cost sanitary latrines (Unit cost of Latrine is Rs. 2800/-)

55. Centre for Rural Energy and Appropriate Technology Extension Centre Sannathi St, Sikkal, Nagapattinam, Distt. Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 636300 & 26-03-2001	2500/-
56. Youth's Network to Educate and Empower, The Weak, #14, First Floor, Sasthiri Nagar, Didigul 624003, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 1125950 & 07-07-2003	143000/- (Community Sanitation Units - 5 Nos)
57. Association for Women's Education and Development, Valiathottam, Panankarai, Arumanai Post, Melpuram, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 585650 & 28-09-2001	1500/- 5000/- (School Toilets)
58. Council for Integrated Rural Development, HI-40, Mullainagar, Mohanur Main Road, Namakkal Dist., Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 336880 & 07-07-2003	1500/-
59. Women Organisation for Rural Development, PB No-1 PO Poundamangalam, TQ. Paramathiveur Distt., Salem, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 899000 & 25-09-2002	1500/-
60. Avvai Village Welfare Society Manalmedu, Kilvelur Block, Thanjavur, Distt. Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 629000 & 19-11-2001	1500/-
61. Thanjai Janaseva Bhavan, 48/90, Anna Colony, Pattukkottai Road, Thanjavur, Distt. Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 264500 & 20-02-2003	3500/-

1	2	3	4	5
62.	Venkateswara Educational and Rural Development Trust, 2/38 B, Thiruvarur, Main Road, Katchanam, Thiruturaipoondi	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 121800 & 02-02-2005	2000/-
63.	Gramodaya Social Service Society, 5/178, Tiruchendur Road, Seydunganallur, Tuticorin District, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 750137 & 15-03-2000	1500/-
64.	Integrated Rural Community Development Society, P.O. Box 7, 6, Namakkal Ramalingam Street, Rajajipuram, Tiruvallur Distt., Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 876300 & 07-07-2003	2500/-
65.	Saranalaya Trust, 31/16, Perumal Koil Keela Theru, Madapuram, BLk-Thiruvarur	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 485200 & 25-07-2002	2500/-
66.	Social Welfare Organisation Trust, Jeyakondamilai, Keelavalavu Via, Sigampunari, Sivagangai Dist., Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 713325 & 22-05-2000	2500/-
67.	Samaj Unnayan Kendra. 24, Parganas (South), West Bengal	West Bengal	Rs. 3,53,160/- & 21.03.2002	2500/-

* Unit cost of Latrines not specified in the sanction letters.

Provision for family pension under the New Pension Scheme

*456 SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether family pension would be allowed under the New Pension Scheme (NPS) to family members / dependents of employees of the Central Government covered under this scheme after retirement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the methodology to be adopted to calculate family pension under NPS; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE OF (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) New Pension System (NPS), a defined contribution pension system, provides that annuity for Government servants, should, *inter-alia*, provide for pension for the employee, dependent children and spouse.

(b) The type of pension will depend on the option exercised by the employee at the time of exit from NPS and while purchasing the annuity. Currently, the life insurance companies in India offer the following types of annuity which offer monthly pension payable to :

- Self with or without return of purchase price or capital
- Joint life with coverage to Self and spouse
- Guaranteed pension for a period of 10/15/20 years wherein the pension agreed would be payable for the guaranteed period irrespective number of persons to whom it can be paid in succession but as provided by the annuitant at the time of purchase of annuity.

(c) and (d) Under the NPS, at the time of normal superannuation of the government employee, 60% of the accumulated pension wealth is paid to the employee in lump sum and balance 40% needs to be mandatorily used for purchasing an annuity from any of the IRDA registered life insurance companies for payment of the monthly pension. The amount of monthly pension depends on the amount of corpus available and the premium rates applicable at the time of purchase of annuities of the types mentioned above.

Use of counterfeit medicines and medical aids in the Country

*457 SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the United States Food and Drug Administration (US-FDA) has recently issued warnings on availability of fake Tamiflu, Alli, surgical mesh and Glucose test strips in the USA;

- (b) whether these medicines and medical aids are in use in India; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to save patients from use of counterfeit medicines and medical aids?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has informed that it has no information of any recent warning issued by the United States Food and Drugs Administration (USFDA) regarding availability of fake Tamiflu, Alli, surgical mesh and Glucose test strips in that country.

(b) and (c) Such drugs and medical aids are in use in India. There are no reports of availability of fake substitutes of these products in the country.

Difference in selling prices of natural gas

*458 SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal-Bed-Methane (CBM) contracts, contractors have to sell all natural gas at arm's length prices to the benefit of the parties to the contracts;
- (b) whether natural gas is being sold from nominated blocks of ONGC at a price of \$ 5.25 per mmbtu;
- (c) whether NELP gas is being sold in the same region at only \$ 4.2 per mmbtu; and
- (d) who is liable for the losses being caused to parties because of NELP gas being sold at lower prices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) Under the provisions of the Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) regime and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Contracts, the Contractor shall endeavour to sell all Natural Gas and CBM produced and saved from the Contract Area at arms-length prices to the benefit of Parties to the Contract. The Government as per the provisions of NELP and CBM Contracts shall approve the formula or basis on which Natural Gas and CBM Gas prices shall be determined.

(b) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOP & NG)'s vide letter dated 31.05.2010 revised the producer price of APM gas produced by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and OIL India Limited (OIL) at US \$ 4.2 / Million British Thermal Units (MMBTU) less royalty effective from 01.06.2010. The consumer price for other than North East consumers is as US \$ 4.2 / MMBTU whereas the consumer price for North East consumer is fixed at US \$ 2.52 / MMBTU. The difference between US \$ 4.2 / MMBTU and US \$ 2.52 / MMBTU in respect of North East consumers is given to ONGC and OIL from Government budget. Government has also fixed the price of APM gas for non-APM consumers/non-APM gas in the range of US \$ 4.2 to 5.25 / MMBTU.

(c) Under the NELP regime, currently natural gas is being sold from 2 NELP blocks, namely, KG-DWN-98/3 in East Coast and CB-ONN-2000/2 in Gujarat. The current sale price of gas produced from KG-DWN-98/3 block is US \$ 4.205 / MMBTU and for CB-ONN-2000/2 block it is US \$ 7.03 / MMBTU including royalty.

(d) All the natural gas being produced under PSC regime in NELP is being sold at price discovered by Contractor under the provisions of PSC.

Problem of anaemia among women

*459 SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has been unsuccessful in reducing anaemia among women over the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of anaemia-related issues registered, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is taking measures to ensure reduction of anaemia among women; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The prevalence of anemia among women aged 15-49 years has increased from 51.8% National Family Health Survey-II (1998-99) to 55.3% NFHS-III (2005-06). Anemia is a multifaceted problem. Besides nutritional factors namely deficiency of iron, folic acid, B₁₂, vitamin C, protein, the other leading issues for anemia are parasitic infections, malaria, physiological conditions namely menstrual cycle in adolescent girls and women up to post menopause, pregnancy and lactation. The other reasons are (i) frequent pregnancies with shorter intervals, (ii) faulty feeding practices and lack of dietary diversification, (iii) illiteracy, (iv) poverty, (v) socio-economic conditions, (vi) poor hygienic conditions, (vii) genetic factor like sickle cell anemia etc. The reasons of anemia are essentially common to all the States.

(c) and (d) In order to make a dent in prevention and control of anemia, the Government has adopted life cycle approach by providing iron and folic acid tablets having 100 mg of elemental iron and 0.5 mg of Folic Acid for at least 100 days to Pregnant women and Lactating women, iron and folic acid syrup having 20 mg of elemental iron and 100 mcg of Folic Acid per ml of liquid formulation to 6 months to 5 years children, small tablet having 30 mg elemental iron and 250 mcg of folic acid to children 6-10 years. In a newly launched initiative, adolescent girls in Government and Government aided schools and out of school girls of 11-18 years are provided Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation of adult dose. Further, States/ UTs have been asked to identify and track severely anemic pregnant women at all sub-centres and PHCs for their timely management.

Punishments awarded under narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances act

*460. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of punishments awarded under the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985;

(b) whether the Ministry plans to amend the “death penalty” clause provided under section 31 A of the act; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 provides for a graded system of punishment, with the quantum of punishment varying with the quantity of drug/substance involved in a case. The number of persons prosecuted, convicted and acquitted under the NDPS Act, 1985 during the years 2009 to 2011 are given in the following table :

Year	2009	2010	2011
Number of persons Prosecuted	19,377	19,720	20,364
Number of persons Convicted	11,418	9,819	7,857
Number of persons Acquitted	4,725	4,740	4,246

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In view of the observations of Standing Committee on Finance made in its report on the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Bill, 2011, it is proposed to amend Section 31A of the NDPS Act and replace the words “shall be punishable with death” with the words “may be punishable with death”.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Total Sanitation Campaign**

3411. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) sanctioned and undergoing in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of financial assistance provided during the last three years to Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) whether Government proposes to set up new projects like mini-sewerage treatment plant in villages unde TSC?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The details of projects under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) sanctioned and undergoing in the country, State-wise, given in statement. (*See below*)

(b) The details of financial assistance provided during the last three years to Madhya Pradesh as grants-in-aid under TSC is as under :

Year	Amount Released (Rs. in crore)
2009-10	99.87
2010-11	144.02
2011-12	150.76

(c) No, Sir.

Statement

No. of projects sanctioned state-wise under TSC

S.No.	State	No. of Project Sanctioned
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
3.	Assam	26
4.	Bihar	38
5.	Chhattisgarh	16
6.	D & N Haveli	1
7.	Goa	2
8.	Gujarat	25
9.	Haryana	20
10.	Himachal Pradesh	12
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	21
12.	Jharkhand	24
13.	Karnataka	29
14.	Kerala	14
15.	Madhya Pradesh	50
16.	Maharashtra	33
17.	Manipur	9
18.	Meghalaya	7
19.	Mizoram	8
20.	Nagaland	11

S.No.	State	No. of Project Sanctioned
21.	Orissa	30
22.	Puducherry	1
23.	Punjab	20
24.	Rajasthan	32
25.	Sikkim	4
26.	Tamil Nadu	29
27.	Tripura	4
28.	Uttar Pradesh	71
29.	Uttarakhand	13
30.	West Bengal	19
TOTAL		607

Utilization of NRDWM funds in Bihar

†3412. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated to Bihar under National Rural Drinking Water Mission (NRDWM) could not be utilized properly; and

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated to Bihar under the scheme along with the expenditure incurred on it, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) The funds allocated, released and utilized under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme in respect of Bihar for the years 2009-10 to 2011-12 is as below :

(Rs. In Cr.)

Year	Opening Balance	Allocation	Release	Available funds	Expenditure
2009-10	668.94	372.21	186.11	855.05	279.36
2010-11	578.10	341.46	170.73	748.83	425.91
2011-12	322.92	374.98	330.02	652.94	367.30

National Rural Drinking Water Programme in Assam

3413. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of targets and actual converge of habitations under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) during the last three years in Assam, year-wise;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the reasons for not achieving the targets in spite of getting huge allocation from the Ministry; and

(c) the number of habitations proposed and covered under the Programme in 2011-12 in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The targets and achievements of coverage of habitations with drinking water supply under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) during the last three years in Assam is as below :

Year	Target (habitations)	Achievement (habitations covered)
2009-10	12852	12004
2010-11	8157	6467
2011-12	6073	6601

(b) As informed by the State government the reason for physical targets not being achieved include unprecedented duration of rainy season that prevailed in 2010-11 and the promulgation of the model code of conduct in the month of February, 2011.

(c) Assam had targeted to cover 6073 rural habitations with drinking water supply against which 6601 have been reported covered.

Fatalities due to water-borne diseases

3414. SMT. GUNDU SUDHARANI : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many deaths are reported from various parts of the country due to water-borne diseases;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents in the country during the last three years, year-wise and disease-wise;

(c) the efforts the Ministry has been making to reduce such deaths; and

(d) the efforts the Ministry is making to ensure that pipewater is supplied to villages so as to reduce the water-borne diseases, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) State-wise number of deaths in the country due to the water borne diseases of Cholera, Enteric Fever (Typhoid), Acute Diarrheal Diseases and Viral Hepatitis as per information provided by Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare during the years 2009, 2010 and 2011 are given in Statement-I, II & III - respectively.

(c) Cholera, Enteric Fever (Typhoid), Acute Diarrheal Diseases and Viral Hepatitis are water borne diseases and are generally caused due to consumption of bacteriologically contaminated water. The Ministry provides technical and financial

assistance to States for provision of safe drinking water through water supply schemes, treatment facilities for removing bacteriological contamination, water quality testing with field test kits and in laboratories, training of community members, awareness generation on protecting safety of drinking water sources, water handling and hygiene habits etc. In addition, funds are also provided to States for provision of toilets and achieving open defecation free status and clean environment under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) so as to reduce bacteriological contamination.

(d) The Ministry encourages all States to provide safe drinking water in villages through piped water supply schemes. Under NRDWP, upto 62% of allocation made to States could be utilized for this purpose. In the NRDWP Annual Action Plan 2012-13 discussions with Andhra Pradesh, the State has been requested to draw up a plan and start a campaign to provide household water connections to rural households in the coming years. In Andhra Pradesh, during 2011-12, an amount of Rs. 441.56 crore was released under NRD WP-Programme funds and Rs. 11.95 crore for Support activities for taking up activities under NRDWP.

Statement-I

State/UT wise Deaths due to various water-borne Diseases during 2009

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cholera	Enteric Fever (Typhoid)	Acute Diarrheal Diseases	Viral Hepatitis
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	8	111	53
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	23	7	2
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	5	11	13
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	1	3	99
8.	Haryana	1	31	33	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	4	24	5
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	5	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	10	5	4
12.	Karnataka	0	11	81	19
13.	Kerala	2	2	4	13
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4	39	134	17
15.	Maharashtra	1	12	39	30

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	0	3	9	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	24	2
18.	Mizoram	0	4	17	7
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	0	33	91	82
21.	Punjab	0	1	51	7
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	27	2
23.	Sikkim	0	0	6	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	1	18	1
25.	Tripura	0	1	33	3
26.	Uttarakhand	0	49	70	17
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	72	159	19
28.	West Bengal	0	78	725	121
29.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	2
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	7	2
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	47	107	40
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	1	0
35.	Puducherry	0	1	16	33
TOTAL		12	436	1818	600

Statement-II

State/UT wise deaths due to various water-borne diseases during 2010

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cholera	Enteric Fever (Typhoid)	Acute Diarrheal Diseases	Viral Hepatitis
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	5	214	60
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	10	3	6
3	Assam	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Bihar	0	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0	2	4
6	Goa	0	0	5	0
7	Gujarat	0	0	2	0
8	Haryana	1	2	41	4
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	3	28	13
10	Jammu and Kashmir	3	1	5	0
11	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0
12	Karnataka	3	6	60	16
13	Kerala	0	1	2	6
14	Madhya Pradesh	0	25	107	15
15	Maharashtra	1	0	12	36
16	Manipur	0	0	11	0
17	Meghalaya	0	1	15	1
18	Mizoram	0	0	12	12
19	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
20	Orissa	0	27	94	57
21	Punjab	1	6	39	21
22	Rajasthan	0	0	9	1
23	Sikkim	0	0	2	2
24	Tamil Nadu	0	51	47	3
25	Tripura	0	3	33	4
26	Uttarakhand	0	2	42	12
27	Uttar Pradesh	0	109	132	9
28	West Bengal	0	67	368	65
29	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	8	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	2
32	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
33	Delhi	0	60	89	61
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
35	Puducherry	0	0	5	2
TOTAL		9	379	1388	416

Statement-III

State/UT wise deaths due to various water-borne diseases during 2011

S. No.	State/UT	Cholera	Enteric Fever (Typhoid)	Acute Diarrheal Diseases	Viral Hepatitis
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	229	7	99	61
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	8	7	5
3	Assam	0	5	16	25
4	Bihar	0	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	1	0	5	1
6	Goa	0	0	2	0
7	Gujarat	79	0	0	0
8	Haryana	1	1	19	2
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	2	51	10
10	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	2
11	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0
12	Karnataka	166	2	49	8
13	Kerala	17	0	0	8
14	Madhya Pradesh	0	18	87	12
15	Maharashtra	210	1	4	29

1	2	3	4	5	6
16	Manipur	0	7	39	0
17	Meghalaya	0	1	14	3
18	Mizoram	0	1	11	14
19	Nagaland	0	2	1	0
20	Orissa	0	85	83	56
21	Punjab	0	9	14	12
22	Rajasthan	0	0	7	0
23	Sikkim	0	0	2	0
24	Tamil Nadu	334	0	30	0
25	Tripura	0	0	83	0
26	Uttarakhand	0	1	24	17
27	Uttar Pradesh	9	80	185	28
28	West Bengal	652	34	288	105
29	Andman and Nicobar Islands	0	1	0	5
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8	0	1	0
32	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
33	Delhi	0	55	62	68
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1
35	Puducherry	0	0	3	12
TOTAL		1706	320	1186	484

Supply of potable water to villages

†3415. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the numbers of villages in the country where potable water is not available;
- (b) the action plan being implemented by Government to provide potable water in such villages;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the funds provided by Government during the last one year to implement the above mentioned action plan, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government would provide potable water (as per the criteria) to the villages facing the problem of clean drinking water, within next one year?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) As reported by the States on the Online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 1.4.2012, out of the 16,64,184 rural habitations in the country, there were 99,380 quality affected habitations in which at least one drinking water source is affected by water quality problems viz. Iron, Fluoride, Arsenic, Salinity and Nitrate contamination.

(b) The Government of India administers through the States the centrally sponsored scheme, National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) for providing financial and technical assistance to the States to supplement their efforts to provide adequate and safe drinking water to all rural habitations including those where the drinking water sources are quality affected. Under the NRDWP, States Governments are competent to plan, design approve and implement rural drinking water supply schemes. Upto 62% of the NRDWP funds released to States can be utilized for providing potable drinking water to water quality affected habitations. States are urged to prioritise the coverage of quality affected habitations in their Annual Action Plan under NRDWP.

(c) The State-wise funds released under NRDWP in 2011-12 is given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) States are required to prepare an Annual Action Plan every year prioritising the coverage of quality affected habitations. In 2012-13, 25,853 quality affected habitations are targeted to be covered by States with provision of safe drinking water facilities.

Statement

State-wise release under NRDWP for 2011-12

Sl. No.	State	Amount Released (Rs. In crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	462.47
2.	Bihar	330.02
3.	Chhattisgarh	139.06
4.	Goa	5.01

Sl. No.	State	Amount Released
5.	Gujarat	571.05
6.	Haryana	237.74
7.	Himachal Pradesh	146.03
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	420.42
9.	Jharkhand	148.17
10.	Karnataka	667.78
11.	Kerala	113.39
12.	Madhya Pradesh	292.78
13.	Maharashtra	718.35
14.	Orissa	171.05
15.	Punjab	123.44
16.	Rajasthan	1153.76
17.	Tamil Nadu	429.55
18.	Uttar Pradesh	802.32
19.	Uttarakhand	75.57
20.	West Bengal	342.51
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	184.83
22.	Assam	522.44
23.	Manipur	47.6
24.	Meghalaya	95.89
25.	Mizoram	38.83
26.	Nagaland	80.91
27.	Sikkim	69.19
28.	Tripura	83.86
	TOTAL	8474.02

Financial assistance for supply of potable water

†3416. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the schemes under which financial assistance is provided to the States for supply of pure potable water by Government;
- (b) the names of districts of Rajasthan which have been provided such financial assistance during the last three years; and
- (c) whether apart from the financial assistance, Government also provided technical assistance for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation administers the centrally sponsored scheme, the National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) for providing technical and financial assistance to the States, to supplement their efforts to provide adequate and safe drinking water in rural areas. The State Governments are vested with powers to plan, approve and implement rural drinking water supply projects under the program.

(b) Under NRDWP, the Ministry provides financial assistance to the States. The States approve rural water supply schemes in the districts and release funds to them. The information regarding fund release under NRDWP, to the districts in Rajasthan reported by the State on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry for the last two years is given in Statement. (*See below*)

(c) Under the NRDWP, technical assistance in various aspects of rural water supply is provided to the State governments. These include guidance on water quality technologies for treatment, water quality testing, operation and maintenance of schemes, water security planning at village level, use of alternative energy in rural water supply and ensuring sustainability of sources.

Statement

District-wise release for the State of Rajasthan

(Amount In Rs. Cr.)

State	District	Release 2010-11	Release 2011-12
Rajasthan	Ajmer	57.6	34.28
	Alwar	16.92	47.1
	Banswara	5.78	8.88

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

State	District	Release 2010-11	Release 2011-12
	Baran	13.13	8.91
	Barmer	82.14	87.18
	Bharatpur	37.32	32.8
	Bhilwara	19.78	56.93
	Bikaner	38.58	45.46
	Bundi	3.95	8.13
	Chittaurgarh	11.24	16.29
	Churu	13.76	49.03
	Dausa	36.38	27.91
	Dhaulpur	6.32	13.93
	Dungarpur	5.21	11.1
	Ganganagar	20.92	28.22
	Hanumangarh	13.21	17.81
	Jaipur	142.17	142.03
	Jaisalmer	62.93	119.26
	Jalor	43.3	62.32
	Jhalawar	70.14	86.23
	Jhunjhunun	22.03	70.48
	Jodhpur	153.7	266.5
	Karauli	11.99	10.82
	Kota	7.54	22.25
	Nagaur	55	126.99
	Pali	27.82	62.58
	Rajsamand	6.98	15.51
	Sawai Madhopur	14.01	30.76
	Sikar	32.46	56.96
	Sirohi	8.04	10.09
	Tonk	5.06	23.92
	Udaipur	8.25	17.06
	TOTAL	1053.66	1617.72

Contamination of ground water in rural areas

3417. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of villages having ground water contaminated by fluoride, arsenic, iron, nitrate, salinity, etc., State-wise, pollutant-wise;
- (b) the total number of villages having ground water safe for drinking;
- (c) the details of remedial measures taken and outcome thereof; and
- (d) the present scenario of contamination of ground water ?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) As reported by the State Governments on the Online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 01/04/2012, there were 99,380 lakh quality affected rural habitations with atleast one drinking water source having chemical contamination in excess of prescribed limits remaining to be covered with safe drinking water facility. State-wise, contaminant-wise number of habitations affected with various water quality problems remaining to be covered is given in Statement. (*See below*)

(b) and (c) Ground water quality is dynamic in nature and changes with various geo-chemical conditions including over-exploitation of ground water. As on 01/04/2012, out of 16.64 lakh rural habitations in the country, 15.65 lakh rural habitations are reported to have safe drinking water sources.

Though rural drinking water supply is a State subject, Government of India assists the States, technically and financially, through the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) to supplements their efforts in providing safe drinking water facilities. Under this programme about 62 per cent of the allocation made to respective States could be utilized for tackling water quality problems. In the 11th Five Year Plan period 1,21,646 quality affected habitations have been provided with safe drinking water facilities under the NRDWP.

Statement

Contamination wise Status as on 1/4/2012 of habitations remaining to be covered

S.N.	State	Total	Arsenic	Fluoride	Iron	Salinity	Nitrate
1	Andhra Pradesh	396	0	332	0	64	0
2	Bihar	14478	942	2653	10883	0	0

S.N.	State	Total	Arsenic	Fluoride	Iron	Salinity	Nitrate
3	Chhattisgarh	6305	0	132	6057	116	0
4	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Gujarat	1	0	1	0	0	0
6	Haryana	10	0	8	0	2	0
7	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Jammu and Kashmir	25	0	2	1	22	0
9	Jharkhand	393	1	38	353	0	1
10	Karnataka	6104	36	2470	1574	658	1366
11	Kerala	914	0	108	576	186	44
12	Madhya Pradesh	2418	0	2236	3	178	1
13	Maharashtra	1521	0	489	313	293	426
14	Orissa	13267	0	384	11867	994	22
15	Punjab	45	0	19	2	24	0
16	Rajasthan	27849	5	7478	46	19244	1076
17	Tamil Nadu	432	0	3	399	28	2
18	Uttar Pradesh	404	9	144	23	227	1
19	Uttarakhand	14	0	1	11	0	2
20	West Bengal	3981	1330	822	1336	493	0
21	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Assam	15230	1158	80	13992	0	0
23	Manipur	2	0	0	2	0	0
24	Meghalaya	98	0	0	98	0	0
25	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Nagaland	130	0	0	130	0	0
27	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Tripura	5363	0	0	5363	0	0
29	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0

S.N.	State	Total	Arsenic	Fluoride	Iron	Salinity	Nitrate
33	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		99380	3481	17400	53029	22529	2941

Sanitation and drinking water projects in Gujarat

3418. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects regarding sanitation and drinking water submitted by the State Government of Gujarat during the last three years, district-wise, particularly in regard to Patan-Mehsana and Sabarkantha;

(b) the details of projects approved and the assistance provided, year-wise, district-wise; and

(c) the details of projects not approved or still under consideration and reasons for rejection and delay?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation administers two centrally sponsored schemes viz., National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), Under the NRDWP, financial and technical assistance is provided to the States to supplement their efforts to provide adequate and safe drinking water to all rural habitations. Under the NRDWP, States Governments are competent to plan, design, approve and implement rural drinking water supply schemes. State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee (SLSSC) have been set up by the States including in Gujarat for approval of projects under NRDWP. Projects are not required to be submitted by the States to the Central Government for approval.

As regards Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), it is a demand driven project based programme taking district as unit. No year-wise projects are sanctioned under TSC. Under TSC projects were submitted by the State and sanctioned prior to last three years for all the 25 districts of Gujarat.

(b) As entered by the State on the online Integrated Management Information System of the Ministry, the number of projects approved under NRDWP, their estimated cost and releases to the districts of Gujarat, including Patan, Mehsana and Sabarkantha, is given Statement-I. The assistance provide to Gujarat as Central assistance under TSC during last three years is given in Statement-II.

(c) As informed by the State government, there are no projects that have not been approved.

Statement-I

Number of new projects

Sl. No.	District Name	Sanctioned in 2009-2010			Sanctioned in 2010-2011			Sanctioned in 2011-2012		
		Total Number	Estimated Cost	Release	Total Number	Estimated Cost	Release	Total Number	Estimated Cost	Release
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Ahmedabad	104	1103.42	N.A	50	5524.36	890.68	12	230.03	866.03
2	Amreli	1	2.66	N.A	0	0.00	66.37	1	15.00	47.00
3	Anand	9	66.03	N.A	175	1429.65	1457.70	67	591.86	587.67
4	Banas Kantha	34	332.13	N.A	77	2606.98	9460.95	37	15491.37	5672.10
5	Bharuch	2	3628.07	N.A	14	128.43	1008.50	27	12214.92	2632.15
6	Bhavnagar	55	29.00	N.A	0	0.00	366.61	0	0.00	277.20
7	Dang	25	348.45	N.A	35	268.14	1334.80	32	122.00	1663.00
8	Dohad	110	1306.01	N.A	39	461.55	2594.85	22	306.01	2205.00
9	Gandhinagar	3	18.64	N.A	26	111.27	677.85	2	9.47	2087.73
10	Jamnagar	55	136.44	N.A	36	61.10	1554.81	12	5.64	174.95
11	Junagadh	83	8815.56	N.A	4	324.17	2121.06	2	2490.19	1816.80

12	Kachchh	14	181.32	N.A	42	716.82	6610.10	2	33.83	9813.58
13	Kheda	69	333.55	N.A	134	600.29	1451.52	164	694.32	478.00
14	Mahesana	1	3839.90	N.A	0	0.00	394.18	0	0.00	567.50
15	Narmada	12	194.29	N.A	103	1332.82	1174.00	187	3768.64	746.50
16	Navsari	237	1684.22	N.A	199	1435.45	2537.57	201	821.17	881.70
17	Panch Mahals	296	2903.37	N.A	3	43.71	2399.17	1	1.00	681.00
18	Patan	33	225.68	N.A	70	430.90	888.19	24	95.38	285.35
19	Porbandar	5	9549.01	N.A	3	1.70	3504.00	0	0.00	2433.20
20	Rajkot	121	153.65	N.A	42	30.76	8022.67	27	17.55	3250.15
21	Sabar Kantha	196	1716.85	N.A	537	31484.46	3236.65	50	295.57	1238.97
22	Surat	15	358.05	N.A	13	2132.19	3265.46	3	18498.98	1506.36
23	Surendranagar	5	111.48	N.A	5	3.25	3565.55	29	3349.05	976.60
24	Tapi	53	554.22	N.A	29	370.54	1623.16	27	7199.38	832.60
25	Vadodara	34	12473.05	N.A	94	659.09	2324.83	85	114.92	3503.60
26	Valsad	379	2391.00	N.A	103	446.43	1962.14	69	4633.71	903.94
TOTAL		1951	52456.05		1833	50604.06	64493.36	1083	70999.97	46128.68

Statement-II*Assistance provided to Gujarat under TSC during last three years*

Sl. No.	District	Year		
		2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
1	Ahmedabad	136.72	90.48	134.16
2	Amreli	117.47	77.68	206.18
3	Anand	250.55	165.74	166.06
4	Banaskantha	391.35	258.86	216.52
5	Bharuch	0	177.78	269.46
6	Bhavnagar	0	39.38	16.58
7	Dahod	322	213.06	155.24
8	Dangs	0	71.6	44.48
9	Gandhinagar	0	165	0
10	Jamnagar	214.33	91.66	114.32
11	Junagadh	0	0	200.6
12	Kachchh	88.02	58.22	147.72
13	Kheda	0	244.44	522.8
14	Mahesana	0	150.64	179.9
15	Narmada	0	155.88	106.78
16	Navsari	144.48	95.62	157.36
17	Panch Mahals	467.56	309.26	157.22
18	Patan	0	383.36	0
19	Porbandar	39.28	25.98	69.08
20	Rajkot	0	475.48	23.72
21	Sabarkantha	225.58	734.84	548.98
22	Surat	517.95	342.68	226.84
23	Surendranagar	0	0	166.66
24	Vadodara	0	284.26	362.74
25	Valsad	121.62	80.46	114.88
	TOTAL	3036.91	4692.36	4308.28

Drinking water proposals from States

†3419. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of proposals regarding drinking water received by Government during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the details of proposals sanctioned by Government, amount-wise;
- (c) the details of the proposals regarding drinking water are pending for approval and for how long along with reasons thereof, State-wise with particular reference to Madhya Pradesh; and
- (d) the time by when Government will approve the pending proposals?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) and (b) Water is a state subject. The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation administers the centrally sponsored scheme, the National Rural Drinking Water Program (NRDWP) for providing technical and financial assistance to the States, to supplement their efforts to provide adequate and safe drinking water in rural areas. The State Governments are vested with powers to plan, approve and implement rural drinking water supply projects. Thus proposals under NRDWP are not submitted by States for sanction to the Government of India.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

Deforestation in the Country

3420. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken a decision to place Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) directly under Gram Panchayats (GPs) across the States;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the fact that lakhs of JFMCs have together successfully halted the degradation and decrease in forest cover of the country without the involvement of GPs;
- (c) whether the principle of *ex-ante* responsibility and *post-facto* benefit sharing is the essence of success of JFMCs so far; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to preserve the conjoint principle of responsibility and benefit sharing in future arrangements?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) No, Sir. However, in the context of decentralized governance, the Government of India has issued an advisory on 29.10.2010 which states that existing JFMCs should function under the overall guidance and supervision of the Gram Sabhas.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State and UT Governments have issued JFM resolutions for community participation in conservation, management, and protection of forests with benefit sharing mechanism on the principle of care and share.

Toxic Waste in Union Carbide Factory at Bhopal

†3421: SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :

SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has decided to dispose off the toxic waste lying in the closed Union Carbide Factory at Bhopal at a waste disposal unit situated in a town near the city;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Non-Government Organisations have protested against this decision of Government;

(d) if so, whether the decision is being reconsidered;

(e) whether the Supreme Court has given any order in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) to (f) Based on the recommendations of a Group of Ministers (GoM) set up to examine the issues related to Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has been entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring disposal of 350 MT of toxic waste lying in the premises of the erstwhile Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL), Bhopal in the Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (TSDF) located at Pithampur, Madhya Pradesh. For this, a trial run is to be carried out at the Pithampur TSDF. In a Special Leave Petition (No. 9874 of 2012) the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide in order dated 4th April, 2012 has directed the authorities to undertake all necessary steps for conducting the trial disposal of 10 metric tones of UCIL waste at Pithampur TSDF within a period of three months.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Study on impact of mobile towers on wildlife

3422. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR :
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Ministry has constituted a committee to examine impacts of mobile towers on wildlife;
- (b) if so, the action taken by Government on recommendations of this committee;
- (c) whether this committee has conducted or going to conduct a study on Gir forest in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests had constituted an 'Expert Committee to study the possible impacts of communication towers on wildlife including Birds and Bees' on 30th August, 2010 under the chairmanship of Dr. Asad Rahmani, Director, Bombay Natural History Society. The Expert Committee has since submitted its report to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The report is being examined by the Ministry in consultation with the concerned organizations.

(c) and (d) No such study is conducted or proposed to be conducted by the Committee at present.

Compliance report on Nira Deoghar Irrigation Project

3423. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has received compliance report regarding Nira Deoghar Irrigation Project in Satara district from the State Government;
- (b) if so, by when Government received the report;
- (c) the current status of the clearance sought; and
- (d) the time Government requires to complete the entire procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d): The Nira Deoghar Irrigation Project in Pune District of Maharashtra has been granted environmental clearance on 14.5.2003.

Assessment of NRCP

3424. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the funds allocated to various States under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) for cleaning of river water during the last three years, State-wise and yearwise;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the improvement in the quality of river water, in the aftermath of NRCP;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government proposes to include more rivers under NRCP; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) The details of funds released to States under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise are given in Statement. (*See below*)

(b) & (c) The major cause of rising organic pollution particularly Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in the rivers is due to discharge of untreated and partially treated domestic effluents by various municipalities across the country and therefore interception, diversion and treatment of sewage have been among the major works taken up. Sewage treatment capacity of 4664 million litres per day has been created so far under the Plan. Creation of sewerage infrastructure for its disposal is the responsibility of the State Governments/Urban Local Bodies. Assistance is also provided in this regard through other central schemes, such as Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns.

The water quality, in terms of BOD values for major rivers is reported to have improved as compared to the water quality before taking up pollution abatement works under NRCP. However, the levels of bacterial contamination in terms of fecal coliform are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of locations along various rivers.

(d) and (e) Conservation of rivers is an ongoing and collective effort of the Central and State Governments and this Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in pollution abatement in identified river stretches under NRCP. This Plan presently covers 40 rivers in 190 towns spread over 20 States. Inclusion of

additional rivers/towns under the Plan is a continuous process based on proposals received from State Governments, the funds available under the Plan, degree of pollution etc.

Statement

Details of funds released to States under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) during 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36.89	—	—
2.	Bihar	15.37	20.00	—
3.	Jharkhand	—	—	—
4.	Gujarat	—	0.39	—
5.	Goa	—	—	—
6.	Karnataka	—	0.96	—
7.	Maharashtra	7.38	11.82	—
8.	Madhya Pradesh	0.90	—	—
9.	Orissa	—	—	5.00
10.	Punjab	—	45.75	47.53
11.	Rajasthan	20.00	—	20.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	3.10	—	—
13.	Delhi	66.50	83.29	34.88
14.	Haryana	14.90	4.10	—
15.	Uttar Pradesh	112.80	238.59	72.75
16.	Uttrakhand	17.94	31.88	—
17.	West Bengal	57.08	194.13	—
18.	Kerala	—	—	—
19.	Sikkim	15.00	26.14	9.30
20.	Nagaland	—	—	—
TOTAL		367.86	657.05	189.46

Increase in e-waste generation in the country

3425. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a substantial increase in the generation of e-waste in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and whether some foreign countries are dumping e-waste into the country;

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure that such e-waste is processed and is not hazardous; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) to (d) Based on a survey carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB); it is estimated that 1.47 lakh Metric Tons (MT) of e-waste was generated in the country in the year 2005, which is expected to increase to about 8.00 lakh MT by 2012.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008. Import and export of e-waste are regulated as per these rules. Import of such wastes for disposal is not permitted. Import is permitted only for recycling or recovery or reuse with the permission of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and/or Directorate General of Foreign Trade. Permission for import and export of e-waste can be considered only by those recycling units, which have environmentally sound recycling facilities and are registered with State Pollution Control Board/Pollution Control Committee concerned.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has taken a number of steps to ensure environmentally sound management of e-waste in the country. These include:

- (i) For effective implementation of provisions related to import and export, a co-ordination committee including representatives from the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), the Ministry of Commerce and Industries (DGFT), the Ministry of Shipping (Department of Ports) the Central Pollution Control Board and select State Pollution Control Boards has been constituted. This committee has been working to sensitize the Customs authorities regarding enforcement of these Rules in order to check illegal import of e-waste into the country.
- (ii) Separate e-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 have been notified on 12th May, 2011. These Rules have come into effect from 1st

May, 2012. The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility has been enshrined in these rules to make it a mandatory activity for the manufacturers of electronic and electrical equipments. Under this the producers are responsible for collection of e-waste generated from the end of life of their products by setting up collection centers or take back systems either individually or collectively.

- (iii) As per these Rules, e-waste recycling can be undertaken only in facilities authorized and registered with State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees. Waste generated is required to be sent or sold to a registered or authorized recycler or processor having environmentally sound facilities.
- (iv) The Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste, published by Central Pollution Control Board, provide approach and methodology for environmentally sound management of e-waste.
- (v) The Ministry is implementing a Scheme to provide financial assistance for setting up of treatment, disposal and storage facility for hazardous and integrated recycling facilities for e-waste on public private partnership mode.

Sound- e-waste management system

3426. SHRI K. E. ISMAIL :
SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that India's output of e-waste has jumped by eight times in the past seven years;
- (b) if so, the top ten e-waste producing cities and the quantity being produced by each of these cities;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has evolved a sound e-waste management system;
- (d) if so, whether it is also a fact that it is not being enforced leading to serious public health hazards; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) Based on a survey carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it is estimated that 1.47

lakh Metric Tons (MT) of e-waste was generated in the country in the year 2005, which is expected to increase to about 8.00 lakh MT by 2012. The ten States generating the maximum quantities of e-waste are as follows :

Sl. No.	City	E-waste (MT) (2004-05)
1.	Mumbai	11017
2.	Delhi	9729
3.	Bangalore	4648
4.	Chennai	4132
5.	Kolkata	4025
6.	Ahmedabad	3288
7.	Hyderabad	2833
8.	Pune	2584
9.	Surat	1837
10.	Nagpur	1769

(c) to (e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) has notified the e-waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 for effective management of e-waste in the country. The Rules have come into effect from 1st May, 2012. The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility has been enshrined in these rules to make it a mandatory activity for the manufacturers of electronic and electrical equipments. Under this the producers are responsible for collection of e-waste generated from the end of life of their products by setting up collection centers or take back systems either individually or collectively.

Collection centres are required to obtain authorization from the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) concerned. Dismantlers and Recyclers are required to obtain authorization and registration from the SPCB concerned.

As per these Rules, e-waste recycling can be undertaken only in facilities authorized and registered with State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees. Waste generated is required to be sent or sold to a registered or authorized recycler or re-processor having environmentally sound facilities.

Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste brought out by Central Pollution Control Board provide the approach and methodology for environmentally sound management of e-waste.

Conservation and management of Mangrove forest in Odisha Coast

3427. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received any proposal or financial outlay amounting to 130.73 lakhs for conservation and management of Mangrove forest in Odisha coast; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has received proposals from the State Government of Odisha seeking financial assistance of 130.73 lakhs during 2010-11 for conservation and management of mangrove forest under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. During the year, an amount of 30.25 lakhs has been released to the State Government of Odisha for conservation and management of mangroves at Bhitarkanika, Devi-Kadua and Mahanadi mangrove sites as per their eligibility according to the guidelines of the Ministry. Thereafter, an amount of 62.30 lakhs has also been released against the proposed of 183.34 lakhs during 2011-12 to the State Government of Odisha for conservation and management of mangrove forest.

Utilization of funds collected under substitute forestry scheme

3428. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the funds collected, so far under the substitute forestry scheme, deposited by various companies, since the imposition of the scheme;

(b) the details of planned utilization of this fund; and

(c) the details of the progress of the scheme, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (c) There is no scheme under the nomenclature of "substitute forestry scheme". However, whenever forest land is diverted for non forest use under the provisions of the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 the user agencies are required to deposit compensatory levies which are maintained in State-wise accounts by the Ad-hoc Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). After providing for allocations to State CAMPAs and to the National CAMPA Advisory Council in terms of the Order dated 10th July, 2009 of the Supreme Court of India in IA No. 2143 in WP (C No. 202/1995 : *T N Godavarman Thirumalpad Vs. Union of India & Ors*, an amount of Rs. 22,382 crores is held in interest bearing accounts in nationalized Banks as on 31st March, 2012. In terms of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, against

Annual Plans of Operation submitted by the State CAMPAs for the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, amounts of Rs. 983 crores, Rs. 1034 crores and Rs. 824 crores, respectively have been released.

Green India Mission in Chhattisgarh

†3429. SHRI SHIVPRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the progress made under National Green India Mission in Chhattisgarh; and
- (b) the details of new steps being taken by Government for afforestation of degraded forest areas of the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) The National Mission for Green India is a new initiative by the Ministry of Environment and Forests which focuses the landscape and aims to increase forest and tree cover on 5 million ha area and to improve quality of forest cover on another 5 m ha area as well as to improve ecosystem services, forest based livelihood and enhance carbon sequestration in the country. The mission is to be implemented for 10 years from 2012-13. The year 2011-12 was the preparatory year and Rs. 9.72 Crore has been released to Government of Chhattisgarh for carrying out institutional capacity building, micro-planning, entry point activities, nursery preparation etc.

(b) Apart from Green India Mission, a grant of Rs. 5000 crores under the 13th Finance Commission has been awarded to incentivize the states for preservation and maintenance of their forest cover which also includes the state of Chhattisgarh. The Ministry of Environment and Forests is providing 100% financial assistance under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for the ecorestoration and regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country. The scheme guidelines has been revised to further decentralize the scheme administration to the States, modify the institutional arrangements, streamline the fund flow, and two new components of value addition & marketing and capacity building of village communities are included with a view to enhance the delivery of the programme. Afforestation activities are also being taken up under Externally Aided Projects in 12 States.

Prevention of illegal mining in protected forest areas

3430. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has formed a Forest Advisory Committee to map no-go areas for mining in the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details of the representatives in the Committee;
- (c) the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and
- (d) the steps being taken to prevent illegal mining in protected forest areas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) to (c) To formulate objective parameters for identification of pristine forest areas where any mining activity would lead to irreversible damage, and such other forest areas which needs to be conserved and protected to meet the larger objective of the long term conservation of forest and wildlife resources in the country, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Environment and Forests. The Director General of Forests and Special Secretary to the Government of India; Addl. Director General of Forests (Wildlife), MoEF, Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF; Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority; Director General, Forest Survey of India; Director, Wildlife Institute of India; Member Secretary, National Tiger Conservation Authority; Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the States of Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Meghalaya and Rajasthan; Joint Secretary, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF; and Inspector General of Forests, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF are members of the said Committee. The Committee is formulating its recommendations.

(d) Protection and management of the forests and protected areas, including prevention of illegal mining therein, is primary responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments. The MoEF however, provides financial and technical assistance under various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes to State/UT Governments to strengthen and upgrade management and protection of forests and protected areas in the country.

Respiratory diseases due to air pollution in national capital

3431. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of people dying of respiratory diseases in the national capital is going up;
- (b) whether it is happening due to rise in air pollution;
- (c) if so, the reasons for the increase; and
- (d) the steps being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) to (d) According to some epidemiological studies, health effects such as manifestation of respiratory diseases could be associated with air pollution. Steps taken by the Central Government for control of air pollution include formulation of a Comprehensive Policy for Abatement of Pollution, supply of improved auto-fuel, tightening of vehicular and industrial emission norms, mandatory environmental clearance for specified industries, management of municipal, hazardous & bio-medical wastes, promotion of cleaner technologies, strengthening the network of air quality monitoring stations, assessment of pollution load, source apportionment studies, preparation and implementation of action plans for major cities & critically polluted areas, public awareness etc.

Gunjawani Irrigation Project at Pune

3432. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has received compliance report regarding Gunjawani Irrigation Project at Pune from the State Governments;
- (b) if so, the current status of the clearance sought; and
- (c) the time Government requires to complete the entire procedure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) to (c) The Gunjawani Irrigation Project in Pune District of Maharashtra has been granted environmental clearance by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 29.4.2005.

Strengthening of Bamboo Board

3433. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the initiatives which have been taken to strengthen the Bamboo Board after the formation of Bamboo Board in 2003;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) The National Bamboo Mission (NBM) is being implemented by Horticulture Division under Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture in 27 States in the country with aims: to promote holistic growth of the bamboo sector through area based regionally

differentiated strategies; to increase the area under bamboo in potential regions with appropriate species to enhance yield; to establish convergence and synergy among stock-holders for development of bamboo and bamboo based products; to promote, develop and disseminate technologies and to generate employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled persons, especially unemployed youth.

Since inception under the Mission, 1,95,339 ha land has been planted with bamboo. All area of 51,925 ha of existing bamboo plantation has been improved for higher productivity. In addition, 1279 nurseries have been established for supplying quality planting material. In different States, 36,868 farmers and 5711 field functionaries have been trained in the area of nursery management and bamboo plantation. In order to generate awareness among bamboo growers, 47 state-level and 471 district-level workshops/seminars have been conducted.

(b) to (d) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has not formulated any policy on bamboo. However, National Bamboo Mission under the Ministry of Agriculture are preparing various strategies to promote holistic growth of bamboo sector.

Forest cover in Tamil Nadu

3434. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that forest cover has decreased in the country over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, with special reference to Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) the reasons for the decrease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) The forest cover of the country is assessed by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun since 1987. The same is published in India State of Forest Report which is published biennially by Forest Survey of India. The forest cover assessment of the country over the years is as follows :

<i>(Area in km²)</i>			
1987	1997	2009	2011
6,40,819	6,59,550	6,92,394	6,92,027

As per India State of Forest Report, 2011, there is marginal decline of 367 km² with respect to previous assessment of India State of Forest Report, 2009. The details of forest cover, State-wise, as per India State of Forest Report is given in statement. (See below)

(b) and (c) As per India State of Forest Report 2011, 13 States/UTs have shown decrease in forest cover to the extent of 867 km² in the States details are given in Statement-II (*See below*) alongwith the reasons. There is also an increase of 500 km² of forest cover in the States of Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Punjab, Jharkhand, Orissa and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. So, effectively there is net decline of forest cover to the tune of 367 km². Regarding the State of Tamil Nadu as per India State of Forest Report, 2011, the forest cover of the State is 23,625 km² which is 18.16% of the State geographical area. There is net increase of 74 km² with respect to previous assessment of 2009. The reason for increase in forest cover in the State of Tamil Nadu is regeneration in forest areas and extensive plantation activities in and outside forests.

Statement - I

Forest cover in States/UTs in India

(area in sq km)

State/UT	Geog. Area	Forest Cover in 2011			Total	Real change* From SFR 09
		Very Dense Forest	Mod. Dense Forest	Open Forest		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	275069	850	26242	19297	46389	-281
Arunachal Pradesh	83743	20868	31519	15023	67410	-74
Assam	78438	1444	11404	14825	27673	-19
Bihar	94163	231	3280	3334	6845	41
Chhattisgarh	135191	4163	34911	16600	55674	-4
Delhi	1483	7	49	120	176	0
Goa	3702	543	585	1091	2219	7
Gujarat	196022	376	5231	9012	14619	-1
Haryana	44212	27	457	1124	1608	14
Himachal Pradesh	55673	3224	6381	5074	14679	11
Jammu and Kashmir	222236	4140	8760	9639	22539	2
Jharkhand	79714	2590	9917	10470	22977	83
Karnataka	191791	1777	20179	14238	36194	4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kerala	38863	1442	9394	6464	17300	-24
Madhya Pradesh	308245	6640	34986	36074	77700	0
Maharashtra	307713	8736	20815	21095	50646	-4
Manipur	22327	730	6151	10209	17090	-190
Meghalaya	22429	433	9775	7067	17275	-46
Mizoram	21081	134	6086	12897	19117	-66
Nagaland	16579	1293	4931	7094	13318	-146
Orissa	155707	7060	21366	20477	48903	48
Punjab	50362	0	736	1028	1764	100
Rajasthan	342239	72	4448	11567	16087	51
Sikkim	7096	500	2161	698	3359	0
Tamil Nadu	130058	2948	10321	10356	23625	74
Tripura	10486	109	4686	3182	7977	-8
Uttar Pradesh	240928	1626	4559	8153	14338	-3
Uttarakhand	53483	4762	14167	5567	24496	1
West Bengal	88752	2984	4646	5365	12995	1
A & N Islands	8249	3761	2416	547	6724	62
Chandigarh	114	1	10	6	17	0
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	0	114	97	211	0
Daman and Diu	112	0	0.62	5.53	6	0
Lakshadweep	32	0	17.18	9.88	27	1
Puducherry	480	0	35.37	14.69	50	0
GRAND TOTAL	3287263	83471	320736	287820	692027	-367

* The change in the above table refers to change in the area with respect to 2009 assessment after incorporation interpretational changes.

Statement - II*States/UTs wise decline in forest cover in the country and reasons therefore*

Sl. No.	States	Change from ISFR 2009(km ²)	Major reasons for loss
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-281	Management interventions like harvesting of short rotation crops followed by new regeneration/plantations, forest clearance in some encroached areas.
2.	Manipur	-190	Decrease in forest cover in the State is due to shortening of shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
3.	Nagaland	-146	Decrease in forest cover in the State is due to shortening of shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	-74	Change in forest cover in the state is because of shifting cultivation and biotic pressure.
5.	Mizoram	-66	Decrease in forest cover in the State is due to shortening of shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
6.	Meghalaya	-46	Decrease in forest cover in the State is due to shortening of shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
7.	Kerala	-24	Decrease in forest cover in the state is due to rotational felling of Eucalyptus, Teak, <i>Acacia mangium</i> , rubber and shade bearing trees in the gardens.
8.	Assam	-19	Decrease in forest cover is mainly attributed to illicit felling, encroachments in insurgency affected areas and shifting cultivation practices.
9.	Tripura	-8	Decrease in forest cover in the state is due to clearings for rubber plantations and shifting cultivations practices.
10.	Maharashtra	-4	-

1	2	3	4
11.	Chhattisgarh	-4	Submergence of forest areas in catchments of the dams.
12.	Uttar Pradesh	-3	-
13.	Gujarat	-1	Decrease in forest cover in the state is due to private felling in the Tree Outside Forests areas.
14.	Chandigarh	-0.22	-
TOTAL		-866.22	

Migration of Siberian Cranes to India

3435. SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the names of lakes or water bodies where Siberian Cranes migrate in the country;
- (b) when and how many of them were last sighted; and
- (c) whether Government has any programme to ensure their migration to this country and also their survival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) Keoladeo Ghana National Park, Bharatpur in Rajasthan has been the only known wintering grounds for Siberian Crane in India since 1940s.

(b) A pair of Siberian Crane, *i.e.* two birds, was sighted last in the Keoladeo Ghana National Park during the year 2000-01.

(c) The Government has taken following steps to ensure the migration of Siberian Cranes to India:

- (i) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Conservation of Siberian Cranes under the auspices of the Convention on Migratory Species of wild animals (Bonn Convention) has been signed to develop partnership with other countries along the migratory route of the species in Asia to help reduce threats for Siberian Cranes and preserve wetland sites required for their migration to India.
- (ii) Governments of India and Russia have signed a bilateral treaty to conserve cranes and ensure their safety in the breeding and wintering sites.

- (iii) The Government is taking necessary measures to restore the wetland character of Keoladeo National Park, which is the major wintering site of Siberian Crane.

Recycle of waste papers

3436. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that many countries in the world have made it mandatory to recycle waste papers and go green, while India is yet to take this bold step;
- (b) whether the Union Health Ministry is proposing to go green in various hospitals in the country, including Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital in Delhi; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the Municipal Solid Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000 which, *inter-alia*, stipulate that mixed waste containing recoverable resources shall follow the route of recycling. As per information provided by the Director General of Health Service, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital has initiated action with regard to “go green” concept. This includes installation of rain water harvesting system, solar heating facilities, installation of compact fluorescent lamps, use of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) in incinerator and laundry, and management of biomedical waste etc. The new buildings under construction in Phase-I of comprehensive re-development plan of Lady Hardinge Medical College are proposed to be green.

Use of fuelwood in the country

3437. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether fuelwood is the single largest use of forests in the country;
- (b) whether Green India Mission of the Government has integrated this fact as the centerpiece of its strategy;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, including steps planned for more efficient fuelwood production and use other than by direct burning by households; and
- (d) the details of trading plan formulated by Government for carbon savings from such indirect fuelwood use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) As per India State of

Forest Report, 2011, the fuelwood and feed for livestock (fodder collection and grazing) are the main products from forests.

(b) to (d) The National Mission for Green India is a new programme by the Ministry of Environment & Forests which aims to increase forest and tree cover on 5 million ha area and to improve quality of forest cover on another 5 million ha area as well as to improve ecosystem services, forest based livelihood and enhance carbon sequestration. The Green India Mission also envisages improving carbon efficiency and promoting alternative energy devices such as biogas, solar devices, biomass based energy and expansion of services for cleaner cooking fuels like LPG in rural areas; improved fuel-efficient stoves etc. would help in reducing pressure on forests, gaining carbon benefits, along with health and other associated benefits. One of the objectives envisaged in the Green India Mission document is to enhance annual CO₂ sequestration by 50 to 60 million tonnes in the year 2020.

Forest cover in Goa

3438. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the present forest cover in Goa;
- (b) the percentage of forest cover during 1960-70, 1971-80, 1981-90, 1991-2000 and 2001-2010;
- (c) the steps proposes to be taken by the State Government to increase the forest cover and the target set thereof; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) As per India State of Forest Report, 2011, the forest cover of the State of Goa is 2219 Km² which is 59.94% of the State geographical area.

(b) The Forest cover of the country, State-wise, is assessed by Forest Survey of India since 1987. The details of forest cover of Goa as per India State of Forest Report from 1987 to 2011 is as under:-

(Area in sq. an)

Year	1987	1989	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2009	2011
Area	1240	1255	1255	1250	1250	1252	1251	2095	2156	2164	2151	2219

(c) and (d) The following initiatives have been taken by the Government to expand forest and tree cover in the country:

- (i) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Afforestation Programme (NAP) for regeneration of degraded forests and adjoining areas in the country. The Scheme is implemented through a decentralized mechanism of State Forest Development Agency (SFDA) at State level, Forest Development Agency (FDA) at Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at Village levels. As on 31.03.2012, 800 FDA projects have been approved in 28 States in the country to treat an area of 18.86 lakh hectares since inception of the Scheme in 2002.
- (ii) The Ministry release funds under the Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IIFMS), for strengthening of forest protection such as infrastructure, fire protection, demarcation of forest boundaries, construction of facilities for frontline staff and communication which has contributed towards increase in the forest cover.
- (iii) Under the National Action Plan on Climate Change announced by the Central Government, a National Mission for a 'Green India' has been mooted in which quality to improve the degraded forests along with afforestation are major objectives.
- (iv) Under the award of 13th Finance Commission, a grant of Rs. 5000 crores has been allocated as "Forest Grants" to the states on the basis of their forest cover in the State in relation to the national average. It has been further weighted by the quality of the forests in each state as measured by density.
- (v) Afforestation activities are undertaken under various External Aided Projects by 12 States.

Notification of Critical Wildlife Habitats in Odisha

3439. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state : whether Government has approved the proposal of the State Government of Odisha to declare 15.33 km. area of Chilkanalaban sanctuary, entire Gahirmath sanctuary and Chandaka sanctuary as critical wildlife habitats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : The Government of Odisha had forwarded proposals to the Central Level Committee for notification of Chilka Nalaban Sanctuary, Gahirmatha Sanctuary and Chandaka Sanctuary as Critical Wildlife Habitats under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of

Forest Rights) Act, 2006. These proposals were considered by the Central Level Committee and were found to be incomplete. Therefore, the State Government was requested to submit revised proposal, which has not been received in the Ministry of Environment and Forests so far.

Conservation of Elephants and Tigers

†3440. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to set up National Elephant Conservation Authority;
- (b) if so, the time by when; and
- (c) the details of measures taken to check the decreasing number of tigers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) The Task Force on Project Elephant constituted by the Ministry during 2010 has recommended in its report that Project Elephant should be converted into a statutory agency on the lines of National Tiger Conservation Authority for a more effective conservation and management regime for the elephant in India. It has suggested relevant amendments in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for the purpose. The Government has not taken a final decision in the matter.

(c) The details of important measures taken by the Government for protection of tigers and other wildlife are given in statement.

Statement

Important initiatives taken by the Government of India for protection of tigers and other wildlife

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions towards constituting the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau.
2. Enhancement of punishment in cases of offence relating to a tiger reserve or its core area.

Administrative steps

3. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.

4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter-alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. The in-principle approval has been accorded by the National Tiger Conservation Authority for creation of four new tiger reserves, and the sites are: Pilibhit (Uttar Pradesh), Ratapani (Madhya Pradesh), Sunabeda (Orissa) and Mukundara Hills (including Darrah, Jawahar Sagar and Chambal Wildlife Sanctuaries) (Rajasthan). Final approval has been accorded to Kudremukh (Karnataka) for declaring as Tiger Reserve. Besides, the States have been advised to send proposals for declaring the following areas as Tiger Reserves: (i) Bor (Maharashtra), (ii) Suhelwa (Uttar Pradesh), (iii) Nagzira-Navegaon (Maharashtra), (iv) Satyamangalam (Tamil Nadu), (v) Guru Ghasidas National Park (Chhattisgarh), (vi) Mhadei Sanctuary (Goa) and (vii) Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel/Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuaries/Varushanadu Valley (Tamil Nadu).
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, *inter-alia*, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including co-predators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.

9. An area of 33472.01 sq. km. has been notified by 16 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal). The State of Bihar has taken a decision for notifying the core or critical tiger habitat of Valmiki Tiger Reserve.

Financial steps

10. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

11. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
12. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
13. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.
14. Based on India's strong intervention during the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee of the CITES at Geneva from 6th to 10th July, 2009, the CITES Secretariat has issued a notification to Parties to submit reports relating to compliance of Decisions 14.69 and 14.65 within 90 days with effect from 20.10.2009 (Progress made on restricting captive breeding operations of tigers etc.).

Reintroduction of Tigers

15. As a part of active management to rebuild Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves where tigers have become locally extinct, reintroduction of tigers/tigresses have been done.
16. Special advisories issued for in-situ build up of prey base and tiger population through active management in tiger reserves having low population status of tiger and its prey.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

17. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, *inter-alia*, contains action points relating to tiger protection. Based on the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force, the proposal for the said force has been approved by the competent authority for 13 tiger reserves. Rs. 93 lakhs each has been released to Corbett, Ranthambhore & Dudhwa Tiger Reserve for creation of STPF during 2008-09. Since then, the guidelines of the STPF have been revised for deploying forest personnel in place of Police as an option-II, with scope for involving local people like the Van Gujjars. During the year 2011-12, an amount of Rs. 3 crores has been provided to the Similipal Tiger Reserve for raising, arming and deploying the STPF.
18. In collaboration with TRAFFIC-INDIA, an online tiger crime data base has been launched, and Generic Guidelines for preparation of reserve specific Security Plan has been evolved.

Recent initiatives

1. Implementing a tripartite MOU with tiger States, linked to fund flows for effective implementation of tiger conservation initiatives.
2. Rapid assessment of tiger reserves done.
3. Special crack teams sent to tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey.
4. Chief Ministers of States having tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey addressed for taking special initiatives.
5. Steps taken for modernizing the infrastructure and field protection, besides launching 'M-STRLPES' for effective field patrolling and monitoring.

6. Steps taken for involvement of Non-Governmental Experts in the ongoing all India tiger estimation.
7. Initiatives taken for improving the field delivery through capacity building of field officials, apart from providing incentives.
8. Action initiated for using Information Technology to strengthen surveillance in tiger reserves (e-Eye).
9. The second round of country level tiger status assessment completed in 2010, with the findings indicating an increase with a tiger population estimate of 1706, lower and upper limits being 1520 and 1909 respectively, as compared to the last country level estimation of 2006, with an estimate of 1411, lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively.
10. The second round of independent assessment of Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Tiger Reserves done in 2010-11 for 39 tiger reserves based on globally used framework.
11. The allocation for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger has been enhanced with additional new components, viz. change in funding pattern in respect of North Eastern States (90 : 10), raising compensation for man-animal conflict to Rs. 2 lakhs, acquisition of private land for making the core/critical tiger habitat inviolate, establishment of Tiger Safari, interpretation /awareness centres under the existing component of 'co-existence agenda in buffer/fringe areas' and management of such centers through the respective Panchayati Raj Institutions, and re-introduction of Cheetah.
12. Regional Offices of the National Tiger Conservation Authority sanctioned at Nagpur, Bengaluru and Guwahati.
13. As an outcome of the fourth Trans-border Consultative Group Meeting held in New Delhi, a joint resolution has been signed with Nepal for biodiversity/tiger conservation.
14. Tiger Reserve level monitoring launched (Phase-IV) to keep track of tiger source populations, besides developing a National Repository of Camera Trap Photographs of Tigers (NRCTPT).

Nira Deoghar project in Maharashtra

3441. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has not yet given approval for the diversion of land for construction of a canal in Nira Deoghar, Maharashtra;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Maharashtra has furnished all documents and compliance reports, yet final approval has not been granted;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when the final clearance is expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) to (e) In principle approval for the diversion of 1.98 ha of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the Nira Deoghar Project in Maharashtra has been accorded by the Ministry. The compliance of some of the conditions stipulated in the principle approval is awaited from the Government of Maharashtra.

Silting of river beds

†3442. DR. C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that flow of the rivers in the country is decreasing due to pollution, garbage and silting of river bed;
- (b) whether Government has carried out any scientific study in this regard;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to check pollution in the Ganga river;
- (d) the funds spent on these measures during the last seven years, year-wise;
- (e) whether any assessment has been made regarding benefits achieved through these measures; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) As per Water Quality Division of Ministry of Water Resources, no scientific study has been carried out by them regarding decrease of river flows due to pollution/garbage and silting of river bed.

(c) to (f) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by the Government with a consortium of 7 Indian Institute of Technologies for preparation of a comprehensive Ganga River Basin Management Plan to facilitate a roadmap for conservation of the river with a river basin approach. The objectives of the Plan include identification of measures for overall improvement of the ecological health of the river, augmentation of river flow, and control of pollution. Ganga Action Plan (GAP) is being implemented since 1985 for undertaking pollution abatement activities in the

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

identified polluted stretches of the river Ganga through implementation of works like interception and diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation works, crematoria works etc. An amount of Rs. 1441.44 crore has been released towards implementation of various pollution abatement works in towns along the river Ganga and sewage treatment capacity of 1091 million litres per day (mld) has been created. Details of expenditure incurred during the last 7 years, year-wise are given in statement: (*See below*)

In light of experience gained in implementation of the river action plans since 1985, the conservation strategy was reviewed by the Government. Accordingly, in February 2009, the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) has been constituted as an empowered, planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating authority with the objective to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic river basin approach.

The NGRBA in its first meeting has resolved that under *Mission Clean Ganga* it will be ensured that by 2020 no untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents flow into Ganga and the investments required to create the necessary treatment and sewage infrastructure will be shared suitably between the Central and the State Governments. Projects amounting to Rs. 2598 crore have been sanctioned so far under the NGRBA programme. Besides, a project with World Bank assistance for abatement of pollution of river Ganga at an estimated cost of Rs. 7000 crore has been approved under the NGRBA for implementation in the States.

With the pollution abatement works completed so far, despite significant increase in urbanization, industrialization and growth in population in cities along the banks of river Ganga, the water quality in terms of BOD (Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand) values is reported to have improved as compared to the pre-GAP water quality on major monitoring locations. However, the levels of bacterial contamination in terms of fecal coliform are reported to be exceeding the maximum permissible limit at a number of locations.

Statement

*Central funds released to States for pollution abatement works
for river Ganga during the last seven years*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Funds Released
1.	2005-06	49.07
2.	2006-07	47.69
3.	2007-08	48.00

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Funds Released
4.	2008-09	54.86
5.	2009-10	103.96
6.	2010-11	468.50
7.	2011-12	53.44

Polluting of the Ganga by Industries

3443. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has recently pulled up State Governments for tardy performance on sewage treatment and also directed them to take action against industries polluting the river Ganga;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the discharge of industrial pollution in river Ganga is increasing day by day and the various State Pollution Control Boards have completely failed to monitor industrial pollution; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to maintain the ecological health of the river Ganga?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) and (b) In his address in the third meeting of the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) held on the 17th April, 2012, the Prime Minister, while inviting attention of the State Governments on the factors contributing to the pollution of river Ganga, called for optimal utilisation of the existing sewage treatment plants, ensuring proper operation and maintenance, effective monitoring of discharge of effluents by industrial units by the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and to strengthen the enforcement mechanism in this regard.

(c) and (d) In spite of the increasing industrialization leading to increase in wastewater generation over the years, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the SPCBs have taken concrete steps to reduce the pollution in water by critical industries like Pulp and Paper, Sugar & Distillery etc. in the cities along the Ganga River. The CPCB and SPCBs monitor compliance of effluent discharge standards by the industries. Measures taken by the Pollution Control Boards for pollution abatement include; (i) Implementation of time targeted programme under Corporate Responsibility on Environment Protection, (ii) Identification of critically Polluted areas for preparation and implementation of action plan for the towns located on the main stem of Ganga

and (iii) Installation of Common Effluent Treatment Plants for cluster of Small Scale Industrial units.

So far, 716 grossly polluting industries have been identified by CPCB discharging approximately 488 million litres per day (mld) of wastewater directly or through tributaries of river Ganga. Major industries are Pulp & Paper, Sugar, Distillery, Chemical, Textile, Dyeing & Bleach, tannery etc. Various measures for reduction of wastewater from these industries like; compulsory installation and operation of Chemical Recovery Unit (CRU), improved pulp washing system in agro based Pulp & Paper industries, adoption of zero discharge norms through technological intervention of anaerobic treatment followed by Reverse Osmosis (RO) and recovery of water for reuse and recycle in sugar and distillery industries, etc. have been taken.

Ganga Action Plan is being implemented since 1985 for undertaking pollution abatement activities in the identified polluted stretches of the river Ganga through implementation of works like interception and diversion of sewage, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation works, crematoria works etc. An expenditure of Rs. 1045 crore has been incurred towards implementation of various pollution abatement works in towns along river Ganga and sewage treatment capacity of 1091 million litres per day (mld) has been created. National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) has been set up in February, 2009 to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a holistic river basin approach. The Authority has decided that, under Mission Clean Ganga, it will be ensured that by 2020 no untreated municipal sewage and industrial effluents flow into Ganga. Projects amounting to nearly Rs. 2600 crore have been sanctioned so far under the NGRBA for development of sewer networks, sewage treatment plants, electric crematoria, community toilets, development of river fronts, etc. in the States of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. Besides, a World Bank assisted project for pollution abatement of Ganga for Rs. 7000 crore has been approved for implementation in the Ganga States.

Discussions on climate change

3444. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether discussions on climate change globally were not yielding any substantial results;
- (b) whether it was essential to reach a collaborative agreement on this catastrophe; and
- (c) if so, what concrete steps the Minister would suggest in future discussions to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) Climate Change negotiations are conducted at global level under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). At the recent Climate Change Conference held in Durban where Seventeenth Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 17) took place, several decisions were taken to address international actions aimed at addressing climate change. The Conference decided to establish the second commitment period of developed country Parties under the Kyoto Protocol, and also agreed to operationalise the institutions, namely the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Committee and the Technology Mechanism.

The Durban Conference also decided to launch a process to develop a protocol, another instrument or an agreed outcome with legal force under the Convention applicable to all Parties. The process under the Durban Platform will be completed by 2015 with a view to enable the agreed arrangements to be implemented from 2020.

(b) and (c) India is willing to play a constructive role in negotiations and advance international actions on the basis of the principles of equity and Common but Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) as enshrined in the UNFCCC.

Stashing of Black Money Abroad

†3445. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received the details regarding 9900 persons who have deposited the black money in foreign banks and whether Government is investigating about those persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prepared any scheme to stop the accumulation of black money in the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of black money confiscated/or traced during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The Government has received a number of cases of information relating to remittances, payments and money held in foreign bank accounts etc. under the provisions of the DTAA/TIEAs. Every reliable information, including information received from outside the country, is verified according to the provision of Direct Tax laws and action is taken to bring undisclosed amounts to taxation. Penalties are levied in cases of concealment. In appropriate cases prosecution proceedings are initiated.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No, Sir. No scheme is presently under consideration of the Government. However, the Income Tax Department takes constant action against tax evasion including tax scrutiny, surveys, search and seizure under the Direct Tax laws.

(d) The value of assets seized in searches conducted by the Income Tax Department in the last two financial years are as follows:

Financial Year	Value of Assets Seized (Rs. Crores)
2010-11	774.98
2011-12	905.61

Outsourcing of Infotech function by IT Department

3446. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that a large scale outsourcing of infotech functions by the Income Tax (IT) Department is posing risk of refund frauds and leakage of confidential data;

(b) if so, whether Government has studied indepth the adverse impact of outsourcing such infotech functions of IT Department;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) The outsourcing of infotech functions by the Income Tax (IT) Department has emerged after extensive discussions, rigorous evaluation and comprehensive examination by various authorities. Till now no instance has come to light of involvement of Vendor Personnel of Service Providers of Centralised Processing Center (CPC) and E-filing in data leak and refund frauds.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Department constantly evaluates the functioning of the Service Provider and a third party audit is conducted. Compliance with Service Level Agreements (SLAs), including Security SLAs is also to be certified by a third party auditor.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply given in (a) above.

Establishment of Bank branches in Tamil Nadu

3447. SHRI A.A. JINNAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of banks opened in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu in last three years; and

(b) whether banks have been instructed to make an analysis or requirements of establishing new branches in rural areas of Tamil Nadu and take prompt action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (b) As per information received from State Level Banker's Committee (SLBC) convenor bank, Tamil Nadu, 258 bank branches have been opened in rural areas and 594 branches have been opened in semi-urban areas during the last three years. Banks have been suitably instructed by the SLBC Convenor to identify potential unbanked rural centres and to open branches in such centres.

Target of disinvestment

3448. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any disinvestment target for the financial year 2011-12;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of amount raised till date through disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The Budget Estimates from disinvestment have been estimated at Rs. 40000 crore for the year 2011-12 and Rs. 30,000 crore for the year 2012-13. The estimates were revised at RE stage to Rs. 13,144.55 crore.

(c) During 2011-12, an amount of Rs.13,894.05 crore was realized from disinvestment in Power Finance Corporation Limited and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited. In 2012-13, till date, receipts are Rs.124.97 crore from disinvestment in National Building Construction Corporation Limited.

Tax collection and Reforms thereof

3449. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any target/estimate for tax collection for the year 2011-12;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of net tax collection made till date against the Budget Estimate for the year 2011-12;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has asked its field units to go slow on clearing refunds; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by Government to achieve the targets of tax collections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. S.S PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, the details for F.Y. 2011-12 are as under :

(Rs. In crore)

Budget Estimate for Direct Tax Collection	Revised Estimate for Direct Tax Collection.	Net Direct Tax Collection
532,660	500,600	*493,912

* Provisional, Source: Pr.CCA, CBDT.

(d) No Sir, in fact the amount of Refund issued in F.Y. 2011-12 is Rs. 97158 crores (provisional) in comparison to the amount of Rs. 75169 crores for F.Y. 2010-11. Thus, there is an increase of 29.25%.

(e) The following action is being taken by the Government to achieve the targets of tax collection:

- (i) Monitoring of Advance Tax Collection by identifying cases where addition are confirmed in first appeal.
- (ii) Monitoring of Advance Tax payment of top cases by the CCsIT concerned.
- (iii) Recovery of Arrear demand by identification of actionable cases and put them for strict monitoring.
- (iv) TDS augmentation : identification of cases of short deduction/short payment/late payment and initiating statutory action.
- (v) Publicity and awareness campaign regarding tax payer's education and voluntary compliance of tax duty.
- (vi) Surveys of important business/trade/industry with a view to examine applicability of TDS.
- (vii) Cross-verification of data collected through Annual Information Return with the return of income and issuance of notices in suitable cases.

Decline in GDP growth

3450. SHRI N. BALAGANGA :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that GDP growth of the country has come to three years low;

- (b) if so, the reasons thereof; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) As per the Advance Estimates released by Central Statistics Office (CSO) on February 7, 2012, growth rate of Gross Domestic Product at factor cost at 2004-05 prices for the financial years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is estimated at 8.4 per cent, 8.4 per cent and 6.9 per cent respectively.

(b) The reduction in the growth rate in India in 2011-12 *vis-a-vis* last two years is attributable to both domestic and global factors. Some of the global factors that resulted in slowdown include, *inter-alia*, the crisis in the eurozone area and near-recessionary conditions prevailing in Europe; sluggish growth in many other industrialized countries, like the USA; stagnation in Japan; and hardening international prices of crude oil. Among domestic factors, the tightening of monetary policy, in order to control inflation resulted in slowing down of investment and growth, particularly in the industrial sector.

(c) The Approach Paper to the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) proposes a faster, more inclusive and sustainable growth with a target of 9 per cent annual growth rate of GDP. The key requirements for achieving the goal are better performance in agriculture (at least 4 per cent growth), faster creation of jobs in manufacturing, development of appropriate infrastructural facilities, etc. Certain specific measures taken by government, *inter-alia*, include enhancing level of investment for agriculture sector including irrigation projects, promoting Micro Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector by way of higher allocation of funds, enhancing investment in the infrastructure sector focusing on Public Private Partnership and a number of legislative measures to develop the financial sector, etc.

Rising Current Account Deficit

3451. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI :

SHRI N. K. SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that India's current account deficit has been growing over the past few years;
- (b) the details of the current account deficit for the past three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether the current account deficit is being financed through short-term market borrowings; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to reduce the growing current account deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The current account deficit (CAD) as per cent of GDP during the last five years are given below :

Years	Current Account Deficit as per cent of GDP
2007-08	1.3
2008-09	2.3
2009-10	2.8
2010-11	2.7
2011-12 (Up to December, 2011)	4.0

(c) The CAD is financed by capital account surplus and drawdown of foreign exchange reserves in case CAD exceeds capital account balance. Capital flows include both equity and debt. Short term trade credit financed about one-tenth to one-fourth of the CAD in the recent years.

(d) The recent increase in CAD is due to widening of trade deficit on account of higher imports of POL and gold & silver. To lower the impact of gold imports on CAD under balance of payment, Government in the Union Budget 2012-13 has proposed to increase basic custom duty on standard gold bars; gold coins of purity exceeding 99.5 per cent and platinum from 2 per cent to 4 per cent and on non-standard gold from 5 per cent to 10 per cent.

Further, the Reserve Bank of India has taken certain prudential measures in respect of Non-Banking Financing Companies (NBFCs) predominantly engaged in lending against collateral of gold jewellery, to restrict the loans against gold.

Loss making branches of banks and insurance companies

3452. SHRI ANIL DESAI :

SHRI SANJAY RAUT :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry is considering to close down loss making branches of banks and insurance companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how the Ministry is going to achieve financial inclusion if it closes down the loss making branches of banks and insurance companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Public Sector Insurance Companies are governed by their Board driven policies. Expansion or closure of branches of these institutions is decided by their Board in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the regulator.

However, the Government, as a promoter shareholder, has recently advised PSBs and public sector Insurance Companies to make an action plan for turnaround of their loss making branches. As regards financial inclusion campaign of Government of India, the banks have been advised to meet all the targets of financial inclusion which remains the priority of the Government.

Investment by public financial institution in tobacco companies

3453. SHRI SANJAY RAUT :

SHRI ANIL DESAI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government agencies like LIC and UTI have invested heavily in a private sector company called the ITC which is involved in marketing tobacco products;
- (b) if so, the details of the investment made; and
- (c) the reasons for encouraging public financial institutions to invest in private sector rather than infrastructure-related projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The details of investments made by Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and the Unit Trust of India (UTI) in ITC Limited are as under:

Investment made by	Number of share
Life Insurance Corporation of India	93,52,41,572
Unit Trust of India	89,68,68,810

(c) LIC is investing in Government's Securities, Infrastructure Financing and Companies including private sector within permissible regulatory norms. The Unit Trust of India which was established under the UTI Act 1963, invest in many public sector and private sector companies across various industries in terms of its main business. The investment in the equity shares of ITC Limited was one of such investments made by UTI.

Increase in quantum of loan disbursal

†3454. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the loans disbursed by banks operating in the country have been increasing continuously for the last years;

(b) if so, the annual growth rate in the amount of such loans during 2008-09, 2010-11 and 2011-12; and

(c) the growth rate in the loan extended to Government within the growth rate of overall loans extended during each year of the extended period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) maintains data on Outstanding credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs), not on loans disbursed. Outstanding credit of SCBs is given below:

(Rs. Crore)

	As on 31 March, 2008	As on 31 March, 2009	As on 31 March, 2010
Outstanding credit	2085984	2497848	2984424
ANNUAL GROWTH RATE (%)	25.04	19.74	19.48

(c) Outstanding credit to Central & State Government Departments, Public Financial and Non-Financial Corporations etc. and its annual growth rate is given below :

(Rs. Crore)

	As on 31 March, 2008	As on 31 March, 2009	As on 31 March, 2010
Outstanding credit to Public Sector	348863	475326	555679
ANNUAL GROWTH RATE	75.06	36.25	16.90

Debt liability

†3455. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that international borrowings have to be raised to make up for the losses accrued due to gap in foreign import and export;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that debt liability of the country has increased during September to December, 2011; and
- (d) if so, the quantum of the increase in debt liability and the reasons for the increase in this debt during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The current account deficit (CAD) is financed by capital account surplus and drawdown of foreign exchange reserves in case CAD exceeds capital account balance. Capital flows include both equity and debt. Equity comprises foreign direct investment and portfolio investment while debt flows include external commercial borrowing, external assistance, banking capital and short-term trade credit etc. In recent times, CAD was financed by the capital account surplus except in 2011-12 (upto December, 2011), when higher CAD led by trade deficit and moderation in capital inflows, resulted in drawdown of foreign exchange reserves.

(c) and (d) India's total external debt stock at end-December, 2011 was US\$ 334.9 billion, reflecting an increase of US\$ 11.0 billion (3.4 per cent) over end-September, 2011 level of US\$ 323.9 billion. The rise in debt stock was mainly due to higher external commercial borrowings and short-term debt.

Overall Inflation *vis-a-vis* Food Inflation

†3456. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the overall rate of inflation in the country has come down to 6.89 per cent in March, 2012 as compared to 6.95 per cent in the last month;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether it is a fact that in the same period food inflation has gone up from 6.07 per cent to 9.94 per cent;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has taken note of the factors due to which food inflation could not be controlled; and
- (d) if so, the details of those factors and whether they are beyond the control of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Headline inflation and sector-wise details of food inflation and their contribution to overall inflation for February and March, 2012 is given in table below :

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

	All commodities	Primary food articles	Food grains	Fruits & vegetables	Protein food
Percentage weight in WPI	100.00	14.34	4.09	3.84	6.37
WPI Inflation % (Year-on-Year)					
Feb-12	6.95	6.07	2.92	0.30	14.50
Mar-12	6.89	9.94	5.52	9.16	15.65
Percentage contribution to overall WPI inflation					
Feb-12	100.00	15.31	2.06	0.19	16.70
Mar-12	100.00	24.78	3.85	5.67	17.84

(c) and (d) Apart from the seasonal factors, increase in inflation of primary food articles has been due to persistence of price pressures for protein rich products covering 'egg, fish and meat', milk and pulses.

The Government monitors the price situation regularly as price stability remains high on its agenda. Fiscal and administrative measures have been taken to contain price rise of essential commodities. As a result of these measures adopted by the Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI), inflation has started moderating. Since the high inflation in the protein rich items was one of the important factors for keeping the inflation at elevated levels, Government has proposed some special measures in Union Budget 2012-13 to increase the domestic availability of protein supplements and to remove the structural imbalances in demand and supply of these products.

Interest subvention scheme for farmers

3457. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

SHRI K. E. ISMAIL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that at present interest subvention is only for short term loans and the benefit is not extended to farmers availing loans from scheduled banks and private sector banks;

(b) if so, whether in view of the Kerala having wide network coverage of certain scheduled banks, Government would consider the demand to provide the benefit of interest subvention to eligible farmers taking loans from private and scheduled banks and also to extend the benefits for medium and long term loans as well; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Interest Subvention Scheme is being implemented

by the Government of India since 2006-07 to make short-term crop loans 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. The additional subvention was 1% in 2009-10, 2% in 2010-11 and 3% in 2011-12.

Interest subvention Scheme of Government of India is presently applicable to Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks.

There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to provide the benefits of Interest Subvention for loans from the private banks and also to extend the benefits for medium and long term loans.

Loss to LIC on investment in PSUs

3458. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI K. E. ISMAIL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all of LIC investments in the Government's disinvestment programme of public sector undertakings since the year 2009 have resulted in huge notional losses for policy holders in the underlying schemes;

(b) if so, the details of the investment made by LIC since 2009, PSU-wise, and the current worth of these investments; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has reported that as on 31.03.2012, total outstanding investment in Public Sectors Undertakings, under which disinvestment was carried out by Government since 2009 to March, 2012 is in profit. The book value of the total outstanding investment as on 31.03.2012 was Rs. 59,116.36 crore and its market value was Rs. 59,851.16 crore.

Refusal of fresh credit to the beneficiaries of Debt Waiver Scheme

†3459. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that those farmers whose loans were waived off by the Union Government throughout the country in the year 2008-09 are again being denied loans for agriculture activities by banks;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the amount of loan in thousand crores rupees waived off in the year 2008-09?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS), 2008 was implemented by the Government to de-clog the lines of credit that were clogged due to the debt burden on the farmers and make the farmers eligible for fresh loans. Under the Scheme Rs. 52,275.55 crore has been released by the Government through Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to give benefit to 3.45 crore farmers.

After the implementation of the Scheme, the flow of credit to agriculture sector has increased from Rs. 3,01,682 crore in 2008-09 to Rs. 4,68,177 crore in 2010-11. The number of farm account financed has increased from 4.56 crore in 2008-09 to 5.49 crore in 2010-11.

Issue of KCCs in Goa

3460. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) and Swarozgar Credit Cards issued in Goa till date;

(b) the essential features of the two schemes and the facilities provided thereunder with special reference to Goa; and

(c) the financial and other benefits given to the two card holders in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC), Goa has reported that 8558 Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) and 655 Swarozgar Credit Cards (SCCs) have been issued in Goa upto 31.12.2011.

The salient features of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) and Swarozgar Credit Cards (SCC) are as under :

(I) Kisan Credit Card

- Credit Limit based on operational land holding, cropping pattern and scale of Finance.
- Total limit is inclusive of 20% of production credit, which includes crop production expenses and working capital for allied agricultural activity and contingency credit/consumption loan.
- Annual credit limit sanctioned with suitable seasonal sub limits for crop production, contingency expenses and ancillary activities.

- Eligible Crop in notified area are covered under Crop Insurance Scheme - National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NSID).
- Margin not required.

(II) Swarojgar Credit Card

- It is issued to small artisans, handloom weavers, service sector, fishermen, self employed persons, rickshaw owners and other micro entrepreneurs.
- Limit of Rs. 25000 sanctioned for five years subject to renewal every year.
- Covered Under Group Insurance Scheme. Premium to be shared by bank and borrower equally.

New NBFCs

3461. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a new category of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) or MFIs has been introduced recently in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has issued any guideline for the implementation of the scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has forced any target for the NBFCs-MFIs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had set up a sub-committee of the Central Board of Directors of the RBI to study the issues and concerns in the microfinance sector, including ways and means of making interest rates charged by them reasonable. The Sub-Committee recommended creation of separate category of NBFCs operating in the microfinance sector to be designated as Non Banking Financial Company – Micro Finance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs). Accordingly, a separate category of NBFC, viz., NBFC-MFI has been introduced on 2.12.2011 under the new regulatory framework including regulation on capital adequacy, asset classification and provisioning norms to be adhered to by the MFIs with effect from 01.04.2012. Bank lending to NBFCs which qualify as NBFC-MFIs will be entitled to 'Priority Lending' status. For monitoring compliance with regulations, the Sub-Committee has proposed a four-pillar approach with the responsibility being shared by (a) MFI, (b) industry

associations, (c) banks, and (d) the Reserve Bank of India. However, taking into account the difficulties faced by MFI sector, it was decided by RBI to defer the implementation of asset classification and provisioning norms for NBFC-MFIs to 01.04.2013. NBFC-MFI are required to comply with the other regulations laid down in the RBI circular dated 2.12.2011.

(e) and (f) Based on the recommendations of the Sub-Committee, RBI issued a circular on 03.05.2011 providing that the bank credit to Micro Finance Institutions extended on or after 01.04.2011 for on-lending to individuals and also members of Self Help Groups (SHGs)/Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), will be eligible for categorization as priority sector advances under the respective categories *viz.*, agriculture, micro and small enterprises, and micro credit (for other purposes), as indirect finance; provided not less than 85% of total assets of MFI (other than cash balances with banks and financial institution, government securities and money market instruments) are in the nature of 'qualifying assets'. In addition, aggregate amount of loan, extended for income generating activity should not be less than 75% of the total loans given by MFIs.

Declining profits of PSU Banks

3462. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that since 2007 the PSU Banks have been facing fund crunch, and growing Non-Performing Assets (NPAs);
- (b) if so, the details of PSU banks performance since 2007 onwards; and
- (c) the actions Government has taken to meet the declining profits of these PSU Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The details of important financial indicators *i.e.* profitability, performance and/liquidity indicators, capital adequacy position and asset quality of public sector banks as at end March, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011 as provided by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are given as under :

(Rs. In crore)

Indicators	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011
1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Assets	23,29,247	28,84,865	32,65,884	41,84,937	49,69,297
Total Deposits	19,11,993	23,56,776	29,83,628	35,34,509	41,72,558

1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Capital (Tier I & Tier II) (Basel II)	3,06,331	3,16,909	3,57,374	3,65,558	4,23,786
Gross NPAs	38,602	39,606	44,039	57,301	71,047
Net NPAs	15,892	17,866	20,801	27,183	31,362
Profit after tax	19,144	25,622	32,745	36,326	41,687
Return on equity (%)	14.96	16.54	16.60	15.40	15.40
Credit-Deposit Ratio (%)	71.85	71.98	70.51	71.28	73.81

Note : *Figures are annualized wherever necessary.*

Source: RBI

(c) The Government has entered into Performance Linked long term MoUs with the PSBs with a view to increase their efficiency and productivity wherein PSBs are required to meet the long-term targets on key productivity parameters. Further, all banks have been advised by RBI to meticulously follow the regulatory guidelines issued by them vide various Circulars such as Prudential norms on Capital Adequacy and Market Discipline, Prudential norms on Income Recognition & Asset Classification and Provisioning (IRAC) pertaining to advances, Norms for classification, valuation & Operation of Investment Portfolio of banks, Exposure Norms, Norms on Loans & Advances etc. Banks have also been advised by RBI from time to time, to take effective measures to strengthen the credit appraisal and post-credit monitoring to arrest the incidence of fresh NPAs and adopt a more realistic approach to reduce the existing and chronic NPAs in all categories. Further, adherence to the regulatory guidelines on classification of assets and accuracy in regulatory reporting and disclosure of financials etc. are overseen by RBI during the Annual Financial Inspection (AFI) Process. Wherever significant divergence in provisioning in NPA accounts is observed, the matter is taken up with the bank's statutory auditors for appropriate action.

SEBI Inquiry in Public Auction of Shares by ONGC

3463. SHRI SALIM ANSARI : Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDA) have launched an enquiry against the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to know as to how a transaction so large was allowed after the closure of stock market during ONGC public auction of shares;

(b) if so, the details of the enquiry so far; and

(c) the amount of money invested by LIC in ONGC shares and its value of these shares as on 31 March, 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The amount of money invested by LIC in ONGC shares till March 31, 2012 is Rs. 20,493.60 crore. The value of this investment as on March 31, 2012 is Rs. 21,752.91 crore.

Directives of SEBI on public issue of debt securities

3464. SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Stock Exchange Board of India (SEBI) had advised the brokers and distributors of public issues concerning debt securities to stop incentive payments to end investors subscribing them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the SEBI has said that such practices gives unfair advantage and adds to the issue cost; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) SEBI issued a circular CIR/IMD/DF/22/2011 dated December 26, 2011, prohibiting payment of incentives, direct or indirect, whether in cash or kind or service or otherwise in respect of public issue of debt, by any person connected with the issue.

(c) and (d) It was understood from market participants that in public issues of debt securities, some brokers/ distributors were passing on part of their brokerage/ commission to the final investor(s) for subscription to such public issue of debt. As a result, while on one hand it was giving an unfair advantage/bargaining power to a certain set of investors and distributors, on the other hand it was adding to the cost of issuance for the company. In order to curb such practices, SEBI issued the aforesaid circular.

Increase in FDI in insurance sector

3465. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHAR LAL DARDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in insurance companies to 49 per cent from the existing 26 per cent now;

(b) if so, the amount of profits on present 26 per cent FDI during 2009, 2010 and 2011; and

(c) whether the profits thus earned are being repatriated or part of this is being reinvested in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Government had introduced the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008 in the Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2008. The Bill, *inter-alia*, provides the aggregate holdings of equity shares by a foreign company, either by itself or through its subsidiary companies or its nominees in Indian Insurance Companies from twenty six per cent to forty nine per cent (26% to 49%) except in case of insurance co-operative societies where the limit continues to be 26% as at present The Bill is still pending.

(b) and (c) As per information furnished by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), the details of profit earned on FDI and repatriation of profits, for the year 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 are as under :

(Rs. Crore)	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Profit earned on FDI	46.58	395.18	782.66
Repatriation of profits by joint Ventures partners	0.00	18.64	14.62

Publicity of schemes benefiting farmers by banks

3466. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts made by Banks to educate the farmers on various schemes/benefits available to them, Bank-wise;

(b) the details of methods adopted by Banks to give publicity to various schemes available to farmers, Bank-wise;

(c) whether any direction has been issued by the Ministry in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the monitoring mechanism to ensure that these directions are scrupulously followed;

(e) whether any feedback has ever been taken to measure the extent of awareness amongst farmers about various schemes; and

(f) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The efforts made by National Bank for Agriculture

and Rural Development (NABARD) to educate the farmers on major Schemes are as under :

- (i) NABARD conducts awareness training programmes under various Government Sponsored Schemes for the benefit of farmers and banks. In addition, NABARD also acts as resource person in various training programmes/awareness programmes conducted by other banks.
- (ii) NABARD has promoted over 1 lakh Farmers' Club (FC) across villages in the country, with each club constituting 15 to 20 progressive farmers from the villages. These FC members provide support and guidance to the farming community on modern package of practices, new technologies, credit related aspects, etc.
- (iii) NABARD as nodal agency for administering subsidy under various Government sponsored Subsidy Schemes ensures publicity through State/District level workshops/seminars by simulating pamphlets/brochures among farmers.

(c) and (d) KCC is an effective tool for delivery of credit to the farmers. Govt. of India has advised banks and NABARD to popularize the revised KCC Scheme. NABARD has issued instructions to Cooperative Banks and RRBs to give wide publicity in vernacular language, on the salient features, of revised KCC Schemes. The programme is being closely monitored.

(e) and (f) Feedback is obtained during interaction with stake holders at various fora on the implementation of various programmes and the same is utilized for future planning. Improved awareness level among farmers has led to improvement in increase of agricultural credit from Rs. 1,80,846 crore in 2005-06 to Rs. 4,68,177 crore in 2010-11.

Size of Microfinance Institutions

3467. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the overall size of the Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) is about? 25,000 crore, with Andhra Pradesh accounting for about 25 per cent of the MFI business; and

(b) if so, the details thereof compared to other States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : Reserve Bank of India has reported that the MFIs in India are classified into profit' and 'not for profit' MFIs. The 'for profit' MFIs, incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and registered as NBFCs under the RBI Act, 1934 fall

within the purview of RBI regulations. Out of these, only systematically Important Non Deposit Taking Finance Companies (NBFC-ND-SIs) predominantly engaged in Micro Finance report figures on their financial position to RBI. Year-wise details of their size are as under :

(Rs. in crore)

Year Ended	Size of NBFC-ND-SIs engaged in Micro Finance	Percentage of AP. based NBFC - ND - SIs	Percentage of other States NBFC-ND-SIs
Mar., 2010	13675	67.1%	32.9%
Mar., 2011	20017	61.7%	38.3%
Mar., 2012 (Feb 2012)	17075	59.3%	40.7%

Proposal of additional excise duty on diesel vehicles

3468. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has recommended for imposing additional excise duty on diesel vehicles;

(b) whether Government had held meeting with all the State Governments and representatives of transporters of the country in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal was received from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for levy of additional excise duty on diesel cars along with their suggestions for Budget 2012-13.

(b) No meetings have been held with any of the State Governments or the transporter in this regard.

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

Overstating of profits by PSBs

3469. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector banks are overstating profits; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that they

have not come across any specific instances of banks overstating profits. However, during the Annual Financial Inspection (AFI) of banks, RBI has come across certain instances, where banks have not made the required regulatory provisions in respect of Non-Performing Accounts (NPA), investment portfolio etc., leading to an overstatement of profit.

The instances of such specific deficiencies were taken up with the respective banks with an advice to make necessary provisions. RBI has advised banks vide Circular dated August 4, 2011 to ensure meticulous adherence to the regulatory guidelines on classification of assets and accuracy in regulatory reporting. Wherever significant divergence in provisioning in NPA accounts is observed, the matter is taken up with the bank's Statutory Auditors for appropriate action.

Resurgence in inflation

3470. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that after respite for few months, the inflation in the country is rising again;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps Government proposes to take to contain the rising inflation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Inflation measured in terms of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the financial year 2011-12 is indicated below :

Month	Apr- 2011	May- 2011	Jun- 2011	Jul- 2011	Aug- 2011	Sep- 2011	Oct- 2011	Nov- 2011	Dec- 2011	Jan- 2012	Feb- 2012	Mar- 2012
Inflation rates (%)	9.74	9.56	9.51	9.36	9.78	10.00	9.87	9.46	7.74	6.89	6.95	6.89

Headline inflation moderated to 7.74 per cent in December, 2011 and has remained under 7 per cent for the last three months.

- (c) The Government monitors the price situation regularly as price stability remains high on its agenda. Fiscal and administrative measures have been taken to contain price rise of essential commodities. As a result of these measures adopted by the Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI), inflation has started moderating. Since the high inflation in the protein rich items was one of the important factors for keeping the inflation at elevated levels, Government has proposed some special measures in Union Budget 2012-13 to increase the domestic availability of protein supplements and to remove the structural imbalances in demand and supply of these products.

Financing of India Infrastructure Project Financing Facility

3471. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed agreement with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd. (IIFCL) for funding of the final tranche of the second India Infrastructure Project Financing Facility;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the terms and conditions of the agreement; and

(d) the details of the projects likely to be finance under the investment programme of IIFCL in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, an agreement has been signed with ADB on 21st March, 2012 for a loan of US\$ 240 million to IIFCL.

(c) The detailed terms and conditions are enumerated in the loan agreement, which *inter-alia* includes 25 years term, including grace period of five years, with interest rate at LIBOR plus 0.40% and commitment fee of 0.15% on undisbursed balance.

(d) The investment program aims to finance 14 sub-projects in Transport and Energy sectors in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Cheaper credit and Financial Services for Poor

3472. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to take special steps to make cheaper credit and other financial services available to the poor, who are at present largely unbanked, by calling for more transparency, accountability and monitoring with establishment of mechanisms for people's participation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction during the Twelfth Five Year Plan, State-wise, and the amount released and spent, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) To provide cheaper credit to farmers, an Interest Subvention scheme of the Government is being implemented since 2006-07. The

Scheme makes short-term crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakhs for a period of one year available to farmers at the interest rate of 7% per annum. In addition, the Government has since 2009-10 been providing additional interest subvention to farmers who repay their short-term crop loans in time. The additional subvention to farmers who repay on time was raised to 3% in 2011-12, making short term crop loans available to such farmers at an effective interest rate of 4% per annum. The Government has in the Budget Speech of 2012-13 announced continuation of this Scheme in 2012-13. For the purpose of extending the reach of the banking to the rural hinterland, Banks were advised in 2010-11 to provide appropriate banking facilities to habitations having a population in excess of 2000 (as per census of 2001) by March, 2012, using the Business Correspondents and other models with appropriate technology backup. As per reports received from State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) Convener Banks, 74,194 villages with population of over 2000 have been covered by March 31, 2012. Approximately 3.16 crores accounts under Financial Inclusion Plan have also been opened by March, 2012. As the financial inclusion initiative is led by the banks at their own expenses, no State-wise amount is released for purpose.

Recovery of IT due from Vodafone

3473. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether notices have been served to Vodafone by Government authorities for recovery of Income Tax (IT) dues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government Department has been approached for out of Court settlement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Notices were served to Vodafone International Holdings B. V. (VIHBV) under section 201 and 201 (1A) of the Income Tax Act for non-deduction of tax at source. Notice under section 163 was also served to VIHBV treating him as agent of Hutchison Telecommunications International Ltd. (HTIL).

(b) Show cause notices were issued to the VIHBV for non-deduction of tax at source. This matter was challenged in Hon'ble Bombay High Court and in Hon'ble Supreme Court. After the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court to make the assessment, the total tax payable was determined to be Rs. 11,218 Crores in the order dated 22/10/2010 under section 201 and section 201(1A) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. The Hon'ble Supreme Court directed the VIHBV to deposit Rs. 2500 Crores.

Subsequently, while disposing of the SLP, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that the said transaction is not chargeable to tax. Subsequent to this, the amount deposited by VIH BV was returned to them with the applicable interest (4% per annum) as ruled by Hon'ble Supreme Court.

A notice under section 163 of Income Tax Act, 1961 was also served to VIH BV treating it as agent of HTIL. The VIH BV had filed a Writ Petition against this notice in Bombay High Court.

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

Establishment of Credit Risk Guarantee Fund

3474. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government is planning to set up a Credit Risk Guarantee Fund to encourage banks to give loans to the poor;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the fund will be used by the National Housing Bank (NHB);
- (d) if so, whether Government believe that it will help push the growth of low cost housing; and
- (e) the all other steps taken by Government to build low cost house in the urban areas for the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has set up the Credit Risk Guarantee Fund Trust for Low Income Housing on 1st May, 2012. The Trust will guarantee affordable housing loan upto Rs. 5 lakh sanctioned and disbursed by the lending institutions without any collateral security and/or third party guarantee to the new or existing borrowers in the Economically Weaker Section (EWS)/ Low Income Group (LIG) categories. National Housing Bank will manage the Trust as per the Trust Deed.

(d) and (e) It will act as a risk mitigant for Primary Lending Institutions (Members of the scheme) and therefore will help push the growth of low cost housing.

Government has approved the launch of the Phase-I of Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) on 02.06.2011 to provide financial assistance to States that are willing to assign property rights to slum dwellers for provision of shelter and basic civic and social services for slum redevelopment, and for creation of affordable housing stock covering about 250 cities, mostly with population of more than one lakh, across the entire country by the

end of 12th Plan (2017). To encourage creation of affordable housing stock the existing schemes of Affordable Housing in Partnership and Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing the Urban Poor have been dovetailed into RAY.

Re-opening of IT cases

3475. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government is considering to re-open cases similar to the Vodafone Income Tax case;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with the names of such companies;
- (c) whether re-opening of such cases prior to time limit of six years will have negative impact on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI); and
- (d) if so, the reasons for re-opening of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) The decision to reopening or not reopening a case, under Section 148 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, is taken by the assessing officer on the basis of facts and circumstances of each case . The Government has not issued any direction in this regard.

(c) Because of the limitation provided under section 149 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, no case can be reopened beyond the period of six years from the end of relevant assessment year, even if clarificatory amendments date back to an earlier period. In any case, the clarificatory amendments proposed in the Finance Bill, 2012 will not have any impact on foreign direct investment flow in the country.

- (d) Does not arise.

Signing of TIEA with Switzerland and other countries

†3476. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has signed any tax treaty regarding Tax Information Exchange Agreement (TIEA) with Government of Switzerland and other 15 countries which will enable India to get the specific information regarding black money and tax evasion;
- (b) if so, the number of the countries who have provided the information regarding the tax evasion due to black money deposited in foreign countries; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of Indians who have deposited the money in foreign countries, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) India has concluded negotiation of the Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs) with 17 countries/jurisdictions. They are Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Congo, Costa Rica, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liberia, Macau, Marshall Islands, Monaco and Saint Kitts and Nevis. TIEAs with Bermuda, Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands and Isle of Man have entered into force. Under these TIEAs, India can obtain specific information on black money and tax evasion cases.

India has not signed a TIEA with Switzerland. However, India has concluded negotiation of Protocol amending the Agreement and Protocol between the Government of Republic of India and the Swiss Confederation for the Avoidance of Double Taxation with respect to Taxes on Income (Amending Protocol). This Amending Protocol was signed at New Delhi on 30th August, 2010. This Amending Protocol has entered into force on 7th October, 2011. The new provision of the exchange of information allow exchange of banking information in specific cases, that relate to fiscal year beginning on or after 1st April, 2011.

(b) and (c) India has obtained a number of information on tax evasion on account of the black money stashed abroad, from various countries. However, the information so obtained is protected under the confidentiality provision of the DTAA/TIEA under which the information has been obtained.

Shifting of LCS from Mahadipur

3477. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government is considering any proposal to shift the Land Customs Station (LCS) from Mahadipur in the district of Malda, West Bengal keeping in view the rampant air pollution caused due to plying of hundreds of goods vehicles at Indo-Bangladesh Border resulting to degradation and spoliation of the 17 Ancient Monuments of Gaur dynasty in the vicinity being maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

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

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to shift the Mahadipur Land Customs Station, District of Malda, West Bengal to any other location.

(b) Nil, in view of above.

(c) Archeological Survey of India, the nodal agency in this connection, has informed that there are seventeen monuments under the protection of Archeological Survey of India in Gaur, District Malda in West Bengal and that as on date, there is no definite evidence of damage to them from air pollution due to the movement of vehicular traffic.

Investigation in suspicious transaction

3478. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 10,000 pieces of information regarding suspicious transaction by Indian citizens from several countries were obtained by Government which are under different stages of processing and investigation;

(b) whether more than 30,700 suspicious domestic transactions are under investigation by different agencies; and

(c) the amount of fines and taxes levied and the amount actually collected in such suspicious domestic and foreign transactions by different Government agencies during 2011, along with details of such agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Till March, 2012, Financial Intelligence Unit-India (FIU-IND) has received 60 pieces of information where foreign Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) felt that the matter might be of interest to Indian investigating agencies. In addition, FIU-IND has made 191 requests to foreign FIUs on subjects already under investigation by Indian authorities.

(b) As on March, 2012, a total of 69,224 Suspicious Transaction Reports (STRs) had been received by FIU-IND. Out of which, 53,384 STRs had been disseminated to Law Enforcement/Intelligence Agencies, after processing in the FIU-IND for further enquiry or investigations.

(c) Fines and taxes are not levied on the basis of suspicious domestic and foreign transactions. FIU-IND communicates reports on suspicious transaction to the Law Enforcement/Intelligence Agencies. These STRs only form the basis or aid in further enquiry and investigations.

Irregularities in credit delivery under KCC Scheme

3479. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that commissions are being taken in several public sector banks for sanctioning credit to

farmers under the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme particularly in Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;

- (b) if so, the reaction of Government to these irregularities;
- (c) the details of monitoring mechanism adopted to prevent these irregularities of charging commissions;
- (d) whether any persons has been apprehended in such incidents; and
- (e) if so, the action taken by the concerned bank against those persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) State level Bankers Committee (SLBC), Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have reported that no instance of taking commission for sanctioning credit to farmers under Kisan Credit Card Scheme has come to their notice.

(c) The Banks have put in place the complaint/grievance handling mechanism at the Branch/Circle/Head office level of the Bank. Such complaints, as and when received, are dealt with by the concerned banks.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Closure of loss making branches of Banks and insurance companies

3480. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has been actively considering to close down loss making branches of the public sector banks and insurance companies;
- (b) if so, the details of such branches of banks and insurance companies identified for closure;
- (c) whether Government has started a review of the bank branches and proposes to shift such banks in the unbanked areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The Public Sector Banks (PSBs) and Public Sector Insurance Companies are governed by their Board driven policies. Expansion or closure of branches of these institutions is decided by their Board in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the regulator.

However, the Government, as a promoter shareholder, has recently advised PSBs and public sector Insurance Companies to make an action plan for turnaround of their loss making branches.

Special Package for Himachal Pradesh

3481. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the grant of Special Package of Rs. 5214 crore to Himachal Pradesh for bridging the huge gap in committed liabilities due to Thirteenth Finance Commission recommendations are pending for the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it will be given to the State; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRINAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Government of Himachal Pradesh had requested for a financial assistance of Rs. 5214 crore to meet the gap in committed liabilities of the State. Thirteenth Finance Commission (FC XIII), which is an expert body set up under Article 280 of the Constitution of India, had recommended devolution/transfer of funds from the Centre after assessing inputs from the States. These, including Non Plan Revenue Grant, are being released during the award period of FC XIII (2010-2015). Recommendations of the Finance Commission, once accepted, by the Government, are not applied differently across States. Response has been sent to the State Government.

Advice of RBI on NPAs of Banks

3482. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that total Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of the banks are sought to top 3 per cent of the total assets this fiscal against 2.3 per cent last fiscal; and

(b) if so, what advice RBI has given to the banks to rein in NPAs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) ratio as %age of total advances has increased from 2.35% as at end March, 2011 to 2.84% as at end March, 2012 as per the Provisional, un-audited data available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

(b) RBI has informed that as per their instructions each bank is required to have a loan recovery policy which sets down the manner of recovery of dues, targeted level of reduction (period-wise), norms for permitted sacrifice/waiver, factors to be

taken into account before considering waivers, decision levels, reporting to higher authorities and monitoring of write-off/waiver cases. In case an account is classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines, banks may follow procedures to ensure recovery of the outstanding amount which may include, formal negotiations followed by restructuring of the payment schedule for interest as well as principal, calling back of the loan through a legal notice, recovery under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002, filing suit including suits in the Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs), Lok Adalats, entering into One time Settlement (OTS) proposals or compromise settlements, etc. However, each bank will have their own policy for recovery of NPAs as part of their overall loan policy, and the measures taken by the banks may vary from bank to bank.

Banks have also been advised by RBI from time to time, to take effective measures to strengthen the credit appraisal and post-credit monitoring to arrest the incidence of fresh NPAs and adopt a more realistic approach to reduce the existing and chronic NPAs in all categories.

Banks are required to have in place its credit risk strategy policy. Besides, they are required to conduct, loan reviews which picks up early warning signals and suggest remedial measures before an account slips into NPA. Banks are required to monitor NPAs and take steps to bring them down through recovery/other channels. RBI also monitors the NPA levels in banks on an ongoing basis.

Lower collection of taxes

3483. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the collection of Direct and Indirect tax is lower than the budgetary assessment for the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any assessment of the impact of such a situation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) The Budget Estimate (BE) for 2012-13 for direct and indirect taxes is as under :

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Nature of Central Taxes	Budget Estimate (BE)
1.	Direct Taxes	5,70,257
2.	Indirect Taxes	5,05,044

Since the current financial year has just commenced, it would not be possible to comment whether collections would be lower than the B.E.

(c) to (e) In view of reply to part (a) above, questions do not arise.

Plugging of subsidies leakage by Nationalised Banks

3484. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether subsidies are not reaching to the poor and needy as well as targeted groups because of leakages;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Nationalised Banks can play a major role in plugging these leakages;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Among the major subsidies, subsidies on food and kerosene under Public Distribution System (PDS) are targeted to reach the poor and needy sections of the society. As per some evaluation studies and other reports, some leakages have been observed in these targeted subsidies. As per the report of the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission on performance evaluation of TPDS (March, 2005), the Government of India spends Rs. 3.65 through budgetary food subsidies to transfer Re. 1 to the poor using a particular method of measuring leakages.

(c) and (d) In order to plug the leakages, the Task Force headed by Shri Nandan Nilekani on IT strategy for direct transfer of subsidy had recommended the setting up of a dedicated institutional mechanism to implement end-to-end computerization of PDS across the country called the PDS Network (PDSN). It mentions that a common software platform for PDS can be developed for all States, with the flexibility to configure policies, prices, and administrative structures. As per the Report, this solution, when deployed, can also help address leakages and other challenges in the PDS. Task

Force recommended that when these products are purchased with cash, they will be sold at market price, with a reimbursement of the subsidy into accounts of consumers at banks and post offices. In case the products are purchased electronically (through micro ATMs, debit card, Kisan Credit Card, etc.), only the subsidized price may be paid, and the Government can reimburse the subsidy to the retailers electronically.

(e) The Budget for 2012-13 announced that the recommendations of the task force headed by Shri Nandan Nilekani on IT strategy for direct transfer of subsidy have been accepted. The Budget for 2012-13 also indicated that the three public sector Oil Marketing Companies have launched LPG transparency portals to improve customer service and reduce leakage and a pilot project for selling LPG at market price and reimbursement of subsidy directly into the beneficiary's bank account is being conducted in Mysore. The Budget for 2012-13 also announced that a similar pilot project on direct transfer of subsidy for kerosene into the bank accounts of beneficiaries has been initiated in Alwar district of Rajasthan and that the 'Aadhaar' (Unique identification) platform has also been successfully used to validate PDS ration cards in Jharkhand.

Demand for IT Exemption from Urban Co-operative Bodies

3485. PROF. SAIF-UD-D1N SOZ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister is aware that there was a general demand that Cooperative Credit Societies and Co-operative Banks in urban areas be exempted from Income Tax; and

(b) whether the demand was considered and with what effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir, the Union Government has received representations for restoration of deduction earlier available for co-operative credit societies and co-operative banks under section 80P of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(b) Prior to its amendment by the Finance Act 2006, section 80P of the Income Tax Act provided for a deduction of the whole of the profits of a cooperative society, attributable to the business of banking or providing credit facilities to its members, or of a cottage industry or of marketing of agricultural produce of its members, or to the business of processing of the agricultural produce of its members, without the aid of power etc.

The Finance Act, 2006 withdrew the deduction available under section 80P of the Income Tax Act to co-operative banks other than primary agricultural credit societies or primary co-operative agricultural and rural development banks on the following grounds :

- (i) Co-operative banks are like any other bank and the principle of mutuality does not apply because their area of operations extends even to non-members.
- (ii) Most of these banks are providing standard banking facilities like opening of letters of credit, bill discounting and collection, lockers and safe deposit vaults, bank guarantees etc. Many of these deal in foreign exchange and have also opened ATM kiosks. These banks are thus no different from commercial banks and therefore are not eligible for preferential tax treatment.
- (iii) It is in consonance with the objective of the Government to expand the tax base by phasing out all exemptions that are considered economically inefficient and inequitable.
- (iv) Income-tax is a tax on profits and there is no rationale for exempting profit-making co-operative banks from payment of income-tax.

Moreover, primary agricultural credit societies and primary co-operative agriculture and rural development banks constitute about 98% (of around 98425) of the total co-operative banks or banking institutions. Thus, the above amendment is applicable only to the remaining only 2% of the co-operative banking institutions, which are about 2095 in number.

Further, vide Finance Act, 2007, the following benefits have been extended to cooperative banks :

- a. Deduction for provision for doubtful debts, available so far to banking companies, has been extended to cooperative banks;
- b. Deduction in respect of special reserve to the extent of 20% of profit, available to financial corporations and banks, has been extended to cooperative banks;
- c. Carry forward and set off of business losses has been allowed in the event of amalgamation of a loss making cooperative bank with another cooperative bank.

Therefore, upon due consideration of the representations, the Government has not found it feasible to accept the request made therein.

Vacant posts in Unani Dispensaries

3486. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the posts of retired pharmacists in Unani Dispensary, South Avenue and other dispensaries in Delhi are lying vacant for the last two years;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is shortage of pharmacists with Government;
- (d) if so, the details of doctors, nurses, pharmacists and staffs posted in all CGHS dispensaries situated in Delhi; and
- (e) whether Government will take any appropriate action immediately to fill up such vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. Four posts of pharmacists are vacant in the Unani dispensaries of CGHS in Delhi,

(b) South Avenue	:	1
Naraina Vihar	:	1
Sarojini Nagar	:	2

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The details in respect of the Unani Dispensaries/Units (five) in Delhi are as under :

Category	Sanctioned strength	Vacancy
Doctors	10	Nil
Pharmacists	8	4

- (e) Action has been initiated to fill up the vacancies.

Re-emergence of TB in the country

3487. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that of late attempts are being made by certain vested interests to create panic by spreading the news that Tuberculosis (TB) is on recurrence and reemerging in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to allay the fear of the people;
- (c) whether the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has set up a Committee in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the scope of its engagements and the findings of the Committee, if out?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No such news about recurrence and re-emerging of TB in the country has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Laboratories for disease detection

3488. DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is adequate infrastructure and laboratories for timely detection, diagnosis and management of outbreak of various communicable diseases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government proposes to set up a number of laboratories with latest medical equipment for the early detection of communicable diseases across the country; and

(e) if so, the action plan chalked out for the purpose along with the locations selected therefor, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (e) Laboratories are an integral part of health infrastructure for timely detection, diagnosis and management of communicable diseases in the country. In every district hospital and at most of the sub-district health facilities, laboratories are established for the diagnosis of major communicable disease like Tuberculosis, Malaria, Kala-Azar and Leprosy.

Specialised laboratory facilities have been set up/strengthened for diagnosis and management of Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB), Influenza A H1N1, HIV/AIDS, Polio, Measles, Japanese Encephalitis, Dengue and Chikungunya. Further, public health laboratories have been strengthened and networked with identified medical colleges under Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) to support timely detection of and response to disease outbreaks. The laboratory capacity in the private sector is also utilized as in the case of MDR-TB and Influenza A H1N1.

Strengthening of laboratories and modernization of lab equipment is an on-going process and newer diagnostic tools are incorporated into the laboratory network from time to time.

Medical Colleges in the Country

†3489. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :
SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of medical colleges in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) the details of Government and private medical colleges, State-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the unavailability of required number of doctors is hampering the functioning of National Rural Health Mission Programme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that Government has set a target for 'health for all' under the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) At present, there are 335 medical colleges, out of which 154 medical colleges are in government sector and 181 in private sector. The state-wise list is given in Statement. (*See below*)

(c) and (d) Under National Rural Health Mission, 8722 medical officers and 2914 specialists have already been added in addition to 10995 AYUSH doctors.

(e) and (f) The Twelfth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

Statement*Number of MBBS colleges in the country*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of Medical Colleges		
		Govt.	Private	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	23	37
2.	Assam	4	0	4
3.	Bihar	7	3	10
4.	Chandigarh	1	-	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	-	3
6.	Delhi	5	1	6
7.	Goa	1	-	1

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Gujarat	8	11	19
9.	Haryana	1	4	5
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-	2
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	1	4
12.	Jharkhand	3	-	3
13.	Karnataka	10	31	41
14.	Kerala	6	17	23
15.	Madhya Pradesh	6	6	12
16.	Maharashtra	19	22	41
17.	Manipur	2	-	2
18.	Orissa	3	3	6
19.	Pondicherry	2	7	9
20.	Punjab	3	7	10
21.	Rajasthan	6	4	10
22.	Sikkim	-	1	1
23.	Tamil Nadu	18	22	40
24.	Tripura	2	-	2
25.	Uttar Pradesh	11	14	25
26.	Uttarakhand	2	2	4
27.	West Bengal	12	2	14
GRAND TOTAL		154	181	335

Outbreak of H1N1

3490. SHR1 RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of deaths reported due to H1N1 in the last one year, State-wise; and

(b) the steps Government has taken or proposes to take to counter this situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The number of reported deaths, State-wise for the year 2011 is given is Statement. (*See below*)

(b) The action plan, guidelines and print and visual media materials created in the wake of the pandemic in 2009 are available with the State Governments. 45 laboratories (26 in Government sector and 19 in private sector) have capability to test samples for H1N1. Adequate stock of Oseltamivir, the antiviral drug, is available. An advisory has been sent to all States and UTs to gear up the State machinery for screening and isolation facilities including critical care. States/UTs have also been advised to follow guidelines on triage, categorization and testing of patients.

Statement

*Laboratory confirmed deaths due to pandemic influenza a H1N1 : State/UT-wise
(January, 2011-December, 2011)*

Sl.No.	States/UT	Deaths
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4.	Assam	0
5.	Bihar	0
6.	Chandigarh	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	0
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
9.	Daman and Diu	0
10.	Delhi	2
11.	Goa	0
12.	Gujarat	4
13.	Haryana	4
14.	Himachal Pradesh	3
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1

Sl.No.	States/UT	Deaths
16.	Jharkhand	0
17.	Karnataka	12
18.	Kerala	10
19.	Lakshadweep and Minicoy Islands	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	4
21.	Maharashtra	5
22.	Manipur	0
23.	Meghalaya	0
24.	Mizoram	0
25.	Nagaland	0
26.	Orissa	0
27.	Puducherry	0
28.	Punjab	14
29.	Rajasthan	11
30.	Sikkim	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	4
32.	Tripura	0
33.	Uttarakhand	0
34.	Uttar Pradesh	0
35.	West Bengal	0
CUMULATIVE TOTAL		75

Planning commission recommendations on health

3491. DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission's steering committee on health for Twelfth Five Year Plan has proposed incorporating AIDS control, universal healthcare and universal access to essential medicines into the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the stance of Government on the recommendations made by the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) The Steering Committee on Health for 12th Five Year Plan has proposed for integrating HIV/AIDS programme for general population within the routine machinery for delivery of Public Health. The Committee has further recommended *inter-alia* :

- Integrating vertical disease control programme with NRHM.
- Impressive gains made by National Health Programmes like NRHM, as well as other disease control programmes, should now be channelled to deliver Universal Health Care in all urban and rural areas during 12th plan period.
- Provide access to essential medicines in every public healthcare facility.

The recommendations of the Steering Committee on Health for Twelfth Five Year Plan are considered by the Planning Commission for formulating the Five Year Plan, which has to be approved by the National Development Council for implementation by the Government. Planning Commission is in the process of finalizing the Twelfth Five year Plan.

Launch of Urban Health Mission

3492. DR. T. N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government proposes to launch an Urban Health Mission; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) : Yes. To address the health care needs of the urban population, the Government plans to launch a National Urban Health Mission (NUHM). The proposal is in advanced stage of consideration.

Under-five deaths in the country

†3493. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether more than 15 lakh children in the country die even before celebrating their fifth birthday;
(b) whether the World Health Organisation has prepared any such report; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) As per the Registrar General of India - Sample Registration System (2010) report, the Under Five mortality Rate was 59 per 1000 live births, which translates into 15.8 lakhs deaths of children below 5 years of age.

(b) The World Health Organisation prepares an annual report of key indicators including Under Five Mortality rate for all member nations titled World Health Statistics.

(c) As per WHO 2010 estimates, the causes of Child Mortality in the age group 0-5 years in India are Neonatal causes (55%), Pneumonia (11%), Diarrhoeal disease (11%), Measles (4%), Injuries (3%) and others (16%). States propose interventions in their State annual plan to bring down child mortality based on their needs and context. Accordingly, funds are released by the Central Government.

Government of India has also identified 264 high focus districts based on relatively poor indicators for enhanced supervision and additional support for human and other infrastructure. Statewise list of number of such high focus districts identified districts is given in Statement. (*See below*)

Under the National Rural Health Mission the following key interventions are being implemented to bring down the mortality rate of children across all the States of the country:

- (1) **Promotion of Institutional Delivery through Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) :** Promoting Institutional delivery by skilled birth attendant is key to reducing both maternal and neo-natal mortality.
- (2) **Emphasis on facility based newborn care at different levels to reduce Child Mortality :** Setting up of facilities for care of Sick Newborn such as Special New Born Care Units (SNCUs), New Born Stabilization Units (NBSUs) New Born Baby Corners (NBCCs) at different levels is a thrust area under NRHM.
- (3) **Capacity building of health care providers :** Various trainings are being conducted under NRHM to train doctors, nurses and ANM for early diagnosis and case management of common ailments of children and care of mother during pregnancy and delivery. These trainings are on IMNCI, NSSK, SBA, LSAS, EMOC, BMOC etc.
- (4) **Management of Malnutrition :** 657 Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres have been established for management of severe acute malnutrition.

- (5) Appropriate infant and young child feeding practices are being promoted in convergence with Ministry of Woman and Child Development. Village Health and Nutrition Days (VHNDs) are organized for imparting nutritional counselling to mothers and to improve child care practices.
- (6) **Universal Immunization Programme :** Vaccination protects children against many life threatening diseases such as Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Measles. Infants are thus immunized against seven vaccine preventable diseases every year. The Government of India supports the vaccine programme by supply of vaccines and syringes, Cold chain equipments and provision of operational costs.
- (7) **Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram JSSK :** A new initiative namely Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram JSSK has been launched on 1st June, 2011, which entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery including Caesarean Section. The initiative stipulates free drug, diagnostics, blood and diet, besides free transport from home to institution, between facilities in case of a referral and drop back home. Similar entitlements have been put in place for all sick newborns accessing public health institutions for treatment till 30 days after birth.
- (8) **Home based new born care (HBNC) :** Home based newborn care through ASHAs has been initiated by providing incentive of Rs. 250. The purpose of Home Based New Born Care is to improve new born practices at the community level and early detection and referral of sick new born babies.
- (9) **Mother and Child Tracking System :** A name based Mother and Child Tracking System has been put in place which is web based to ensure registration and tracking of all pregnant women and new born babies so that provision of regular and complete services to them can be ensured.

Statement

State-wise number of high focus districts

State/UT	Number of High Focus Districts
Uttar Pradesh	46
Bihar	36
Madhya Pradesh	34
Rajasthan	19
Jharkhand	19

State/UT	Number of High Focus Districts
Orissa	18
Chhattisgarh	16
Jammu and Kashmir	6
Uttarakhand	4
Himachal Pradesh	3
Assam	14
Meghalaya	5
Manipur	4
Tripura	2
Arunachal Pradesh	3
Karnataka	7
Andhra Pradesh	6
West Bengal	6
Gujarat	6
Punjab	4
Maharashtra	3
Haryana	1
Lakshadweep	1
Andaman and Nicobar	1

Universal Health Coverage

3494. SHRI N. K. SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission had set up a High Level Expert Group on Universal Health Coverage for the Twelfth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Expert Group;
- (c) the details of recommendations adopted by Government and for those not accepted, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government in the Union Budget 2012-13, for provision of Universal Health Coverage?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) The recommendations of the High Level Expert Group (HLEG) on Universal Health Coverage encompass the area of health financing, health services norms, human resources for health, community participation and citizen engagement, access to medicines, vaccines and technology and management and institutional reforms. The recommendations of the HLEG, *inter-alia*, includes :

- (i) Increase public expenditure on health to at least 2.5 percent of GDP by the end of the 12th Plan and to at least 3% of GDP by 2022.
- (ii) Ensure availability of free essential medicines by increasing public spending on drug procurement.
- (iii) Purchase of all health care services under the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) system should be undertaken either directly by the Central and State governments through their Departments of Health or by quasi-governmental autonomous agencies established for the purpose.
- (iv) All government funded insurance schemes should, over time, be integrated with the UHC system. All health insurance cards should, in due course, be replaced by National Health Entitlement Cards. The technical and other capacities developed by the Ministry of Labour for the RSBY should be leveraged as the core of UHC operations – and transferred to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- (v) Develop a National Health Package that offers, as part of the entitlement of every citizen, essential health services at different levels of the health care delivery system.
- (vi) Reorient health care provision to focus significantly on primary health care.
- (vii) Strengthen District Hospitals.
- (viii) Ensure adequate numbers of trained health care providers and technical health care workers at different levels by (a) giving primacy to the provision of primary health care (b) increasing Human Resources for Health (HRH) density to achieve WHO norms of at least 23 health workers (doctors, nurses, and midwives).
- (ix) Establish District Health Knowledge Institutes (DHKIs).

- (x) Establish the National Council for Human Resources in Health (NCHRH).
- (xi) Transform existing Village Health Committees (or Health and Sanitation Committees) into participatory Health Councils.
- (xii) Ensure the rational use of drugs.
- (xiii) Set up national and state drug supply logistics corporations.
- (xiv) Empower the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to strengthen the drug regulatory system.
- (xv) Introduce All India and state level Public Health Service Cadres and a specialized state level Health Systems Management Cadre in order to give greater attention to public health and also strengthen the management of the UHC system.
- (xvi) Establishment of National Health Regulatory and Development Authority (NHRDA).
- (xvii) National Drug Regulatory and Development Authority (NDRDA): The main aim of NDRDA should be to regulate pharmaceuticals and medical devices and provide patients access to safe and cost effective products.

The recommendations of the High Level Expert Group (HLEG) are considered by Planning Commission, for formulating the 12th Five Year Plan which has to be approved by the National Development Council (NDC).

Medical facilities in Bihar

†3495. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of hospitals and hospital beds in proportion to its population in Bihar is quite less as compared to those in the country and other major states;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken to improve medical facilities in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) The details of the information regarding the availability of average population served per Government hospital and average population served per Government hospital bed in Bihar and India on the basis of the provisional data compiled by the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence under this Ministry, are given below :

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

	Average population served per Government Hospital	Average population served per Government hospital bed
Bihar	52533	3378
India	94843	2098

Health being a State subject, it is responsibility of the State Government to provide adequate health care facilities to the people of that State. The Central Government supplements the efforts of State Government by providing assistance through various schemes/programmes such as NRHM etc. In addition, Government of India has approved the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) with the objective of correcting regional imbalances in the availability of affordable/reliable tertiary healthcare services and also to augment facilities for quality medical education in the country. Under this scheme, construction of one AIIMS-like Institute at Patna (Bihar) has been approved.

Prevention against malaria deaths

3496. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in the cases of malaria deaths over the past three years in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof State-wise;
- (c) whether Government is taking active steps towards ensuring adequate supply of medicines and mosquito nets to the States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and funds allocated for the same in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) No. State/UT-wise details of reported deaths due to malaria for the last three years are given in Statement-I. (*See below*)

(c) and (d) Yes. Government of India provides commodity support to the States/UTs covering items like Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs), Artesunate Combination Therapy (ACT), Dichloro Diphenyl Trichloroethane (DDT), Chloroquine etc.

Details of State/UT-wise assistance (cash and commodity) released during the last three years are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I*State-wise details of reported cases of deaths due to malaria for the last three years*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2009 Reported Deaths	2010 Reported Deaths	2011* Reported Deaths
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	20	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15	103	0
3.	Assam	63	36	42
4.	Bihar	21	1	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	11	47	18
6.	Goa	10	1	1
7.	Gujarat	34	71	15
8.	Haryana	0	0	1
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	28	16	16
12.	Karnataka	0	11	0
13.	Kerala	5	7	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	26	31	71
15.	Maharashtra	227	200	114
16.	Manipur	1	4	0
17.	Meghalaya	192	87	47
18.	Mizoram	119	31	26
19.	Nagaland	35	14	2
20.	Orissa	198	247	73
21.	Punjab	0	0	0
22.	Rajasthan	18	26	5

1	2	3	4	5
23.	Sikkim	1	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	1	3	0
25.	Tripura	62	15	9
26.	Uttaranchal	0	0	2
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	74	47	14
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
31.	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	0	0
TOTAL		1144	1018	463

* Provisional.

Statement-II

*State/UT-wise details of assistance (cash and Commodity)
released under NVBDCP during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12*

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (Prov)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1048.06	1159.24	3457.42
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	963.24	880.69	1526.82
3.	Assam	3206.06	4910.03	3774.39
4.	Bihar	2231.78	4213.38	4891.27
5.	Chhattisgarh	1922.97	2117.94	4960.09

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Goa	35.81	61.08	77.90
7.	Gujarat	1116.15	267.00	501.34
8.	Haryana	260.46	0.00	138.50
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9.55	7.74	16.52
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	27.42	15.54	31.00
11.	Jharkhand	1906.27	3586.13	5014.76
12.	Karnataka	403.41	443.88	639.34
13.	Kerala	439.15	305.75	361.18
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1813.99	1824.64	3919.85
15.	Maharashtra	706.37	487.54	436.98
16.	Manipur	239.75	602.04	410.76
17.	Meghalaya	611.29	1089.04	640.12
18.	Mizoram	627.12	774.11	702.31
19.	Nagaland	675.57	1287.91	997.73
20.	Orissa	5360.88	4324.05	7894.82
21.	Punjab	254.69	98.07	127.38
22.	Rajasthan	1262.96	1310.26	1342.52
23.	Sikkim	11.83	137.71	22.60
24.	Tamil Nadu	681.58	372.50	341.41
25.	Tripura	765.15	1430.54	401.82
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1999.87	2730.95	2431.94
27.	Uttarakhand	56.98	77.53	85.00
28.	West Bengal	1794.54	2964.01	2457.13
29.	Delhi	61.10	40.88	0.00
30.	Pudducherry	24.29	36.83	29.31
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	464.05	349.58	459.63

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Chandigarh	60.02	23.13	34.87
33.	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	43.77	69.60	61.09
34.	Daman and Diu	27.91	31.70	51.94
35.	Lakshadweep	2.32	19.80	11.40
TOTAL		31116.36	38050.82	48251.14

Sale of spurious medicines

†3497. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sale of substandard or spurious medicines is continuing at many shops in several States;

(b) the measures taken by Government to ban the production and distribution of such substandard medicines and the extent to which these measures have been found effective;

(c) the number of cases of manufacturing and sale of spurious or substandard medicines detected during the last two years;

(d) the details of States where such spurious medicines are being manufactured and sold, State-wise; and

(e) the details of guilty manufacturers or dealers or officials involved in such cases against whom action has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) The manufacture and sale of spurious drugs is a clandestine activity generally indulged in by anti-social elements which exploit the confidence enjoyed by certain fast selling drugs by making their imitations. Isolated cases are detected by the State Drugs Control Departments through surveillance and drawing samples for test. There are however no reports of large scale availability of spurious drugs in the market.

The Government has taken the following steps to check the menace of Spurious/Sub-standard Drugs :

1. The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 has been amended under Drugs & Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008 whereby stringent penalties for manufacture of spurious and adulterated drugs have been provided. Certain offences have been made cognizable and non-bailable.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2. Whistle Blower Policy has been announced by Government of India to encourage vigilant public participation in the detection of movement of spurious drugs in the country. Under this policy, the informers would be suitably rewarded for providing concrete information to the regulatory authorities regarding movement of spurious drugs. The details of the policy are available at the website of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) (www.cdsc.nic.in).
3. Guidelines for taking action on samples of drugs declared spurious or not of standard quality in the light of enhanced penalties under the Drugs & Cosmetics (Amendment) Act, 2008 have been forwarded to the State Drugs Controllers for implementation. The guidelines are available on the web site of CDSCO (www.cdsc.nic.in).
4. Specially designated courts for expeditious trial of offence in this regard have set to set up by States/UTs.

(c) to (e) Statement-I containing the total number of drug samples declared substandard or spurious, prosecutions launched, number of cases decided and/number of persons arrested during the last 2 years and given Statements-II & III containing State-wise information of detection of spurious drugs are Annexed. In the cases of detection of spurious drugs, prosecution is launched in the courts of law by the State Drugs Control Authorities after making due investigations in the matter.

Statement-I

No. of Samples tested, No. of Samples declared not of Standard Quality, No. of Samples declared Spurious, No. of Prosecutions Launched, and No. of cases decided, No. of persons arrested during last two years as per the feedback available from the States

Sl. No.	Year	No. of drugs samples tested	No. of drugs samples declared not of standard quality	No. of drugs samples declared spurious/ adulterated	No. of prosecutions launched for manufacturing, sale and distribution of spurious/ adulterated drugs	No. of cases (as mentioned in the earlier column) decided	No. of persons arrested
1.	2010-11	49682	2372	95	167	9	72
2.	2011-12	48082	2186	133	211	16	141

Statement-II*Number of samples tested and enforcement actions taken by State Drugs Controllers during 2010-11*

Sl. No.	States	No of drugs samples tested	No. of drugs samples declared not of standard quality	No. of drugs samples declared spurious/ adulterated	No. of prosecutions launched manufacturing, sale and distribution of spurious/ adulterated drugs	No. of cases (as mentioned in the earlier column) decided	No. of persons assested
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4052	52	1	1	Nil	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Assam	760	63	1	1	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	2359	58	8	39	Nil	24
5.	Goa	642	26	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
6.	Gujarat	5037	317	6	17	6	Nil
7.	Haryana	2348	67	1	4	Nil	Nil
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1125	17	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1480	27	4	3	Nil	Nil
10.	Karnataka	3740	136	5	2	Nil	4
11.	Kerala	3485	128	Nil	36	Nil	Nil
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1936	82	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Maharashtra	6494	449	31	3	Nil	2
14.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Meghalaya	157	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
16.	Mizoram	86	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Nagaland	63	0	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Orissa	3166	111	Nil	2	Nil	Nil
19.	Punjab	2864	60	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.	Rajasthan	2315	133	4	4	Nil	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	Sikkim	24	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	3632	284	3	6	Nil	38
23.	Tripura	518	19	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1247	179	30	38	2	1
25.	West Bengal	917	39	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Pondicherry	Nil	0	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
27.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	11	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
28.	Chandigarh	33	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Delhi	651	24	Nil	1	Nil	1
30.	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	10	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil
31.	Daman and Diu	49	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
32.	Lakshadweep	Nil	0	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
33.	Chhattisgarh	182	67	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
34.	Jharkhand	195	16	Nil	7	Nil	Nil
35.	Uttaranchal	102	1	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
TOTAL		49682	2372	95	167	9	72

Statement-III

Number of samples tested and enforcement actions taken by State Drugs Controllers, during 2011-12

S1. No.	States	No. of drugs samples tested	No. of drugs samples declared not of standard quality	No. of drugs samples declared spurious/ adulterated	No. of prosecutions launched for manufacturing, sale and distribution of spurious/ adulterated drugs	No. of cases (as mentioned in the earlier column) decided	No. of persons assested
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	4758	22	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
2	Arunachal Pradesh	95	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Assam	315	25	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4	Bihar	711	8	Nil	24	Nil	32
5	Goa	765	25	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
6	Gujarat	2874	186	64	6	Nil	Nil
7	Haryana	1669	32	12	3	Nil	2
8	Himachal Pradesh	1470	32	0	1	6	0
9	Jammu and Kashmir	1940	133	5	1	Nil	Nil
10	Karnataka	5268	159	2	3	Nil	Nil
11	Kerala	3904	202	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
12	Madhya Pradesh	2617	104	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13	Maharashtra	6928	521	19	7	6	Nil
14	Manipur*	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
15	Meghalaya	68	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
16	Mizoram	71	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
17	Nagaland	12	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18	Orissa	2910	54	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
19	Punjab	3031	41	1	2	2	Nil
20	Rajasthan	1605	128	Nil	13	Nil	Nil
21	Sikkim	26	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
22	Tamil Nadu	4110	298	4	4	Nil	Nil
23	Tripura	185	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
24	Uttar Pradesh	1328	152	11	136	2	91
25	West Bengal	687	18	3	5	Nil	5
26	Pondicherry	48	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
27	Andaman and Nicobar Island	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
28.	Chandigarh	79	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29	Delhi	283	13	9	5	Nil	11
30	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
31	Daman and Diu	89	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
32	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
33	Chhattisgarh	36	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
34	Jharkhand	20	3	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
35	Uttaranchal	180	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL		48082	2186	133	211	16	141

* Data is for upto October, 2011. latest data not provided.

Standards for Food Safety

†3498. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that junk foods such as chips, burger, cold drinks, potato fries, chicken etc. being sold in the market are not as per junk food standards causing adverse effect on the health of people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that quantity of salt, sugar and fat in most of these items is higher and there is no standard in place for this; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) 'Junk food' has not been defined under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Rules and Regulations made thereunder.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Rising cases of gout and acidity among children

3499. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rise in cases among children suffering from gout and acidity;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps Government will take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) There is no report substantiating rise in cases among children suffering from gout and acidity.

- (c) Does not arise.

Free Medicines to All

†3500. SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to implement a scheme called free medicines to all;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the expenditure to be incurred on the implementation of this scheme and the contributions of the Central Government and State Governments in that, respectively;
- (d) whether adequate infrastructural facility and resources are available for the implementation of this scheme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the steps being taken for this?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) to (e) Health is a State subject and State Governments are providing health care including drugs to the patients. In order to strengthen the hands of the State Governments, the Ministry of Health and family Welfare is providing additional support under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for overall health system strengthening including infrastructure, human resources, drugs etc. States are being encouraged and supported to provide free medicines to patients in Govt., health facilities under NRHM. Further, a new initiative called Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) has been launched under which funding is given to the States for providing medicines free of cost to all pregnant women who access the Government health facilities for delivery as well as sick neonates born to them upto 30 days after birth.

- (f) The 12th Plan proposals are yet to be finalized.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Rashtriya Swasthya Vikas Yojana

3501. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :
SHRI D. RAJA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to launch a new programme called Rashtriya Swasthya Vikas Yojana funded by the Centre aimed at boosting public spending in health, both by the Centre and States; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Steering Committee on Health for the Twelfth Five Year Plan, in its report, has suggested for a new Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to States through a scheme, along the lines of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), for Universal Health Care (UHC) on a 85 : 15 sharing basis between Central and State Governments.

Vacant posts of physio therapists in CGHS, Delhi

3502. SHRI A.A. JINNAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of posts of physiotherapists lying vacant in CGHS, Delhi;
- (b) the pay scales offered to those posts;
- (c) whether recruitment rules and conditions of service have been notified for those posts and are in existence;
- (d) if so, the reasons for delay in filling up those vacancies; and
- (e) if not, by when the recruitment rules and conditions of service would be framed and notified?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) :

- (a) Out of 4 sanctioned posts of Physiotherapists in CGHS Delhi, 3 are lying vacant.
- (b) The pay scale of Physiotherapists sanctioned for Supreme Court First Aid Post is Rs. 6500-10500 (pre-revised) and for CGHS Medical Centre, Parliament House Annexe, it is Rs. 8000- 13500 (pre-revised).

(c) to (e) Recruitment rules exist only for the post of physiotherapists in Parliament House Annexe. For the posts of physiotherapists in Supreme Court First Aid Post which have been created recently, recruitment rules are to be framed in consultation with the DoPT and the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Sanctioning of PG medical seats in Andhra Pradesh

3503. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the status of the request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for sanctioning of 395 additional Post Graduate (PG) seats and 12 additional superspeciality seats in 10 Government medical colleges in the State, with Central assistance of 274 crores over five years;
- (b) the reasons for delay in giving sanction and releasing the Central assistance; and
- (c) by when the requested sanction and the stipulated amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for strengthening and upgradation of state government medical colleges, the Central Government has approved total funds of Rs. 185.126 crores to 10 government medical colleges in Andhra Pradesh for increasing approximately 689 postgraduate seats. Out of the Central Government share of Rs. 138.881 crores, the first instalment of Rs. 69.64 crores has been released to these medical colleges in October & November, 2011.

Guidelines for providing CGHS facility in non-CGHS areas

3504. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the Government guidelines for providing CGHS facility to Central Government Employees and Pensioners where there is no CGHS facility in the States;
- (b) whether Government will open CGHS facility in every State for the benefit of Central Government Employees and Pensioners; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) The Central Government pensioners residing in Non-CGHS covered areas have the option to become a CGHS beneficiary by enrolling themselves with a CGHS dispensary in the nearest CGHS City on payment of requisite subscription to avail its facilities. The serving Central Government employees residing in Non-CGHS areas are covered under the CS (MA) Rules, 1944 for availing medical attendance. Pensioners are however not covered under these Rules*; they are entitled for a Fixed Medical Allowance of Rs. 300 per month.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration in this Ministry. It is not possible to expend CGHS due to logistic, human resource and financial constraints.

Seat fixing racket in AIIMS

3505. SHRIMATI NAZMIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the CBI filed a chargesheet against eight persons on the charge of running a racket of seat fixing in AIIMS, New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of similar cases which came to light in last three years; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to stop seat fixing racket in the medical colleges?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) There has been no case of filing of chargesheet by CBI on charges of running a racket of seat fixing in AIIMS recently. However, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered case against four persons who are presently pursuing studies at AIIMS for manipulation in their Optical Mark Reader Sheet (OMR sheet) during entrance examination conducted by AIIMS in November 2010 and against one person presently pursuing studies at AIIMS for manipulation in OMR sheet during entrance examination conducted by AIIMS in June, 2010. CBI has found seven candidates manipulating their OMR sheet in All India Post Graduate Medical Entrance Examination (AIPGMEE) 2010 and four candidates in AIPGMEE 2011.

(d) To overcome any tampering, the OMR answer sheet has been improvised for better accuracy and candidates have been asked to make a declaration regarding 'Number of question unanswered on the OMR sheets. Such a declaration has to be signed by each candidate and countersigned by the invigilators present in the examination hall during the examination.

Increasing cases of blindness among children

3506. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that cases of blindness are increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of steps Government is taking to prevent blindness among children; and
- (d) the details of steps Government is taking to protect the right of blind children *i.e.* for their education Health etc.?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) As per the Survey-2001-02 conducted under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), there were around 12 million blind persons (Visual Acuity <math><6/60</math>) in the country. Due to increase in population and life expectancy in the country, the number of blind persons in the country is likely to increase. However, as per the Rapid Survey on Avoidable Blindness conducted under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) during 2006-07, the prevalence of blindness in the country has come down from 1.1% (2001-02) to 1% (2006-07). A statement showing incidences of blindness in the country, State/UT-wise, is given in Statement. (*See below*)

(c) The following steps have been taken under NPCB to prevent blindness among children:-

- School Eye Screening Programme is one of the activity under the NPCB, under which school teachers are trained to identify refractive errors and common eye diseases among school children. Poor and needy children found with refractive errors are provided free spectacles;
- Setting up of pediatric ophthalmology units at Medical Colleges and Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology;
- Setting up of Vision Centres in the periphery.
- Training of eye surgeons in various eye specialties including pediatric ophthalmology to enhance skill level;
- Development of training and IEC material to create awareness and preventive measures for eye diseases among children;
- Financial assistance to NGOs and private practitioners for treatment of childhood blindness.

(d) Under NPCB, State Ophthalmic Boards and District Ophthalmic Boards have been constituted in most of the States and UTs for the Examination and Treatment of children & adolescents in Blind Schools.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) endeavors to provide meaningful and quality education to every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability. All general interventions available under SSA, such as textbooks, uniform, etc., are also available to children with special needs. In addition, SSA makes provisions for barrier free access through ramps and handrails, disabled-friendly toilets, free assistive aids and appliances, including low vision aids, magnifying lenses and glasses for children with low vision. In the case of children with total blindness, SSA makes provision for Braille textbooks.

Statement*Estimated blind persons in India-2001-04*

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Estimated Blind Persons (Visual Acuity <6/60)
1	2	3
1.	Andaman And Nicobar	3919
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1075331
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	24877
4.	Assam	812471
5.	Bihar	646455
6.	Chandigarh	9099
7.	Chhattisgarh	334815
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2359
9.	Daman and Diu	1691
10.	Delhi	155748
11.	Goa	20429
12.	Gujarat	541388
13.	Haryana	398468
14.	Himachal Pradesh	42541
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	162126
16.	Jharkhand	379423
17.	Karnataka	938664
18.	Kerala	178296
19.	Lakshadweep	667
20.	Madhya Pradesh	700467
21.	Maharashtra	919146
22.	Manipur	32963
23.	Meghalaya	17065

1	2	3
24.	Mizoram	6950
25.	Nagaland	20881
26.	Orissa	513897
27.	Pondicherry	7596
28.	Punjab	245322
29.	Rajasthan	875333
30.	Sikkim	3513
31.	Tamil Nadu	484465
32.	Tripura	24572
33.	Uttar Pradesh	1560897
34.	Uttranchal	47486
35.	West Bengal	954632
TOTAL		12143952

National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer

3507. SHRI SALIM ANSARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government had in 2010 launched the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer;
- (b) if so, the details of the programme; and
- (c) the amount earmarked for the programme and to what extent the programme has been proved to useful in the States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): (a) to (c) Yes. The Government of India had launched a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS) in 2010 and the programme envisaged implementation in 100 districts across 21 States during 2010-2012 of the 11th Five Year Plan. Under Cancer component of NPCDCS, the district hospitals are strengthened for early diagnosis of Cancer, chemotherapy facilities and palliative care to cancer patients. Financial assistance upto Rs. 1.00 lakh per patient is available for chemotherapy drugs to treat 100 Cancer patients per district. The programme also envisages strengthening

Government Medical College Hospitals and erstwhile Regional Cancer Centres (RCC) across the country as Tertiary Cancer Centre (TCC) for providing comprehensive Cancer care services. These institutions are eligible for financial assistance upto Rs. 6.00 crore (Rs. 4.80 crore from Central Government and Rs. 1.20 crore from State Government).

Budget Allocation (Plan) and Expenditure for the cancer component of NPCDCS for the last two years is as under :

Year	Budget Estimate (Rs. in crore) Plan	Expenditure (Rs. in crore) Plan
2010-11	180.00	30.99
2011-12	200.00	99.79

Financial assistance for AYUSH treatment in Chhattisgarh

‡3508. SHRI SHIVPRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- whether proposal for financial assistance for Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Sidha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) treatment has been submitted by the State Government of Chhattisgarh to the Central Government;
- if so, the amount involved in the proposal; and
- by when the said amount would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN) : (a) to (c) Yes. The State Government of Chhattisgarh has sent Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) for financial assistance for activities under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries during 2012-13 amounting to Rs.1728.15 lakhs. No final decision has been taken for releases during 2012-13 to States including Chhattisgarh as on date. As per the provision of General Financial Rule (GFR), the release of grants is linked with the clearance of outstanding utilisation certificates with requisite documents in respect of grant-in-aid released upto 2010-11. Utilisation certificates for an amount of Rs.1833.00 lakhs are outstanding from the State Government of Chhattisgarh in respect of above period.

Good working environment for Nurses in Private Hospitals

3509. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- whether it is a fact that the nurses have demanded a strong Central legislation to check exploitation,

‡ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that nurses have demanded Government to intervene and provide a more conducive environment for the nurses working in the private sector hospitals across the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has taken up their cause with the private sector Hospitals to create a good working environment for the nurses?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) to (e) The matter pertaining to improving and regulating the service conditions of the nurses working in the private hospitals in the country comes under the purview of the State Governments in which the private hospitals are located. However, keeping in view numerous suggestions received from various quarters all the State Governments have been asked, vide letters dated 7 July, 2010 and 24 February, 2012 to take necessary measures for enacting a comprehensive Legislation for improvement of service conditions of nurses working in the private sector.

Further, Indian Nursing Council has taken an initiatives and issued a circular on 23rd September, 2011 to all the State Governments stipulating that if the unethical practice of obtaining service bond/forcefully retaining the original certificate of the student comes to notice then in that event penal action would be taken against such erring institutions.

Platform for joint campaign against AIDS

3510. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is a demand to have a better appeal for the public than the propaganda machinery of Government and specialised institutions to jointly fight against AIDS; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard and views of each State, particularly Andhra Pradesh, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN) : (a) No. There is no specific demand to have any letter alternative to the efforts of the Government, in the present scenario.

The Government of India through multi-stake holder partnership undertakes Behavior Change Communications (BCC) to reach the goal of halting and reversing the epidemic.

(b) Views of the states are taken at meetings held with them for finalization of their Annual Action Plans (AAPs). Specific needs of each state are discussed at these meetings and incorporated into their AAPs. States are wanting to continue with the Behavior Change Communications through various means to jointly fight against AIDS. These include :

1. **Mass Media activities** – Advertisements through TV/ Radio, news paper etc. National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) conduct campaigns on thematic areas like Youth vulnerability, Counseling & Testing, HIV-TB, Condom Promotion, Treatment services. Stigma & Discrimination and Blood Safety. In addition long format TV and Radio programmes are also produced and aired on Doordarshan and All India Radio at State level.
2. **Outdoor & Mid media activities** – SACS prepare their Annual Action Plan, which are approved by NACO under the decentralized plan process. Outdoor and Mid Media activities are implemented as per the approved action plan of states.
 - Activities include Folk performances which address different issues related to HIV/AIDS.
 - Hoardings, wall writings, bus panels and information kiosks, etc.
 - Mobilization through IEC vans.
 - IEC material are being printed and distributed for general population, vulnerable and high risk population.
3. **Interpersonal Communication :**

The interpersonal activities are being undertaken by SACS at the grass root level to sensitize high risk groups, vulnerable section of community including youth, local leadership, etc.

Training programmes are conducted for grassroots stakeholders such as members of self-help groups, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Anganwadi Workers, ASHA, ANM etc.

Red Ribbon Clubs (RRC) have been formed in Colleges and Adolescence Education Programme (AEP) is under implementation reaching out to youth and adolescents with messages on HIV/AIDS and life skills.
4. In addition to the above activities, a special activity namely Red Ribbon Express project was implemented by NACO in two phases earlier. Currently the third phase of Red Ribbon Express was launched on 12.01.2012.

As per the information given by Andhra Pradesh States AIDS Control Society (APSACS), following programmes/activities have been undertaken in Andhra Pradesh.

- a) A flagship programme aimed at 100% awareness through an intensive campaign was launched during the month of July, 2005 titled AASHA – AIDS Awareness and Sustained Holistic Action. The main aim of this was to garner support from different stakeholders and mount a collaborative response to the situation.
- b) In 2006, AASHA-II campaign focused on normalizing HIV/AIDS testing and encouraging all persons in the sexually active population to know their HIV status – irrespective of their risk behavior. This campaign involved intensive awareness activities through special gram sabhas in every village, special health camps, door-to-door visits by AASHA Mitras', kalajhata performances, screening of HIV films and mobile publicity through AASHA vahani caravans.
- c) The revamped anti-AIDS programme was launched in December, 2006 with the new theme 'Be Bold'. This has received encouraging response from the public, with as many as 11.5 lakh persons in the State undergoing tests for HIV during the campaign period.
 - This campaign was targeted to fight stigma discrimination, to translate awareness to behavior change, to get more people with risk behavior to get tested to know their HIV status. The messages were targeted at various sections like- **'Families, Doctors, Teachers, Youth, Women and also Government functionaries.**
 1. Another programme by name "0/7" was launched with an aim to have ZERO HIV positive child to be born in AP by setting-up necessary systems to be achieved by December, 2007.
- d) During 2008-10, the programme by name "Mee Nestham" was launched. Through this programme, HIV testing among the key population has increased.
- e) The recent programmes launched in Andhra Pradesh are "Raktha Bandhu" (A programme to scale up 100% Voluntary Blood Donation), Mamtha (100% Prevention of parent to child transmission).

Employment of skilled professionals under NRHM

3511. SHRI P. RAJEEVE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of skilled professionals employed in rural areas under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) at present;
- (b) whether there is a shortage of skilled professionals for NRHM in rural areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the estimated number of skilled professionals needed to work in the rural areas under NRHM; and
- (e) the reasons for inability to recruit the required number of skilled Professionals to serve under NRHM in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) As per Rural Health Statistics in India, 2010, a statement showing the requirement, in position and shortfall of Doctors and Para-medics at Sub Centres [SCs], Primary Health Centres [PHCs] and Community Health Centres [CHCs] in the country is given in Statement. (See below). As per National Rural Health Mission [NRHM] State-wise Progress as on 31-12-2012, the following staff has been appointed on contractual basis under NRHM :

Sl.No	Designation	No. of Personnel engaged on Contractual basis
1.	Specialists	2914
2.	General Duty Medical Officers	8722
3.	AYUSH Doctors	10995
4.	Staff Nurses	33413
5.	ANM	69662
6.	Para Medics	14529
7.	AYUSH Para Medics	3894

The shortfall in rural areas is met from regular recruitments, transfers and contractual appointments under NRHM.

- (e) Public Health being a state subject, the recruitment of skilled professionals is done by respective State/UT Governments. Various reasons attributed for shortage

of skilled health professionals include non availability of requisite number of specialists, doctors and paramedics, shortage of medical colleges and training institutes and unwillingness on the part of doctors to work in rural areas. However, under National Rural Health Mission [NRHM], hands of State/UT Governments are being strengthened through additional central funding for upgradation of infrastructure and augmentation of human resource. All State/UT Governments project their requirements of funds for undertaking various activities including for engaging contractual staff in their respective annual Programme Implementation Plans [PIPs] and providing additional monetary and non-monetary incentives for working in rural and remote areas. The Government of India releases the funds for taking up the approved activities as per the felt need of the States.

Statement

The detail of requirement, in position and shortfall of Doctors and Para-medics at SCs, PHCs and CHCs in the country as per RHS 2010

	Required	In Position	Short fall
Specialists at CHCs	18140	6781	11361
Doctors at PHCs	23673	25870	2433
Radiographers at CHCs	4535	1817	2724
Pharmacists at PHCs & CHCs	28208	21688	7655
Laboratory Technicians at PHCs & CHCs	28208	15094	14225
Nursing Staff at PHCs & CHCs	55418	58450	13683
Health Worker (Female)/ANM at SCs & PHCs	170742	191457	15079
Health Assistant (Male) at PHCs	23673	16565	10029
Health Worker (Male) at Sub -Centers	147069	52774	94337

Mandatory tribal and rural service by medical graduates

3512. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of medical graduates passing out in the country every year;
- (b) whether Government proposes to make tribal and rural service by medical graduates mandatory so that people of rural areas get proper medical facilities;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the incentives being given to doctors who are posted in tribal and rural areas as compared to those given in urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) The data relating to number of medical graduates passing out in the country every year is not maintained centrally. However, at present there are 335 medical colleges in the country with more than 41569 MBBS seats upto 2011-12.

(b) and (c) In an overall effort to improve medical education and make it more socially oriented and suitable from the public health perspective, discussions were held with the Medical Council of India (MCI) on 04th February, 2012 regarding exposing MBBS students to rural health care settings to enable them to acquaint themselves with broad community healthcare needs.

(d) Medical Council of India, with the approval of Central Government, made the following amendments to its Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations to encourage doctors to serve in the rural areas:

- i. 50% reservation in Post Graduate Diploma Courses for Medical Officers in the Government service who have served for at least three years in remote and difficult areas. After acquiring the PG Diploma, such Medical Officers shall serve for two more years in remote and/or difficult areas.
- ii. Incentive at the rate of 10% of the marks obtained for each year in service in remote or difficult areas upto the maximum of 30% of the marks obtained in the entrance test for admissions in Post Graduate Medical Courses.

Child deaths due to malnutrition

3513. SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that around 50 per cent child deaths take place due to malnutrition every year;

(b) if so, the number of such deaths which took place especially in Assam and other States during the last three years, district-wise; and

(c) whether the Central Government will urge upon State Governments to take necessary step to overcome the increasing rise and vulnerability of malnutrition deaths?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) Malnutrition is not a direct cause of death among children but can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing the resistance to infections. However, it is estimated that malnutrition is a contributing factor in about half of all deaths in under five children in India.

State-wise data on the number of deaths due to malnutrition among children in the country is not maintained centrally.

(c) Under National Rural Health Mission of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Central Government has been urging the States to include appropriate interventions to address the issue of malnutrition and is committed to provide funding for the same.

Irregularities in NRHM

†3514. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received complaints of irregularity in National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) Scheme from other States also apart from Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of such States from where such complaints have been received;

(c) the action Government is contemplating to take against these States;

(d) the steps being taken by Government to check these irregularities;

(e) whether Government is considering to conduct CBI enquiry into the scams committed in NRHM Scheme in these States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes.

(b) Apart from Uttar Pradesh, the complaints regarding irregularities in the implementation of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) have been received from the States of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Orissa and Rajasthan.

(c) Health being a State subject, its implementation and monitoring primarily rests with the State Governments. There is no proposal to take action against the states, but the State Governments have been asked to look into the complaints, take appropriate action and submit report.

(d) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, had requested the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAGI) for conducting annual transaction audits of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in all the States from the Financial Year 2011-12 in order to identify the existing gaps, facilitate independent monitoring and timely corrective measures so that a quality and timely audit assessment becomes available to assist the State Governments in undertaking remedial measures and achieving the targets of NRHM. The CAG office has agreed that the audit of NRHM shall be incorporated by Accountant Generals of all States in their regular audit planning process.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Other steps taken to check irregularities under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) include :

- (i) Submission of quarterly Financial Monitoring Reports by the States;
- (ii) Annual Statutory Audits;
- (iii) Concurrent Audits;
- (iv) Visits by the teams of the Financial Management Group of the Ministry to States for periodical reviews;
- (v) The implementation of NRHM in States is also reviewed through Joint Review Missions (JRM), Common Review Missions (CRMs) and periodical reviews by the Ministry.

Deficiencies/shortcomings noticed during the reviews are immediately brought to the notice of the States for remedial action.

- (e) and (f) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

Teeka Express

3515. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is going to launch Teeka Express, a mobile vaccine van;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose thereof;
- (c) whether this programme is going to be launched through out the country or in some States only; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, particularly with regard to Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) Government of India plans to pilot "Teeka Express" to deliver vaccines in outreach sessions and to conduct mobile service in low immunization coverage districts. Besides this, the Teeka Express is also expected to increase awareness among people regarding immunization. It is proposed to pilot the scheme in 69 districts of 19 States. Government of Gujarat has expressed their unwillingness to pilot the scheme as the state is in the process of strengthening the existing alternate vaccine delivery system.

Central assistance for GMC, Kottayam

3516. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has received any project proposal for Central assistance for Government Medical College, (GMC) Kottayam in Kerala, under Central sector Schemes;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether any request has been received for early reimbursement of Central share in respect of Centrally Sponsored Schemes, amounting to 93.31 crores; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for strengthening and up-gradation of state government medical colleges, no proposal for central assistance to Government Medical College (GMC), Kottayam has been received. However, Central government has received a proposal from the State Government to upgrade GMC, Kottayam under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Surksha Yojna. Presently, the proposal is not under consideration of the Ministry.

(c) the Central Government has not received any request for reimbursement of Central Share under the scheme of strengthening and up-gradation of state government medical colleges.

(d) Does not arise.

Paucity of trained naturopathy doctors

3517. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is paucity of trained naturopathy doctors in the country; and
- (b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to increase the strength of naturopathy doctors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN) : (a) and (b) There is no formal assessment of paucity of trained naturopathy doctors in the country. There are 16 Colleges/Institutes for Yoga and Naturopathy recognised by various Universities which are conducting Bachelor of Naturopathy and Yogic Sciences (BNYS) Degree Course. Further, to encourage the naturopathy system, National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN), Pune conducts Continuing Medical Education (CME) programmes for BNYS graduates from different Naturopathy Colleges.

Eradication of Tobacco related ILL effects

3518. SHRI TARUN VIJAY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Ministry has identified tobacco and allied products which cause several ailments;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Ministry has identified the diseases caused by aforementioned products and, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Ministry has calculated the number of people suffering from tobacco related ailments and related deaths;
- (e) whether Ministry has calculated loss to GDP and loss of man-days due to such ailments and deaths;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (h) the steps taken by Ministry to ensure that the tobacco related ill effects are minimized in short run and eradicated in long run?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Ministry has identified all such tobacco products including Cigarettes, Cigar, Cheroots, Beedi, chewing tobacco, snuff, Hookah tobacco and other allied products, which cause several ailments. These products are listed in the Schedule of "Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA) 2003".

Consumption of tobacco products harms almost every organ of the body, causing many diseases and adversely affecting the health of tobacco users in general. There is sufficient evidence to say that consumption of tobacco products causes disease such as coronary heart diseases, stroke and subclinical atherosclerosis, respiratory diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and pneumonia adverse reproductive effects and cancers of various organs *e.g.* lung, oral cavity, stomach, kidney, bladder etc.

(d) No such information is available with this Ministry. However, as per Report on Tobacco Control in India, 2004, the tobacco use is responsible for causing 8-9 lakh deaths annually in the country. As per Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), almost 50% of cancers among men and 25% of cancers among women are related to tobacco use in India. As per available evidence, use of chewing tobacco is associated with oral cancer and India shares the maximum burden of oral cancer in the world.

(e) to (g) Ministry has not calculated loss to GDP and loss of man-days due to tobacco related ailments and deaths. However, as per a health cost study done in India in 1998-99 by the Ministry, the health cost attributable to just three major tobacco-related diseases *i.e.* cancer, cardiovascular diseases and lung diseases was estimated at Rs. 27,761 Crore in 1999. The figure was estimated to be Rs. 30,833 Crore in the year 2002-2003.

(h) With a purpose of regulating tobacco use, due to its health threats, the Govt. of India has enacted the Anti Tobacco law titled "Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, (COTPA) 2003'. The Act is applicable to all tobacco products and extends to whole of India. The specific provisions of the Anti Tobacco Law include :

- i. Prohibition of smoking in a public place (section 4).
- ii Prohibition of direct and indirect advertisement of cigarette and other tobacco products (section 5).
- iii Prohibition of sale of cigarette and other tobacco products to a person below the age of eighteen years [section 6(a)].
- iv Prohibition of sale of tobacco products near the educational institutions. [Section 6 (b)].
- v. Mandatory depiction of statutory warnings (including pictorial warnings) on tobacco packs (Section 7).
- vi. Mandatory depiction of tar and nicotine contents alongwith maximum permissible limits on tobacco packs [Section 7 (5)].

In pursuance of the powers conferred under the said Act, the Central Government has notified various rules. Also, as part of tobacco control measures, a pilot phase of a comprehensive National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) was launched by the Ministry of Health and Family.

Welfare in 2007-08 covering 9 states and 18 districts. It was up-scaled to 24 districts of 12 new States in 2008-09. Presently, NTCP is under implementation in 21 States covering 42 districts. The programme broadly envisages.

I. National level

- National Level Mass Media Campaign: Various anti-tobacco IEC materials have been developed and disseminated widely through radio, TV for increasing public awareness on the risks of tobacco use.
- Capacity building of States/Districts.
- Steps for setting up tobacco testing labs for testing of tar and nicotine content of tobacco products (1 Apex/4 testing labs) to build regulatory capacity, as required under the Tobacco Control Law (COTPA, 2003).
- Monitoring and evaluation including Adult tobacco Survey (ATS).

- Training modules developed for doctors, teachers and health workers/ASHA on tobacco control.
- Guidelines for implementation of the Rules related to sale around educational institutions, sale to minors (Section-6), packaging and labeling rules (Section-7) developed and disseminated to states.
- National guidelines on tobacco dependence treatment developed.
- Guidelines for Tobacco Free Educational Institutions developed and adopted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- Mainstreaming Research & Training – on alternate crops and livelihoods for tobacco farmers, growers and workers, in co-ordination with other nodal Ministries – Pilot project on alternative cropping system to tobacco growing initiated with support of Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) in five agro-ecological zones of the country.
- Toll free helpline 1800110456 has been established to report specific violations of the provisions under the anti-tobacco law.
- National and Regional level advocacy/sensitization workshops were organized.

II. State level

- Dedicated tobacco control cells for effective implementation and monitoring of Anti Tobacco Initiatives.
- Sensitization of law enforcers/stakeholders from different departments on their role in implementation of tobacco control laws and other measures for tobacco control.

III District level

- Dedicated tobacco control cells
- Training of health and social workers, NGOs, school teachers etc.
- Information, Education and Communication for generating awareness against tobacco use
- School programmes
- Tobacco Cessation Centres
- Monitoring implementation of Tobacco Control Law (COTPA 2003).

The State/District tobacco control cells under NTCP have been encouraged to use the traditional medical to reach out to the rural masses for creating awareness on

the harmful effect of tobacco use. The Communications have also been addressed to the State Officials (Chief Secretary/Health Secretary/Transport Commissioners/Director General of Police/Finance Secretary/Secretary, Panchayati Raj) to sensitize them about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption and request them to ensure effective compliance of the provisions under Tobacco Control Act (COTPA), 2003.

Ministry proposes to expand the coverage of a modified NTCP to all the districts of India in a phased manner during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Improvement in rural health conditions

3519. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has given some specific suggestions to Government on 26 November, 2011 for improvement of rural health conditions; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes.

(b) The Central Government has already taken various measures improvement in the rural health scenario which include: -

- (i) Providing financial support for engagement of staff on contractual basis under National Rural Health Mission.
- (ii) 50% reservation in Post Graduate Diploma Courses for Medical Officers in the Government service who have served for at least three years in remote and difficult areas. After acquiring the PG Diploma, such Medical Officers shall serve for two more years in remote and/or difficult areas.
- (iii) Incentive at the rate of 10% of the marks obtained for each year in service in remote or difficult areas upto the maximum of 30% of the marks obtained in the entrance test for admissions in Post Graduate Medical Courses.
- (iv) To have more medical colleges where population/medical college ratio is low, it was decided to relax land requirement and other conditions. This will help in opening of medical colleges in 8 States *viz.* Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Capita healthcare expenditure

3520. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the per capita healthcare expenditure has increased from 29.77 per cent to 46.86 per cent during the years between 2005 to 2010;

(b) whether the publicly financed health insurance schemes are ineffective in reducing such per capita health care expenditure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to make health insurance scheme more effective in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) As per World Health Statistics 2008 and 2011 published by World Health Organization, the per capita total expenditure on health (at average exchange rate) in India was US\$ 45 in 2008 in compared to US\$ 36 in 2005, which is an increase of 25 per cent.

(b) and (c) Impact of health insurance schemes on health care expenditure would depend on insurance penetration and insurance density levels in the country. Public financed health insurance is one of the sources of financing health expenditure. As per National Health Accounts 2004-05, financing by public insurance agents in 2004-05 constituted about six per cent of total health expenditure. Changes in the relative shares, of the financing agents of the health care expenditure, may not *per se* lead to reduction in per capita expenditure unless there is a reduction in total health care expenditure or the growth in health care expenditure is less than the rate of growth of population.

The Government has launched the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) which has been operational from April, 2008 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000/- per family per annum on a family floater basis to BPL families in the unorganised sector. The scheme covers 23 States/UTs as on December, 2011. The outlay for Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) for 2012-13 has been enhanced to Rs. 1322 crore from Rs. 1274 crore in 2011-12

Central assistance for IMH, Hyderabad

3521. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received any proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for establishment of centre of excellence at Institute of Medical Health, Hyderabad with Central assistance of Rs. 30.01 crores for civil construction, provision of equipment and staff components;

- (b) if so, the response of Government thereto;
- (c) the reasons for delay in approving the sanction and releasing the Central assistance; and
- (d) by when the sanction is likely to be given and the Central assistance is released?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) After consideration of the proposal received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Standing Committee on National Mental Health Programme has recommended a central assistance of Rs. 30.00 crore to Institute of Mental Health, Hyderabad (and not to “Institute of Medical Health, Hyderabad”) for establishment of a Centre of Excellence in the field of mental health for meeting the cost of capital work, equipment, faculty, technical staff etc.

The Government has released an amount of Rs. 5.28 crores so far as the first instalment to the said Institute for the above purpose.

(c) and (d) The release of further installments is dependent on the completion of necessary formalities/activities by the State Government.

Mandatory medical care treatment for all in emergency conditions

3522. SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has made mandatory for all clinical establishments in the country to provide medical care treatment in order to stabilise a person in an emergency condition; and
- (b) if so, the details of the clinical establishments which will be brought under the purview of emergency care system?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD) : (a) and (b) ‘Health’ is a state subject and it is primarily the responsibility of the state governments to issue any directive in this regard.

However, the Central Government has enacted the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010.

Sub-section (2) of Section 12 of the Act provides as under:

“The clinical establishment shall undertake to provide within the staff and facilities available, such medical examination and treatment as may be required to stabilize the emergency medical condition of any individual who comes or is brought to such clinical establishment”.

The Act when adopted by the States will help them in enforcing the above provision of Law.

Adoption of Integrity Pact by CPSUs

3523. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware of the practice of entering into Integrity Pact by the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) to reduce complaints of corruption in tendering and bidding process;

(b) if so, how many CPSUs have adopted this procedure;

(c) whether any assessment has been made either internally or by any external agencies regarding the impact of such integrity pacts on level of alleged acts of corruption; and

(d) whether Government is considering extending this practice in respect of its own departmental agencies having direct contract with the public either as delivery agents of goods and services or as recipients of grievances from the public for prompt redressal?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : (a) to (d) Government has issued instructions in July, 2011 that all Government Ministries/Departments including their attached/subordinate offices and autonomous bodies may use the generally applicable Integrity Pact in their procurement transactions/contracts. These instructions have also been extended in September, 2011 to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) with suitable changes. The administrative Ministry/Department concerned is responsible for the implementation of the guidelines in respect of CPSEs under its control. However, no record of CPSEs having entered into such Integrity Pacts is maintained centrally. The practice of entering into Integrity Pacts is expected to avoid all forms of corruption in procurement transactions/contracts. Impact of integrity pacts can be assessed after reasonable time.

Employees in CPSUs

3524. DR.T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees in the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) and Enterprises under the Ministry during the period from 2007 to 2012, year-wise;

(b) the number of them belonging to the regular, temporary, casual and contract categories; and

(c) the total number of newly appointed employees in the above undertakings during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : (a) The total number of employees in the 32 operating Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises during the period from 2007 to 2012 is as under:

Year	No. of Employees
2007-08	115592
2008-09	116151
2009-10	115517
2010-11	113311
2011-12	114249

(b) The numbers of employees to different categories are as below :

Year	No. of Employees			
	Regular	Temporary	Casual	Contract
2007-08	88805	3140	2132	21515
2008-09	88234	4115	1855	21947
2009-10	88632	2772	1841	22272
2010-11	86382	3482	1712	21735
2011-12	85519	4471	2092	22167

(c) The details of number of newly appointed employees during the last three years are as follows:

	Year		
No. of Employees	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	3989	4120	5220

Assessment of Losses Suffered by OMCs

†3525. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an assessment has been made about financial loss to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in the country due to hike in selling price of crude oil in the international market;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the loss assessed to be incurred by each oil marketing company during the year 2011-12; and

(c) the extent of this loss proposed to be met through the subsidy and the sources thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (c) During the period from April to December, 2011, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) incurred a total under-recovery of Rs. 97,313 crore. While the upstream oil PSUs provisionally contributed Rs. 36,894 crore under the burden sharing mechanism, the Government sanctioned cash assistance of Rs. 45,000 crore. In spite of the higher contribution by upstream companies and Government assistance of Rs. 45,000 crore, unmet under-recoveries of OMCs for the period from April to December, 2011 remained at Rs. 15,419 crore. The OMCs reported a combined loss of Rs. 15,088 crore during the period from April to December, 2011, as per the details given below:

(Rs. crore)

IOCL	BPCL	HPCL	TOTAL
(-) 8,716	(-) 2,652	(-) 3,720	(-) 15,088

The OMC wise details of under-recovery incurred during the financial year 2011-12 *vis-a-vis* burden sharing by Government and Upstream Companies is given below:

(Rs. crore)

	IOCL	BPCL	HPCL	TOTAL
Gross under-recovery incurred during 2011-12	75,469	32,638	30,434	1,38,541
Less: Burden sharing (April-December, 2011)				
Cash assistance by the Government	26,425	10,518	9,857	45,000
Discount by Upstream Oil Companies	20,189	8,624	8,082	36,894
Balance (unmet) under-recovery of OMCs*	28,855	13,496	12,495	56,647*

*after considering Government assistance and upstream discount received for April-December, 2011 only.

Note : IOCL: Indian Oil Corporation Ltd; BPCL: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd; HPCL: Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

Indigenous production of gas

3526. SHRI S. THANGAVELU :

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN :

Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that over 100 discoveries have been made under New-Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP);

(b) if so, the reason for more and more gas being imported inspite of so many discoveries;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is more money in producing gas abroad and selling it in India rather than producing it in the country itself; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure that companies produce gas in India rather than import it from outside?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) Under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) regime, 108 hydrocarbon discoveries (38 oil and 70 gas discoveries) have been made in 36 NELP blocks so far.

(b) Out of the above discoveries, commercial gas production is being currently realized from 5 discoveries in two NELP blocks. Other discoveries are under various stages of evaluation/appraisal/commerciality/development, in line with the timelines stipulated in the Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs). Current gas production from NELP blocks is about 33 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD). The 2P (proved plus Probable) In-Place Gas Reserves established from NELP discoveries, as on 01.04.2011, is about 659 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM).

As on June 2011, against the total supply of 166 MMSCMD of natural gas in the country, the domestic availability of gas from different reserves was around 120 MMSCMD. This shortfall was met by import of gas.

(c) The gas produced from the NELP blocks is sold in line with the relevant PSC provisions. The profits from exploration and production abroad are subject to greater uncertainty, different tax laws and profit sharing systems.

(d) In order to accelerate the pace of exploration and production of oil and gas in the country, Government of India (GOI) has taken the following steps:

(i) Offering more unexplored areas for exploration through NELP bidding rounds. Total 248 blocks have been awarded under nine rounds of NELP

bidding rounds held so far. Till date, 108 oil/gas discoveries have been made in 36 NELP blocks, including the major gas discoveries in East Coast. The current oil and gas production from 6 NELP discoveries are about 13,000 bbl/day and 33 MMSCMD respectively. Government has plan to offer more areas for exploration in future NELP/(Open Acreages Licensing Policy (OALP) rounds.

- (ii) Exploring various sources of alternate energy such as Coal Bed Methane (CBM), Gas Hydrate, Shale Gas & Oil Shale. Total 30 CBM blocks have been awarded so far under four rounds of CBM bidding, in addition to 3 blocks awarded earlier on Nomination basis. Current CBM production in the country is about 0.24 MMSCMD and is expected to reach to about 4 MMSCMD by 2016-17. It is planned to offer more areas for CBM exploration and exploitation in future CBM rounds as well as launch the first round of Shale Gas bidding, subject to availability of necessary clearances from all concerned agencies.

Tapi Gas Pipeline Project

3527. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN :

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) Gas Pipeline Project is delayed due to prevailing instability in the countries through which it will pass;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the current status of TAPI project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Gas Pipeline Framework Agreement (GPFA) and the Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) were signed at the TAPI Summit held at Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on 11th December, 2010. However, the Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) has not been signed. Further, Asian Development Bank has been appointed as the Transaction Advisor who, *inter-alia*, would begin the process of selection of Consortium Leader, once the GSPAs have been signed.

Subsidy on petroleum

†3528. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI :

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that 45 per cent of subsidy share on petroleum will be received by ONGC, Indian Oil Corporation and GAIL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the above-said companies will earn profit after getting share in subsidy of such a huge amount; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under the Burden Sharing Mechanism being followed, no assistance is being provided to the Upstream Oil Companies *i.e.* Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL). On the contrary, Upstream Oil Companies share the burden of under-recovery by giving discount on crude oil and petroleum products to Downstream Oil Companies, *i.e.* Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

(c) and (d) IOCL, BPCL and HPCL have reported combined loss of Rs. 15,088 crore during April-December, 2011.

Profits of oil companies

†3529. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the profit of oil refineries and oil production companies in the country increases due to hike in prices of crude oil in the international market;
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government also collects more amount as tax from petroleum sector due to above said price hike; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R. P. N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) The profits of oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are not directly linked to the hike in prices of crude oil in the international market. In case of oil refiners, the profits are dependent on refinery margins *i.e.* difference between revenue earned and cost incurred on the refining of the petroleum products.

On the other hand, in normal course, domestic oil producing PSUs are expected to get benefit of increase in crude price but due to the existing mechanism in vogue for sharing of under-recoveries of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), these companies are not able to retain such price advantage. Due to discounts offered, the net prices realized by the oil producing PSUs are far below than international price of crude oil.

(c) and (d) During 2010-11, the contribution to the Central Exchequer through taxes/duties on crude oil and petroleum products, from dividend to the Government and income tax was Rs. 1,36,497 crore. The Excise duties on Petrol and Diesel are specific at the rate of Rs. 14.78 per litre and Rs. 2.06 per litre (including education cess) respectively. The Excise duties on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG are NIL. Hence, Central Government revenue does not increase with increase in the price of these products. During the Financial Year 2010-11, the Central Government provided Rs. 41,000 crore to the OMCs to part fund their under-recovery of Rs. 78,190 crore; and Rs. 2904.25 crore and Rs. 22.32 crore under the "PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG Subsidy Scheme 2002" and "Freight Subsidy (For Far Flung Areas) Scheme, 2002" respectively.

The total contribution to the State Government Exchequer through VAT, Royalty, Octroi, Entry Tax and Dividend income etc. during 2010-11 was Rs. 88,997 crore. State taxes comprise of, *inter-alia*, Sales Tax/VAT, Entry Tax, etc. Rates of Sales Tax/VAT are either *ad-valorem* or *ad-valorem* plus specific basis. Whenever there is an increase in Retail Selling Prices of these petroleum products, the State Government's Sales Tax/VAT collection goes up correspondingly.

Excise duty concession refineries in the North East

3530. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Parliamentary Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas has recommended excise duty concession to the North Eastern Refineries from the current level of 50 per cent to 100 per cent in its 23rd report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken or proposed any action on this recommendation made by the Parliamentary Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas, in its 23rd report on Oil Refineries – A Critique, has recommended that 100% excise duty concession should be granted to the North East Refineries instead of the existing 50% until the time these Refineries become profitable.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, in its Budget Proposal to Ministry of Finance, has recommended for enhancement of the excise duty concession to the North East Refineries from 50% to 100% for their long-term sustenance and viability. However, the said proposal did not feature in the Union Budget for 2012-13.

Issuing of fake LPG connections

3531. SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government is aware that Indane LPG distributors have illegally issued fake connections without giving proper connection papers to customers and are engaged in extorting Rs. 5,000 for single cylinder connection in Uttar Pradesh particularly, Jyotiba Phule Nagar district;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise with particular reference to Jyotiba Phule Nagar;
- (c) whether Government is aware that M/s. Hasanpur Gas, Jyotiba Phule Nagar is illegally engaged in diversion of cylinders ;
- (d) if so, the details of complaints received against M/s. Hasanpur Indane Gas agency till 1 April, 2012 ; and
- (e) the details of action taken so far, complaint-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R. P. N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Madam. Based on the established complaints of issuance of un-authorized LPG connections, action was taken in 40 cases against the erring LPG distributors of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years under the provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG)/Distributorship Agreement. (DA). The district-wise details are given in Statement (*See below*).

However, no such irregularity is established against the LPG distributorships of IOC at Jyotiba Phule Nagar.

(c) to (e) Several complaints received against M/s. Hasanpur Indane Gas at Jyotiba Phule Nagar district during the years 2010-11 and 2011-12 for various irregularities such as blackmarketing of LPG, not giving cash and carry rebate, delay in refill delivery, out of turn delivery and non-home delivery of LPG refill were investigated. Action was taken in one established case under the provisions of MDG/DA and an amount of Rs. 95,736 has been imposed as penalty on the distributor. In another instance, explanation was called for from the distributor and current stage is that the reply of the distributor has been received by IOC.

Statement

District-wise details of established cases for issuance of un-authorized release of LPG Connections in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years

Sl. No.	Name of Districts	No. of established cases
1.	Agra	4
2.	Allahabad	3
3.	Baghpat	1
4.	Bareilly	1
5.	Bulandshahar	2
6.	Chandauli	1
7.	Deoria	2
8.	Gautam Budh Nagar	1
9.	Ghaziabad	3
10.	Gorakhpur	2
11.	Hardoi	1
12.	Jhansi	1
13.	Kanpur	3
14.	Lucknow	1
15.	Meerut	1

Sl. No.	Name of Districts	No. of established cases
16.	Muzaffarnagar	4
17.	Pratapgarh	2
18.	Raibareli	2
19.	Ramabainagar	1
20.	Sonebhadra	1
21.	Varanasi	3
TOTAL		40

Demand of oil companies for price hike

3532. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the public sector oil companies have demanded hike in the prices of its products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether the prices of petroleum and any other products have been increased during the current year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R. P. N. SINGH) : (a) to (d) In order to insulate the common man from the impact of rise in international oil prices and the domestic inflationary conditions, the Government continues to modulate the retail selling price of Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG resulting in incidence of under-recoveries to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). The OMCs are currently incurring under-recovery of Rs. 13.91 per litre on the sale of Diesel, Rs. 31.49 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs. 480.50 per 14.2 kg cylinder of Domestic LPG (based on the refinery gate prices effective 1.5.2012). The under recovery incurred by the OMCs on sale of the aforesaid petroleum prices during 2011-12 is Rs. 1,38,541 crore. The OMCs have demanded full compensation of the under recovery incurred by them. The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance in this regard.

(c) and (d) The details of revision in the Retail Selling Price (RSP) at Delhi of aforesaid petroleum products during 2011-12 is as under :

Date	Diesel (Rs./litre)	PDS Kerosene (Rs./litre)	Domestic LPG (Rs./cylinder)	Reason
01.04.2011	37.75	12.73	345.35	RSP as on 1.4.2011
25.06.2011	41.12	14.83	395.35	Increase in RSPs
01.07.2011	41.29	-	399.00	Increase in Siding & Shunting charges/Dealer commission
01.10.2011	40.91	-	-	Rebate of Rs. 0.375 per litre in VAT on Diesel in Delhi

Further, the price of Petrol has been made market-determined with effect from 26.6.2010. Since then, the OMCs take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol in line with the international oil prices and market conditions. Even after implementation of the market determined pricing, the OMCs have been making price revisions of Petrol in a guarded manner, at times, absorbing a part of under-recovery themselves. The details of revision in Retail Selling Price (RSP) of Petrol, as per Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) at Delhi, during the year 2011-12 are given below.

(Rs./litre)

Date	Increase (Rs./litre)	RSP (Rs./litre)	Reason for Increase
01.04.2011	-	58.37	RSP as on 1 st April, 2011
15.05.2011	5.00	63.37	Increase in RSP
01.07.2011	0.33	63.70	Increase in Siding & Shunting Charges & Dealer's commission
16.09.2011	3.14	66.84	Increase in RSP
04.11.2011	1.80	68.64	Increase in RSP
16.11.2011	(-)2.22	66.42	Reduction in RSP
01.12.2011	(-)0.78	65.64	Reduction in RSP
		65.64	Current RSP at Delhi

Note : as per IOCL

Tax component on petroleum products

3533. SHRIMATI JHARNADAS BAIDYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) the percentage of taxes levied by Government on petrol, diesel, kerosene and LPG;
- (b) the percentage of subsidy given by Government on petrol, diesel, kerosene and LPG;
- (c) the actual cost of crude oil per barrel and the final cost after production for petrol, diesel, kerosene and LPG; and
- (d) whether taxes on petroleum products constitute one of the biggest sources of revenue for Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R. P. N. SINGH) : (a) The details of taxes levied on Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG are given in Statement. (*See below*)

(b) The Government provides fiscal subsidy of Rs. 0.82 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs. 22.58 per 14.2 kg cylinder on Domestic LPG under the "PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG Subsidy Scheme, 2002". In addition to this, the Government is modulating the price of Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, resulting in incidence of under-recovery to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on sale of these products. This is being compensated by the Government and the upstream oil companies under the Burden Sharing Mechanism. The details of subsidy given by Government and under-recovery incurred by the OMCs on Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG are given below :

Sl. No.		Diesel Rs/Litre	PDS Kerosene Rs/Litre	Domestic LPG Rs. Cylinder
1	Subsidy given by Government under the subsidy scheme	N.A.	0.82	22.58
2	Under-recovery incurred by OMCs*	13.91	31.49	480.50
3	Total Subsidy (in effect) to consumers (1+2)	13.91	32.31	503.08
4	Retail Selling Price (RSP), at Delhi	40.91	14.83	399.00
5	Desired RSP*	56.56	47.89	879.50

* As per Refinery Gate Price effective 1st May, 2012.

As regards price of Petrol, it has been made market determined since 26.06.2010.

(c) The prices of crude oil and petroleum products in the international market fluctuate on daily basis depending on several factors including demand and supply conditions in the world. The average price of Indian basket crude oil during the year 2011-12 was \$ 111.89/barrel.

Refining of crude oil is a process industry, where crude oil constitutes around 90% of the total cost. Crude oil is processed through several processing units. Each of these units produces intermediate products streams, which require further reprocessing and blending. As it is difficult to apportion the total cost amongst individual refined products, product-wise costs are not identified separately.

(d) During 2010-11 and 2011-12 (April-December, 2011), the contribution of Petroleum Sector to the Central Exchequer through taxes/duties on crude oil and petroleum products, dividend to the Government and income tax, etc. was Rs. 1,36,497 crore and Rs. 84,404 (provisional) crore respectively. The contribution to the State Government Exchequer through VAT, Royalty, Octroi, Entry Tax and Dividend income etc. in 2010-11 and 2011-12 (April-December, 2011) was Rs. 88,997 crore and Rs. 78,427 (provisional) crore respectively.

*Taxes included in Retail Selling of Petroleum Products at Delhi
(effective 1st May, 2012)*

S.No.	Components of Price	Petrol*		Diesel	
		Rs./Litre	% in RSP	Rs./Litre	% in RSP
1	Price without Customs duty, Excise duty and Sales tax/ VAT Central Taxes	39.05	59.5%	33.48	81.8%
2	Custom duty (based on May, 2012 1 st Fortnight Refinery Gate Price)	0.87	1.3%	0.91	2.2%
3	Excise Duty (including Education Cess @ 3%)	14.78	22.5%	2.06	5.0%
4 (2+3)	Total Central Taxes State Taxes@	15.65	23.8%	2.97	7.3%
5	VAT	10.94	16.7%	4.46	10.9%
5	Total State Taxes	10.94	16.7%	4.46	10.9%
6 (4+5)	Total Taxes	26.59	40.5%	7.43	18.2%
7 (1+6)	Retail Selling Price at Delhi	65.64		40.91	

S.No.	Components of Price	PDS Kerosene		Domestic LPG	
		Rs./ Litre	% in RSP	Rs./Litre	% in RSP
1	Price without Customs duty, Excise duty and Sales tax/ VAT	14.12	95.2%	399.00	100%
	Central Taxes				
2	Custom duty	Nil	0%	Nil	0%
3	Excise Duty	Nil	0%	Nil	0%
4 (2+3)	Total Central Taxes	Nil	0%	Nil	0%
	State Taxes@				
5	VAT	0.71	4.8%	Nil	0%
5	Total State Taxes	0.71	4.8%	Nil	0%
6 (4+5)	Total Taxes	0.71	4.8%	Nil	0%
7 (1+6)	Retail Selling Price at Delhi	14.83		399.00	

*as per IOCL.

@state taxes vary from state to state.

Reduction in kerosene supply to Punjab

†3534. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of kerosene oil to Punjab has been reduced by 63 percent;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is resentment in the general public and depot holder on this account;

(d) if so, the measure being taken by Government;

(e) the names of States to whom supply of kerosene oil has been reduced and the reasons therefor;

(f) the names of States for which the supply of kerosene oil has been kept unchanged and also the States to which this supply has been increased and the reasons therefor; and

(g) by when the supply to Punjab will be restored and if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R. P. N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) In order to rationalize the distribution of Public Distribution System (PDS) Kerosene quota of the States/ UTs from 1st Quarter of 2012-13, the broad principles that have been adopted to determine the reduction in allocation include, *inter alia*, increase in Domestic LPG connections (where coverage was above national average), lapse of PDS Kerosene quota; wherever applicable and restricting the PDS Kerosene allocation on a per annum per capita allocation (PCA) basis for non-LPG population. No reductions were ordered in 2012-13 in J&K, North East States, A&N Islands, UT of Lakshadweep and Sikkim on account of peculiar geographical/security situation in these States. However, quantity lapsed has been reduced in respect of all the States/UTs wherever applicable.

Accordingly, Government of India has made allocation of PDS Kerosene of 99,732KL to the State of Punjab for the year 2012-13 by reducing allocation of 1,72,824 KL against the previous year based on the above criteria.

(c) and (d) Non lifting of Kerosene by wholesalers of Punjab has been reported to the Government through the State Level Co-ordinator of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). Allocation of PDS Kerosene quota for all the States/UTs including the State of Punjab have been made after following criteria indicated in (a) & (b) above.

(e) PDS Kerosene allocation has been reduced for the year 2012-13 in respect of States/UTs of Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Chhattisgarh, Lakshadweep, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim, Karnataka, Dadara & Nagar Haveli, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Kerala, Daman & Diu, Uttrakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Pudducherry, Punjab, Goa, Chandigarh and Delhi after taking into consideration the principles mentioned at (a) & (b) above.

(f) PDS Kerosene allocation remains unchanged in respect of States of Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Gujarat. The Principles indicated in (a) & (b) above were taken into consideration while deciding allocation of PDS Kerosene to these states.

(g) The quota allocated for 2012-13 to Punjab has been communicated in line with allocation Principle mentioned at (a) & (b) above.

Supply of kerosene to Andhra Pradesh

3535. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted in supplying of kerosene to the States;

(b) the details of demand made by Andhra Pradesh for supply of kerosene during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details of kerosene supplied against the demand from Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that last month the Ministry has reduced kerosene supply to Andhra Pradesh by 43 lakh litres; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) In order to rationalize the distribution of Public Distribution System (PDS) Kerosene quota of the States/UTs from 1st Quarter of 2012-13, the broad principles that have been adopted to determine the reduction in allocation include; *inter alia*, increase in Domestic LPG connections (where coverage was above national average), lapse of PDS Kerosene quota; wherever applicable and restricting the PDS Kerosene allocation on a per annum per capita allocation (PCA) basis for non-LPG population. No reductions were ordered in 2012-13 in J&K, North East States, A&N Islands, UT of Lakshadweep and Sikkim on account of peculiar geographical/security situation in these States. However, quantity lapsed has been reduced in respect of all the States/UTs wherever applicable.

(b) and (c) During the last three years, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh had made a request for additional allocation of PDS Kerosene of 28,432 KL per month to meet the demand of BPL families. The request of the State Government has not been agreed. However, to meet the flood situation additional allocation of 13,000 KL was made to the State of Andhra Pradesh in October, 2009.

(d) and (e) Government of India has made allocation of PDS Kerosene of 4,65,996 KL to the State of Andhra Pradesh for the year 2012-13 by reducing allocation of 64,812 KL against the previous year after taking into consideration the principles mentioned in (a) above.

Achievement of domestic gas production target

3536. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the domestic gas production during the Twelfth Plan has been achieved as per the target;

(b) if so, the details of gas production from the allocated oil and gas fields operated by public sector oil companies;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to extend incentives to increase domestic gas production instead of importing gas by paying higher duty; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) (a) and (b) The 12th Five Year Plan period has since started from 01.04.2012, the domestic gas production is not currently known and therefore, the achievement of target for domestic gas production during the twelfth plan can not be given at this stage.

(c) and (d) Government of India introduced New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in 1997 to accelerate the pace of exploration and production of oil and gas in the country. The NELP Policy provides several benefits to the Exploration and Production (E & P) Companies such as :

- No custom duty on imports required for petroleum operations.
- Payment of royalty at a lesser rate of 5% for first seven years for oil/gas production from deepwater blocks and thereafter at the rate 10%.
- One more year for exploration in frontier areas including deepwater area.
- Biddable cost recovery limit upto 100%.
- 100% participation by foreign companies.
- No mandatory State participation.

Status of revival of LPG retail dealerships

3537. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 896 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29 November, 2011 and state :

(a) the number of pending cases pertaining to resitement/reconstitution/revival of the LPG/retail outlet dealerships which has the approval of the Competent Authority prior to the introduction of new policy in 2005;

(b) the details of such pending cases of resitement/reconstitution/revival of the LPG/retail outlet dealerships which could not be materialized yet due to introduction of new policy in 2005; and

(c) the present status of such cases as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (c) There are five cases of resitement in respect of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), which were approved prior to the policy guidelines of 2005 and the details are as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of dealership/State/location/district	Present Status
1	M/s Kashmir Traders, Srinagar, J&K	Dealer was to arrange suitable land which he could not arrange. Hence, resitement could not materialise.
2.	M/s Khandelwal Oil Co. Mathura-Bharatpur Road, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh	Dealer was to arrange suitable land which he could not arrange. Hence, resitement could not materialise.
3.	M/s Bhagty Oil Depot, Bhagty, dist. Wokha, Nagaland	Identified site falls in an area disputed by the government of Assam and Nagaland. Hence, resitement could not materialise.
4.	M/s Bakshi Desh Raj Bhasin and Sons, Chandimandir, District Panchkula, Haryana	These cases are at different stages of processing.
5.	M/s Dalip Service Station, Delhi	These cases are at different stages of processing.

There are no pending cases pertaining to reconstitution/revival in respect of IOC.

There are no pending cases pertaining to reconstitution/resitement/revival in respect of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC).

There are no pending cases pertaining to resitement/revival in respect of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC). However, there are two (2) pending cases of reconstitution of LPG distributorships, one in the State of Maharashtra and other in Uttaranchal in respect of BPC pending on account of non-completion of formalities.

Differential pricing policies of crude products

3538. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN : Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the domestic crude produced under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) is not being sold at import parity prices;

(b) if so, the reasons for differential pricing for imported LNG and domestic gas;

(c) the reasons for different pricing policies for oil and gas under the same Production Sharing Contract (PSC); and

(d) the reasons for Government discouraging the production of domestic gas by following different pricing policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) The crude oil produced from the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks are sold as per the relevant provisions of the Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs). A price for Crude Oil is determined for each Month or such other period as the Parties may agree in terms of United States Dollars per Barrel, on import parity.

(b) Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is imported directly by various entities under Open General License (OGL). While the price of LNG under long-term contract is generally linked to international price of crude oil/other indices, the price of spot purchase is based on demand-supply position in the international market. The price of gas produced domestically under NELP and pre-NELP is fixed based on the terms of Production Sharing Contract, whereas the price of gas produced from nominated blocks of NoCs, viz., ONGC and OIL is fixed by Government.

(c) PSC provides that the price of natural gas shall be determined on the basis of formula approved by the Government. No such provision exists for the sale of crude in the PSC. Accordingly, PSC provides that the price of crude shall be determined on import parity basis.

(d) The production of natural gas is not discouraged by different pricing policies for crude and natural gas. The Government signs PSC with the desire that the Petroleum resources, including natural gas, which may exist in India be discovered and exploited with the utmost expedition in the overall interest of India in accordance with modern oilfield and petroleum industry practices.

Guru Gobind Singh Refinery, Bathinda

3539. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Guru Gobind Singh Refinery near Bathinda, Punjab has been commissioned and fully operational;

(b) the total amount spent on the project; and

(c) the employment opportunities likely to be generated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) Guru Gobind Singh Refinery, Bathinda was commissioned in February, 2012.

(b) The refinery has been built with an approved cost of Rs. 18,919 crore.

(c) The project employed 5,000 to 35,000 labourers per day at various sites over the last four years during the construction phase. After commissioning, the refinery and associated facilities employ about 1000 personnel, primarily engineers, specialists, technicians and other petroleum professionals. In addition, the refinery will generate significant indirect employment opportunities in the ancillary and support areas, including transportation of petroleum products.

Employment on fake caste certificates

3540. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state Pleas'd to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1685 given in the Rajya Sabha on 16 August, 2011 and state :

(a) whether the Ministry has received a letter from a Member of Parliament on fake caste certificates;

(b) if so, whether adequate attention was paid to the letter;

(c) the reasons for the cases remaining pending before the district collector;

(d) the basis on which the caste certificates were found genuine;

(e) the circumstances under which the concern employee/officers resign from the service of the corporation well before it was established that caste certificates were false; and

(f) whether action of wage recovery were not taken for service with bogus certificate; if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A letter dated 19.08.2011 from Shri Praveen Rashtrapal, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, addressed to the Minister of State in this Ministry has been received and forwarded to the concerned oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) including Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for a report.

(c) and (d) The copies of caste certificates furnished by the selected candidates on joining are sent to the concerned issuing authorities *i.e.* District Collector/District Magistrate/Tehsildar etc. for verification and based on confirmation received from these authorities, the genuineness is ascertained. The cases remain pending for some time due to the lengthy process which involves securitization/investigation by the agencies concerned.

(e) and (f) Oil PSUs except ONGC have reported that no such cases were detected. However, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation has informed that the resignation of two employees were accepted prior to their certificates could be proved to be false. ONGC

has further informed that (as on 11.08.2011) 3 persons are suspended, 14 are terminated and 9 cases are pending either with District authorities or are subjudice. The individuals were terminated from the services which itself is a "Major Penalty" and as such no terminal benefits were paid to them.

Regarding wage recovery, it has been informed that the actions have been taken against the employees/officers as per the Standing Orders/Conduct, Disciplinary & Appeal (CDA) Rules of the companies.

Demand of oil companies for regulating petrol price

3541. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public sector oil companies have urged Government to declare petrol as a regulated product like diesel and LPG so that they can claim compensation for the revenue they are losing on selling the fuel below market price;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on such views of the public sector oil companies;

(c) whether the public sector oil companies have also urged Government to cut excise duty on petrol equivalent to under-recoveries on fuel; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not revised the price of the Petrol since 1st December, 2011 in spite of sharp increase in international prices of petroleum products. The current Retail Selling Price (RSP) of Petrol in Delhi is Rs. 65.64 since 1st December, 2011. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has reported that there is an under recovery of Rs. 7.17 per litre on sale of Petrol.

In order to mitigate losses on sale of Petrol, OMCs have, *inter alia*, suggested to the Government to either declare Petrol as a 'regulated' product temporarily and provide 100% cash compensation or to reduce the Excise Duty on Petrol from Rs. 14.78/litre by an amount equivalent to the under-recovery on Petrol. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance.

Deregulation of prices of petroleum products

3542. SHRI SABIR ALI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the factors which were taken into consideration for deregulation of prices of petrol and petroleum products;

(b) whether Government is aware that the impact of recent hike of petrol and diesel have made the life costlier which has hit hard the common man;

(c) whether it is a fact that hike in prices of petrol and diesel have benefited the petroleum companies; and

(d) if so, the justification for providing relief to the petroleum companies at the cost of common man when huge amount of subsidy is provided to help common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (d) In the light of the recommendations made by the Expert Group set up to advise on a viable and sustainable system of pricing of petroleum products under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh, the price of Petrol has been made market-determined with effect from 26.6.2010. Since then, the OMCs take appropriate decisions on the pricing of Petrol in line with the international oil prices and market conditions. Even after implementation of market determined pricing, OMCs have been making price revision of Petrol in a guarded manner, absorbing a part of under-recovery themselves.

However, in order to insulate the common man from the impact of rise in international oil prices and the domestic inflationary conditions, the Government continues to modulate the Retail Selling Prices of Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG and their current prices are below the required market price resulting in huge under-recoveries to the OMCs on the sale of these sensitive petroleum products. In view of the alarming situation arising out of projected under-recoveries of the OMCs and to reduce the burden of the rise in international oil prices on the consumers, Government took the following decisions on 24th June, 2011 :

- (a) Elimination of 5% Customs Duty on Crude Oil and reduction in Customs Duty on petroleum products by 5%.
- (b) Reduction of Excise Duty on Diesel by Rs. 2.60 per litre. The remaining Excise Duty of Rs. 2.06 per litre on Diesel could not be reduced as it is earmarked towards Road and Education cess.
- (c) Minimal price increase of Rs. 3/- per litre on Diesel, Rs. 2/- per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs. 50/- per 14.2 kg Domestic LPG cylinder excluding State levies.

Even after the duty reductions and the increase in retail selling prices effective 25.06.2011, the OMCs have incurred under-recovery of Rs.1,38,541 crore during the year 2011-12. Further, based on the refinery gate prices as on 1.5.2012, the OMCs are currently incurring under-recoveries of Rs. 13.91 per litre on Diesel, Rs. 31.49 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs. 480.50 per cylinder of Domestic LPG. At these rates, the OMCs are incurring daily under-recovery of Rs. 512 crore.

Funds allocated to Tripura under MGNREGS

3543. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated by Government under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) programme in Tripura in the years 2011-12 and 2012-13; and

(b) the expenditure details of the allocated amounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a demand driven wage employment Programme under which no State-wise allocation of fund is made. The primary objective of MGNREGA is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. Central funds are released to the States/UTs/Districts on the basis of agreed to Labour Budget and taking into consideration the performance and utilization of available funds. No Central Fund has so far been released during the financial year 2012-13 to Tripura and details of funds released to Tripura and utilization during the financial year 2011-12 as reported by the State Government are given below.

(Rs. in lakh)			
Sl. No.	Districts	Central fund released	Amount utilized
1	Dhalai	14251.97	12662.13
2	South Tripura	27364.92	27327.94
3	West Tripura	36218.07	36927.39
4	North Tripura	18097.61	17642.47
TOTAL		95932.57	94559.93

Implementation of MGNREGS in States

3544. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI :

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, State-wise;

- (b) the performance of States during the period, State-wise;
- (c) the funds allocated to States under the scheme during this period, State-wise; and
- (d) the names of the States who could utilize 90-100 per cent, 75-90 percent and less than 75 percent of funds during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) to (d) The primary objective of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. MGNREGA is demand driven and funds are released to States/Districts on the basis of advance projection of labour demand and it is not allocation based. The details of persondays generated, funds released by the Central Government to the States/Union Territories, total expenditure and percentage of expenditure against central release from 2007-08 onwards during the 11th Five year plan period as reported by States/UTs till 27.4.2012 are given in statement.

Statement

Details of persondays generated and fund released

Sl. No.	State	Number of persondays generated (in Lakh)	Total central release (Rs. in Crore)	Total expenditure *(Rs. in crore)	% of expenditure against central release
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	14909.4	17267.4	19150.4	110.9
2	Arunachal Pradesh	86.2	172.1	104.5	60.7
3	Assam	2795.5	3295.5	4206.4	127.6
4	Bihar	5163.4	6292.4	8194.6	130.2
5	Chhattisgarh	5920.8	6959.4	7829.4	112.5
6	Gujarat	1691.3	2219.8	2459.9	110.8
7	Haryana	356.9	715.1	837.2	117.1
8	Himachal Pradesh	1066.0	1880.3	2018.1	107.3
9	Jammu and Kashmir	608.2	1446.0	1055.7	73.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
10	Jharkhand	3771.4	5468.9	6210.2	113.6
11	Karnataka	4286.3	5662.8	8070.2	142.5
12	Kerala	1666.2	2390.9	2491.2	104.2
13	Madhya Pradesh	12063.7	15717.4	17132.7	109.0
14	Maharashtra	1726.2	1711.6	2817.9	164.6
15	Manipur	1137.6	1832.0	1521.9	83.1
16	Meghalaya	633.7	843.4	914.1	108.4
17	Mizoram	612.8	1007.9	925.8	91.9
18	Nagaland	1025.1	2060.0	1764.6	85.7
19	Odisha	2822.2	4401.3	4762.5	108.2
20	Punjab	276.0	483.7	577.4	119.4
21	Rajasthan	16138.5	17928.7	19841.4	110.7
22	Sikkim	159.0	281.1	274.6	97.7
23	Tamil Nadu	9914.7	8129.0	8484.5	104.4
24	Tripura	1856.6	2858.8	3005.8	105.1
25	Uttar Pradesh	13186.4	20425.7	22030.9	107.9
26	Uttarakhand	784.4	1154.1	1286.2	111.4
27	West Bengal	6266.1	8307.3	9616.9	115.8
28	Andaman and Nicobar	18.9	34.9	40.0	114.5
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.7	2.8	2.6	93.1
30	Daman and Diu	0.0	0.9	0.0	NR
31	Goa	8.7	15.2	24.3	160
32	Lakshadweep	6.0	7.8	8.9	115
33	Pondicherry	32.8	40.1	32.1	80
34	Chandigarh	0.0	0.5	0.0	NR
TOTAL		110992.4	141014.9	157692.8	111.8

* Expenditure out of total available fund including Opening Balance, Releases by Central Government, State Share and miscellaneous receipts.

NR = Not Reported.

Reviving the popularity of MGNREGS

3545. SHRI ANIL DESAI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rural job scheme the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has witnessed a drastic decline in 2011-12 fiscal;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps to be taken by the Ministry to revive the waning popularity of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) No sir. The number of households provided employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during 2010-11 as reported by States/UTs was 54947068 and 49253745 during 2011-12. The data reported by States/UTs in Management Information System (MIS) for 2011-12 is till 23.4.2012 with data from some States yet to be fully uploaded.

(b) and (c) MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for up to 100 days of wage employment to every rural household in a financial year for doing unskilled manual work, on demand to be made following a prescribed process. Demand for employment under MGNREGA is dependent upon several external factors including availability of alternate employment opportunities.

Decline in jobs provided to households under MGNREGS

3546. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL :

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of households that availed jobs under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has declined by over 20 percent during the year 2011-12 as compared to the previous fiscal; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) No sir.

(b) The number of households provided employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during 2010-11 as reported by States/UTs was 54947068 and 49253745 during 2011-12. The data reported by States/UTs in Management Information System (MIS) for 2011-12 is till 23.4.2012 with data from some States yet to be fully uploaded. MGNREGA provides a legal guarantee for up to 100 days of wage employment to every rural household in a financial year for doing unskilled manual work, on demand to be made following a prescribed process. As employment is provided on demand, households provided employment by the States/UTs depends on demand for employment.

Implementation of rural development schemes in Himachal Pradesh

†3547.SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of allocation and utilization of funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in every district of Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the guidelines were ignored in the allocation of amount under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) in Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) whether Government will conduct an inquiry into the allocation of houses during the last five years and take action against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is demand driven and funds are released to the States including Himachal on the basis of advance projection of labour demand. The funds released to the State of Himachal Pradesh under MGNREGA and utilized by the districts during the last three years *i.e.* 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 are given below.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Districts	Funds Released			Funds Utilized		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Chamba	*	*	*	9006.33	6965.49	6183.57
2	Sirmour	*	*	*	3304.62	3577.29	3519.09

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Kangra	*	*	*	14472.89	10962.03	10577.94
4	Mandi	*	*	*	13069.81	13497.05	12860.24
5	Bilaspur	*	*	*	1356.96	1370.90	1235.43
6	Hamirpur	*	*	*	2491.08	2163.83	2369.88
7	Kinnaur	*	*	*	489.72	446.06	583.11
8	Kullu	*	*	*	2483.11	2670.68	3059.52
9	Lahul And Spiti	*	*	*	223.97	262.14	232.73
10	Shimla	*	*	*	3226.38	3291.11	4506.82
11	Solan	*	*	*	3021.42	3078.83	3124.25
12	Una	*	*	*	2509.47	1910.97	1983.81
TOTAL		39542.50	63625.00	31138.16	55655.76	50196.38	50236.39

* Funds released to State Employment Guarantee Fund.

Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) State is a unit and funds are released to the State Governments including Himachal Pradesh. The details of funds released and utilized by Himachal Pradesh during the above reference period are as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Funds released	Funds utilized
2009-10	12496.00	22010.00
2010-11	19930.00	14267.00
2011-12	30530.00	8687.00

(b) and (c) The funds under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) are allocated to the State Governments/Union Territories as per pre-determined criteria fixed by the Planning Commission giving due weightage to housing shortage and poverty ratio. No guidelines were ignored in the allocation under IAY to Himachal Pradesh.

IWMP in Karnataka

3548. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRSEKHAR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of drought prone areas or districts in Karnataka covered under the Central Scheme Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP);
- (b) when these areas or districts were covered under the IWMP;
- (c) whether Government has assessed the achievements of the IWMP in such areas or districts of the State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI) : (a) and (b) The Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing three area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP) on watershed basis. These three programmes have been integrated and consolidated into a single modified programme called Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) *w.e.f.* 26.02.2009. IWMP is extended to all States and UTs including Karnataka. This programme aims at development of degraded/rainfed areas. Details of district-wise and year-wise projects sanctioned under IWMP in Karnataka are given in Statement-I. (*See below*)

(c) and (d) Most of the projects sanctioned under IWMP in the State of Karnataka are in preparatory phase. However, the preparatory phase of the projects sanctioned during the year 2009-10 has been completed. The evaluation of these projects has been conducted by (1) Remote Sensing Instruments, Bangalore, (2) Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology, Bangalore, and (3) Consulting Engineering Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore. The analysis has been made considering the activities carried out in preparatory phase which *inter alia* include Entry Point Activities (EPAs), Sensitisation and awareness creation, formation and functioning of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) like Self Help Groups (SHGs), User Groups (UGs) and Executive Committees (ECs), Capacity Building, Net Planning and Detailed Project Report (DPR) preparation, and establishing Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Documentation (MEL & D) system. The major findings of the evaluation are given in Statement-II. (*See below*)

Statement-I
Year-wise and District-wise list of projects under Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP): Karnataka

Sl. No	Name of the District	2009-10						2010-11						2011-12					
		No. of Project	Area (in ha.)	Total Project Cost	Central Share (90%)	CS 20% released	No. of projects	Area (in ha.)	Total Project Cost	Central Share (90%)	CS 20% released	No. of project	Area (in ha.)	Total Project Cost	Central Share (90%)	CS 6% released			
																	CS 6%		
1	Bagalkote	4	16989.00	25.4835	22.9352	4.5870	4	19521.00	29.2815	26.3534	5.2737	3	11942.74	17.9141	16.1227	0.9674			
2	Bangalore Rural	3	12715.71	15.2589	13.7330	2.7466	2	9981.00	11.9768	10.7791	2.1558	2	9348.37	11.2181	10.0963	0.6057			
3	Belgaum	8	23365.06	33.4457	30.1011	6.0202	6	24367.00	32.3427	29.1085	5.8217	6	24059.12	36.0888	32.4799	1.9488			
4	Bellary	6	18486.06	25.9141	23.3227	4.6645	6	20580.00	28.7100	25.8390	5.1678	4	18497.98	27.7470	24.9723	1.4983			
5	Bidar	4	20581.00	24.6972	22.2275	4.4455	4	26846.00	32.2147	28.9932	5.7986	4	22998.18	27.5978	24.8380	1.4903			
6	Bijapur	5	17993.75	26.9906	24.2916	4.8583	8	32732.00	49.0985	44.1887	8.8377	2	10353.00	15.5295	13.9766	0.8386			
7	Chamrajnagar	3	16572.22	19.8867	17.8980	3.5796	3	12398.00	14.8779	13.3901	2.6780	4	23678.39	28.4142	25.5728	1.5345			
8	Chikballapur	5	23405.00	28.0860	25.2774	5.0555	4	15243.00	18.2916	16.4624	3.2925	4	18461.49	22.1538	19.9384	1.1963			
9	Chikmagalur	2	10788.00	12.9456	11.6510	2.3302	3	15661.00	18.7937	16.9144	3.3829	4	20366.08	27.5798	24.8218	1.4892			
10	Chitradurga	6	26177.00	31.4124	28.2712	5.6542	6	25236.00	30.2834	27.2551	5.4510	5	24182.10	29.0185	26.1167	1.5671			
11	Dakshina Kamda	2	9028.00	12.0327	10.8294	2.1659	3	13300.00	19.9500	17.9550	3.5910	3	13091.98	19.6380	17.6742	1.0605			
12	Davengere	5	25582.18	32.4776	29.2299	5.8460	3	14996.00	19.5264	17.5738	3.5148	4	20356.54	25.9568	23.3611	1.4017			

13	Dharwad	4	15484.00	18.5808	16.7227	3.3445	5	16434.00	19.7210	17.7489	3.5498	4	18566.85	22.2802	20.0522	1.2031
14	Gadag	4	20443.67	24.5324	22.0792	4.4158	4	21070.00	25.2843	22.7559	4.5512	2	10721.00	12.8652	11.5787	0.6947
15	Gulbarga	4	13593.00	16.3116	14.68044	2.9361	7	27702.00	33.2424	29.9182	95.9836	6	31963.06	38.3556	34.5200	2.0713
16	Hassan	5	17493.01	20.9916	18.8924	3.7785	6	22804.00	27.3651	24.6286	4.9257	3	13350.00	16.0200	14.4180	0.8651
17	Haveri	5	21907.00	26.2884	23.6596	4.7319	6	26941.00	32.3288	29.0959	5.8192	4	16919.58	20.3035	18.2732	1.0964
18	Kolar	5	25649.66	30.7796	27.7016	5.5403	5	17956.00	21.5475	19.3928	3.8786	4	21032.08	25.2386	22.7147	1.3629
19	Koppal	4	18564.00	26.7918	24.1126	4.8225	4	19391.00	27.6057	24.8451	4.9690	4	19407.00	27.5670	24.8103	1.4886
20	Mandya	3	12650.00	15.1800	13.6620	2.7324	3	12000.00	14.4000	12.9600	2.5920	7	31508.00	37.8000	34.0200	2.0416
21	Kodagu						1	5104.00	7.6564	6.8907	1.3781	2	9302.47	13.9537	12.5583	0.7535
22	Mysore	4	15683.00	18.8196	16.9376	3.3875	3	17061.00	20.4730	18.4257	3.6851	4	22260.10	26.7122	24.0410	1.4423
23	Raichur	4	15410.00	20.6580	18.5922	3.7184	5	24955.00	34.7010	31.2309	6.2462	5	23360.80	32.2542	29.0288	1.7417
24	Ramnagar	2	9525.00	11.4300	10.2870	2.0574	3	12010.00	14.4117	12.9706	2.5941	3	15917.57	19.1011	17.1910	1.0315
25	Shimoga	8	32391.00	48.0360	43.2324	8.6465	5	15097.00	22.6452	20.3807	4.0761	6	21726.41	32.5896	29.3306	1.7598
26	Tumkur	8	20292.58	24.3511	21.9160	4.3832	10	39965.00	47.9580	43.1622	8.6324	6	29528.16	35.4338	31.8904	1.9134
27	Udupi	1	4382.00	5.2584	4.7326	0.9465	2	10000.00	13.2000	11.8800	2.3760	2	7720.00	11.5800	10.4220	0.6253
28	Uttar-Kanadda	3	14867.66	22.3015	20.0713	4.0143	3	14990.00	22.4850	20.2365	4.0473	7	26582.99	39.8745	35.8871	2.1533
29	Yadgir	2	11451.00	13.7412	12.3671	2.4734	3	12299.00	14.7588	13.2829	2.6566	2	11062.43	13.2749	11.9474	0.7169
TOTAL		119	491469.36	632.6829	569.4146	113.8829	127	546640.00	705.1311	634.6180	126.9266	116	548264.47	714.0605	642.6545	38.5598

Statement-II

The major findings of the evaluation report of preparatory phase of 2009-10 IWMP projects in Karnataka

- EPAs have been implemented in all the project areas in all 28 districts. All EPA activities/structures are found to be technically sound and qualitatively good. Check Dams, Gokattas and Farm ponds, etc. in more than 90% of instances have resulted in increasing the ground water level in the surroundings, catering to cattle drinking water requirement, occasional usage of irrigation and washing purpose. Increase in the bio-mass and diversity of species in the surroundings is also observed.
- A special feedback study carried out in selected project areas revealed that on an average more than 60% of impact awareness is observed in case of sensitization & awareness activities.
- Community participation is mainly channeled through the CBOs formed for the purpose viz. SHGs, UGs & ECs which are formed in the project areas as per the target. All together 4031 SHGs, 3641 UGs & 330 ECs have been formed.
- Capacity Building of CBOs is carried out mainly through module based training programmes. The participation in training is found very high among SHGs (> 85%). Among the UGs it is satisfactory (> 60%) and among the ECs it is good (> 75%).
- Net planning is completed in all the project areas. Collective involvement of Watershed Development Team (WDT), NGO staff and community has ensured 100% net plan and DPR preparation for these projects.
- Livestock sector has made a good beginning and Trainings of Trainers (ToTs) under these sectors are exemplary. Besides, the Animal Health camps conducted under IWMP are found to be very successful. Village Based Training and unique self explanatory charts developed and used by this sector are unique, very innovative and effective in realizing the goals.
- Notable feature of the project is putting in place an effective MEL&D System. Near real time process monitoring, enabling on line corrective measure, during the project time line is made operational.

Proposals received under CAPART

†3549. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has received proposals from Non-Governmental Organisations in Rajasthan for the schemes being run by the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART);

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such NGOs from whom proposals have been received; and

(c) the number of NGOs in Rajasthan who received financial assistance under this scheme along with the amount of such financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A total of 2594 proposals have been received from 900 NGOs in Rajasthan since/inception of CAPART.

(c) 334 NGOs in Rajasthan have been provided financial assistance of Rs. 29,52,22,427/-.

Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme

†3550. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is presently implementing Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) covering BPL widows in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of BPL widows covered and benefited under IGNWPS in Maharashtra, as on date, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) was launched in February, 2009 as a component of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). Presently, under IGNWPS, central assistance @ Rs. 200/- per month is provided to a widow in the age group of 40-59 years and belonging to household living below poverty line as per criteria prescribed by the Government of India. States have been requested to contribute at least an equal amount from their own resources. Further, in the Budget Speech for 2012-13, Hon'ble Finance Minister has announced enhancement of central assistance under IGNWPS from Rs. 200/- to Rs. 300/- per month.

(c) Maharashtra has reported coverage of 323000 numbers of beneficiaries as on date under IGNWPS. District-wise details are not maintained by the Central Government.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Inclusion of new works under MGNREGS

†3551. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal of the State Government of Himachal Pradesh is pending in the Ministry for the last one year regarding the inclusion of activities pertaining to securing the crops of marginal and small farmers of Himachal Pradesh from the wild animals among the approved works under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) if so, by when the Ministry proposes to address this issue; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) to (c) The primary objective of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. Creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor is also an important objective of the Act. A proposal for protection or barbed wire fencing around the agricultural fields for crop protection to check the menace of wild animals was received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh. Since barbed wire fencing is not listed as a permissible activity in schedule 1 of the Act, it cannot be covered under MGNREGA and the State Government has been already informed accordingly.

Gender based employment in MGNREGS

†3552. DR. PRABHA THAKUR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether majority of workers employed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for construction works are women;

(b) if so, the reasons for employing men as mate for maintaining accounts of women labourers at majority of the places;

(c) whether Government would take appropriate steps ensuring the appointment of a woman as mate for the group of women labourers, which would bring down corruption;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The participation of women workers under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the country during 2009-10 to 2011-12 has been around 48%.

(b) to (e) The provisions in MGNREGA are effected through Schemes to be formulated by States under Section 4(1) of the Act. As per Section 18 of the MGNREGA, it is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to make available to the District Programme Coordinator and the Programme Officers necessary staff and technical support as may be necessary for the effective implementation of the Scheme formulated by them under Section 4 of the Act. The procedures for selection, training, duties, and remuneration etc. of mates under MGNREGA are laid down in the MGNREGA Operational Guidelines. These provide that adequate representation of women among mates should be ensured.

Budgetary allocation for unemployment allowance

3553. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 763 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20 March, 2012 and state :

(a) the names of States which have enacted the required legislation and made the requisite budgetary allocation to pay unemployment allowances;

(b) in view of the under performance of States in this regard, as revealed in Annexure-II to the reply, the steps the Union Government proposes to take to ensure that intended beneficiaries are fully informed of, and motivated to act on, the relevant provisions of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);

(c) whether the Centre proposes to assist States in providing such unemployment allowances; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The information is being collected from States/Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development administers several schemes/programmes including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for rural areas. Information, Education and Communication activities for all the programmes of the Ministry are done in a holistic manner both in electronic and print media for generating awareness across the country for effective implementation of all these programmes. Such special awareness generation campaigns

regarding the right and entitlements, processes and other information relevant to the beneficiaries under MGNREGA are conducted by the Ministry through various agencies from time to time.

(c) No sir.

(d) It is for the concerned State Government to provide unskilled manual work up to 100 days in a financial year in accordance with the Scheme notified by the States as per Section 4 of the Act. Central Government bears the entire expenditure on payment of wages at notified wage rates to unskilled manual workers. 75% of material cost, including wages of skilled and semiskilled workers, is also borne by the Central Government. The liability for payment of unemployment allowance is on the State Governments. This is to act as an incentive to the States to provide employment on demand proactively failing which the liability of unemployment allowance falls on them. It may therefore be counter productive for the Central Government to bear the burden of payment of unemployment allowance under the Act.

Unit cost of IAY house

3554. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposal of the State Government of Odisha is pending for enhancing the limit of unit cost of Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) houses from Rupees Forty Five thousand in five Left Wing Extremist districts namely Deogarh, Gajapati, Malkangiri, Rayagada and Sambalpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) to (c) At present, the unit assistance under IAY is Rs. 45,000/- in plain areas and Rs. 48,500/- in hilly/difficult areas. No proposal for enhancement of unit cost under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) in Left Wing Extremist (LWE) districts has been received from State Government of Odisha. However, LWE districts including these five districts of Odisha namely Deogarh, Gajapati, Malkangiri, Rayagada and Sambalpur have been treated as difficult areas since 2010-11 and already the higher rate of unit assistance of Rs. 48,500 is being provided for an IAY house in these districts.

SGSY in Bihar

3555. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the fund released to Bihar under the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) during the current five year plan period, year-wise;

(b) the details of such works which did not commence even after the release of funds; and

(c) the steps taken to rectify the delay and utilization of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) and (b) Under SGSY targets for each state is fixed for credit mobilization and swarozgaris assisted with bank credit and subsidy for taking up economic activities. For the State of Bihar, a statement showing the Central allocation, credit target and achievement and details of target set for swarozgaris assisted with bank credit & subsidy during the current five year Plan is given in Statement. (See below)

Funds under SGSY are also released for Special Projects, for setting up of Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETI) and setting of Village Haats in rural areas.

Details of progress of works are not maintained centrally. However, funds are released to the states agencies in instalments, based on approved financial norms.

(c) The SGSY has been restructured as National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) to implement it in a mission mode in a phased manner for targeted and time bound delivery of results.

For effective implementation of NRLM, all the States will set up programme management units at State, Districts & Block levels by inducting dedicated professionals of various streams. For Bihar State the National Rural Livelihoods Mission will be implemented by Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (BRLPS).

Statement

State-wise physical and financial progress under the SGSY in Bihar

(Rs. in lacs)

Sl. No.	STATES / U.T.	Central Allocation	Credit Disbursed		Total No. of Swarozgaris Assisted	
			Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
			4	5	6	7
1	2007-08	21363.17	46998.97	15084.45	169832	100159
2	2008-09	25255.54	49077.62	25592.21	222669	127226
3	2009-10	25899.00	57085.00	26472.16	234063	157801
4	2010-11	29872.00	65625.45	27267.94	278264	162009
5	2011-12	27291.00	76420.00	17845.30	251565	100554

BPL population in Uttarakhand

†3556. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the Below Poverty Line (BPL) population and families in Uttarakhand as on date;
- (b) whether Government has recently conducted any survey of the BPL persons and families of the country;
- (c) if so, the average monthly or annual income of such persons/families; and
- (d) the steps taken or being taken by Government to ensure overall improvement in the living standard of people living Below the Poverty Line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The Ministry of Rural Development provides financial and technical support to the States/UTs for conducting the BPL Census to identify the families living Below the Poverty Line in the rural areas who could be targeted under its programmes. The last BPL Census was conducted in 2002 and the number of families identified by the state of Uttarakhand in this Census was 6.238 lakhs.

(b) and (c) A Socio Economic and Caste Census has been launched on 29th June, 2011 in the country which is being carried out by the respective States/Union Territories Governments with the financial and technical support of the Ministry of Rural Development to generate a large number of social and economic indicators relating to households across the country for their ranking.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing various poverty alleviation programmes/schemes in rural areas of the country through State Governments and UT Administrations. The programmes namely Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)/National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM)/Ajeevika, Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) are for the benefit of persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL).

Food for work under MGNREGS

3557. SHRI N.K. SINGH : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is proposing to provide food for work as part of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the prices at which the proposed foodgrains will be offered; and
- (d) the details of total foodgrains required under this scheme?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) No sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Evaluation of assets created under MGNREGS

3558. SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 48,000 crores have been spent under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) since its inception;

(b) if so, the details of output and the assets created through MGNREGS; and

(c) whether any evaluation has been made in this regard and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) and (b) Under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), during the period from 2006-07 to 2011-12, a total amount of Rs. 149656.17 crore has been released to States/UTs by the Central Government. The details of total expenditure incurred (against available funds including State share, miscellaneous receipts etc.), persondays generated and number of works completed under MGNREGA during the above period as reported by States/UTs are given in statement. (*See below*)

(c) Ministry of Rural Development organizes concurrent evaluation/assessment of all its programmes/Schemes including MGNREGA on periodic basis through independent and reputed agencies and organizations. The Ministry of Rural Development has engaged Institutions like Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) and other professional institutions to conduct studies and surveys on the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). Some major findings of such Studies are given below :

- i. Increase in Agriculture Minimum *Wages and wage earned per day* due to impact of MGNREGA has given a bargaining power to the labour (*IIM Lucknow, NDUAT Faizabad*).
- ii. Reduction in distress migration: Studies report reduction in distress migration (council for Social Development, Centre for Science and Environment, Indian Institute of Management, Shillong).
- iii. Creation of "Green Jobs": nearly 70% works relate to water conservation, water-harvesting, restoration, renovation and desilting of water bodies, drought-proofing, plantation & afforestation (Indian Institute of Science Bangalore and IIFM, Bhopal).

- iv. Improvement in ground water, improved agricultural productivity & cropping intensity, mono crop to two crops (Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI).
- v. Reduction in water vulnerability index, agriculture vulnerability, livelihood vulnerability index (Indian Institute of Science Bangalore).
- vi. No gender differential in wage rates for MGNREG works. (NSSO 64th Round).

Statement

Persondays generated and work completed under MGNREGA

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (Reported till 27/4/2012)	Total
Total expenditure (Rs. in crore)	8823.4	15856.9	27250.1	37905.2	39377.3	37303.3	166516.2
Number of Persondays generated (in crore)	90.5	143.6	216.3	283.6	257.2	209.3	1200.4
Numbers of Works Completed (Asset Created) (in lakh)	3.87	8.23	12.14	22.59	25.90	13.43	86.17

Performance of MGNREGS activities

3559. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the works such as water conservation and water harvesting, drought proofing including forestation and tree plantation, irrigation canals including micro and minor irrigation works, provisions of irrigation facility to lands belonging to SCs/STs in the North Eastern Region, State-wise under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS); and

(b) the details of beneficiaries of these works and the total amount spent. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The details of number of works taken up (new and spillover works) and completed under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in North Eastern States from 2009-10 onward as reported by the States are given in Statement-I. (*See* below)

(b) The details of number of households provided employment and expenditure incurred by the States during the above period as reported by the States are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I**Number of works take on up and completed under MGNREGS in N.E. States from 2009-10 onwards**

S.No	State	Water Conservation and Water Harvesting				Drought Proofing (afforestation & Tree Plantation)							
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12			
		Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	reported till 27/04/12	reported till 27/04/12		
1	Arunachal Pradesh	117	21	189	48	10	0	101	6	236	26	I	0
2	Assam	1415	492	1985	531	3826	414	1332	540	3799	2540	12472	2223
3	Manipur	1495	1109	914	852	666	0	2218	1938	1288	1091	1366	0
4	Meghalaya	1985	1391	2182	1288	4207	626	1108	937	1148	511	2467	511
5	Mizoram	128	121	322	311	243	1	257	257	582	582	667	77
6	Nagaland	3247	1600	1643	1546	1336	86	773	693	722	594	951	87
7	Sikkim	258	197	431	360	186	10	880	780	578	415	769	320
8	Tripura	40611	10398	13507	12293	16900	11843	11791	1483	6247	5546	6294	3000
TOTAL		49256	15329	21173	17229	27374	12980	18460	6634	14600	11305	24987	6218

Sl. No.	State	Micro Irrigation Works						Provision of Irrigation Facility etc on Lands of SC/ ST/ BPL/ S & MF/ Land Reform And IAY beneficiaries						
		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		
		Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	Taken up	Completed	
1	Arunachal Pradesh	232	65	430	157	61	0	44	0	0	0	0	1	0
2	Assam	917	248	1145	282	2250	443	201	28	655	78	1778	773	
3	Manipur	869	609	665	582	1183	0	126	0	5	5	0	0	
4	Meghalaya	361	237	583	340	700	116	12	11	17	14	7	0	
5	Mizoram	10	2	19	18	78	2	1	0	28	14	5	0	
6	Nagaland	745	679	710	639	1412	103	82	69	0	0	16	0	
7	Sikkim	141	58	244	100	254	47	0	0	2	2	1	0	
8	Tripura	14582	5259	6259	5955	7362	5988	1387	672	545	447	714	627	
TOTAL		17857	7157	10055	8073	13300	6699	1853	780	1252	560	2522	1400	

Statement-II

*Number of Households provides employment and expenditure incurred by N.E.
States from 2009-10 onwards*

Sl. No.	State	Number of Households Provided Employment			Total Expenditure (Rs. in Lakh)		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 reported till 27/04/12	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 reported till 27/04/12
1	Arunachal Pradesh	68157	134527	2714	1725.74	5057.31	69.10
2	Assam	2137270	1798372	1347196	103389.76	92104.35	74854.83
3	Manipur	418564	433856	334049	39316.87	44070.51	27556.62
4	Meghalaya	300482	346149	328178	18352.79	31902.39	27120.29
5	Mizoram	180140	170894	169334	23823.99	29315.12	18786.67
6	Nagaland	325242	350815	305923	49945.76	60537.48	36345.07
7	Sikkim	54156	56401	54376	6408.99	8525.72	7066.90
8	Tripura	576487	557055	566770	72940.80	63186.85	94513.70
TOTAL		4060498	3848069	3108540	315904.70	334699.73	286313.18

Funds for marketing of goods made by women SHGs

†3560. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the women have set up 'Mahila Bachat Gat' in the rural areas of Maharashtra;

(b) whether it is essential to organise exhibition to sell the goods made by these women so that they may get good market;

(c) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has demanded some fund from the Central Government for this purpose last year;

(d) if so, the date on which the said demand was made alongwith the amount thereof;

(e) whether Government would accept this for women empowerment; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) Government of Maharashtra have intimated that since the inception of Swarnjayanti Grameen Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) *i.e.* from 1st April, 1999, the total number of SHGs formed in rural Maharashtra is 2,64,937.

(b) Yes. Marketing of products is one of the main concerns of the Ministry of Rural Development for the successful implementation of all self employment programmes especially those under Swarnjayanti Grameen Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY). SARAS Fairs held across the country provides an ideal opportunity to the rural poor to showcase and market their products as sellers and buyers directly meet there. These fairs are important outlets for the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families to display and sell their products on the one hand, and also learn the nuances of urban marketing principles on the other hand. These fairs are organized annually by Ministry of Rural Development both at the National and State level. Ministry of Rural Development provides assistance for organisation of one regional SARAS fair in each State during a financial year who are willing to organise such fair.

(c) and (d) Government of Maharashtra had demanded an amount of Rs.75 lakh from Central Government for organising the Regional SARAS Fair during the year 2011-12 vide their letter/dated 24th October, 2011.

(e) and (f) As per norms laid down by the Ministry of Rural Development, it provides a financial assistance of Rs. 25 lakhs to states for organizing SARAS fair in metropolitan cities and Rs. 20 lakhs in non metropolitan cities. Since, the SARAS fair was organized in Mumbai by Government of Maharashtra in the year 2011-12, an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs was approved by the Ministry of Rural Development. Out of this amount, Rs. 18.75 lakhs was released as advance to Government of Maharashtra during the year 2011-12. As per norms, balance amount is released on submission of utilization certificate, audited statement of accounts, reporting of sales and expenditure figures and a complete report on the organization of the SARAS fair.

Quality of PMGSY roads in Chhattisgarh

†3561. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Quality Monitoring Committee (NQMC) has found in its study that 75 per cent roads in Bastar, 70 per cent in Dantewada, 51 per cent in Kanker, 68 per cent in Sarguja and 85 per cent in Narayanpur districts are not conforming to the prescribed standard;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether an allocation of Rs. 348 crores to Bastar Rs. 69 crores to Dantewada, Rs. 86 crores to Kanker, Rs. 430 crores to Sarguja district and Rs. 19 crores to Narayanpur was made under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the said five tribal districts and still the roads were found to be of substandard there; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the State Government against the guilty persons after the report of the NQMC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) to (c) Ensuring quality of road works is the responsibility of the State Government which are implementing the Programme. Accordingly, State Governments set up Quality Control Units and the State Quality Monitors (SQMs) engaged by these units carry out periodic inspections. In addition, National Quality Monitors (NQMs) are also engaged for inspection of some of the road works on random basis. The defects, if any, observed by the NQMs during their inspections are rectified by the contractors at their own cost. The details of NQM inspections carried out during the year 2011-12 *vis-a-vis* quality grading in the districts of Bastar, Dantewada, Kanker, Sarguja and Narayanpur are as under:

Details of NQM inspections during the year 2011-2012, vis-a- vis, grading

Districts	Completed Works				Ongoing Works			
	Total	S	U	U%	Total	S	U	U%
Bastar	4	4	0	0%	3	3	0	0%
Dantewada	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
Kanker	3	1	2	67%	10	9	1	10%
Narayanpur	0	0	0	0%	6	6	0	0%
Sarguja	5	4	1	20%	19	18	1	5%

S - Satisfactory, U - Unsatisfactory

Under PMGSY, funds are released taking the State as a Unit and district-wise data is not maintained centrally. For the State of Chhattisgarh, Rs. 5552.20 crore has been released up to February, 2012. However, during the year 2010-11, a lump sum amount of Rs. 328 crore was released to the State of Chhattisgarh for utilization in 10 Selected Tribal and Backward districts including the five districts mentioned above. Similarly, during the year 2011-12, Rs. 555 crore was released to the State of Chhattisgarh for utilization in 10 Selected Tribal and Backward districts including the five districts mentioned above.

Unit-wise allocation of funds under IAY House

3562. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not increasing unit-wise allocation of fund for toilet facility and for Indira Awas Yojana keeping view of sharp hike in price of cement, construction materials and labour charges;

(b) whether the Ministry is in process to hike unit-wise allocation in this regard; and if so, by when the Ministry will increase unit-wise allocation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The unit assistance under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) is getting increased over the years. Initially the unit cost was fixed at Rs. 10,000/- which was enhanced to Rs. 12,700 in plain areas and Rs. 14,500 in hilly/difficult areas in 1990, Rs. 14,000/15,800 in 1994, Rs. 20,000/22,000/- in 1996, Rs. 25,000/27,500 in 2004, Rs. 35,000/38,500/- in 2008. It was again revised to Rs. 45,000/- and Rs. 48,500/- for plain areas and hilly/difficult areas respectively *w.e.f.* 1st April, 2010.

(b) and (c) Working Group on Rural Housing set up by the Planning Commission for formulation of 12th Five Year Plan submitted its report to the Planning Commission on 13/10/2011. In its Report, it has recommended enhanced unit assistance of Rs. 75,000/- for construction of an IAY house in rural areas. In addition, it is also recommended that unit assistance may be enhanced incrementally each year to absorb escalation in cost of materials and labour.

In so far as enhancement of unit assistance for toilet under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) is concerned, TSC is a demand driven project based programme wherein provision exists for incentives to BPL households on completion and use of toilet in recognition of its achievement. Government has recognized the need for revision in the incentive amount from time to time to sufficiently motivate the BPL households to create and use sanitation facilities. Accordingly, the share of centre and State over the years in the incentives provided to the BPL households has been increased as follows :

Year	Incentive provided by Centre	State
2004	Rs. 375/-	Rs. 125/-
2006	Rs. 900/-	Rs. 300/-
2008	Rs. 1500/- (Rs. 2000/- for hilly and difficult area)	Rs. 700/-
2011(<i>w.e.f.</i> 1.6.2011)	Rs. 2200/- (Rs. 2700/- for hilly and difficult area)	Rs. 1000/-

The program is a demand driven one and the people are expected to generate the resources for construction of the toilet when they develop a felt need for the same. Past experience of subsidizing the construction of the toilets shows that while large number of toilets was constructed, this did not impact reduction of open defecation to the commensurate level. The Ministry involves the stakes of beneficiaries so that the toilets constructed are put to use and is sustainable in the long run.

Norms for expenditure under MGNREGA

3563. SHRI N. BALAGANGA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some norms have been prescribed for expenditure to be incurred under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);

(b) if so, the details of the expenditure incurred during the last three years under different Heads, State-wise, year-wise; and

(c) the details of the assets that have been created with the expenditures under MGNREGA during the said period, year-wise, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The utilization of funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is governed by the MGNREGA Operational Guidelines, National Employment Guarantee Fund Rules 2006, norms and advisories issued from time to time. The Central Government bears the entire expenditure on payment of wages at notified wage rates to unskilled manual workers. The cost of material component of projects including the wages of the skilled and semi-skilled workers taken up under the Scheme shall not exceed forty per cent of the total project costs. 75% of material cost, including wages of skilled and semiskilled workers, is borne by the Central Government. Up to 6% of funds are permitted as administrative expenditure for deployment of dedicated staff for MGNREGA, strengthening of management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal, Information, Communication and Technology infrastructure etc.

(b) and (c) The details of works completed and total expenditure incurred under the heads of unskilled wages, material (including wages of skilled and semi-skilled workers), administrative expenses during the last three years as reported by States/UTs are given in Statement.

Statement*Details of work completed and expenditure incurred*

Sl. No.	State	2009-10				Number of works completed (Assets Created)
		Expenditure on wages (Rs. in Crore)	Expenditure on material (Rs. in Crore)	Administrative Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)	Total Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3715.1	595.0	199.1	4509.2	532673
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11.7	4.7	0.8	17.3	671
3.	Assam	637.4	362.4	34.1	1033.9	9403
4.	Bihar	1108.7	643.8	64.3	1816.9	72625
5.	Chhattisgarh	856.7	417.8	48.1	1322.7	52601
6.	Gujarat	522.5	192.3	24.6	739.4	263651
7.	Haryana	89.1	48.7	5.7	143.6	4063
8.	Himachal Pradesh	312.1	219.8	24.6	556.6	35899
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	120.1	60.2	5.1	185.3	18661
10.	Jharkhand	823.0	511.8	44.8	1379.7	75767
11.	Karnataka	1723.0	979.0	37.2	2739.2	129617
12.	Kerala	409.5	37.7	24.3	471.5	76823
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2196.2	1414.3	111.7	3722.3	244619
14.	Maharashtra	258.6	47.8	14.7	321.1	10613
15.	Manipur	237.8	135.1	20.3	393.2	11491
16.	Meghalaya	117.2	58.5	7.8	183.5	6349
17.	Mizoram	177.8	48.8	11.7	238.2	2734
18.	Nagaland	292.3	181.2	26.0	499.5	5597
19.	Odisha	586.7	319.3	33.0	939.0	25011
20.	Punjab	95.3	47.5	7.1	149.9	6384

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21	Rajasthan	3930.5	1623.5	115.1	5669.0	92251
22	Sikkim	41.3	19.7	3.1	64.1	1432
23	Tamil Nadu	1710.8	0.0	50.4	1761.2	20909
24	Tripura	462.8	244.5	22.1	729.4	48424
25	Uttar Pradesh	3541.2	2150.0	208.9	5900.0	360488
26	Uttarakhand	180.5	91.9	10.7	283.1	24677
27	West Bengal	1401.9	627.1	80.0	2109.0	121858
28	Andaman and Nicobar	8.4	0.2	3.6	12.3	354
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.8	0.4	0.1	1.3	22
30	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
31	Goa	1.8	1.1	1.8	4.7	300
32	Lakshadweep	1.6	0.2	0.2	2.0	2623
33	Pondicherry	6.9	0.0	0.4	7.3	892
34	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
TOTAL		25579.3	11084.5	1241.4	37905.2	2259482

NR=Not Reported.

Sl. No.	State	2010-11				
		Expenditure on wages (Rs. in Crore)	Expenditure on material (Rs. in Crore)	Administrative Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)	Total Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)	Number of completed works (Asset Created)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	3350.6	1661.2	427.6	5439.4	864989
2	Arunachal Pradesh	29.6	18.3	2.7	50.6	926
3	Assam	503.9	373.2	44.0	921.0	10650
4	Bihar	1622.2	932.6	109.5	2664.3	82349
5	Chhattisgarh	1159.3	406.8	67.8	1634.0	89287

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	Gujarat	478.9	270.7	38.7	788.2	45158
7	Haryana	142.3	65.4	7.1	214.7	7573
8	Himachal Pradesh	277.7	199.8	24.5	502.0	33975
9	Jammu and Kashmir	237.3	129.4	11.1	377.8	36542
10	Jharkhand	858.1	367.4	58.8	1284.4	47419
11	Karnataka	1575.6	900.3	61.2	2537.2	91089
12	Kerala	636.8	36.6	31.0	704.3	104489
13	Madhya Pradesh	2149.3	1372.6	115.4	3637.2	291035
14	Maharashtra	268.9	72.0	17.2	358.1	18707
15	Manipur	274.8	144.9	21.0	440.7	7897
16	Meghalaya	199.3	106.4	13.3	319.0	7755
17	Mizoram	192.4	83.8	17.0	293.2	3253
18	Nagaland	344.0	227.0	34.4	605.4	8937
19	Odisha	932.9	552.2	48.0	1533.1	59278
20	Punjab	97.7	58.7	9.5	165.8	6793
21	Rajasthan	2272.0	864.4	152.6	3289.1	52262
22	Sikkim	48.1	32.2	4.9	85.3	1534
23	Tamil Nadu	2214.5	0.0	108.8	2323.3	31391
24	Tripura	384.5	214.5	32.9	631.9	65433
25	Uttar Pradesh	3519.7	1885.8	225.8	5631.2	448148
26	Uttarakhand	234.7	131.6	13.9	380.2	29749
27	West Bengal	1656.6	779.6	96.3	2532.5	142974
28	Andaman and Nicobar	7.5	0.2	1.4	9.0	263
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.5	0.6	0.1	1.2	7
30	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
31	Goa	5.1	2.4	2.4	9.9	559

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32	Lakshadweep	1.9	0.4	0.2	2.5	0
33	Pondicherry	10.2	0.0	0.6	10.8	1
34	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
TOTAL		25686.5	11891.1	1799.7	39377.3	2590422

NR = Not Reported.

Sl. No.	State	2011-12 (Reported Till 27/4/2012)				Number of completed works (Asset Created)
		Expenditure on wages (Rs. in Crore)	Expenditure on material (Rs. in Crore)	Administrative Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)	Total Expenditure (Rs. in Crore)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	2802.7	854.5	497.0	4154.2	37262
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.7	NR
3	Assam	461.1	245.9	41.5	748.5	10860
4	Bihar	752.5	529.7	62.5	1344.7	333
5	Chhattisgarh	1445.9	506.0	84.5	2036.4	63869
6	Gujarat	347.2	249.4	57.8	654.4	37628
7	Haryana	196.6	110.3	9.9	316.7	14050
8	Himachal Pradesh	320.6	155.9	25.2	501.7	34567
9	Jammu and Kashmir	186.8	158.8	17.3	362.9	2242
10	Jharkhand	723.3	360.0	58.6	1141.9	43573
11	Karnataka	1329.7	797.9	71.9	2199.4	65441
12	Kerala	932.1	36.0	39.4	1007.5	145433
13	Madhya Pradesh	1888.7	1203.3	234.5	3326.5	122283
14	Maharashtra	1077.5	449.0	61.6	1588.0	5473
15	Manipur	252.7	18.0	4.8	275.6	NR
16	Meghalaya	179.5	85.2	6.5	271.2	4584

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17	Mizoram	130.6	44.7	12.6	187.9	835
18	Nagaland	211.8	151.0	0.6	363.5	1352
19	Odisha	559.2	415.6	57.7	1032.5	68600
20	Punjab	93.9	58.3	7.6	159.9	7054
21	Rajasthan	1941.1	1113.9	186.6	3241.5	26923
22	Sikkim	38.2	28.6	3.8	70.7	893
23	Tamil Nadu	2759.0	5.3	115.2	2879.4	24707
24	Tripura	578.2	329.0	38.0	945.1	59653
25	Uttar Pradesh	3176.9	1614.6	241.1	5032.6	397277
26	Uttarakhand	238.2	141.1	12.1	391.4	11261
27	West Bengal	2002.7	914.4	113.7	3030.8	156396
28	Andaman and Nicobar	14.0	0.1	1.3	15.4	324
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
30	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
31	Goa	5.0	1.6	0.6	7.1	345
32	Lakshadweep	2.2	0.2	0.2	2.6	NR
33	Pondicherry	12.5	0.0	0.1	12.7	65
34	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
TOTAL		24660.5	10578.2	2064.6	37303.3	1343283

NR = Not Reported.

Delay in payment of wages

3564. SHRI P. RAJEEVE : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people whose wages for work done under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) has been delayed from 2009 till the present, year-wise and State-wise;

- (b) the reasons for delays in payments of wages; and
- (c) the steps being taken to ensure wages due to people for work done under MGNREGS is given on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The details of number of muster rolls showing delayed payment of wages under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) from 2009-10 onwards as reported by States/UTs in Management Information System (MIS) are given in statement. (See below) Information regarding number of persons whose wages are delayed is not maintained separately.

(b) As per feedback received from States, delays in payment are due to the following factors :-

- (i) Shortage of staff leading to delays in measurement of work and other related processes
- (ii) Limited outreach of bank and post office branches, especially in remote, tribal areas.
- (c) The steps taken to reduce such delays include the following:
 - (i) Use of information technology to automate the manual processes is being promoted.
 - (ii) Payment of wages in cash has been allowed in IAP districts where outreach of Banks/Post Offices is inadequate as an interim arrangement subject to certain conditions.
 - (iii) To strengthen the institutional outreach for wage disbursement, it has been decided that State Governments should roll out the Business Correspondent Model to make wage payment through Banks with Bio-metric authentication at village level.
 - (iv) Permissible administrative expenditure limit was enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for MGNREGA, strengthening management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure.
 - (v) States have been instructed to establish State Employment Guarantee Funds for greater flexibility in management of funds for MGNREGA.

Statement*Details of number rolls and details of delayed payment*

Sl. No.	State	Total Number of Muster Rolls showing delay in payment (as per MIS)		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 Reported Till 3/5/12
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	1865	248231	318112
2	Arunachal Pradesh	28	NR	53
3	Assam	95798	62958	28583
4	Bihar	448056	1079633	722498
5	Chhattisgarh	325445	544666	409511
6	Goa	262	1034	1023
7	Gujarat	210383	89103	90969
8	Haryana	411	926	2371
9	Himachal Pradesh	97883	75619	66050
10	Jammu and Kashmir	3743	7534	30309
11	Jharkhand	9435	5130	3028
12	Karnataka	214461	186923	38454
13	Kerala	180598	275857	634732
14	Madhya Pradesh	464014	665712	571401
15	Maharashtra	13903	31954	283427
16	Manipur	102	1889	3600
17	Meghalaya	12774	35258	36832
18	Mizoram	803	589	2070
19	Nagaland	2908	9097	3396
20	Odisha	203177	207490	143394
21	Punjab	5899	18488	12956

1	2	3	4	5
22	Rajasthan	734656	572521	988218
23	Sikkim	1058	442	958
24	Tamil Nadu	137	341	1494
25	Tripura	7254	2142	22312
26	Uttar Pradesh	568065	530434	709537
27	Uttarakhand	18706	41729	40096
28	West Bengal	990652	1543998	1322357
29	Andaman and Nicobar	548	1184	9898
30	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NR	NR	NR
32	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR
33	Lakshadweep	49	158	203
34	Puducherry	NR	514	2660
TOTAL		4613073	6241554	6500502

Assessment of rural development scheme

3565. SHRI SABIR ALI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been constituted in all the States/Union Territories for effective monitoring of implementation of the programmes under the control of the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the assessment of the monitoring committees about the implementation of all these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN) : (a) The reports received from the States/Union territories indicate that the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (VMCs) have been constituted in 28 States and 4 UTs.

(b) The Guidelines stipulate that any gross violation in the implementation of rural development schemes noticed by the VMCs is to be communicated to this Ministry. No such report has been received in the Ministry till date.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है। एफसीआई पूरे उत्तर भारत में बोरे नहीं दे पा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... किसानों की स्थिति बहुत खराब है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Prof. P. J. Kurien): You can give a proper notice ...**(Interruptions)**... Statement by Minister Correcting Answer to Question. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैंने जो बात उठायी है, उस पर कुछ रूलिंग दे दें।

Statement by Minister Correcting Answer To Question

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रदीप जैन) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, महात्मा गांधी नरेगा योजना में अनियमितताओं के संबंध में श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास द्वारा राज्य सभा में दिनांक 13.3.2012 को पूछे गए तारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 16 के उत्तर के अनुलग्नक में, वर्ष 2010-11 के दौरान इस मंत्रालय में मनरेगा के अंतर्गत प्राप्त शिकायतों का ब्यौरा टंकण में हुई भूल की वजह से असावधानीवश गलत दे दिया गया था। अनुलग्नक की सही प्रति सदन के पटल पर रखी जा रही है।

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Notification of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

II. Reports and Accounts 2010-11 of various Institutes

I. THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, I lay on the Table :—

(i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health), under sub-section (4) of Section 20 of Dentists Act, 1948, along with delay statement:—

- (1) No. DE-130-2007, dated the 29th June, 2007, publishing the Dental Council of India (Miscellaneous) Regulations, 2007.
- (2) No. DE-147-2009, dated the 13th August, 2009, publishing the Dental Council of India Screening Test Regulations, 2009.
- (3) No. DE-147-2010, dated the 8th December, 2010, publishing the Screening Test (1st Amendments) Regulations, 2010.
- (4) No. DE-167-2008, dated the 13th August, 2009, publishing the DCI Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Dental Colleges, 2009.
- (5) No. DE-130-2011, dated the 9th December, 2011, publishing the Dental Council of India Revised BDS Course (4th Amendment) Regulations, 2011.
- (6) No. DE-130-2011, dated the 25th August, 2011, publishing the Dental Council of India Revised BDS Course (3rd Amendment) Regulations, 2011.

- (7) No. DE-175-2010 dated the 29th October, 2010, publishing the Dental Council of India Revised BDS Course (2nd Amendment) Regulations, 2010. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 64391/15/12]
- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health) Notification No. G.S.R. 28 (E), dated the 17th January, 2012, publishing the Drugs and Cosmetics (1st Amendment) Rules, 2012, under Section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6595/15/12]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by the Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6592/15/12]
- (ii) (a) Twenty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS) Shillong, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6591/15/12]

MoUs between the Government of India and various limited companies.

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers :

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Limited (BBUNL), for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6660/15/12]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and HMT Limited, for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6778/15/12]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and M/s. Richardson and Cruddas (1972) Limited, for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6664/15/12]
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and M/s. Bridge and Roof Company (India) Limited, for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6662/15/12]
- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and Hindustan Cables Limited, for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6665/15/12]
- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and the M/s Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Limited (REIL), for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6781/15/12]
- (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and the M/s. Instrumentation Limited (ILK), for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6780/15/12]
- (viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited (HPF), for the year 2012-13 [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6559/15/12]
- (ix) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and Bharat Pumps and Compressors Limited (BPCL), for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6779/15/12]
- (x) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and the Hindustan Salts Limited (HSL), for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6661/15/12]
- (xi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industry) and the Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) Limited, for the year 2012-13. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6663/15/12]

I. Notification of Ministry of Environment and Forests.**II. Reports and Accounts (2009-10) & (2010-11) of various organisation and Institutes and related papers.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Sir, I lay on the Table :—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, under Section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:—
- (1) G.S.R. 152 (E), dated the 16th March, 2012, publishing the Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2012.
 - (2) G.S.R. 266 (E), dated the 30th March, 2012, publishing the Environment (Protection) (Second Amendment) Rules, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6625/15/12]
 - (3) S.O. 264 (E), dated the 13th February, 2012, amending Notification No. S.O. 1174 (E), dated the 18th July, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (4) S.O. 2609 (E), dated the 22nd November, 2011, amending Notification No. S.O. 1174 (E), dated the 18th July, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6626/15/12]
 - (5) S.O. 1754 (E), dated the 28th July, 2011, amending Notification No. S.O. 1174 (E), dated the 18th July, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6626/15/12]
 - (6) S.O. 178 (E), dated the 27th January, 2012, amending Notification No. S.O. 93 (E), dated the 29th January, 1998, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7028/15/12]
- II. A.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 38T of the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2006:—
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Tiger Conservation Authority for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- (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. 6695/15/12]

II. B. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Coimbatore, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6694/15/12]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Bhopal, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6624/15/12]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI), Bangalore, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6623/15/12]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Finance.

II. Accounts (2010-11) of SEBI and related papers.

III. Reports (2010-11) of various Regional Rural Banks and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : Sir, I lay on the Table:-

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under Section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 :—
 - (1) F.No.LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/29/36772, dated the 2nd December, 2011, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India [KYC (Know Your Client) REGISTRATION AGENCY] Regulations, 2011.

- (2) F.No.LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/30/37715, dated the 14th December, 2011, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Debenture Trustees) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2011.
 - (3) F.No.LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/31/39022, dated the 27th December, 2011, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Credit Rating Agencies) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2011.
 - (4) F.No.LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/34/2499, dated the 30th January, 2012, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
 - (5) F.No.LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/36/3187, dated the 7th February, 2012, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Buy-Back of Securities) (Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
 - (6) F.No.LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/35/3186, dated the 7th February, 2012, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
 - (7) F.No.LAD-NRO/GN/2011-12/37/3689, dated the 10th February, 2012, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Portfolio Managers) (Amendment) Regulations, 2012. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6698/15/12]
- ii. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), under sub-section (2) of Section 30 of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 :—
- (1) F.No. H.O./2011/10/PRS/1086, dated the 5th November, 2011, publishing the Ballia-Etawah Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
 - (2) F.No. MGB/Regulation/1/2011, dated the 14th October, 2011, publishing the Malwa Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- iii. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services) Notification No. S.O. 2771 (E), dated the 12th December, 2011, publishing the Regional Rural Banks (Appointment and Promotion of Officers and Employees) Amendment Rules, 2011, under sub-section (3) of Section 29 of the Regional Rural Bank Act, 1976. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6682/15/12]

- (iv) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services) Notification F.No.IRDA/Reg/1/57/2012, dated the 21st March, 2012, making the percentage cessions of the sum insured on each General Insurance Policy to be reinsured with the Indian Reinsurer shall continue to be 10% in respect of insurance attaching during the year 1st April, 2012 to 31st March, 2013, under Section 27 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7027/15/12]
- (v) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services) Notification No. G.S.R. 2 (E), dated the 1st January~7th January, 2012, publishing the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Rules, 2012, under sub-section (3) of Section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6683/15/12]
- (vi) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
- (i) Statement of Market Borrowings by Central Government, during the year 2011-12. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6811/15/12]
- (ii) Consolidated Review of the Performance of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), for the year ended 31st March, 2011. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6481/15/12]
- II. (a) Annual Accounts of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (2) of Section 15 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6680/15/12]
- III. Annual Reports of the following Regional Rural Banks, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts :—
- (a) South Malabar Gramin Bank, Malappuram, Kerala.
- (b) Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank, Mainpuri, U.P.
- (c) Durg Rajnandgaon Gramin Bank, Chhattisgarh. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6681/15/12]

Notification of the Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : Sir, I lay on the Table :—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry

of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, along with Explanatory Memoranda :-

- (1) G.S.R. 119 (E), dated the 5th March, 2012, notifying the Publication of Daily Lists of Imports and Exports (Amendment) Rules, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6687/15/12]
- (2) G.S.R. 128 (E), dated the 9th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 12 (E), dated the 9th January, 1989, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (3) G.S.R. 129 (E), dated the 9th March, 2012, seeking to exempt customs duty on re-import of cut and polished diamonds, after certification/grading by the laboratories/agencies subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions.
- (4) G.S.R. 183 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 153 (E), dated the 1st March, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (5) G.S.R. 184 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 291 (E), dated the 23rd July, 1996, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (6) G.S.R. 185 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting certain goods falling within the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 from customs duty.
- (7) G.S.R. 186 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting all goods falling within the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 from whole of education cess when imported into India.
- (8) G.S.R. 187 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting all goods falling within the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 from whole of Secondary or Higher Education cess when imported into India.
- (9) G.S.R. 188 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 123 (E), dated the 1st March, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (10) G.S.R. 189 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 161 (E), dated the 28th February, 1999, to omit certain entries in the original Notification. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6600/15/12]
- (11) G.S.R. 191 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Project Imports (Amendment) Regulations, 2012.

- (12) G.S.R. 192 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, specifying new duty structure on dredgers imported on lease or contractual basis.
 - (13) G.S.R. 193 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, specifying new duty structure on dredgers imported for dredging operations in India proportional to their period of stay.
 - (14) G.S.R. 194 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting certain goods falling within the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 from additional customs duty when imported into India.
 - (15) G.S.R. 195 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, rescinding Notification Nos. G.S.R. 136 (E), dated the 27th February, 2010, G.S.R. 148 (E), dated the 1st March, 2011, G.S.R. 322 (E), dated the 15th April, 2011, G.S.R. 23 (E), dated the 16th January, 2012 and G.S.R. 24 (E), dated the 16th January, 2012.
 - (16) G.S.R. 196 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 155 (E), dated the 1st March, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (17) G.S.R. 197 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Baggage (Amendment) Rules, 2012.
 - (18) G.S.R. 198 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Customs (Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty for Manufacture of Excisable Goods) Amendment Rules, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6600/15/12]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (4) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994, along with Explanatory Memoranda :—
- (1) G.S.R. 199 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 566 (E), dated the 25th July, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (2) G.S.R. 200 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, rescinding Notification No. G.S.R. 120 (E), dated the 24th February, 2009.
 - (3) G.S.R. 201 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Service Tax (Amendment) Rules, 2012.
 - (4) G.S.R. 202 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Point of Taxation (Amendment) Rules, 2012.

- (5) G.S.R. 203 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 140 (E), dated the 1st March, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (6) G.S.R. 204 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting taxable service from service tax as is in excess of 40% by service provider under section 66 of the Finance Act, 1994.
- (7) G.S.R. 205 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 151 (E), dated the 27th February, 2010, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (8) G.S.R. 206 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 152 (E), dated the 27th February, 2010, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (9) G.S.R. 207 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 153 (E), dated the 27th February, 2010, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (10) G.S.R. 208 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Works Contract (Composition Scheme for Payment of Service Tax) Amendment Rules, 2012.
- (11) G.S.R. 209 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Service Tax (Determination of Value) Amendment Rules, 2012.
- (12) G.S.R. 210 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting the taxable services from the whole of the service tax leviable under Section 66 B of the Finance Act, 1994.
- (13) G.S.R. 211 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting taxable service from service tax leviable thereon under Section 66 B of the Finance Act, 1994.
- (14) G.S.R. 212 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting the taxable service from service tax leviable thereon under Section 66 B of the Finance Act, 1994.
- (15) G.S.R. 213 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, notifying taxable services, and the extent to which specified under Section 68(2) of the Finance Act, 1994. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6598/15/12]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (2) of Section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944, along with Explanatory Memoranda –

- (1) G.S.R. 156 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 266 (E), dated the 31st March, 2003, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (2) G.S.R. 157 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 256 (E), dated the 16th March, 1995, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (3) G.S.R. 158 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting certain excisable goods from excise duty specified under 1st Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.
- (4) G.S.R. 159 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 243 (E), dated the 24th March, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (5) G.S.R. 160 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting goods specified for the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 from so much of the additional duty of excise leviable thereon, under Section 85 (1) of the Finance Act, 2005.
- (6) G.S.R. 161 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting excisable goods falling within tariff item of the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.
- (7) G.S.R. 162 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting goods specified and falling within tariff item of First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.
- (8) G.S.R. 163 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting excisable goods from excise duty specified under First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.
- (9) G.S.R. 164 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 492 (E), dated the 1st July, 2008, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (10) G.S.R. 165 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 118 (E), dated the 27th February, 2010, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (11) G.S.R. 166 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 138 (E), dated the 1st March, 2003, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

- (12) G.S.R. 167 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 116 (E), dated the 1st March, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (13) G.S.R. 168 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, rescinding Notification Nos. G.S.R. 130 (E), dated the 1st March, 2008, G.S.R. 841 (E), dated 7th December, 2008 and G.S.R. 476 (E), dated the 7th July, 2004.
- (14) G.S.R. 169 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, exempting certain goods falling under First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.
- (15) G.S.R. 170 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 117 (E), dated the 1st March, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (16) G.S.R. 171 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 882 (E), dated the 24th December, 2008, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (17) G.S.R. 172 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Central Excise (Second Amendment) Rules, 2012.
- (18) G.S.R. 173 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, fixing the tariff value in respect of specified articles of jewellery.
- (19) G.S.R. 174 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Chewing Tobacco and Un-manufactured Tobacco Packing Machines (Capacity Determination and Collection of Duty) Amendment Rules, 2012.
- (20) G.S.R. 175 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Pan Masala Packing Machines (Capacity Determination and Collection of Duty) Amendment Rules, 2012.
- (21) G.S.R. 176 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 541 (E), dated the 18th July, 2011, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (22) G.S.R. 177 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Central Excise (Removal of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty for Manufacture of Excisable Goods) Amendment Rules, 2012.
- (23) G.S.R. 178 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 474 (E), dated the 26th June, 2001, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (24) G.S.R. 179 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 528 (E), dated the 2nd August, 2007, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

- (25) G.S.R. 180 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 471 (E), dated the 26th June, 2001, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (26) G.S.R. 181 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 318 (E), dated the 30th April, 2001, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (27) G.S.R. 182 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the CENVAT Credit (Third Amendment) Rules, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6599/15/12]
 - (28) G.S.R. 308 (E), dated the 19th April, 2012, regularizing the availment of CENVAT Credit of duty of excise paid on the process of cutting, slitting and printing of aluminium foils, falling under heading 7607 of the First Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6685/15/12]
- IV. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (7) of Section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, along with Explanatory Memoranda:—
- (1) G.S.R. 111 (E), dated the 29th February, 2012, rescinding Notification No. G.S.R. 161 (E), dated the 3rd March, 2008.
 - (2) G.S.R. 118 (E), dated the 5th March, 2012, seeking to extend levy of anti-dumping duty on imports of all Fully Drawn or Fully Oriented Yarn/Spin Draw Yarn/ Flat yarn of Polyester, originating in, or exported from, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Chinese Taipei.
 - (3) G.S.R. 190 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 294 (E), dated the 23rd July, 1996. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6603/15/12]
- V. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. S.O. 694 (E), dated the 30th March, 2012, publishing the Income-tax (4th Amendment) Rules, 2012, under Section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, along with Explanatory Memorandum. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6686/15/12]
- VI. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. G.S.R. 214 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 159 (E), dated 1st March, 2003, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification, under Rule 8 of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Rules, 1956, along with Explanatory Memorandum. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6601/15/12]

VII. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. G.S.R. 215 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, publishing the Clean Energy Cess (Amendment) Rules, 2012, under Section 84 of the Finance Act, 2010, along with Explanatory Memorandum. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6602/15/12]

Notification of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 33 of the Homeopathy Central Council Act, 1973, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) Notification No. 12-2/2006-CCH (Pt.) 31254, dated the 5th March, 2012, publishing the Homoeopathy (Post Graduate Degree Course). M.D. (Hom.) (Amendment) Regulations, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6816/15/12]

MoU between Government of India and BPCL

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) for the year 2012-13 [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6801/15/12]

Reports and Accounts (2009-10) & (2010-11) of various Research Institutes

SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers :-

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the (RST) Regional Cancer Hospital and Research Centre, Nagpur, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6692/15/12]
- ii. (a) Annual Report of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2010-11.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 6693/15/12]

Report of CAG

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA : Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India : No. 33 of 2011-12 : Union Government (Civil) — Autonomous Bodies.

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Odisha) : Sir, I present the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare :—

- (i) Fifty-eighth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in 45th Report on the Issues relating to availability of Generic, Generic-Branded and Branded Medicines, their formulation and therapeutic efficacy and effectiveness; and
- (ii) Fifty-ninth Report on the Functioning of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation.

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL AND STEEL**

श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण सिंह (झारखंड) : महोदय, विभाग संबंधित कोयला और इस्पात संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2011-12) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिंदी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Twenty-fifth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2012-13)' of the Ministry of Mines; and
- (ii) Twenty-sixth Report on 'Demands for Grants (2012-13)' of the Ministry of Steel.

**STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL AND STEEL**

श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण सिंह (झारखंड) : महोदय, विभाग संबंधित कोयला और इस्पात संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2011-12) के निम्नलिखित विवरणों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिंदी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Eighth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands of Grants (2009-10)' of the Ministry of Coal;
- (ii) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2010-11)' of the Ministry of Mines;
- (iii) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2010-11)' of the Ministry of Steel; and
- (iv) Statement showing action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in Nineteenth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Modernisation and Expansion of Steel Sector' of the Ministry of Steel.

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

SHRI H.K. DUA (Nominated): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs (2011-12):—

- (i) Thirteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2012-13)' of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs; and
- (ii) Fourteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2012-13)' of the Ministry of External Affairs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred
and Twentieth Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Industry**

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Twentieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry pertaining to the Department of Heavy Industry, Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises.

INFORMATION TO THE HOUSE**On the Issue of the Alleged role of Minister of Home Affairs,
in the Aircel-Mixis deal**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : Sir, on behalf of the Government, I am making this statement on the matter which was raised during Zero Hour.

Government's attention has been drawn to a report in one newspaper containing allegations against a proposal for foreign investment that was considered by the FIPB. The report is factually incorrect and totally baseless.

Government had earlier issued a press release on April 28, 2012, regarding the foreign investment made by M/s. Global Communication Services Holdings Ltd., Mauritius to acquire 73.99 per cent equity in M/s. Aircel Ltd. The contents of that statement are correct and are reiterated.

M/s. Global Communication Services Holdings Ltd. made another application for downstream investment. The relevant dates are :

2.9.2006	Application for Investment
3.10.2006	Meeting of FIPB: FIPB recommends proposal.
6.10.2006	Minutes of FIPB drawn up and moved by Deputy Secretary
12.10.2006	Finance Minister approves the minutes.
20.10.2006	Formal letter of approval issued to applicant company.

It will be clear from the above that the proposal was processed in the normal course and approval was granted in the normal course without any delay.

It is unfortunate that baseless allegations continue to be made without verifying the facts.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has made a statement. Sir, it will be better if, at some stage, Members would be allowed to seek clarifications on this because this Aircel-Maxis deal is highly controversial. One Minister of this Government had to resign because of that. The investigation in the matter is pending with the CBI. The Minister has made a statement with regard to the fact that there is no delay in according the FIPB permission. One of the key questions which has not been addressed is that while all this is pending and the matter goes to the FIPB, did somebody intrinsically connected receive some part of the shareholdings of the company whose application is pending? That is the key issue. And that key issue does not seem to have been addressed.

Now, was it a normal acquisition? Or, is there something more than what meets the eye? Therefore, that issue will have to be addressed at some stage. The Minister has made a statement and we should be allowed to ask clarifications on this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Okay. Now, we shall take up Calling Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO THE MATTER OF
URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

Situation Arising Out of Severe Drought in Karnataka

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister to the situation arising out of severe drought in Karnataka resulting into failure of *Kharif* and *Rabi* crops.

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 share the concern of hon. Member on severe drought condition in the State of Karnataka resulting in failure of *kharif* and *rabi* crops. He is a very senior Member of the House.

The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Government of India supplements efforts of State Government with financial and logistic support. There is ready availability of funds with the State Government under the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for taking relief measures. The Government of India and the State Government concerned contribute to the SDRF in the ratio of 3 : 1 for 17 General Category States and in the ratio of 9 : 1 in case of 11 Special Category States of North-Eastern Region, including Sikkim, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Additional financial assistance, over and above the SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature in accordance with established procedure and extant norms on submission of memorandum by the State Government.

During the year 2011-12, Government of Karnataka had an allocation of Rs. 169.01 crore under the SDRF out of which the Central share was Rs. 126.76 crore and the State's share was Rs. 42.25 crore. The entire Central share of the SDRF was released to the State Government of Karnataka.

[SHRI HARISH RAWAT]

The Government of Karnataka submitted a detailed memorandum on 28.11.2011 to the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, seeking Central assistance of Rs. 723.24 crore from the NDRF. It declared drought in 99 taluks covering 23 districts from out of 176 taluks in 30 districts.

With a view to assess the loss/damage due to drought of 2011 and recommend quantum of central financial assistance, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) comprising representatives from Central Ministries/Departments, namely, Department of Expenditure, Planning Commission, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Crop Division & Horticulture Division of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation was constituted on 30.11.2011. The Central Team visited drought-affected areas in the State from 15.12.2011 to 18.12.2011 to assess the loss/damage caused due to drought of 2011. The State Government submitted a revised memorandum to the Central Team during their visit in respect of 109 talukas (adding 10 more drought declared talukas) seeking Central assistance of Rs. 2605.99 crore from NDRF.

The Central Team recommended an amount of Rs. 296.58 crore. Finally, Government of India approved an amount of Rs. 186.68 crore to the Government of Karnataka, of which Rs. 70.23 crore was released and Rs. 116.45 crore was adjusted from the State's SDRF balance, as per extant norms.

Subsequently, an All Party Delegation led by the Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka, met Union Agriculture Minister on 02.05.2012 and apprised him of the problems prevailing in the State. Accordingly, Ministry of Agriculture has agreed to send an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to re-assess the loss/damage and recommend appropriate financial assistance for the drought of 2011.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Okay. Now, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Central Government's attitude towards this burning problem is totally indifferent. Sir, 70 per cent of the State, that is, 123 talukas out of 176 have been declared drought-affected by the State Government. It is almost three-fourths. Rainfall in the last quarter is the lowest since 1970. In the last 42 years, it is the lowest. Both *kharif* and *rabi* crops have totally failed. Loss of agricultural crop is estimated to be around Rs. 5,953 crore. Sown crops have withered away, causing heavy loss to the farmers who had made investments. Monsoon failed miserably in the interior parts of Karnataka during September and mid-December, 2011.

Sir, the groundwater level has been depleting day by day. Most of the bore-wells have dried up. Only five out of every 100 bore-wells are functional. In some areas, availability of groundwater is at a depth of 1250 feet. It is at a depth of 1250 feet. You can understand the situation. The underground water has hit an all-time low which is yielding non-potable water. High levels of chloride and arsenic material are creating health problems. Sir, drinking water problem is very acute in the State and the State Government is supplying drinking water to nearly 4853 villages. In 4853 villages, there is no drinking water. Out of 3475 minor irrigation tanks, 1242 tanks have totally dried up. The State Government has so far spent Rs. 562.52 crore. The State has sought from the Central Government an assistance of Rs. 2609 crore in December. The Centre has cleared Rs. 186 crore and released only Rs. 70.23 crore. Now, the Ministry is saying that the remaining is adjusted from SDRF. Is it the relief and help that the Central Government wants to give to the State in this hour of crisis?

Sir, the State alone, without the assistance from the Centre, cannot face this situation. There is drinking water shortage; there is fodder shortage; there is a problem for agricultural labour. So, the entire State is reeling under drought and then, people are looking towards the Central Government for timely assistance. But, unfortunately, the Central Government is behaving casually. The Central Team went in December. What is the result of it? You just give a pittance of Rs. 70.23 crore for a massive loss of Rs. 5900 crore. The total damage is more than Rs. 5900 crore and the Central Government gives Rs. 70.23 crore. That is why, Sir, an All Party Delegation led by the hon. Chief Minister, where even the External Affairs Minister, Shri S.M. Krishna, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge and Shri Muniappa and other senior Ministers of the Karnataka State, they have all joined. We all went to the Agriculture Minister, we went to the Finance Minister and then we went to the hon. Prime Minister. But, unfortunately, nothing has happened. In spite of such a high level delegation going to the Prime Minister and to the Finance Minister and meeting the Agriculture Minister personally and explaining the position about even lack of drinking water, fodder shortage and then agriculture labour is not having enough work. The Central Government is totally unmoved, totally insensitive to the sufferings of the people of the State. I do not know what has happened to the Government of India. If you are not ready to extend a helping hand in this hour of crisis, then, what for is the Central Government? Why are these Central Teams? Is it for *tamasha*? You sent a team in December. Now again the situation is serious because both *kharif* and *rabi* crops have been damaged. Why should the Central Government wait to send a team to visit the State so far? After December, when they have realised that the crops have failed, they should have sent a second Central Team immediately. They have not done it. On 2nd itself when we met Shri Sharad Pawar, he promised that the next day, he used the word "next day", the Central Team will be constituted and day after they will be in the State. Sir, today, we are on 8th, so far the Central Team has not been constituted, and the Team has not gone to the State. This speaks of the callous

[SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU]

attitude of the Central Government. Very casual approach of the Central Government; and also the thinking is that you adjust it from the SDRF, you have enough funds, and you spend it from your State funds only. When there is a national calamity, it is the combined duty of the State and the Central Government to take care of the helpless people; and the Central Government has miserably failed in its responsibility. It is not only lukewarm, but casual. It is totally indifferent to the sufferings of the people. So, we made a request to the hon. Prime Minister and to the Finance Minister that around Rs. 1500 crore may be given as an interim relief to take care of the problems of the labour, to take care of the drinking water, to take care of the fodder and also to give some sort of helping hand to the farmers who have suffered loss of crop. But unfortunately the Central Government has not given even one rupee after that. What is this? I have seen the reply of the Minister. There is nothing in the Minister's reply except narrating the chronological events that have taken place since then. More than three fourths of the State is reeling under the drought; and the entire crops of both *rabi* and *kharif* have failed. Then, there is no drinking water, no fodder, what else do you require? When will the Central Team go? We are on 9th May. People are saying that the monsoon is likely to advance; and then you will send the Central Team in June, and then by June end, there will be some rains, and then you will say rains have come and there is no problem of drought. Is it the way to deal with such an important and sensitive matter? I urge upon the Minister to immediately declare an initial financial assistance of Rs. 1500 crores to take care of the sufferings of the people of Karnataka; otherwise the Government of India will be seen that it has no heart, it is not concerned with the people and problems of the Karnataka State. It is a very serious issue; and the Minister's answer is totally disappointing. I want the Minister to respond further when the Central Team is going, when they are going to come back and give a report, when the Central Government is going to give the remaining assistance. We have also asked for three lakh tonnes of rice; and 155,000 tonnes of wheat. That also has not been given. Sir, we have enough stocks of rice and wheat. Both the Prime Minister and the Minister agreed that there are enough stocks. They told us also. But unfortunately so far not even a grain has been released to the State. Why is it like this? That is why I call it a callous attitude and irresponsible attitude of the Central Government towards the sufferings of the people of the State. I do not know whether it is politically motivated or is it discrimination towards a particular State or is it the same attitude continuing with other States also? We have serious drought situation in the adjacent State, Maharashtra also. Yesterday I was in Maharashtra. People there are also complaining adequate relief or help or assistance is not being given to the State of Maharashtra. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Vijay Jawaharlal Darda, no interruptions please. Let him continue.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : My point is in parts of Andhra Pradesh, majority of Karnataka and then 17 districts of Maharashtra, if they are reeling under drought, what is it that the Government of India has done? Why are you keeping quiet? Why have you not moved on this issue? What is your response to this problem? Regarding fodder, there are occasions when the fodder was moved in trains and then there are occasions where enough money was not provided beforehand to provide drinking water. These are the basic issues. Under the MGNREGA or NREGA you have to give extra assistance to the State to take care of the people because the agricultural labour has no work as the crops have failed. There is a very serious situation. I request the Minister to respond to it seriously, apply his mind and again tell the House as to how much assistance the Central Government is going to give to the State of Karnataka. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Thank you, Venkiahaji. Mr. Tapan Kumar Sen. Please take only three to four minutes and not more than that.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal) : Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. It appears from the statement of the hon. Minister that the matter was not at all taken seriously and the subject was not given the seriousness it deserves. In general, in the country agriculture is in a deep crisis because of the faulty policies and the natural disasters are adding further to the miseries of the agrarian people who are feeding the entire nation. So far as Karnataka is concerned, if we see the approach, the first problem is with the estimate. It is a half-hearted estimate. As far as the Minister's statement is concerned, 99 taluks in 23 districts are affected. But the State Government's and the people's experience is that more than 123 taluks in 24 districts are affected. Almost the entire agrarian zone of Karnataka has been affected by drought. It is estimated that the crop loss is more than 16 lakh tonnes and that the monetary loss is more than Rs. 4,500 crores. What is the assistance given? There may be a tug of war continuing between the State Government and the Central Government. But the reality remains that the loss is estimated at Rs. 4,500 crores, which is an underestimate because more than two crores of farmers, particularly, landless agricultural workers, just go starving when the crop fails. In such a situation, when all these estimates taken together, the Central assistance is Rs. 196 crores and added to that another Rs. 500 crores from the State Government. Mr. Venkaiah Naidu has also confirmed that. So, a total amount of Rs. 696 crores, that is, Rs. 500 plus Rs. 196, is going to the affected farmers for relief. On the other hand, the loss estimated is Rs. 4,500 crores. The actual loss will be much more than that because of failure of both the crops. Subsequently, the problem of livelihood is perpetuating among the farming community in the drought-affected areas. In this context, what serious steps are you going to take instead of having a tug of war between the State Government and the Central Government? They have demanded Rs. 2,600 crores. The money spent altogether till now is Rs. 500 crores. What are the

[SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN]

steps that you are going to take to ameliorate the serious miseries that the farmers are facing? I think, it demands a total reversal of the present policy regime that is continuing. Much more presence and active participation of the State – by the ‘State’ I mean the Government as such – both Central and State Governments, is required.

Let me tell you that because of the drought even minor irrigation tanks were dried up. I think that capital investment is needed to immediately bring them back so that, at least, the next season does not get affected. If a single drought is creating a general reaction on future livelihood and the estimated one-time loss is so much, I think, both the Central Government and the State Government must take serious steps. Otherwise, the normal tranquillity in the country will stand jeopardised because agrarian suicide has become a common issue throughout the country. I think, in the other House, there was a din because of farmers’ suicide in Madhya Pradesh and in police firing two farmers were killed. It is there throughout the country. Even oil-crop producing States are also facing an agrarian crisis. Those who are producing are not able to earn their livelihood. They are not able to survive. In that kind of a situation, I think, the whole policy issues are to be looked into. When the loss is of Rs. 4,500 crores and when two crore farmers are suffering, instead of having a tug of war between the State and the Central Government should join hands to send relief to the people and save their livelihood perpetually. The loss has casued today but it has created a terminal problem of perpetuity in their future livelihood also. So this issue should be taken up seriously. I will conclude after making just one point. Sir, MGNREGA can be an important instrument, at least, to ensure survival of the crop. That record is also very dismal during the entire drought affected period. Sir, this issue also should be taken up seriously.

श्री प्रकाश जावेडकर (महाराष्ट्र) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु जी और श्री तपन कुमार सेन जी ने अभी जो कहा है, मैं उनकी भावनाओं से सहमत हूँ। कर्णाटक के साथ-साथ महाराष्ट्र में ऐसा अकाल पड़ा है, ऐसी सूखे की स्थिति है कि 17 जिलों में पानी की भारी किल्लत हो गई है। किसान को भारी दिक्कत है, पशुओं के लिए चारे की भारी दिक्कत है और इसीलिए जन-आक्रोश पैदा हो रहा है और जगह-जगह पर आंदोलन हो रहे हैं। इनको देखने वाला कोई नहीं है और सरकार भी ध्यान नहीं दे रही है। अभी वेंकैया जी कह रहे थे कि वे शरद पवार जी से मिले, लेकिन शरद पवार जी तो महाराष्ट्र के हैं। वे जवाब देने के बजाय वहां जाकर भाषण कर रहे हैं कि राज्यपाल क्या कर रहे हैं और राज्यपाल क्यों नहीं घूम रहे हैं। ऐसे भाषण हर रोज हो रहे हैं। अभी मैं जब आपसे बात कर रहा हूँ, हमारे महाराष्ट्र का ऑल पार्टी डेलिगेशन आया है और वह प्रधानमंत्री से मिल रहा है।

सर, मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि अकाल के बारे में मदद का जो क्राइटेरिया है, उसको कब तक बदला जाएगा? क्या हर बार, हर राज्य को इसी तरह से लड़ाई करनी पड़ेगी? हमारे राज्य ने 2100 करोड़ का पैकेज मांगा है, लेकिन 200 करोड़ क्या 20 करोड़ भी नसीब नहीं हुआ है। आज 7 हजार गांवों में पानी की भारी किल्लत है, हमने जो टैंकर मुक्त महाराष्ट्र दस साल पहले करके दिखाया था, आज हजारों गांव में टैंकर घूम रहे हैं। वहां पर पानी की किल्लत है, लेकिन उसके लिए कोई योजना नहीं है। वहां पर पशुओं के लिए चारे की बहुत दिक्कत है। जिनकी क्रॉप फेल हो गई, रिपोर्ट आ गई और क्रॉप

फेल्योर इश्योरेंस का पैसा भी आ गया, लेकिन वह किसान को नहीं मिला। यह केन्द्र सरकार के नियमों के कारण और राज्य सरकार की अनदेखी के कारण हो रहा है जिसकी वजह से किसान मर रहा है।

वहां पर सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने टीम भेजी नहीं और सपोर्ट भी दिया नहीं। केवल आपस में कांग्रेस एन.सी.पी. को दोष दे रही है और एन.सी.पी. कांग्रेस को गाली दे रही है, दोनों कह रहे हैं कि गवर्नर क्यों नहीं घूम रहे हैं, गवर्नर अकाल का जायजा क्यों नहीं ले रहे हैं, ये गवर्नर पर ही टूट पड़े हैं। अरे, ये आपके गवर्नर्स का मुद्दा है, ये सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की बात है, कृषि मंत्रालय की और प्रधानमंत्री की जिम्मेदारी बनती है कि नये सिरे से, हर साल 4-5 जिलों में जो अकाल की स्थिति आती है, उस सूखे की स्थिति के लिए एक नया क्राइटेरिया with human approach चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि महाराष्ट्र में तुरंत टीम भेजो। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला (गुजरात) : सर, एक मिनट। नये तो चाहिए, मगर पुराने लागू करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : हां, पुराने तो लागू नहीं करते क्योंकि उससे चित्र ही बहुत कम दिखता है। हम उससे सहमत ही नहीं हैं। इसलिए पहले तो वहां पर टीम भेजो। पहली रिलीफ 2100 करोड़ की जो मांगी है, महाराष्ट्र को वह 2100 करोड़ की रिलीफ तुरंत रिलीज करो। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... एक नये सिरे से क्राइटेरिया तय करो। इसके बारे में आप क्या करने वाले हैं, इसका जवाब हम चाहेंगे। धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी. जे. कुरियन) : श्रीमती माया सिंह। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बैठ जाइए।

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab) : Sir our granaries....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no, she is having the floor.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL : Our granaries are overflowing with wheat and rice. Why doesn't the Government....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please sit down.

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : थैंक्यु सर। सर, कर्णाटक राज्य में तो भयावह सूखे के कारण किसानों की खरीफ और रबी की फसलें नष्ट हुईं। लेकिन मध्य प्रदेश के किसानों ने अपने खून और पसीने की मेहनत से वहां पर जो अच्छी फसल पैदा की, आज वह सारी मैदान में पड़ी है। मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने अनेक बार दिल्ली आकर माननीय मंत्री जी से आग्रह किया और बारदाना के लिए, जूट की बोरियों के लिए, पांच करोड़ रूपए की राशि भी जमा कराई, लेकिन आज तक मध्य प्रदेश को वे बोरियां उपलब्ध नहीं कराई गईं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डॉ. विजयलक्ष्मी साधौ (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHARIMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please don't interrupt ...**(Interruptions)**... Please take your seat ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्रीमती माया सिंह : इसके साथ-साथ उन्होंने यह कहा ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डॉ. विजयलक्ष्मी साधौ : सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHARIMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please don't disturb ...**(Interruptions)**... You cannot interrupt like that ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्रीमती माया सिंह : आप मध्य प्रदेश के खिलाफ बोलती हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHARIMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Dr. Sadho, please sit down ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती माया सिंह : आप सत्ता में बैठे हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मध्य प्रदेश के खिलाफ बोलते हो। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान) : सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHARIMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Mr. Budania, please sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... What do you want? It won't go on record ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती माया सिंह : मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री ने यहां अनेक बार चक्कर काटे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHARIMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Dr. Sadho, why do you interrupt? Don't disturb like this.

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सर, दो दिन से आसमान में बादल हो रहे हैं और किसान की फसल खेतों में पड़ी है। इसी की वजह से कल उन्होंने मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार पर दबाव डाला कि हमारा अनाज खुले में पड़ा है। इस अनाज को खरीदिए और उसे उपयुक्त जगहों पर रखिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, कर्णाटक में किसान सूखे के कारण मारा गया और मध्य प्रदेश में किसान UPA सरकार की गलत नीतियों के कारण बर्बाद हो रहा है। उनको अभी तक बोरियां उपलब्ध नहीं कराई गई हैं। इसलिए मेरा मंत्री जी से आग्रह है कि आप किसानों को बचाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप उन्हें समय पर बारदाना उपलब्ध कराइए, बोरियां उपलब्ध कराइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... ताकि किसानों की जिंदगी बर्बाद न हो सके।

THE VICE-CHARIMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Dr. Bharatkumar Raut. Not present. Prof. M.S. Swaminathan ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, the other Members from Karnataka also have given their notice for it. They also want to speak on this. Please allow them, at least, a minute each.

THE VICE-CHARIMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : If their names are there in the notice, I will allow them.

PROF. M. S. SWAMINATHAN (Nominated) : Sir, I shall be very brief. I fully endorse the need for an urgent action in terms of relief and rehabilitation of the affected areas, that is, Karnataka, Maharashtra, etc. But what to emphasise is the fact that hereafter it is an era of climate change, and more and more extreme events are going to take place. A country, like ours, should not always be only taking post-mortem action. We have to be prepared as well. There are excellent maps of drought-prone areas in the country. A drought code which enables anticipatory action; for example, cattle camps will have to be established as well as a new kind of ration to save the cattle, because cattle dies and they are the assets of the poor. The lives and livelihood of the people depend on their cattle. There are methods by which you can save the cattle by means of using bagass, urea, molasses, etc. There are different kinds of methods

by which fodder banks can be built up. All that I want to request is that we need to have a clean drought code and flood code for those areas. It is not only that the Ministry will go on sending emergency teams and helping them, which is, of course, very essential, but we have to also prepare seed reserves. There will be rain in this region very shortly. Farmers have no seeds at all. So, you must develop seed reserves and crops which can be grown.

So, all that I plead is, in addition to immediate relief and rehabilitation, let us also take measures by which such distress need not happen.

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर (पंजाब) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैंने लिखकर दिया है।

SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala) : Sir, the situation in Karnataka is unprecedented. All the facts have been placed by Venkaiah Naiduji and Shri Tapan Kumar Sen before you. I fully support what Prof. Swaminathan said. He said that we have to have a long-term plan to meet the natural calamities, especially, in the background of climate change. In Kerala also, we have a drought-like situation this year and many parts of the State have acute drinking water shortage. And what is attitude of the Central Government is, either it is due to drought or it is due to floods, the Central Government usually sends a team. And our experience in Kerala is, when the Central team comes to assess the drought situation, by that time, there will be floods in Kerala, and to assess the damage of flood situation, the team will come during the drought season! So, it is a callous attitude of the Central Government, it must be changed and immediate action has to be taken. And Central Government must come forward to assist the State of Karnataka. The State Government has requested that immediate action should be taken. Thank you.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी. जे. कुरियन) : सिर्फ एक प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, हम छह सदस्यों ने अपनी पार्टी के वरिष्ठ नेता श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु जी के नेतृत्व में इस विषय को उठाया है। सरकार से इसका कुछ उत्तर भी मिला है। कर्णाटक प्रदेश में गत सत्तर साल के अंदर इस प्रकार के भयानक अकाल की स्थिति नहीं थी, ऐसी स्थिति पहली बार है। ऐसी परिस्थिति में, पार्टी के केंद्र सरकार में रहे चारों मंत्रियों सहित और सभी पार्टी के लोक सभा सदस्यों सहित पहली बार सरकार से निवेदन किया गया था, लेकिन कृषि मंत्री, गृह मंत्री, प्रधानमंत्री, फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर और सरकार से हमको जिस प्रकार की रिप्लाई मिली है, उसको सुनने में बहुत दुःख होता है कि वास्तव में भारत सरकार को अपने राज्यों के प्रति जिस प्रकार की नीति अपनानी चाहिए, यह सरकार उसको नहीं अपना रही है। यह जो ऐसी भयानक नैचुरल कलैमिटी की सिचुएशन का निर्माण हुआ है, यह बहुत दुःखदायी है। मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि आज की परिस्थिति में जैसी मांग की गई है, वैसी मदद देने की कृपा करें। उस राज्य सरकार ने अपने आपे से बाहर जाकर लगभग 600 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए हैं। इसके अंदर और भी पैसे खर्च हो रहे हैं। जहाँ पर लगभग 6000 करोड़ रुपये के करीब हानि हुई है, वहाँ केवल 70 करोड़ रुपये रिलीज करने से काम नहीं चलेगा। जो अनेक प्रकार की क्षतियाँ हुई हैं, जिसके लिए अनाज मांगा गया है, जिसमें वीट है, राइस है, साथ ही साथ 1500 करोड़ कि interim relief की मांगें हैं, ऐसी स्थिति में मैं मांग करूँगा कि उनको मदद दी जाए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन) : समाप्त कीजिए, अभी बैठिए।

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल : सबसे बड़ी बात, जो अभी श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु जी ने बताई, वह यह है कि ऐसा कहा गया था कि 3 तारीख को हमारी टीम जाएगी, लेकिन यह टीम अभी तक वहाँ नहीं गई। ऐसा क्यों होता है? ये बयान केंद्र और राज्य के सम्बन्ध बिगड़ने के कारण बन सकते हैं। ऐसा न हो, इसके लिए मैं ऐसा अनुरोध करता हूँ कि सरकार तुरंत इसके अंदर इंटरफियर करके हमारी समस्याओं का निवारण करे।

DR. PRABHAKAR KORE (Karnataka) : Sir, this is a historical drought in the last 70 years, in which all the people of Karnataka are suffering. Many villages are vacant. They have already gone out of the State, for their livelihood, to Goa, Bangalore and Pune. In some of the villages, there is totally no water. So, there are no people there also. This is the position. But the State Government has already sent a Report in the month of December. For the last six months, they have paid Rs. 70 crores. My own district, Belgaum, requires almost Rs. 200 crores. So, my question is: There are many problems. The farmers have lost everything, including crop. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India is planning to waive off loan taken by farmers from nationalised banks and also from the State co-operative sector.

The Second question is, what steps the Government of India is taking to release sufficient funds for drinking water, foodgrains and fodder for cattle? Secondly, an interim financial assistance of, at least, Rs. 2,000 crores should immediately be given to the State Government. These are my questions, Sir, Thank You.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister to the prevailing worst drought situation in Karnataka. Sir, you know that Karnataka is one of the States in India where every Indian feels that it is his home State. They are the nicest people. But, sometimes, the vagaries of nature take its toll. It is unfortunate. I was fortunate to be a part of the administration of Karnataka. I was the District Collector there for sometime.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (P.J. KURIEN) : Put your question.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM : Sir, I must bring seriousness of the situation to the House and draw the attention of the Government. It is only then my question will have some relevance. It is unprecedented that out of 30 districts, 22 districts and out of 176 Talukas, 100 Talukas are under severe drought. My friends from other States have mentioned about it. In my own State of Andhra Pradesh, out of 1,010 Mandals, 876 Mandals are under drought. The response of the Union Government should be a little more positive. We are very sorry. The all-party delegation came and appraised about the seriousness of the situation to the Government of India. I am thankful to Dr. Swaminathanji for his views. But, they are long-term measures. There is an immediate

need for short, medium and immediate measures. Long-term measures are a continuous process. So, my submission is that a team should immediately go there. Sir, out of Rs. 4,000 crores they have asked for, what was given by the Government of India? The team has recommended only Rs. 296 crores. But, as per the guidelines, Karnataka is eligible for Rs. 1,000 crores straightaway. The evaluation that has been made has to be relooked. I am talking about the systemic difficulties. We may talk for long-term strategies. But, how is the system being getting administered?

Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, we have asked for Rs. 1,406 crores. But, we have got only Rs. 700 crores. As per their own guidelines. Rs. 900 crores should have been given. So, immediately, the team should go there. And, an all-party delegation, headed by the Chief Minister of Karnataka, has given a detailed estimate. Sir, it farmers of Karnataka suffer, it is the entire South India which suffers. So, Karnataka is to be taken special care. Along with this, Andhra Pradesh's requirement should also be met. The Committee should meet again, reassess and release Rs. 200 crores to Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 400 crores to Karnataka immediately and also for Maharashtra as my friends have pointed out. Thank You.

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर (पंजाब) : सर, देश की यह जो प्रॉब्लम है, बहुत सीरियस है। यह सिर्फ एक स्टेट की नहीं, एक स्टेट के किसानों की नहीं, बल्कि सारी कंट्री के किसानों की प्रॉब्लम है और हर स्टेट की प्रॉब्लम है। एक तरफ ड्राउट है, तो दूसरी तरफ सरप्लस फूडग्रेन है और तीसरी तरफ उसको रखने के लिए न गनी बैग है, न कहीं गोडाउन है और वह ओपन स्पेस में पड़ा है। इसलिए एक तरफ फूडग्रेन सड़ रहा है, डैमेज हो रहा है, तो दूसरी तरफ गरीब लोग भूखे मर रहे हैं। आपके जरिए मैं सरकार से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह देश में जिस तरफ फूडग्रेन की कमी है, तो जिस तरफ सरप्लस है, उस सरप्लस स्टेट से कमी वाली जगह इम्मीडिएट अनाज पहुँचाए और एक लांग टर्म पॉलिसी बनाए कि 5-7 साल के लिए साइलिज के लिए गोडाउंस बनाए जाएँ, ताकि कभी भी शॉर्टेज न आए। जहाँ ड्राउट है, उसके बारे में मैं स्पेशली यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट वहाँ फंड तो भेज देती है, लेकिन वह यह अलाऊ नहीं करती कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट उस फंड को अपने आप यूज कर सके। इसके लिए उनको कहना चाहिए और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को अलाऊ करना चाहिए कि इमीजिएटली वे किसानों को हेल्प करें। अभी जो मुआवजा या कम्पन्सेशन है, वह बहुत कम है, क्योंकि प्राइसिज बहुत अप चले गए हैं। आपको मिनिमम 15,000/- रुपये प्रति एकड़ मुआवजा देना चाहिए। मेरी यही तीन-चार सजेशंस हैं।

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि कर्णाटक, महाराष्ट्र और देश के अन्य प्रदेशों में, जहाँ भी ड्राउट की प्रॉब्लम है, वहाँ किसानों के लिए जिस पैकेज की डिमांड की गई है, बिना किसी देरी के केन्द्र सरकार को वह देना चाहिए।

हमारी एक रिक्वेस्ट यह भी है कि जब ड्राउट होता है, तो किसान के साथ-साथ मजदूर भी बेहाल होता है। सूखे से खेत मजदूर भी बड़े पैमाने पर प्रभावित होते हैं, इसलिए केन्द्र से जो टीम जाती है, वह यह भी देखे कि मजदूर की हालत क्या है और मजदूर को उस बुरी दशा से उबारने के लिए किस प्रकार की आर्थिक सहायता की जरूरत है। केन्द्र सरकार इसके ऊपर भी जरूर विचार करे।

[श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी]

हम केन्द्र सरकार से यह भी कहना चाहते हैं कि बाबा साहब डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी ने खास तौर पर वॉटर मैनेजमेंट के ऊपर जो अपनी राय रखी थी, आप उस राय को देखें, समझें और उनकी राय को अपनाकर इस ड्राउट का मुकाबला करें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal) : I just want to make one request to the Minister for Agriculture. He has gone on record saying that there is an excess of foodgrains stored in our godowns. The Finance Minister has, on the other hand, said that if we really procure this year, the food subsidy burden would increase by another Rs. 20,000 crores. There is no space in our godowns. Food is rotting. So, if you cannot release money immediately to Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, then, at least, release these foodgrains which are rotting in any case, and we would only increase our food subsidy burden. So, can the Minister give an assurance that along with meeting the money demands, which I fully support, he would also release these foodgrains immediately so that these people do not suffer from hunger?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, Shri Rangasayee Ramakrishna. Please put just one question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA (Karnataka): Sir, there are drought-prone districts all over the country. Why can the Government of India not have a special programme only for drought-prone districts all over the country, as Dr. Swaminathan mentioned, and, instead of doing a post-mortem, take preventive action? That is one point. Secondly, the State asked for an assistance of Rs. 5000 crores while you gave only Rs. 70 crores. ...(*Interruptions*)... A delayed assistance is a denied assistance. And an assistance which is inadequate is not required at all. Sir, ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Okay, Fine, Now, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad. Just put your question, please.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार) : माननीय मंत्री जी, आपकी सरकार ने दावा किया है कि अनाज का रिजर्व प्रॉडक्शन हुआ है, लेकिन उसके भंडारण की व्यवस्था बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है। फूड कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया के अधिकांश भंडार या तो टूटे हुए हैं या लीक कर रहे हैं। इसलिए जो प्रश्न अभी माननीय सदस्य, श्री येचुरी साहब ने उठाया है, जब आपके पास इतना अनाज है, तो जहां अकाल प्रभावित प्रदेश हैं या जहां गरीब लोग हैं, अनाज सड़ने की बजाए आप ऐसे लोगों को उसके वितरण के बारे में चिन्ता क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं? यह बहुत ही गम्भीर सवाल है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, just put a question, please.

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka) : Sir, I had asked the same question in December, 2011. The answer that the Minister gave then and the answer that the Minister is giving today is absolutely the same.

Sir, just as Mr. Ramakrishna said, relief delayed is relief denied. My simple question to the hon. Minister is: Will he take a compassionate and expedited view on the relief requirements from the State of Karnataka?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Now, Mr. Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... No more questions please. You should have given notice or given your names in advance. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री हरीश रावत : मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों का, जिन्होंने इस प्राकृतिक विपदा ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, I am asking this only out of curiosity. What happened to the Cabinet Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : No, no. Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... He is in-charge. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I am also speaking on behalf of the Government and the Ministry. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, I hope the Cabinet Minister is not a victim of drought.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : No, no. Please proceed, Mr. Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : Mr. Rawat is a victim of political drought. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Don't worry. I will also be speaking on behalf of the Government and the Ministry.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Please proceed.

श्री हरीश रावत : सर, सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने यहाँ पर अपने विचार रखे। बुनियादी तौर पर यह सवाल सूखे के कारण कर्णाटक के अन्दर रबी की फसल और आने वाली खरीफ की फसल को जो नुकसान पहुँचा है, उसके विषय में उठाया गया है।

मैं माननीय वेंकैया नायडू साहब का बहुत आभारी हूँ। जो मेमोरेंडम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने सेंट्रल टीम को दिया था जो revised memorandum माननीय मुख्यमंत्री जी ने, जब वे 2 मई को all parties' delegation के साथ माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी से मिले थे, तब उनके सामने प्रस्तुत किया था। उन्होंने उसमें जो item-wise demands रखी हैं और जो सिचुएशन उन्होंने बताई है, उसका ब्यौरा यहां पर प्रस्तुत किया है। सर, यह कहा गया कि वहां की drought situation के प्रति सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का जो रेस्पॉस था, वह बड़ा belated था। मैं माननीय वेंकैया नायडू साहब के संज्ञान में इस बात को लाना चाहता हूँ कि जैसे ही यह सूचना सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट में कृषि मंत्रालय के पास आई, क्योंकि कृषि मंत्रालय ही नोडल मंत्रालय है, हमने Inter-Ministerial Central Team गठित की। उस टीम ने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के ऑफिशियल्स के साथ कर्णाटक का तीन दिन का व्यापक दौरा किया और अधिकांश जगहों पर, जहाँ-जहाँ जिन-जिन

[श्री हरीश रावत]

सिचुएशंस को स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने चिन्हित किया और दिखाया, उसने उनको देखा और उसके बाद उसने अपनी रिपोर्ट सबमिट की और उस रिपोर्ट के आधार पर Inter-Ministerial Group ने अपना व्यू दिया। उसकी रिकमेंडेशन के आधार पर, जो Inter-Ministerial Central Team ने रिकमेंड किया और उसके आधार पर, जो Inter-Ministerial Group का व्यू था, उसके आधार पर हाई लेवल कमेटी ने निर्णय लिया। मैं इस बात को मानता हूँ कि शुरुआत में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने जो first memorandum दिया, जो damage assessment दिया, उसमें और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने फाइनली जो पैसा अप्रूव किया है, उसके बीच में तो बड़ा अंतर नहीं है। लेकिन, जब टीम वहाँ विजिट कर रही थी और जो second memorandum स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने दिया है, उसमें और जो माननीय मंत्री जी को प्रस्तुत किया गया है, उसके बीच में भारी अन्तर है। उस अन्तर को देखते हुए ही, क्योंकि यह एक all parties delegation था, मैं सभी पार्टियों के सभी सदस्यों को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ, वे लोग मुख्य मंत्री के साथ आए और उन्होंने माननीय मंत्री महोदय को सारी सिचुएशन बताई। सिचुएशन में जो चेंजेज़ आए हैं, उनके बारे में भी उनको बताया, जैसे वहाँ पानी के पॉन्ड्स सूख गए हैं, मवेशियों के लिए चारा नहीं है, पीने के पानी की योजनाएँ ध्वस्त हो गई हैं आदि-आदि सब बातों का चित्रण किया गया और वे बातें रखी गईं। उसी के आधार पर माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह निर्णय लिया कि हम फिर से टीम को कर्णाटक के अन्दर भेजेंगे और वहाँ की जो latest situation है, उसके आधार पर उनसे कहेंगे कि आप रिपोर्ट सबमिट कीजिए, उस रिपोर्ट के आधार पर व्यू लिया जाएगा तथा उसके आधार पर निर्णय लिया जाएगा। यहाँ पर यह कहा गया कि साहब, मंत्री महोदय ने कहा था कि तत्काल हम एक कमेटी गठित करेंगे। मैं समझता हूँ कि जहाँ तक मुझे जानकारी है, 13 तारीख को सेंट्रल टीम को वहाँ की विजिट करनी है, इसी 13 तारीख को। यह 13 तारीख भी इसलिए निर्धारित करनी पड़ी, क्योंकि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से यह पूछना पड़ता है कि सेंट्रल टीम कब आए, आप उसके लिए तैयार हैं या नहीं और दोनों के आपस के कंसल्टेशन के बाद वहाँ सेंट्रल टीम भेजने का निर्णय लिया जाता है। इसलिए, यह विलम्ब जो आपको लग रहा है, कि 2 मई को कहा गया था और 2 मई के बाद ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Please do not interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him complete, please.

श्री हरीश रावत : सर, यह एक मानवीय समस्या है और इस समस्या को कोई सदस्य राजनीति की दृष्टि से नहीं देखते हैं, इसलिए सभी पार्टियों के सम्मानित सदस्यों ने, जिनमें दोनों पक्षों के सदस्य हैं, इधर के भी सदस्य हैं, उधर के भी सदस्य हैं, कर्णाटक को ज्यादा assistance देने की बात कही है और यह सदन की भावना है। इससे जो memorandum कर्णाटक की सरकार ने चीफ मिनिस्टर के नेतृत्व में दिया है और माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी के साथ जो उनकी बातचीत हुई है, उसको और बल मिलता है। इसलिए, पहले से यह anticipate कर देना या एक प्रकार से आरोप जैसा लगा देना कि आप कर्णाटक के साथ ज्यादा कर रहे हैं, आप उनकी समस्या को overlook करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, ऐसा कह कर इसको पॉलिटिकल फ्लेवर दिया जा रहा है। उस फ्लेवर के विषय में तो मुझे कुछ नहीं कहना है, लेकिन जो तथ्यात्मक स्थिति है, उसके विषय में जितनी आपकी चिंता है, कर्णाटक हमारे देश का भाग है और वहाँ के किसानों की समस्या के विषय में हमको भी, सरकार को भी उतनी ही चिंता है। वहाँ के किसान का loss, भारत के किसान का loss है, भारत का loss। हम उसी दृष्टिकोण से उसको देखेंगे और यह जो बात यहाँ पर कही गई, जो भावना व्यक्त की गई है, इससे उसको बल मिलेगा। मैं तो केवल सफाई में इतना जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस बात को जरूर स्वीकार कर लिया जाए कि जो माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि हम तत्काल टीम भेजेंगे, यहाँ तक कि यदि उन्होंने कहा भी कि हम जल्दी टीम भेजेंगे, तो यह टीम जल्दी ही भेजी जा रही है। यदि 2 तारीख से 13 तारीख को delay मान लिया जाता है, तो इसके

[1.00 P.M.]

लिए मैं यही कह सकता हूँ कि इसको यह माना जाए कि यह delay दोनों गवर्नमेंट्स के officials के बीच समय के adjustment के कारण हो रहा है और इतना समय natural course में लिया ही जाता है।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री तपन कुमार सेन : सर, यह घटना तो अक्टूबर, 2011 की थी। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री हरीश रावत : सर, यदि इस चर्चा में आन्ध्र को भी जोड़ा जाता, तो फिर मैं समझता हूँ कि वेंकेया साहब की शिकायत है, उस शिकायत के साथ सीलम साहब और हमारे दूसरे सदस्य भी उसी भाषा में बात कर रहे होते, उसी तरीके से कह रहे होते कि आन्ध्र को जो शेयर दिया गया, रेणुका जी भी वही कह रही होती कि आन्ध्र को कम शेयर दिया गया।

सर, हकीकत यह है कि इसके लिए नॉर्म्स बने हुए हैं और ये नॉर्म्स, नॉर्म्स कमेटी द्वारा निर्धारित किए गए हैं। यह नॉर्म्स कमेटी 13th Finance Commission की संस्तुति के आधार पर गठित की गई है। उसमें गवर्नमेंट as such या even होम मिनिस्ट्री की भी कोई अपनी दखलअंदाजी नहीं है, क्योंकि Finance Commission एक स्वतंत्र संस्था है और उसकी recommendations के आधार पर नॉर्म्स कमेटी गठित हुई है। नॉर्म्स कमेटी ने नॉर्म्स finalise किए हैं और inter-ministerial committee या inter-ministerial group जो निर्णय लेती है, उसी के आधार पर वह उसको review करता है या उसको assess करने का काम करता है। उनके लिए चीजों को ज्यादा खींचने की कोई गुंजाइश नहीं है।
...(व्यवधान).... फिर भी दो-तीन points जो drinking water के विषय में कहे गए हैं कि पीने के पानी की कठिनाई है और वहां पर fodder की कठिनाई के विषय में कहा गया है, सर, मैं आपकी जानकारी में यह बात लाना चाहता हूँ कि कर्णाटक की गवर्नमेंट के पास SDRF में नॉर्म्स के आधार पर पैसा रहता है और यह सभी राज्यों के पास रहता है। कर्णाटक के पास भी इस काम के लिए लगभग 116.5 करोड़ रुपए हैं। जब हाई पॉवर कमेटी या हाई लेवल कमेटी ने इस संबंध में निर्णय लिया, तब वह amount adjusted माना गया है। यह सभी राज्यों के विषय में adjusted माना जाता है और उसका 75 परसेंट adjustable amount मान लिया जाता है। कर्णाटक के संदर्भ में भी यही हुआ है, इसलिए ऐसा नहीं है कि उस पैसे को कहीं छीन लिया गया या इस पर कोई रोक लगायी गई है। जो फौरी काम हैं, जो फौरी जरूरतें हैं, उनके लिए कर्णाटक सरकार इस पैसे का उपयोग करे। अभी स्वामीनाथन साहब ने और दूसरे सदस्यों ने कहा कि पशुओं के लिए जीवन की कठिनाई आ रही है, उनके पीने के पानी की कठिनाई आ रही है। गरीब लोगों, विशेष तौर पर marginal farmers को जो sustenance allowance दिया जाना है, उसके बारे में मैं समझता हूँ कि उसे total number of affected farmers आदि को देखने के बाद इससे adjust किया जा सकता है। जो medium-term damages हैं, उनको repair करने को हम एक प्रकार से relief नहीं कह सकते हैं, बल्कि उसे हम rehabilitation process का अंग समझ सकते हैं, क्योंकि यह पैसा relief के लिए है। जहाँ तक rehabilitation का सवाल है, उसके लिए सेंट्रल टीम, जो कि फिर से वहाँ जा रही है, वह जिस तरह से recommend करेगी, उसकी रिपोर्ट आने के बाद इस पर हाई लेवल कमेटी जो view लेगी और उसके बाद जो धनराशि मिलेगी, उसका उपयोग कर कर्णाटक की गवर्नमेंट और हमारी गवर्नमेंट, दोनों के सहयोग से मिल कर इसको चलाने का काम किया जा सकता है।

सर, यहाँ पर एक बहुत अच्छा सुझाव दिया गया कि drought situation के मुकाबले के लिए long-term measures उठाये जाने चाहिए। उसके विषय में जो सेंट्रल ग्राउंड वाटर बोर्ड है, उसने भी ग्राउंड वाटर सिचुएशन को इम्प्रूव करने के लिए सुझाव दिए हैं। उसमें कर्णाटक के भी कुछ ब्लॉक्स एवं तालुकाज ऐसे हैं, जो क्रिटिकल एरिया के अंदर आते हैं। हम समझते हैं कि जो सेंट्रल ग्राउंड वाटर बोर्ड और स्टेट ग्राउंड वाटर बोर्ड हैं, दोनों उस विषय में जो भी कदम उठाये जाने हैं और जो सहायता उपलब्ध

[श्री हरीश रावत]

हैं जिसमें dug well भी है और structure बनाने के लिए मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ वॉटर रिसोर्सज से जो सहायता उपलब्ध है, उसका फायदा उठा सकते हैं। मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एग्रिकल्चर की तरफ से भी दो कार्यक्रम चलाये जा रहे हैं जिनका फायदा उठाया जा सकता है। हमारा जो ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय है, उसकी भी दो योजनाएँ हैं, जिनमें से डीपीएपी बड़ी पुरानी योजना है और दूसरी जो वाटरशेड की योजना है, उसका लाभ भी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स उठा सकती हैं।

सर, नवम्बर, 2009 में जो Manual for Drought Management तैयार किया गया है, उसमें हमने राज्यों को यह सुझाव दिया है कि different programmes के लिए जो पैसा उनके पास उपलब्ध है, उससे वे एक बेहतर synergy पैदा करें। Even कुछ राज्यों ने water bodies create करने के लिए “मनरेगा” के पैसे का भी बहुत अच्छा उपयोग किया है, जिसका impact कई राज्यों में water availability पर पड़ा है, जिनमें गुजरात, आन्ध्र प्रदेश तथा कुछ अन्य राज्य हैं। हम समझते हैं कि एक बेहतर synergy पैदा करने के लिए हम और कोशिश करेंगे। जैसा स्वामीनाथन साहब ने कहा, हम लोगों की यह कोशिश रहेगी कि जो Manual for Drought Management है, उसको हम religiously follow कराने की कोशिश करें। हम राज्य सरकारों से बातचीत करेंगे कि किस तरीके से इस manual को हम बेहतर तरीके से implement कर सकते हैं। इस विषय में हमारा जो geographic information system है, जिसमें हमारे drought monitoring centers हैं, वे बेहतर तरीके से function करें और राज्यों के साथ, जितने हमारे stakeholders हैं, उनके साथ हमारा बेहतर coordination रहे, ताकि देश के जिन भागों में इस तरीके की स्थिति पैदा होने की सम्भावनाएँ हैं, वहाँ हम उनका मुकाबला कर सकें।

माननीय अधिष्ठाता महोदय, इस सिचुएशन में क्लाइमेट चेंज के साथ-साथ कुछ और परिवर्तन भी आये हैं। कुछ क्षेत्र, जहाँ पहले rain regular थी, वहाँ अब वह उतनी regular नहीं रह गयी है और कुछ क्षेत्रों में जहाँ rain के मामले में deficiency थी, वहाँ अब अच्छी बरसात हो रही है, इसलिए ground-water recharging and surface-water recharging आदि की स्थिति में भी बड़ा परिवर्तन आया है। हम उन सब चीजों को scientifically monitor करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और हमारी कोशिश है कि हम इसको ध्यान में रखें। जहाँ तक norms का सवाल है, इस विषय में हम लोगों को 2015 तक इंतजार करना पड़ेगा। हाउस का जो अपना view है, वह अपने आप में सबसे आगे है, मगर जैसा मैंने कहा कि Finance Commission की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर norms committee बनी हुई है, उनमें हमारा मंत्रालय ज्यादा परिवर्तन नहीं कर सकता है।

माननीय अधिष्ठाता महोदय, मैंने मोटे तौर पर उन सभी बिन्दुओं को कवर करने की कोशिश की है, जो माननीय सदस्यों ने उठाए हैं। यहाँ पर कुछ और बातें भी कही गईं। जैसे, माननीय प्रकाश जी महाराष्ट्र के बारे में शिकायत कर रहे थे कि राज्य सरकार पीने के पानी की योजनाओं के प्रति लापरवाह है और सूखे के कारण लोगों के सामने जो पीने के पानी की समस्या आ रही है, उसका वह समाधान नहीं कर रही है।

उनकी शिकायत थी कि वहाँ पशुओं को चारा नहीं मिल रहा है। लेकिन जब कर्नाटक के विषय में बात आई तो उस यार्ड स्टिक को फोलो करने की कोशिश नहीं की। मैं माया जी से भी एक निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि आखिर यह बोरों की खरीद के विषय में है। राज्य सरकारों की भी अपनी जिम्मेदारी है। इस मामले में कौन राज्य सरकार सुस्त रही है, इस विषय में मैं इतनी गंभीर चर्चा को, जो एक माननीय समस्या को लेकर के, एक प्राथमिक समस्या जो हम सबको झेलनी है, सामूहिक रूप से झेलनी है, उसमें इस बात को नहीं ले जाना चाहता हूँ। लेकिन मैं इतना जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम अपने मंत्रालय के साथ खाद्य मंत्रालय के भी सम्पर्क में हैं, क्योंकि किसानों का कोई भी दाना बिना खरीदे रहे जा रहा है तो हम यह

समझते हैं कि जो हमारी एम.एस.पी. है, यह एक प्रकार से उस विचार का हनन है, उस पर एक प्रकार से चोट है। हम इस विषय में मध्य प्रदेश की राज्य सरकार के सम्पर्क में हैं, पंजाब और हरियाणा की राज्य सरकारों के भी सम्पर्क में हैं। जहां इस तरह की बारदाने की शिकायत आई हैं। इसको हम फिर से टेकअप करने की कोशिश करेंगे, फिर से इस मामले को लेंगे और इस विषय में बात करेंगे। उसके अलावा एक बहुत अच्छा सुझाव ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर : कब करेंगे, इतना अनाज सड़ रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री हरीश रावत : मैंने कहा कि यह हमारे मंत्रालय के हाथ में नहीं है, इसमें दूसरे मंत्रालय भी सम्बन्धित हैं, हम उनके साथ टेकअप करेंगे, आपकी भावनाओं को वहां तक पहुंचाएंगे। मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती माया सिंह : सर, मेरा एक आग्रह है, मंत्री जी हमें यह बतला दें कि यह बारदाने और बोरियां देने का काम राज्य सरकारों का है या आपका है? क्या नियम हैं, यह भी आप सदन को बतला दें? यह किसकी जिम्मेदारी है? आपने इसको अभी राज्य सरकारों के ऊपर डाला है। यह केन्द्र सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है और अभी तक इन 60 वर्षों में यह चला आ रहा है।

श्री हरीश रावत : मूल्य निर्धारण हमारी जिम्मेदारी है। भण्डारण की सुविधा को पैदा करना, हमारी और आपकी सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी है। खरीद ठीक से हो, वह भी हमारी और राज्य सरकारों की सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी है। लेकिन राज्य सरकारें बारदाने के ऊपर केन्द्र को आरोपित करें, यह मुझको ज्यादाती लग रही है।

श्रीमती माया सिंह : राज्य सरकारें अपनी जिम्मेदारी निभाएंगी। लेकिन केन्द्र सरकार अपनी जिम्मेदारी नहीं निभा रही है। इस कारण किसानों को दिक्कतें आ रही हैं। केन्द्र सरकार अपनी जिम्मेदारी नहीं निभा रही है।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : एक मिनट, मंत्री महोदय। मैं एक बात पूछना चाहता हूँ। Sir, he is willing to ...**(Interruptions)**... Before it is over, I just want to ...**(Interruptions)**... He is yielding, Sir, ...**(Interruptions)**... सर, यह गंभीर सवाल है और आपसे हमारी पूरी सहमति है कि इस पर राज्य सरकार, केन्द्र सरकार इस तरह से बंटवारा करके मत देखिए। लेकिन इंसानियत के तौर पर इसको हल करने की बात है। इसलिए इस गंभीरता को ध्यान में रखते हुए हमने एक सुझाव दिया था कि आपके पास जो एक्सेस स्टॉक पड़ा हुआ है, जिसके बारे में कहा जा रहा है कि वह सड़ रहा है, उसी के बारे में हमारे वित्त मंत्री कह रहे हैं कि अगर इस साल प्रोक्योरमेंट करेंगे, अभी एम. एस. पी. की बात कर रहे हैं, तो हमारा बीस हजार करोड़ फूड सप्लाय बटल जाएगा स्टोरेज की वजह से। अब आपके बजट की डेफिसिट को कम करने के लिए भी सुझाव है कि यह बीस हजार करोड़ न हो, इस अनाज को आप वहां पर भेजिए जहां पर लोग भूख से मरते हैं, ताकि लोग भूख से न मरें। बस मेरा यही निवेदन है।

श्री हरीश रावत : आपकी वाणी में सीता और राम दोनों बसे हुए हैं। आप हमारे अन्तर्मन को भी जानते हैं, क्योंकि हम कृषि मंत्रालय के भाग हैं। हम तो यह चाहेंगे कि हमारा एक भी दाना नहीं सड़े। आज जो हमारे सामने भण्डारण की चुनौती है और उसके लिए एक अच्छा रूट है। इसके विषय में कृषि मंत्रालय का व्यू आपको मालूम नहीं है। लेकिन इसके विषय में गवर्नमेंट एज ए होल इस स्थिति को आंकना पड़ेगा और इसके व्यापक प्रभाव देखने पड़ेंगे। इसलिए ऐसा नहीं है कि जो एक बात उठी है कि वह सरकार के संज्ञान में नहीं है, वह संज्ञान में है। लेकिन क्या बेहतर निर्णय लिया जा सकता है, इस पर कार्यवाही होगी।

[श्री हरीश रावत]

उन्होंने कर्णाटक की झ्राउट सिचुएशन के विषय में इस महत्वपूर्ण बिन्दु को उठाया, मैं आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय में केन्द्र सरकार निर्णय करेगी और हम कर्णाटक के किसानों के हित को पूरे तरीके से ध्यान में रखेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : He has replied to every point.

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : इस बात पर आप हमारे साथ रहिए, मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ।
...**(Interruptions)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Yechuryji, please sit down.

SHRI M.VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, the hon. Minister gave a long reply, but he did not address the core issues. Number one, when the Central Team is going, ...**(Interruptions)**... why there is a delay. Will it go up to the monsoon? My second point is that so far, the Central Government has released only Rs. 70 crores. We had made a request of Rs. 6,000 crores, but you have released only Rs. 70 crores. Thirdly, when there is a severe drinking water and fodder shortage, the Central Government is totally unmoved. Fourthly, Sir, we had asked for three lakh tonnes of foodgrains and 55,000 tonnes of wheat. For that also, when the godowns are full, the Government has no concern for the people of Karnataka. Sir, the Government is totally insensitive and indifferent. We protest against the Government's attitude and we are walking out of the House.

(At this stage, some Hon. Members left the chamber)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Okay. The House is adjourned up to 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at eleven minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

REFERENCE BY CHAIR

On Conclusion of 150th Birth Anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, May 8, 2012 marks the conclusion of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore.

Rabindranath Tagore was a mystic, poet, artist, playwright, novelist and composer. His works had influenced Bengali literature and music in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Apart from his literary works, over 2000 songs belonging to a genre known as '*Rabindrasangeet*' have now become an integral part of Bengali culture. Tagore had introduced the best of Indian culture to the West.

He became the first Nobel laureate from Asia when he received the Nobel Prize in the year 1913 for *Gitanjali*. He was a great patriot. He rejected the knighthood given by the British Crown, in protest against the *Jallianwala Bagh* massacre in Punjab in 1919.

Prominent amongst the other contributions of Rabindranath Tagore is the University of *Visva Bharati*. He had several literary works, many of which became the subject matter of celebrated plays and films. We owe our National Anthem to his composition.

On this occasion, this House acknowledges the sterling role played by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore in taking literature in general, and Bengali literature, in particular, to the pinnacle where it has reached today. He stood for universal brotherhood.

I am sure, Rabindranath Tagore will continue to be a great source of inspiration for the literary giants of today and budding writers and composers for years to come.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am privileged to be recognized by you to pay my homage to this great Sentinel, as he was described by Mahatma Gandhi, who influenced our thought not only during his life-time but since his death till today.

Therefore, it was quite natural to celebrate his 150th Birth Anniversary. Government of India decided to have a National Committee under the Chairmanship of hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, and I have the privilege, Mr. Chairman, Sir, to be the Head of the Implementation Committee. I would like to share with this distinguished House a few projects which we undertook during the last one year. The most important and significant part of it was that this is one celebration that was jointly organized by two sovereign nations, India and Bangladesh, because Tagore happened to be the composer of the National Anthems of India as well as Bangladesh – '*Jana Gana Mana*' and '*Amar Shonar Bangla; aami tomake bhalobashi*'.

Sir, you had represented India last year at the beginning of the Joint Celebrations when you were there in Dhaka and, till date, the people of Bangladesh remember the outstanding speech you had delivered on that occasion. I had the privilege of representing the Government and the people of India, day before yesterday, at Dhaka at the closing ceremony. We decided, apart from bringing out a number of publications, to launch a website where we can access, in 42 languages, more than 4000 volumes of the writings of Tagore himself and other writers. It was thought that to commemorate his 150th

[SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE]

Birth Anniversary, it would be befitting to introduce an international award to honour the distinguished persons whose contribution towards universal brotherhood would be recognized. Later on, the jury, under the Chairmanship of the hon. Prime Minister, decided that the word 'brotherhood' conveyed some sort of a gender bias and, therefore, it was suggested that the award should be renamed as 'The Tagore International Award for Contribution to the Harmonisation of Culture' and the recipient of the first award was, unanimously, selected to be a personality as eminent as sitar maestro, Pandit Ravi Shankar. I had the privilege of announcing his name.

Sir, Tagore was, essentially, a poet, philosopher, writer, painter, artist and lyricist, but he was also a great visionary. He had established the Vishwa Bharati University where, he believed, the whole universe would have its nest. That is why, anybody who goes to the Vishwa Bharati University would find a few words from the *Upanishads* inscribed, such as *Yatra visvam bhagavad kunjam* — 'The whole universe nests here.' Long before we had friendship with other countries, he had introduced studies on the philosophy of China and many other ancient civilizations. At one point of time, in the '20s and the '30s, *Shantiniketan* became the hub of international cultural discourse. We are, indeed, happy to have this cultural icon, an icon of universal humanity, from amongst us, who guided us for a long period of time, and will continue to do so. Most respectfully, I pay my homage to this great soul of India.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal) : * Hon'ble Chairman Sir, today is the 25th day of the month of Baisakh in Bengali calendar. On this very day in 1861, Rabindranath Tagore was born in the famous Thakur family in Jorasanko, Kolkata. Rabindranath did not get any formal education but was steeped in the teachings of Upanishad and Indian philosophy. He was tutored at home for Sanskrit and English literature, physics, mathematics, history, geography, and Natural Science. He had also learnt arts, music and even physical exercises. The cultural and intellectual atmosphere at home influenced him to be at once a poet, literary personality, essayist, educationist, philosopher, lyricist, composer, playwright, artist and a social reformer. He was closely associated for a certain period with the Nationalist movement of India, then reeling under British rule. In the year 1886 at the second meeting of the National Convention in Kolkata, he sang in his own voice, "We have assembled here today in response to our Mother's call". At the 12th session held at Beadon Street in Kolkata, he again sang "Vande Mataram", the musical tune being set by him. Rabindranath was the first person to have recorded "Vande Mataram" as a gramophone record in his own voice in 1896 under the supervision of Hemendranath Bose by the Pathe Company of Germany.

In the wake of the Partition of Bengal in 1905, Rabindranath lent his voice against it in many meetings and conferences. He wrote the immortal lines, "Banglar mati,

* English version of the original speech made in Bengali.

Banglar jal... Let the earth and the water, the air and the fruits of my country be sweet, my God.” In the year 1911, he composed “Jana-gana-mana Adhinayaka jayo he Bharat-bhagyabidhata.” Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose got this song translated into Hindi and announced in a meeting of India Independence League in Germany in 1945 that *Jana-gana-mana* would henceforth be the National Anthem of independent India. We are proud to have fulfilled that dream. Our neighbouring country Bangladesh has also recognized another song by Tagore as its National Anthem: “Amar sonar Bangla, aami tomay bhalobasi... O the golden Bengal, I love you.”

Gandhiji addressed Tagore as “Gurudev” and Rabindranath used to address Gandhiji as “Mahatma.” Mahatma Gandhi visited Santiniketan thrice with his wife during Tagore’s life. When Gandhiji was observing fast in jail, Gurudev went to meet him and persuaded him to break his fast. He sang to Mahatma Gandhi his immortal song, “Jiban jakhon shukaye jay... When the heart is hard and parched up, come upon me with a shower of mercy.” Besides this, another Tagore song, “If they answer not to thy call, walk alone” had been one of Gandhiji’s favourite songs.

Rabindranath’s “Gitanjali” was first published in 1910. Subsequently, after two years its translation in English, “Song Offerings” was published. Tagore was awarded Nobel Prize for this collection of poems in 1913, which has already been mentioned by Hon’ble Chairman and Hon’ble Finance Minister. Gitanjali was translated in more than 50 languages all over the world.

On 13 April, 1919, British Police made a ghastly attack by firing indiscriminately on the innocent people assembled to protest Rowlatt Act in Jalianwalabagh in Punjab and killed hundreds of people. Rabindranath immediately rose in protest. In a letter to the Viceroy he wrote, “I renounce my knighthood in protest against the inhuman cruelty of the British Government to the people of Punjab. I cannot remember such heinous act against humanity ever before.” His strong protest stirred the conscience of the whole world.

He was a close friend of the famous philosopher Romain Rolland. Tagore toured not only the countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and America but also paid visits to many places in the country. He started painting at the age of 60 and still today, his art is celebrated all over the world by art-lovers. Tagore composed thousands of songs known as “Rabindro-songeet.” He wrote innumerable poem, song-drama, essay, short story, novel and letters that have enriched world literature.

At the last stage of his life, he was pained by the alarming acrimony due to World War II and he wrote “Crisis of Civilization”. The crisis is still ailing humanity even today.

[SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY]

*“The heart of the universe is reeling and weeping under terrible heat;
The soul is torn between aberration and material-poison, the feeling’s unfulfilled;
Countries have marks of blood and sin on their foreheads;
Bring forth thy right hand, the welcome conches,
Bring forth thy musical ragas, and the lovely rhythms.
O the ever-peaceful, free and eternal entity,
Come ye and rid the Earth of all sins with thy merciful touch.”*

SHRI PRASHANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : * Sir, we have already completed the 150th birth anniversary of ‘Kobiguru’ Rabindranath Tagore and we have just reached this morning into the 151st year of his birth. The entire country is today celebrating this day to pay homage to the Poet. He is respected and revered all over the world. Our National Poet Rabindranath Tagore was a rare combination of Nationalism and Internationalism, and he inspired the people of the country, its history and its national movement with this unique quality. And that is why he is “Visva-kobi”, the Poet of the World, and the composer of two National Anthems of two different countries.

One of the most alarming problems gripping our country is that of food, and the crisis of agriculture. Rabindranath belonged to a family of zamindars (landlord). He brought into focus the internal flaws and exploitations of zamindari system. He had a deep-rooted hatred towards the atrocities meted out by the zamindars on the peasants. He has specifically mentioned them as parasites, as the ones who became rich by cheating others. In his book named ‘Rayelor Katha’ he described the atrocities. In his famous poem “Dui Bigha Zami” (Two *bighas* of land), he wrote,

“The zamindar said one day, “Hi open, I will purchase four piece of land” I said, “you are the land lord having cluster of land under your possession. But now are trying to take away of land from me which is just enough for my graveyard.”

How had Upen, a very small farmer, lost his land and became a landless peasant. That was the main aim of that poem. Only two *bighas* of land I have; others I have lost due to loan, due to poverty.

The immense need for land reforms came into focus when in the recent , past, there was a movement to acquire *benami* land in West Bengal. There was hue and cry for the vested interest ‘Save us’ and “now we are witnessing the suicides by the farmers as one of the major problems in India. The issue of land to the tillers; land reforms in real sense in important today. The importance of land and the problems of the farmers were seriously pointed out in the writings of Rabindranath Tagore.

Tagore’s love for the country has already been mentioned by other speakers with reference to his renunciation of Knighthood in protest against Jallianwalabagh massacre.

* English version of the original speech made in Bengali.

He met many important world personalities in relation to his protest against Fascism. He came into contact with great philosopher Henri Berbusse and Romain Rolland. He had called for “Halt to reaction. Cry in a million voices” through his writings. In his famous poem titled “Africa”, he has depicted the ugly side of colonialism and its barbaric atrocities of imperialism. He responded against the invasion with his remarkable anti-colonial poem “Africa”:

*They came with iron handcuffs
Those whose claws are sharper than your wolves.
Man-trappers came,
Blinder in their arrogance than your sunless forests.*

Rabindranath had vividly portrayed the negative aspects of colonialism that gripped India under British rule.

In “*Russia-r chithl*” (Letter from Russia), Tagore has mentioned that his tour of the world would not have been complete without this pilgrimage to Russia. He had praised the development in education, the development of children and women in Russia of those times. He felt “privileged to witness” how the down-trodden people were helped to reach the higher strata of existence at that time.

I would like to mention, Sir, his opinion against the aspect of communalism. When Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy was the Mayor of Kolkata the citizens of the Kolkata welcomed him in a Civic Reception. In response to this reception, Tagore opined about the kind of civic people he desired to exist in the society. He wished that the people should have peace, should have food at home and should have strength in body. All these points are major problems still today in our country. He also wanted that the citizens should not fall prey to communalism. When Subhas Chandra Bose requested him to inaugurate the great hall in Kolkata, Rabindranath named it “Mahajati Sadan” to signify his ideas against communalism. We have witnessed Tagore in such great roles. We should take lessons from his vast learning. We should be proud that we had such great personalities in our country. Remember the unforgettable letter by Tagore while renouncing Knighthood; remember the immortal, brave words by Bhagat Singh’s mother that she was ready to sacrifice even her other sons for the sake of the country’s independence. Rabindranath could not even sleep for a moment in the night when he heard about the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. Even when the great leaders of our country could not decide how to protest the inhuman massacre in Punjab, Tagore took upon himself to lodge his protest by renouncing the Knighthood. Tagore added a new and significant angle to anti-colonial movement through this gesture.

It is a proud moment, Sir, that we are celebrating the completion of his 150th birth anniversary today. I join all the Members of this House in paying my deep respect, homage and tribute to the great poet Rabindranath Tagore. Thank you.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I cannot match the beauty of the language of my two preceding speakers but, in my own humble way, I join the hon. Chair and this House in paying my homage and tribute to the great son of India on his 150th birth anniversary.

Sir, very few have achieved the kind of versatility and excellence that *Gurudev* had achieved; a versatility of the kind that he was a writer, a poet, a composer, an artist, a thinker, and, more so, a great patriot. Whatever he wrote, whatever he said, today, after almost a century, his 'quotable quotes' are still borrowed and used by some of us. "Where the mind is without fear..." Najmayji is passing the entire poetry to me; each one of us has heard them several times.

The power of the ideas, as he composed it and put it across, has a greater penetration and a lasting value than what most people have done. Rightly honoured as the first gentleman from Asia for a Nobel Prize, I think, his act of rejecting the 'Knighthood' title in protest against the gruesome tragedy at Jallianwala Bagh shook the conscience of the whole nation, and, brought it together.

Sir, if we talk of his composition of the National Anthem, though, ultimately, composed in Hindi, the power of his language is such that those who do not adequately understand Hindi find it not very difficult to even recite from memory today the great National Anthem. That was the power of the language that he had.

The National Anthem that he composed was no ordinary song. It was reflective of the cultural personality of this country, and, it continues to inspire millions of Indian almost by the minute and every second. Very few have left the kind of footprints for the society that he has, and, I thank you, Sir, for having taken up this special agenda item today for paying tributes to this great son of India. I join the whole House in doing so. Thank you.

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on such a momentous occasion.

At the outset, I would compliment the Government for having organized the 150th birthday celebration of Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore in such a great manner, and, involving Bangladesh which is the other part of the legacy of Rabindranath Tagore.

The whole of India, Bangladesh and undivided India, as a whole, benefited from Tagore's philosophy, his visionary nature, and, I would say, most importantly, Rabindranath Tagore was the Architect of Modern India. He was an architect of modern India, not in the sense of a political person, but in terms of spirituality and the development of modern India. Hon'ble Chairman Sir, just before me the Hon'ble Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee and other colleagues of mine have paid rich tributes to Rabindranath Tagore in their speeches. Sir, all the Hon'ble Members of this

House and the people of our country will agree that by remembering Tagore at this point of time, we are paying homage and tributes to Indian Nationalism and a great human being.

An additional point I would like to make, Sir, is that Rabindranath Tagore was a person who was ahead of his time. Some points have been made by my hon. colleagues, Mr. Sukhendu Sekhar Roy and Mr. Prasanta Chatterjee. They have mentioned all this. But, after all, let us not forget that he died 71 years ago from now, when society was so conservative. It was shackled in prejudices. And, what does he write in his life time? He says “Come, come Brahmins, purify your heart, hold the hands of the downtrodden and out-castes. Remove all ills and disrespect.” He talked about equality. He called upon *Brahmins* in the sense of the higher caste to come with a pure mind and hold the hands of the lowest of the low whom you have kept in prejudice and bondage. He says “O my unfortunate country, your brethren you have treated with disrespect; you must share with them all, their ignominy.”

This modern outlook, this move against casteism and caste prejudice is something which often gets overlooked. But, I think, this was one of his great contributions. Sir, Rabindranath Tagore was one of the greatest champions of woman’s emancipation when it was far from fashionable. Sir, many Members may have seen his novel *Nashtoneer* in Satyajit Ray’s famous and highly-celebrated film *Charulata*, which is a reflection of his modern thinking on woman’s emancipation. His another novel *Ghare Baire* which was also made into a film by Satyajit Ray reflects the same theme. His whole idea of the *Mahamanav* requires some thought. And what has its contribution been to the making of Indian mind? *Mahamanav* is not to be literally translated as a superman of sorts. He is not a Nietzsche’s superman. He is not a macho. He is not a world conqueror. He is spiritual. He says that Indian soul, Indian mind is spiritual and inclusive. So, he writes “Oh Mother, let my mind awake slowly on this sacred shore of the sea. Where great souls of the world have come together to pay reverence.” And then he goes on, “Nobody knows whose invitation invoke so many souls who have gathered here like a turbulent current of river that has come and dissolved itself in the Divine Ocean. In this sacred place Aryans, non-Aryans, Dravidians, Afghans, Shakas, Hoons and Mughals have come and assimilated their individuality in One Supreme Body. West has opened her door for everybody to get their blessings. Here everybody will bring into union and exchange gifts. Nobody will go empty handed from this seashore where great souls come together to pay reverence.”

Sir, what is the essence of this? He says, in India, people have come from all over the world — Aryans, non-Aryans, Dravidians, people from China — and they have all assimilated to create this great Indian mind — assimilative, inclusive and expansive. This is ahead of its time and this is something that we must never forget when we are observing his 150th birth anniversary. Sir, his ode to Shivaji, his ode to Banda Bahadur

[DR. CHANDAN MITRA]

and Guru Tegh Bahadur where he writes odes to the creation of the Khalsa show the openness of his mind. Sir, he is one of the most widely-travelled persons of his time, and probably of all times.

He went to Ramgarh, what is now Uttarakhand, riding a horse when it was not accessible. There he wrote bulk of *Geetanjali*. He went to Shiraz in Iran. The place where Rabindranath Tagore stayed is preserved there. He went to Bali. When I visited Bali, I found that he's held in great reverence. They say that the Great Rabindranath Tagore visited the place and spent some time there.

The last point that I want to make is anti-colonialism. It was mentioned by Shri Prasanta Chatterjee. I don't want to add anything more to that except that he was the spiritual father of the Swadeshi Movement and, in that sense, a spiritual father of the early age of Indian Nationalism. Sir, I am concluding. It's mentioned how he rejected Knighthood, how he spurned the British, and how he wrote to the Viceroy. But the angst of the nation, the pain that he brought out in his poem, which he wrote immediately after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, is worth remembering and quoting.

"The angels, who you sent, God, to the world to spread the message of peace, brotherhood and forgiveness, ask us to forgive and love everyone." I will skip the middle part. He concludes it by saying this in the light of massacre. He says, "You have destroyed my world in a nightmare." He is asking the God with tears in his eyes, "God, you taught us the lesson of peace and forgiveness. But those who have polluted your air, who have snuffed out the light from so many lives, have you forgiven them? Can you possibly forgive them? Can you possibly love them?"

Sir, this is a great moment for us. The whole country is united in paying homage to possibly India's greatest spiritual thinker and maker of modern Indian soul. Thank you, Sir.

DR. BARUN MUKHERJI (West Bengal) : Sir, at least today, let me pay my tribute to Tagore in his own Bengali language.

*Sir, we have seen literary stalwarts in many countries emerging as great poets, great novelists and great playwrights. They had achieved in many different genres of literature, but Rabindranath's genius knew no bounds; his talent was all-pervasive through his creations of poetry, drama, dance-drama, essays, belle letters and the art of writing letters. The most significant characteristic of his talent was that he was contemporary as well as a constant source of eternal wisdom. He has taken us along to such heights, wherefrom we can easily say, "Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high."

* English version of the original speech made in Bengali.

The talent of Rabindranath was not restricted. He could feel the sorrow, the pangs and pains of the common people. He travelled all along the river Padma and met the common people living in the villages by the river. His short stories depicted the feelings and conditions of these people and these have been celebrated as the most important short stories in world literature. We can find all the feelings we experience in our lives – the sorrow, the happiness, the tears, the smiles, the sadness, the anger, the protest – through the creations of Rabindranath Tagore. He is not the poet of the present or of a certain period; he is the eternal poet belonging to all of us. He had written in the last stage of his life, “I belong to you.” All of us can feel the reverberation of that uttering and is reassured that Rabindranath is one of us only.

Sir, it has already been mentioned by other speakers before me that Rabindranath Tagore had always raised his voice in protest against atrocities. His sense of protest and love for the country had attained the pinnacle of human reaction. His protests at the massacre of innocent people at Jallianwala Bagh and the firing at Hijli Jail are well known. He renounced his Knighthood and protested vehemently at the firing on the prisoners at Hijli Jail. He had depicted the feelings and eternal love of a woman through his writings as well as the feelings of a little child. He holds such popularity among us because he has not left any feeling of the common man ever untold.

In conclusion, I would like to point out another significant aspect of Tagore. He wrote “Crisis in Civilization” during the last stage of his life. He has famously written in this essay that after 200 years of British rule, they have transformed our country, our cities into hollow, barren lands and negatively impacted our civilization. The people of our country were exploited and deprived by British rule. At the same time, he was an optimist. He says in a highly positive tone, “I shall not commit the grievous sin of losing faith in Man.” He says that it is a sin not to trust the Man. He repeats that he will defend this trust in Man forever. Way back in 1941, he prophesized that a new Sun would rise after the day’s end. We still have that hope in our minds and we celebrate his birth anniversary. In Tagore’s own words, we can say: “25th of Baisakh calls upon the eternal Newness.” I humbly pay my homage and tribute to Rabindranath Tagore, the poet of the eternal Newness and the poet of Humanism. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, we have other business also to transact. I would request, to the extent possible, for statements to be limited to 2-3 minutes. Thank you. Now, Mr. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu) : Thank you, Sir. I and my party join the entire House in paying rich tributes to Rabindranath Tagore.

Sir, we can be proud and we can hold our heads high that 20th century India has produced two great sons, outstanding great sons, poets and visionaries. One was Subramanya Bharathi of Tamil Nadu and the other one was Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. Sir, it was Mr. K.R. Narayanan, the former President of India, who could place Tagore in a correct perspective. I take this opportunity to acknowledge that.

Coming back to Tagore, Sir, it is not 150 years. In the coming years, we would try to reinvent and rediscover Tagore for our progress and peaceful advance. Sir, it was Tagore, way back in the year 1922, who wrote a brilliant article. The title is very much inspiring – ‘The Robbery of the Soil’. It is one of the finest critiques on modern civilisation. Tagore goes on to say, Property and its acquisition break social bonds and drain the life sap of the community. The unscrupulousness involved plays havoc the world over and generates a force that can coax and coerce peoples to deeds of injustice and of wholesale horror”. This is what Tagore warned about the modern civilization. Because of time constraint, I don’t go into the entire analysis of Tagore’s vision. But Tagore talked about happiness. We have a tendency to discuss GDP, Gross Domestic Production, but in fact, Tagore talked about gross national happiness. Tagore says, “True happiness is not at all expensive and it is fullness of life which makes us happy and not fullness of purse”. This is what Tagore says. In fact, when I read Tagore on these lines, there is a need for us to reinvent Tagore. Tagore talks about poverty. The poverty problem is not so important; it is the problem of unhappiness that is the great problem”. This is what Tagore says. Tagore talks about democracy and women’s rights. In fact, Tagore identified himself with the poorest of the poor. I learnt from my own limited knowledge of Bengal history, Tagore was one of the pioneers in establishing grameen bank and cooperative movement also. Tagore always tried to identify himself with poor. When he spoke about women, he espoused the cause of women’s rights and their empowerment in 1934. Addressing a National Conference on Women, Tagore said, – it is very relevant to know what Tagore spoke about women – “it is not that woman is merely seeking today her freedom of livelihood, struggling against man’s monopoly of business but against man’s monopoly of civilization”. These are the words of Tagore. Now when we pay homage and respect to Tagore, we should rediscover him. Tagore stood for gender equality. Tagore stood for a different civilization which is human. Tagore stood against poverty. Tagore identified himself with the poorest of the poor people.

Finally, I conclude by saying that everybody has a tendency to compare India with China. Tagore also talked about China. Way back in 1916, Tagore has written about the rise of China. When he wrote about the rise of China, he talked about the Chinese labourers. He said, “The Rise of China depends upon the labour power, the

labourers of China". That is how Tagore looked at China. These are certain issues which we need to learn from Tagore and when we move forward, the vision of Tagore, the philosophy of Tagore will serve as a source of inspiration for the entire nation. With these words, I pay my rich tributes and homage to Tagore. Thank you.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, great tributes have been paid to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. The Leader of the Opposition and other leaders very eloquently paid tributes to Tagore. I am only reading from his verses about what he wanted his country to be :

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;

Where knowledge is free;

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;

Where words come out from the depth of truth;

Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;

Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought and action –

Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake."

This was the vision and wish of Tagore. I hope, Sir, one day, we will fulfil his dream and his vision. Thank you.

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति जी, राष्ट्र के महान कवि, रविन्द्र नाथ टैगोर जी की 150th Birth Anniversary पर आपने मुझे दो शब्द कहने का जो मौका दिया है, जो समय दिया है, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

महोदय, नेशन के लिए टैगोर साहब का जो contribution है, उसके बारे में मुझसे पहले सभी मेम्बरान ने बहुत ही deeply चर्चा की। उनकी शिखिसयत के बारे में, जैसा कि आपने बताया कि 2-4 मिनट में ही अपनी बात को मुझे कन्क्लूड करना है, तो दो-चार मिनट में उनकी शिखिसयत के बारे में कुछ भी ज्यादा एक्सप्लेन नहीं किया जा सकता। मैं उनके बारे में, उनकी लाइफ के बारे में जो जानता हूँ कि उन्होंने कितने songs लिखे, कितनी poems लिखीं और कितनी stories लिखीं, उनके बारे में बहुत चर्चा हो रही है और वह रिकॉर्ड पर भी है। लेकिन, उनकी poem में, उनकी कविता में ऐसे शब्द थे, जो किसी भी व्यक्ति के अन्दर तक पहुँच जाते थे और सही मायनों में वे उसकी आत्मा को झंझोड़ देते थे।

सर, इस देश में जो कविताएँ लिखने वाले हैं, नाटक लिखने वाले हैं या songs लिखने वाले हैं, कई बार वे अपने पारिवारिक कारणों से लिखते हैं, लेकिन टैगोर साहब की जो लेखनी थी, उसका कारण सोशल था, उसका कारण स्लेवरी थी और उसका कारण exploitation का एंड करने लिए मैसेज देना था। आज जब हम उनको श्रद्धांजलि भेंट कर रहे हैं, तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जैसे हम यहाँ चर्चा कर रहे हैं कि जालियाँवाला बाग का जो साका था, उसने टैगोर साहब को इतना झंझोड़ दिया कि उन्होंने

[श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी]

अंग्रेजों का ऑनर लेना रिजेक्ट कर दिया, तो आज उनको सच्ची श्रद्धांजलि यह होगी कि हम अपने देश के अंदर ऐसा environment क्रिएट करें कि जिससे जालियाँवाला बाग जैसे जो साके हैं, जो इंसिडेंट्स हैं, वे दोहराये न जाएँ। अब अगर टैगोर साहब को जालियाँवाला बाग का इंसिडेंट अच्छा नहीं लगा, तो उनको निश्चित ही 1984 का कत्लेआम भी अच्छा नहीं लगता और उनको बाबरी मस्जिद का गिराना भी अच्छा नहीं लगता। आज जब हमें उनकी शख्सियत पर चर्चा करनी है, तो किसी-न-किसी conclusion पर भी हमें पहुँचना चाहिए कि हम देश के अन्दर एक ऐसा वातावरण क्रिएट करें, जिसके तहत किसी का कोई शोषण न हो, गरीबी का अन्त हो, social equality हो, आर्थिक तौर पर सभी आत्मनिर्भर हों और जो slavery system है, चाहे वह bonded labour के माध्यम से हो या कुछ और तरह से हो, अगर हम उसके अन्त की तरफ आगे बढ़ें, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह टैगोर साहब को सही मायनों में श्रद्धांजलि होगी। धन्यवाद।

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated) : Thank you very much, Sir, for allowing me to pay my tribute to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. Sir, in 'Ranade, Gandhi and Jinnah', Dr. Ambedkar has given certain characteristics of a great man, where he has mentioned that one of the outstanding characteristics of a great man is one who goes for outright social reforms which are very much essential for the establishment of an egalitarian society, irrespective of the strongest possible opposition from the vested interests prevailing in the society at a given point of time. Applying this definition, Gurudev was absolutely a great man. But, using other criterion, namely, that great man is one whose relevance and greatness go on increasing along with every passage of time. Sir, much has been spoken about Gurudev's contribution to different aspects of personal and social life. Hardly any Indian would have touched all aspects of personal and social life, which show elegance and which show sense of realism. But, Sir, within the remaining one-and-a-half minutes, what I try to venture is, it is necessary for this nation, not only to pay humble tribute and stop, because it has always been a great tragedy of the great men that by putting them into statues and forgetting their philosophy, but what is even more important for this nation is to contextualize the legacy and heritage of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. We are talking about nationalism. But in this country, nationalism has increasingly come to base on religion, caste, gender and ethnicity. We have seen that people in one region are mercilessly beating the people of other regions, who are migrating for seeking jobs. We are increasingly becoming an intolerant society and are using every possible instrument for scoring political mileage. This is certainly not the way to pay the tribute to Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. As far as his legacy is concerned, the proper sense and direction of homage to Gurudev would be to walk along the path that he has shown and to also make every possible effort at the individual level and at the social level to contribute according to one's might to create a society, just and egalitarian. Thank you very much.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : धन्यवाद सभापति महोदय, एक महामानव के प्रति श्रद्धा निवेदित करने का आपने मुझे मौका दिया। गुरु रबीन्द्र नाथ ठाकुर के जीवन के अलग-अलग पहलुओं के बारे में कई

साथियों ने चर्चा की। मुझको आश्चर्य लगता है कि उनमें कितनी ऊर्जा थी। मैंने कहीं पढ़ा है कि उन्होंने जितने गीतों की रचना की, उन सभी का कम्पोजीशन उन्होंने स्टेज पर घंटों बैठ कर तैयार किया। रबि बाबू के जितने भी गीत हैं, उन सबका म्यूजिक कम्पोजीशन उन्होंने अपनी देख-रेख में तैयार किया। जीवन के अंतिम समय में, यानी 70-75 वर्ष की उम्र में, उन्होंने नृत्य सीखना शुरू किया। पता नहीं इतनी ऊर्जा उन लोगों को कहां से प्राप्त होती थी।

गांधी जी का उनके साथ कई मामलों में मतभेद था। गांधी जी की राष्ट्रीयता के बारे में जो सोच थी, उस सोच के साथ रबि बाबू सहमत नहीं थे। उनकी दृष्टि एक विश्व मानव वाली दृष्टि थी और इसको लेकर अक्सर उनके बीच बहस हुआ करती थी, लेकिन उन दोनों का एक-दूसरे के प्रति जो आदर था, जो सम्मान था, वह भी अद्भुत था। उनमें जो वैचारिक मतभेद था, वह व्यक्तिगत व्यवहार में कहीं नहीं दिखाई देता था।

अभी मुणगेकर जी ने ठीक कहा कि हमारे देश के साथ जो दुर्भाग्य है, जो *tragedy* है, वह यही है कि एक जमाने में हमारे देश में रबि बाबू, गांधी जी, अम्बेडकर साहब, आदि जैसे बड़े-बड़े और ऊंचे-ऊंचे कद के लोग हुए, उन्होंने इस देश के बारे में जो सपना देखा, अपने जीवनकाल में इस देश को अपने सपने के अनुकूल निर्माण करने की उन लोगों की जो कोशिश थी, आज लगता है कि वह कोशिश बिल्कुल असफल हो गई है। अभी बताया गया कि उनकी दृष्टि क्या थी और वे किस तरह के समाज और किस तरह के मनुष्य का निर्माण करना चाहते थे। आज हम उनके सपने की कसौटी पर अपने समाज को परख कर देखें, अपने देश को देखें, तो हमारा सिर झुक जाता है। हमको लगता है कि उन महान आत्माओं की हमसे जो उम्मीद थी, उस उम्मीद पर हम बिल्कुल असफल रहे, हम बिल्कुल फेल रहे। आज सच्ची श्रद्धांजलि यही होगी कि इधर और उधर, सब तरफ के लोग मिल-जुल कर उसी तरह का समाज बनाने की कोशिश करें जिस तरह के शोषणमुक्त समाज की कल्पना रबि बाबू ने की थी, जिसमें सब प्रसन्न रहें, खुश रहें। आज देश की जो हालत है, वह ऐसी नहीं है कि अगर रबि बाबू हमसे कोई सवाल पूछें, तो हम उस सवाल का जवाब दे सकें। आज देश की स्थिति ऐसी नहीं है। आज इस अवसर पर, उस महान आत्मा के प्रति मैं अपनी तरफ से तथा अपनी पार्टी की तरफ से श्रद्धा निवेदित करता हूँ और आपने मुझे बोलने का जो मौका दिया, उसके लिए आपके प्रति आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ।

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal) : Sir, I am tempted to speak a few words in Bengali, Today, I am extremely happy that Rajya Sabha has given this opportunity to everybody to express our views and salute our Rabindranath Tagore.

*I would like to submit few words before you, Hon'ble Chairman Sir. Many great personalities were born in India and we respect them very much. But Rabindranath Tagore was a *rishi*; considering him just as a poet would be a wrong notion. He had not only composed poems, his creative works included plays, prose, novel and short stories. All his creative writings were inspired by a deep philosophy. What was that philosophy? It was the philosophy of universalism and *charaiveti. Vasudhaiba kutumbakam* (the whole world is one family) was one of his life's mantras. He had internalized the ideas of universalism. He wrote poems and novels in Bengali, but he could express and discover in a single moment the aspirations of the world as a whole.

During the early stage of his life, he had written: "I will pour streams of mercy, I will break down stone prisons; I will flood the world, going around singing Soulful,

* English version of the original speech made in Bengali.

[SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA]

like crazy.” This is Rabindranath Tagore: he identified himself with the endless Space, he identified himself with the green grass of nature and he could make himself one with the sea-waves. He has proved once and again the universal truth that Man is the greatest being and there cannot be anything higher than human being. He has written in *Crisis in Civilization*, “I would rather look forward to the opening of a new chapter in his history after the cataclysm is over and the atmosphere rendered clean with the spirit of service and sacrifice. Perhaps that dawn will come from this horizon, from the East where the sun rises.” It means that the knowledge will emanate from our country, from the land of India and spread all over the world as we understand. What is the knowledge? Knowledge will originate from India to all over the world. That was his last saying in *Crisis in Civilization*. He also said, “A day will come when unvanquished Man will retrace his path of conquest, despite all barriers, to win back his lost human heritage.” In the times of conflict among various people, among the communities and castes, the problem of communalism gripping our country, we firmly realize that the words of Rabindranath are universal truth. He said the day will come when only the lofty ideals will inspire us all.

We know about the close association Tagore had with Gandhiji. You will be surprised to know that when Visva-Bharati University established by Rabindranath faced many problems, Gandhiji came forward to help him out even financially. He had some differences with Gandhiji over some issues. Tagore was more close to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Nonetheless, he had a deep sense of respect towards Gandhiji. He did not hesitate to visit Gandhiji in jail and persuaded him to break his fast.

While we pay our tributes to the great poet Rabindranath Tagore in Rajya Sabha today, I would like to quote his immortal lines,

*O the soil of my mother land,
On her lap I lay my head in love.
This sacred soil
Is the anchal of the universal mother.
With its dust is my body composed,
And my mind and spirit are infused with it.
On my heart is inscribed
The soft contours of the face
Of my darksome mother, my mother land,
On her lap I lay my head in love.*

In other words, it means that Tagore saluted his country as his mother. He paid his tributes to the motherland through his song *Jana-gana-mana* that became our National Anthem. I pay my deep respect, homage and tribute to Rabindranath Tagore.

[3.00 P.M.]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you very much.

Hon. Members, we have actually run out of the time allotted for this. I would request the remaining Members, Shri Jinnah and those who follow him, to just associate themselves with the sentiments that have already been expressed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir, we all associate ourselves with the sentiments expressed here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. The whole House associates itself with the sentiments expressed here.

डॉ. अखिलेश दास गुप्ता (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदय, मैं गुरुदेव रवीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर की चार लाइन की एक कविता पढ़ना चाहता हूँ?

श्री सभापति : जी, पढ़ दीजिए।

डा. अखिलेश दास गुप्ता : इस अवसर पर जो गुरुदेव ने आम आदमी के लिए लिखा था आज उन्हीं के लिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ।

*“Your voice, my friend,
wonders in my heart!
Like the muffle sound of the sea
among these listening pines,
among these listening pines!”*

गुरुवर की जो दिल की भावना थी, जो उनके दिल की आवाज थी, आज भी गुरुवर की वह आवाज हम सब लोगों के दिलों में गूँज रही है। उन्होंने आम आदमी को संदेश दिया था कि देश में एकता हो, अखंडता हो, जाति-प्रथा समाप्त हो और एक दूसरे को भाई का भाई मानकर चलें। मैं इन शब्दों के साथ गुरुवर को अपनी सच्ची श्रद्धांजली अर्पित करता हूँ।

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam) : Sir, I just want to pay my tribute to Gurudev by singing *Rabindra Sangeet*, ‘*Ekla chalo re*’. I do not know Bengali but I can sing Bengali Songs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you very much.

We now resume the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Defence. I call upon the hon. Leader of Opposition.

DISCUSSION ON WORKING OF MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we just celebrated the life of a legend.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. K. KURIEN) IN THE CHAIR

After that celebration, this debate is a little cause for worry. And I rise here with a sense of concern on the subject that we are discussing.

Sir, this is in the context of what I believe is our increased security vulnerability. The hon. Raksha Mantri is here and the defence and 'raksha' of this country is his primary concern and his job. To analyse these security vulnerabilities of the country, the geo-strategic realities of India have to be re-assessed. Our defence preparedness today must be integral to these changed realities. We had wars in 1949, 1965, 1971 and, then, we had Kargil and we had the war with Pakistan; and in 1962, with China. I think post Kargil, post 9/11 and, particularly, in the last six years in relation to India, our defence preparedness must be assessed in terms of the changing geo-strategic realities. Those were wars with individual nations. In the last few years, we have seen an emerging access between China and Pakistan. In PoK, in Northern areas, the Chinese troops are today physically present. China has repeatedly, from a position of neutrality, altered its position with regard to Jammu & Kashmir. Stapled visa to our citizens who come from Jammu & Kashmir was one indicator of this changed position. 'Denial of visa to our Northern Army Commander' was a reassessed and restated position by China. Today, at least, two nuclear reactors in Pakistan are being built with Chinese assistance. This is a changed reality which was not there ten years ago. The second changed reality is, Pakistan has considerably enhanced its own nuclear capability. It is today the fifth largest possessor of nuclear arsenal in the world. The tactical weapons that it is developing indicate a paradigm shift in its own defence strategy. Members have already emphasized that China's Defence Budget is several times more than ours. It has modernized its Forces, it has acquired huge Space capabilities, it has the ability for a cyber war offensive; its DF-21 Missiles; its aircraft carriers; its productions of J 11 Aircraft — these are all adding to the Chinese capability. On the Line of Actual Control, what are the Chinese activities? They built roads; they built airbases; and they have strategically positioned their troops. With several of their neighbours, China has settled its border disputes. But with regard to India, even though a Joint Mechanism was set up in 2003, the position is not always static; it keeps changing. And, in the last nine years, we have not been able to — despite a great effort by the Indian Government — settle the boundary dispute with China. There is a go-slow approach. There is a realization in China that 'we have arrived as an important world force and if these issues remain pending, maybe, ten years down, the balance of power in our favour will be far more'. They referred to Arunachal Pradesh in their internal communication as 'South China.' How much of Arunachal is a disputed territory according to them, the position keeps varying. If our Minister or an Army General visits Tawang, there is a dispute which is raised, even on the question of visit.

Sir, a key issue on which the Government Ministers and spokesmen have also

been rightly saying, 'we did live with a disturbed Western neighbour', is: how do we achieve peace with Pakistan? It is a hard reality that boundaries are never going to be redrawn again. It is a reality which Pakistan has to eventually realize; they do not accept it. A lot will depend not on the Americans, not on us, but will depend on the internal developments in Pakistan. If Pakistan becomes a more moderate State, a more democratic State, if a Civilian Government gains strength in Pakistan and these regional realities are also accepted by them, then, perhaps, we will have a situation where a meaningful dialogue is possible. But, if you have a more radicalized Pakistan, a Pakistan where terrorism continues to be an instrument of State policy, where the Army is in control and the civilian regimes are merely a showpiece, where there is a danger of nuclear potential and assets getting into rogue hands, then, we can only continue a dialogue without a certainty as to what the success of that dialogue is going to be. I have said this, Sir, because this is the geo-strategic reality as far as India is concerned, and the situation in the last one decade in this regard has substantially changed. We must recognize this reality, and our defence preparedness, therefore, has to match this reality.

Sir, I was going through some data from war historians, and I came across some figures which were a surprise even to me. At the time of the First World War, we were a small nation. Our population was a miniscule of the present population. At that time, we had 1.3 million Indian soldiers who fought the First World War. So, even in 1914 that was the strength of our Armed Forces. In the Second World War it was 2.58 million, that is, more than 25 lakh soldiers from India fought in the War. It could have been a part of the British strategy to use Indian manpower as their military. So, more than 25 lakh Indian soldiers fought the Second World War. At the time of Partition, we had 16 ordnance factories. So, the railways and the armed forces were all a part of the British strategy where in the colonies that they controlled they wanted to have these in sufficient numbers. Fortunately, all 16 ordnance factories, after Partition, came to India, and at that time, we had a mistaken notion of our own strength and we had, perhaps, an innocent assessment of what our strategic situation is. In 1956, when the demands-for-grants of the Budget were being debated upon and the Defence Ministry was being debated upon in the other House, this was what the then Prime Minister, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, had to say. I read this because this is important. The year was 1956. The China War was in 1962. We had allowed ourselves to be misled. Panditji said, and I quote: "The right approach to defence is to avoid any unfriendly relations with other countries. Some hon. Members in this House who talked in rather aggressive terms for neighbouring countries and want to take grave action, sword in hands, serve no cause, certainly not the cause of this country. It is one thing for us to be perfectly prepared because however peaceful our policy may be, no Government can take the risk of an emergency arising which it cannot face, but any kind of blustering attitude neither is becoming of a dignified nation, nor is it safe." Then, he went on to add, "Then we

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come to the second aspect. The real strength of a country develops by industrial growth, which implies the capacity to make weapons of war for the Army, Navy or the Air Force.” So, we thought, if we are peaceful, let us industrialize; we will have the potential to develop our own weaponry; why should anybody else attack us? And the result of this was the great Himalayan blunder of 1962. In that Himalayan blunder, we lost 1383 soldiers, 1696 went missing, and 3698 were captured. We were caught napping. Sir, an American journalist, Edward Murrow, asked the then Prime Minister whether he regarded China as a threat. Pandit ji said, “Not at all. And practically looking at the picture, I do not regard any country as a threat to India.”

Sir, we do not want to repeat the same mistake and, therefore, in terms of these changing geo-strategic realities, our defence strategy has to be planned particularly when you find Chinese troops present in PoK and in other areas, the kind of military cooperation between the two countries which is going on, the kind of road building across our border which is going on. We have 15,000 kms of international border and a large part of this border is with countries with whom we have security issues. These are realities which we will have to bear in mind. Therefore, our strategic policy is: What should be our defence preparedness? A full spectrum war today will not be an infantry *or* an artillery war. We hope there is none. I am almost sure there will be none. But our preparedness has to be at that level. And a 90-days full spectrum war is what military experts consider that our country must be always prepared for. If you are to be prepared for that, you have to assess your defence preparedness keeping these factors in mind. And your defence strategy has to be, if ever there is such a calamity how do we defeat Pakistan, how do we hold China. That is the realistic reality. Do we have a defence preparedness that we are in a position to do so? There was a time when we considered our defence superiority over Pakistan to be 3.5 against 1. Today it has narrowed down to 1.5 against 1. Therefore, we really have to consider as to how do we keep ourselves prepared; while our foreign policy must ensure our best friendly relationship with our neighbours; we must always be in a dialogue to resolve our boundary and other contentious issues. But we can't repeat the mistake which historically we had it. What is one of the biggest problems that we face? Members have repeatedly said that. My colleague, Mr. Punj, very effectively said that. For 70 per cent of our defence armament, we are dependent on international sources. If 70 per cent of our defence armament comes from abroad, what happens in the case of hostilities? The entire world community, and understandably so, will be interested in a ceasefire or in a peace. And when the entire world community will be pressurizing peace, your supplies can be held at ransom. If your supplies, your spare-parts or ammunition are held at ransom, is that your level of defence preparedness? So, clear defence strategy has to be, over the next one decade or one-and-a-half decades, how

does India become, at least, 70 per cent self-reliant. And if you have to become 70 per cent self-reliant, I am told by all defence experts, then in the composition of any country's defence equipment, at least 30 per cent of it has to be extremely modern and state-of-the-art, 40 per cent has to be the current technologies and outdated or outgoing can be the remaining 30 per cent. We can't have mostly equipment which are outdated. We have to target a state-of-the-art technology in each of these equipment. Now look at where we stand. I don't want to even sound partisan; I won't be. If there are allegations on the purchase of Tatra trucks, I am sure the investigations, which the hon. Minister has referred to, will take care of it. I am on a more important issue. We claim to be a world power. We want to join the high table in the elite club. We launch our own satellites. We pride ourselves for Prithvi and Agni. And we can't manufacture our own Army trucks! For trucks, which have to drive on difficult terrain and which have to carry heavy armament, for how many years have we decided that we must rely on imported trucks? Now manufacturing trucks is not a rocket science. Trucks like any other automobile—it may be a little more advanced technology—is normal technology. In one of the world's largest economies claiming to be a future world power, even for trucks we have to depend on others.

The issue is not whether there was corruption in the purchase of Tatra trucks or others. According to me, that is a secondary issue. The first issue is, and this holds true for several Governments of several colours, and we all have to put our heads together and decide and really think on this question as to why even trucks must be imported. Are we in such a pathetic and helpless situation that we can't manufacture our own trucks? That is the real cause of worry.

On China border, if Chinese are building roads, if Chinese are having airbases, in the event of any hostilities, our equipment and men will take weeks to reach there. Why can't they reach within time? Why is the capacity to build roads, set up airbases not being achieved there? Is it because we don't have an adequate budget for it? Again, building roads and airbases, which is very vital to any Army infrastructure, is not, to repeat the same phrase, 'rocket science'. The Chinese are doing so. We have not been able to do so. And, this brings me to a cause which a lot of Members have really expressed here. Where is it that we are lagging? If you look at the artillery guns of the Army, the last major purchase was done in 1986 — the 155 MM Howitzer. They served us during the Kargil War. And, certainly from 1986 till today, you would have had more modern technologies. Then, you have tanks - T-55, T-90. Seventy per cent of our tank fleet is night blinded, and wars continue 24 hours a day. It was only in the ancient mythology that when the sun used to set, the war used to stop. This does not happen any more. You can't have a night-blinded armoury of tanks and then wonder that why is it that we are crippled. Our air defence artillery, the L-70 guns, is becoming old. In the Army Chief's letter to the hon. Prime Minister, it is this air defence that he refers to as 90 per cent obsolete.

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Our Indian Navy needs, at least, 3 aircraft carriers; we have only one. Vikramaditya has been delayed for over four years. Experts believe that in the Navy, we need 30 submarines; we have only eight. You need 45 integral fighter aircrafts, 17 reconnaissance aircrafts. Now, these are all areas where we are still lagging behind.

China has announced that by 2020, they will have 2,300 combat aircrafts. By that date, we are planning 700. Our MiGs really have to be more modernised. The accidents there are cause for worry. For all this, the Defence Minister will have to start planning today. The best strategy for Defence is preparedness. It is not merely a hope that nothing ever will happen because now, if something happens, it will no longer be a conventional war. There will be access of nations; there will be cyber attacks; there will be a war of different dimension. How do we deal with this situation? Sir, we all, in one voice, compliment the Defence Minister. He is a very honourable man. I think, he is conscious of the fact that there must be transparency. But, I urge him that along with transparency, please give, if not equal, a somewhat higher emphasis on preparedness. He said the other day in the House that even if he got an anonymous letter, he would stop the transaction. Please, don't do that. It's good to be honest, but it is very bad to become a prisoner of your own image. And, if you do that, the security of the country will suffer. And, therefore, we cannot afford under any circumstances these delays. Coming to the controversies over the years, I am conscious of the fact, and I share his difficulty, whether it was Bofors, whether it was HDW submarine, whether it was Tehelka, whether it was several CAG reports, these controversies have put the entire system on the backfoot. People have become defensive. People want to shrug responsibility rather than take it, and, therefore, it is extremely important that you exhibit and exercise the kind of leadership that is expected from a Raksha Mantri. Get back the confidence into the system that as long as men are honest, transactions are in broad national interest, you will stand by every officer who takes that decision. We cannot allow flies to linger on for years and years together.

If we start planning now, we need, at least, 3,00,000 crores of rupees over the next ten years to really get to that level of defence preparedness, and, it is that defence preparedness which is of primary concern to this country. Sir, I said so because we trust you for the security of the nation. It is a great trust which the nation puts in the Defence Ministry and in the Armed Forces. We all need to stand behind them. We need to really disassociate them from needless controversies, and, we need that level of defence preparedness, and, I think, this House must be one, most Members have given a similar sentiment, so that our level of defence preparedness could really increase in terms of these changing realities around this country. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : Thank you. Now, hon. Defence Minister.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the beginning, I would like to place on record our salute to the heroic memory of our soldiers and officers, who laid their lives for the protection of the sovereignty and integrity of our country.

Before the start of this discussion today, nearly for one hour, the entire House paid glowing tributes to the memory of our greatest patriot, greatest poet, Rabindranath Tagore.

Without any exaggeration, when I stand here, I feel the spirit of Tagore, yesterday and today, while we were discussing our Defence Budget. I don't find any narrow political battling *or* any attempt to settle scores, or, pointing scores. Instead, all the hon. Members, either on that side or this side, nearly 24 Members, and, finally, the Leader of the Opposition, were speaking as true Indians, Indian nationalists. That was the spirit of Rabindranath Tagore.

So, this discussion, yesterday and today, actually gives more strength, not only to me *or* my officers but also to the entire Armed Forces of our country. Yesterday's and today's discussion in this House is the greatest tribute, which this House and the nation have given to the Armed Forces of our country. I thank all the hon. Members from the other side and this side for participating in this debate in a very very enlightened atmosphere and, at the same time, giving suggestions, healthy suggestions, that can improve the functioning of the Ministry of Defence and also improve the performance of our Armed Forces, and as a result we can strengthen our national security and our defence preparedness. I assure the hon. Members that I will take every suggestion from you, every criticism from you with a serious note. I will try my best and wherever corrections are needed, we will make corrections and with your support we will make every effort to make Indian military stronger so that we can face any challenges coming from any quarters in the coming years. Today, in the final stage of the debate, the hon. Leader of the Opposition also joined the debate. Actually, through his speech, he has taken this debate to a new height. I congratulate him for his wisdom in taking this debate above politics, above party lines and giving suggestions to strengthen the preparedness of our Armed Forces. As everybody knows, the primary duty of the Armed Forces is to defend our country in the event of an armed conflict. That is their primary duty. For that, they have to be vigilant in land borders, in air, in sea, in space and, in recent years, in cyber area also. I know there are limitations. There are shortages of officers, state-of-the-art equipment, in certain areas of ammunition. I am not trying to justify anything. But please think for a moment. Is it a one-day affair? Did it happen this year or last year or in the last five years? Whether you like it or not, but it has been there from the independence onwards. Many Members were referring to the letter written by the Army Chief to the Prime Minister. I was going through the records during the last few days to know what happened in the past. What I understood is that there is nothing new in it. From the days of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru onwards, the first

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Prime Minister's time onwards, Army Chief of that day used to write to the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister about the shortage of arms and ammunition and also the need to strengthen the Armed Forces, So, it has been there since then.

श्री बलवीर पुंज (ओडिशा) : न वो बदले, न हम बदले।

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : It is not a justification. I don't find anything extraordinarily wrong in Army Chief writing to the Prime Minister or to the Defence Minister. The Service Chiefs used to write to the Prime Ministers and to the Defence Ministers to express their anxiety. They want the best equipment for their respective forces so that their forces remain the most modern and effective to face any challenge. We have to improve in every area. We have to strengthen our armed forces by giving them the most modern platform, ammunition, and more officers. And we have to look after their welfare. These are our duties. We must do that. There is no second opinion about that. At the same time, with all the limitations, even today, we are not inferior to anyone. The Indian military, even today, with all these limitations, is one of the best in the world. It is in great demand. We have defence cooperation with 47 countries, including all the major powers. All demand joint exercise with Indian armed forces. Why? They think that they can also learn many things from our armed forces. Even today, with all the limitations, we are one of the best militaries in the world. But we have to further strengthen it. Here I agree with the observations made by the Leader of the Opposition. Times are changing. Threat perceptions are changing. I am very careful in using words. I know the gravity of the situation. We are living in a very, very volatile and dangerous neighbourhood. Nobody can predict the emerging security situation around us. What will happen in Afghanistan after one or two years? Nobody knows this. What will be the fallout of that in Pakistan and India and in our neighbourhood? Nobody knows it. What will be the political future of our neighbouring countries? Nobody knows it. As the Leader of the Opposition pointed out, the growing proximity between China and Pakistan is also a cause of serious worry. Threat perception changes according to the emerging situation. Threat perception today is not similar to the threat perception ten or twenty years ago. Dynamic changes are taking place. But I assure the House that we are also changing our strategy. Most of the major parties in this House, one day or the other, were in the Government. They know how we are giving direction to the armed forces. Defence Ministers direct the armed forces. That is the guiding policy of the Government. Recently, we have given a new direction to the armed forces to prepare themselves to meet the challenges in the context of emerging new threat scenario. That preparation is going on. In this connection, we have to give them the most modern equipment. There are certain shortfalls. In artillery, we have a problem. Even after 26-27 years, we are not able to give a new gun to the Indian Army. It is because of various controversies. There also, we have not succeeded so far. We

attempted twice or thrice but, we failed. Our negotiations with one company, Singapore Technology, were almost in the final stages. What can I do when we found that that company was engaged in corrupt practices and gave money to the Chairman of Ordnance Factories? We have to cancel that contract. It was in the final stages. Then, according to the Army's assessment, they have selected one of the best guns in the world which suits Indian conditions. They selected it. It was almost in the final stage. Again, unfortunately, what can I do when we found that Rheinmetall were also caught by the CBI? That company is also blacklisted. It is a real problem. But, now, we are trying to find a solution. That is also at the final stage. There is some problem of deviations. When we failed in our attempt to get guns from Singapore Technology and Rheinmetall, there was a process to get LUH. That is at the final stage. Trial is over. But, when the trial was over and trial report came, Army requested for deviations. Then, we appointed a committee under DRDO Chairman, Mr. Saraswat, to go into these technicalities. I think that report is ready now. He is here. He says that it is ready. So, we are now taking that report to the DAC. That is our final attempt. Let us attempt to find a breakthrough. Period of 26-27 years is a long delay.

In the area of Army Air Defence also, it was in the final stage. Again, some problem came up with IMI. I do not know why these people are doing that. Again and again, we are telling them not to engage in corrupt practices but even then, they try to influence by tempting people. That company is also blacklisted. Now, Army is trying to find out an alternative. These are some of the problems that we are facing. With all these problems, which we face, I had 2-3 rounds of discussions with the Army Chief. We have found solutions to most of the issues and now, we are moving forward. I hope that in the coming months and years, we will be able to provide new guns and ammunition to Army Air Defence. Out of 142 items of ammunition, 113 types of ammunition are produced by our own ordnance factories. 29 types are imported. Out of these 113, because of the blacklisting, ordnance factories are facing some problems. But, we are at the final stage of solving those problems also. I am sure, even though there are some problems, with the cooperation of our DRDO, PSUs, ordnance factories and private sector, we will be able to find solutions to most of these problems. I assure the House that as early as possible, we will give state-of-art equipment and ammunition to our three Services. Sir, coming to Indian Air Force. The other day, some hon. Members mentioned about MiG-21 and MiG-27. It is a reality. Thirty-year or 40-year old aircraft are there in our inventory; nearly 40 per cent. But I can assure you that things are changing. In the coming years, things will change. We are now procuring more Sukhois, MMRCA, LCAs and Fifth-generation aircraft from Russia. Then we are upgrading MiG series as well as mirage aircraft. Then AWACS, in security areas; we are upgrading our AN32. For transportation, so many aircraft are coming. Air Force is also in the process of modernization in the last few years. The Navy Chief was telling me that in the coming years the Indian Navy will be getting five modern new warships

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every year. Things are going upwards. Even though it is very late, I would like to inform the House with happiness that in the early part of next year, 2013 long-awaited Vikramaditya will come to our shore. In the early half of next year, India's first indigenous strategic submarine would also join the Indian Navy. In-between the Navy has leased nuclear-powered INS Chakra from Russia. That is already with the Navy. The Navy is also in the process of modernization. We have to strengthen it. I will come to that later. I need the support of Parliament and also the Government. We have to have a second look at the Defence Budget in the context of new threat perception as well as defence preparedness.

The hon. Members, cutting across party line, expressed their concern about developments in Pakistan and China. In that context, I would like to share with you some of the steps we are taking. Yesterday, my hon. colleague, Shri Balbir Punj, started his opening speech on Siachen. I do not know where the confusion is. But the fact of the matter is, a very responsible Member like him raised this subject and after that many of the hon. Members joined him. I would like to clarify that. In fact, in the last few days, across the country, some people are saying that India is hardening its position on Siachen. Here some of the friends are saying we are softening our position on Siachen. The fact of the matter is, we are neither hardening, nor are we softening. We are standing where we were. Our position is the same. We have a policy. Our position is the same. I will tell you about the policy. There is no secret. Till today, 12 rounds of Indo-Pakistan talks have been held on Siachen. The 13th round is going to take place next month, in the 2nd week of June. Don't expect dramatic decisions from that. It is a very complicated issue. Let us handle it with all sensitivity. And national security issues are there. So, in the last round, our position was that while Pakistan stated that it reiterated its earlier stand of seeking disengagement and redeployment without agreeing to authentication of the present positions, the Indian side stated that authentication of the present positions and alienation both on the map and on the ground followed by demarcation are prerequisites for subsequent steps to be considered. That was the position which we took in the last round. We have not changed the position. Our position remains as it is. It is a national position. It is not a Government position. So, we are not softening and we are not hardening. We are taking a decision which we took after considered discussions and debate with the Government, with the Armed Forces and with experts of the country. That position remains. This is what I would like to inform the House.

Regarding China and Pakistan, our approach is two-fold. As a Government, we want to maintain friendly relations with all our neighbours. In fact, if we can have a peaceful time, then, India's rise will be much quicker and easier. Left to ourselves, we want friendly and cordial relations with all our neighbours. That is why, with Pakistan

and China, we are trying to have friendly relations, and, at times, dialogues are taking place. At the same time, on the one hand, while dialogues will continue, on the other hand, we will strengthen our capabilities. Just as while continuing the dialogues, they are strengthening their capabilities, we will also strengthen our capabilities. We are doing that. We are aware of the responsibility, if China can increase their capabilities in the Tibetan Autonomous Region, – it is their territory; we have accepted that they have the right – if they can increase their military strength there, then, we can increase our military strength in our own land. In Arunachal Pradesh, in Sikkim, and in every Indian State, we can strengthen our capabilities. In the past, we did not perform our duty. That is our mistake. Now we have learnt our lessons. We have started taking decisions and implementing them. In fact, recognizing the need for enhancement of our capability, the CCS had, in 2009, approved the raising of two Infantry Divisions, one Paradip battalion, one air defence brigade and one pioneer company for the Eastern Command, one armoured regiment, one artillery brigade and one pioneering company for the Northern Command. That process is going on. This has happened after 27 years. The Indian Army is almost in the state of completing the formation of two divisions after 27 years ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, the problem is not raising Infantry or Armed Forces. The problem is that of infrastructure in those areas in terms of road connectivity to the last mile, or, for that matter, rail and air connectivity. We all understand that the Railways end in Dehra Dun in Uttarakhand, in Shimla in Himachal Pradesh, whereas the Chinese have been able to take railways, air and road network right up to the borders. So, that is the problem. And no work has started. The condition of the roads in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand is pitiable. In case of any hostility, we will not be able to rush our men or material to the border. This is a hard reality. You have to recognise it and do something tangible about it.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I will come to that. In the present Plan, again, after the completion of formation of two more divisions and all others — I have mentioned in the Twelfth Plan also — we have already decided to build up a new ‘offensive’ corp in keeping up with the operational directives of Raksha Mantri. Towards the same, raising our ‘offensive’ corps with two specialised divisions to decide to operate in high altitude areas along with other Combat and Logistics Support Elements is in the final stage. It has gone to the Finance Ministry now. And also in the Eastern Sector, Air Force is now building eight ALGs, and out of that, one has already been completed in Vijaynagar. The others are also in the process of completion. Also, in the last Plan, we have increased the Force Level substantially. Again, we are going to have a substantial increase of Force Level in the second Plan. That process is also in the final stage. It is a substantial number of Force Level. Along with the equipments and missiles, everything will be there in the new Plan. For the infrastructure development also, we have prepared

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a Plan. In that also, one phase is over in the last Plan. The second Plan phase is finalised. It has gone to Finance Ministry. We hope to get the clearance at the earliest. About roads, out of 61 roads in the Northern Command and 30 roads in the Eastern Command, 16 roads are already completed with a total length of 586 kilometres and in other roads, works are in progress. We will try to complete it at the earliest.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar) : Hon. Minister, would you yield for half a minute? There are three Members sitting here. Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Jagat Prakash Nadda and myself, all of us have travelled extensively in Ladakh area. We met people there. The road condition, hon. Minister, is really pathetic. Maybe, in documents, they have been prepared, but Chinese object to the construction of roads pertaining to the borders with China. That is the real problem. The villagers met us, the local Panchayat people met us and the situation is very, very difficult. Therefore, we are only saying that at least take appropriate measures. That is all we are saying.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, let me add one more thing.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : Please let me complete.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : He is not yielding.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : Out of 61 roads, I said only 16 are completed. Other roads are in the process of completion. We speeded up the process. Whatever money is required, whatever equipments are needed, and if we want to increase the number of workers, we will do that. We will give topmost priority to the completion of strategic roads mainly, and also to roads in the Eastern sector. We have also prepared a plan for 14 Railway lines in the border areas. For that, we need financial support of the Planning Commission. The plans are ready. We are trying to complete this. We are in the process of finalising roads, Railway lines etc. One process is over.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: The process of...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : He is not yielding.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : The Standing Committee on Defence just did not bother about it. ...(Interruptions)... When soldiers at Nathula Pass in India told them that they had to borrow phones from the Chinese soldiers to talk back home, what would be more shameful than this?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Punj, he is not yielding. The hon. Minister is not yielding.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : The Eleventh Plan process is over. In the Twelfth Plan, knowing our deficiency, now we are trying to speed up the process of construction of

[4.00 P.M.]

more roads, new divisions and new platforms. Knowing the reality of the situation and also knowing the increase in threat perception, the Government is taking action. I know the reality. We have to speed up.

Sir, one problem everybody has pointed out. That is the problem of a large-scale import of equipment. In fact, it is not a happy situation for a country like India to import large-scale equipment from foreign countries. It can affect us. If the foreign policy of the country changes, it can create problem for us. We realized now. Our first priority should be replacing the foreign vendors. So, wherever possible, we are strengthening our public sector units. All the Defence PSUs are in the process of modernisation. All the shipyards and all other Defence PSUs are in the process of modernisation. All the thirty-nine Ordnance Factories are in the process of modernisation. But, we know very well that the public sector alone will not be able to replace the foreign vendors. So, whatever capacity that we have in the public sector, we will utilize it, we will expand it and we protect the interest of the workers. But, at the same time, we will involve the private sector more and more, along with the public sector, so that both public and private sector can replace the foreign vendors. For that, now, we have introduced a new Defence Production Policy. Sir, 100 per cent private sector participation is allowed, but FDI is allowed only 26 per cent. Recently, we have formulated a new Joint Venture Policy, so that even all the PSUs can now have a joint venture with the private sector. I hope, with this new Defence Production Policy — we will give more space to the private sector also — Indian public sector and the Indian private sector, with wholehearted support from the DRDO, in the years to come, will be able to replace, to a large extent, foreign vendors from our Indian market. I agree that there is some slackness in some areas of procurement. But, with all this, I am happy to inform the House that times are changing unlike in the past. Gone are the days where we used to surrender a large portion of the Defence Budget. Those are the past days; that is history. Now, things are changing. In the last four years, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, the picture is different. Sir, in 2008-09, we had spent 108 per cent of the Budget Estimates and 99.7 per cent of the Revised Estimates. In 2009-10, we had spent 100 per cent of the BE and 104 per cent of RE. In 2010-11, we had spent 104 per cent of the BE and 101 per cent of RE. In 2011-12, the provisional figures show that we had spent 103 per cent of the BE and 99.38 per cent of RE. Even with regard to budget for capital expenditure, we have spent money. There is a marked improvement. If you look at the last 10 years, in 2002-03, we spent Rs. 12,932 crores only for modernisation. In 2009-10, we had spent Rs. 38,427 crores of capital budget. In 2010-11, we had spent Rs. 45,686 crores of capital budget. In 2011-12, we had spent Rs. 50,184 crores of capital budget. Sir, capital expenditure is also increasing. But, at the same time, I feel, now, after assessing the new reality, emerging security scenario, we have to have a second look at the Defence Budget. The Finance Commission yardsticks will have to be changed. We realise that this year's Defence Budget is not bad; Rs. 1,93,000 crores is a substantial

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amount. But that amount is 15.5 per cent less than the estimated requirement of the Services. Last month, we had an assessment of the new emerging threat perception from neighbouring countries; we had a review of the situation with the Services. That picture is a little problematic. In the 2012-13 Budget, the Defence's share was 1.9 per cent of the GDP. But our Armed Forces' demand this year comes to 2.35 per cent of the GDP. Even though this year's Defence Budget is Rs. 1,93,407 crores, yet, as per their projections, we need Rs. 2,39,123 crores, that is, Rs. 45,716 crores more. I do not know how to match this. Anyway, I am also convinced that we should ask the Government to give something more so as to enable the Forces to meet the new challenges. So, things are moving. We are not surrendering any money. That is the past. Those days are gone. Take ammunition. In the Tenth Plan, the Army got Rs. 9401 crores for ammunition. In this Budget, it got Rs. 14,789 crores. So, the production is increasing. The production of public sector units is also increasing. Compared to the past, ammunition production has been increasing. But because of the changing threat perception, our Armed Forces need more new aircraft, more warships, more tanks, more helicopters, more fighter aircraft and so on. All these things need more money. So, the country should have a second look at the Defence Budget. As the Defence Minister, I feel that India's Defence Budget will have to be enhanced. This is my considered opinion.

Coming to improvement in the welfare of the Armed Forces, I must say that we are concerned about the welfare of the Armed Forces. During the UPA-I regime, there was an increase in pension and, as a result, Rs. 460 crores were spent. During the UPA-II regime, there was another revision of pensions and, as a result, more than two thousand crores of rupees were spent on pensions. But I know there are glaring anomalies in pensions, especially in respect of certain categories. I had a discussion with all the three Service Chiefs. Even though, I am not sure about the One-Rank-One-Pension so much, yet, our aim is to reach, at least, as near that principle as possible, at the earliest. So, we are going to take it up. I don't expect total solution of this but in the area of glaring anomalies, we will take it up with the Government and we will try to find solutions in this area.

My friend and hon. colleague during the discussion raised some human aspects regarding restrictions on education concession to the children of Armed Forces' officers and others. After hearing the hon. Member, I have looked into the matter and I have found that in the earlier order dated 06.08.2003 on the subject, there was no restriction on the number of children who can avail these concessions. But that order was revised in 2010 in pursuance of Sixth CPC Recommendations and the restriction on two children was included as a general clause. Considering the fact that these concessions are meant for children of martyrs, disabled and missing soldiers and that their number will not be very large, I propose to revisit the restrictive clause.

Sir, I come to DRDO. We must be proud of it. Their goal is self-reliance. It is still a distant goal. But in spite of technology denial regime, in spite of the fact that technology denial has been there, Indian Defence scientists were able to have major breakthroughs in many areas. The latest example is Agni V. Our scientists have done it. But they are not going to take rest. They are aiming higher and the nation will support them; the Government will support them. They are doing well. After long years, LCA is also becoming a reality. Initial operational clearance is over; and final operational clearance will be this year itself. So, LCA is going to become a reality. MBT Arjun has already become a reality. Mark II is in the process. DRDO have already given us the Aakash system. Army has already ordered fourteen thousands of them. Air Force has given orders for 6000. Then, we have the Prithvi Missile. Brahmos Missile is India's pride. We have Pinaka Rocket System, INSAS weapon, mines and various propellant explosives, Divya Drishti, surveillance radars, ROHINI and REVATHI, NBC Defence items and so on. I am not going into all that. In so many areas, Indian DRDO has made a mark. Though we are not fully satisfied but after overcoming arms and technology denial regime, after having all these limitations, they are now showing confidence. We must give them our support. I am sure in the years to come, DRDO will bring more laurels to the country so that India can be self-sufficient in many of the state-of-the-art technology areas.

I have got a feedback that there is one more item on the agenda. So, I will try to speed up. But I may need some more time. The question was raised about Defence estates. The hon. Member from the very beginning has been raising a lot of issues. Our policy is that whenever we find anything wrong, first we order a preliminary inquiry. After that, if we are satisfied that there is something wrong, we will not hesitate to take action. We will not spare anybody, however mighty one may be. After preliminary enquiry, if something is found glaringly wrong, we take action. That was the case with the Adarsh Society. We took action on Adarsh. The CBI enquiry is going on. The hon. Member brought to my notice the Srinagar land case. I immediately ordered a preliminary enquiry and I found it correct. We left it to the CBI. Same was the case in Pune, Kandivelli. So, wherever we found that *prima facie* there is a case, we have not spared anybody. We are trying to protect every inch of Defence land. There is no compromise on that. Then, Sir, I would like to clear some facts about Tatra case. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN : We are demanding the Regulators. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, please. It is not the time to put questions.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : We are examining the Standing Committee recommendations. I need some time to talk about Tatra. In the Lok Sabha, I had made

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some observations during my intervention as part of a main question on ordnance factories. I had an opportunity to make some points on the shortage of ammunition while answering to a supplementary question. I had not been able to explain everything there, but here, I would request hon. Members to hear me out. I would like to explain. I do not wish to blame anybody. I do not wish to cover up anybody, and we won't spare anybody. Whoever is guilty would have to go to the ultimate place and face whatever penalty the Indian law imposes upon them. The country must know the facts and that is what I would like to put before the people through the Parliament.

Sir, the Ministry of Defence purchased Tatra trucks between 1987-88, nearly 6477 of them. From 1987-88 to 2010-11 ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : But what was the contract? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please, Mr. Punj. Let him complete the reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : In 1986, the Bofors contract was ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no; don't intervene in this manner. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is an unnecessary interference. Let him complete. ...*(Interruptions)*... Allow him to complete his reply.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I would not only go back to 1986, but even further; I would go back to the original period, that is, 1973 onwards. I wish to get into the roots of the case, starting from that time to the present. From 1987-88 to 2010-11, the country had purchased 6477 Tatra trucks. These purchases were not made by the Government. The Ministry purchases them for the Army. Not a single vehicle was imposed on them by the Government of the day, by this or that Government. From 1986 onwards, many Governments came on board. No Government, no Defence Minister, imposed Tatra vehicles on the Army. All these purchases were made as per the requirement of the Army. The 1986-87 GSQR was prepared by the Indian Army. Every year, they have it in their indent that this much procurement must be made. It is then that the Government of the day purchases them. So, altogether 6477 Tatra trucks were purchased from that year onwards. But we must also know the history behind it all. The Government of India started purchasing Tatra vehicles from Czechoslovakia 1973 onwards. From 1973 to 1984, the Government was directly purchasing it from Czechoslovakia. Then, in the year 1983, the then Army decided, for meeting the future requirement of this vehicle by indigenous production, to enter into an agreement for licensed production with a Czechoslovakian agency. Subsequently, BEML entered into a licensed agreement with Ompole Foreign Trade Corporation, Czechoslovakia, in May, 1986. From 1986 onwards, BEML entered into a licensed agreement. Before that, from 1973 onwards, it

was being done directly by the Government. Unfortunately, in the 1990s, because of the developments there, Soviet Union got divided; Czechoslovakia also was divided into the Czech and Slovak Republics. This also resulted in the disruption of supplies. So, in the year 1997, BEML entered into an agreement with the Tatra Sipox (UK) Limited, an authorized representative of the principal manufacturer of Tatra.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL (Maharashtra) : With which company was that? They were the middlemen.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : It was Tatra Sipox (UK) Limited.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : That it was Tatra Sipok (UK) Limited is all right, but who was the owner?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Let him complete.
....(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : मंत्री जी, आप नाम बताइए।

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : And then new MoU was signed in the year 2003. So, from 1973 to 1986, there was one company, and from 1997 to all these years, there are two companies. That is the thing. On 26th September, 2008, after 26 years, after 1986, the Indian Army wanted to change the GSQR. In the DAC meeting, held in September, 2008— all the three Service Chiefs, Defence Secretary, Defence Production Secretary were there and myself was presiding — it was decided to change the GSQR. There was a heated discussion. The then Army Chief assured the DAC that this change of GSQR would not end up with single-vendor situation; it would be a multi-vendor situation, and if we end up with single-vendor situation, we would cancel the order. So, in the DAC meeting, held on 26th September, 2008, GSQR was changed after 26 years. But till this date, not a single Tatra vehicle is purchased as per the new GSQR. Trial is still going on. In the trial, two types of vehicles are there. In one trial, 11 Indian vendors are involved. Out of that, 6 are qualified. Their trial result is in the final stage. So, as per the new GSQR, not a single Tatra vehicle is purchased; trial is going on. In the second type, 14 Indian and 14 foreign vendors are involved. Out of that, 4 companies are qualified. They are Ashok Leyland, BEML, Tata Motors and Ural (India) Ltd. That trial is also in the final stage. Even though the GSQR changed in the meeting of 26th September, nothing is purchased as per the new GSQR because the trial is going on. In March 2010, the Indian Army procured 788 vehicles to meet the requirement. They said, “in the instant case of 788 Tatra vehicles, the deficiency is operationally critical having accumulated over the past four years and should not be allowed to continue. There is no scope for reducing the quantities and, therefore, the current procurement should not be installed at this juncture.” As per Army’s urgent operational requirements — they gave it in writing, in March, 2010 — order was given for 788 Tatra trucks.

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Later, the Army gave another request for urgent procurement of 30 Tatra vehicles. In that also, the mobile telescopic mask was to be integrated with the vehicles that had already been received. Any further delay would have had adverse implications on the storage and warranty of these trucks. So, as per the Army's urgent operational requirement, 788-plus-30 trucks were ordered in the year 2010. Along with that, the Army procured 3,667 vehicles in 2008-09; 3,332 vehicles in 2009-10; 5,937 vehicles 2010-11; and 6,458 vehicles in 2011-12, totalling 19,394 vehicles in these last four years from Ordnance Factory, Jabalpur. These are the facts about all these procurements. From 1986 onwards, the Government of the day, whichever Government came here, all the Governments purchased these vehicles as per the operational requirement of the Indian Army. It is their GSQR, their requirement, their demand. The Government accepted it...*(Interruptions)*. Let me complete. There are two more things. In between, 2008 onwards, I received a lot of complaints. All these complaints were attended to. Not a single complaint was thrown out in the basket. And, the enquiry is in the process. During the process, we received a request from the CBI for our clearance to start inquiry on BEML. That file came to me on 15th February, 2012, requesting a clearance from the Defence Ministry for starting an inquiry. The CBI's request came to me on 15th February, 2012. I gave my clearance on the same day ...*(Interruptions)*... Please wait.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: When the General wrote to you, ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : This is not allowed. Let him complete the reply. Mr. Punj, let him finish the reply.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: When the General said that he had been offered a bribe, why could you not act?...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : This is not allowed. Let him finish the reply.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : When the General said that he had been offered a bribe of crores, why did he not act? The country wants an answer to that question.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, this is not fair ...*(Interruptions)*... You can't do that.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I am coming to that. My next reply is that only. Please, show a little patience. The General's first statement came in the *Hindu* on March 26, 2012. I had already given clearance for CBI inquiry on 15th February, 2012. It was even before the reported statement was published in *The Hindu*. On the very first day,

clearance was given by me on 15th February, 2012. Hon. Member must note that. After that, the Army Chief ...(*Interruptions*)... Yes, you are right. I am coming to that. That is an important thing. After that, on March 26, 2012, Army Chief, in *The Hindu*, stated, "I was offered a bribe of Rs.14 crores." read this news. That day, I had to rush to the Parliament because it was my Question Day in the Lok Sabha. I read this report by 9.30 a.m. or so. The Defence Secretary is sitting here. I do exercise and other things in the morning, and, I give serious reading in the night. In the morning, I go through the headlines and other things relating to Parliament Questions. In the night, I go through all these things in a very, very detailed manner. In the morning, I read it generally. But when I saw this headline, I was shocked. You are right, I was shocked to see such a statement coming from the Indian Army Chief. It is a serious thing. According to it, Army Chief was told by that man that people had taken money before him, and, they would take money after him. This is what was told to him by that man. I was shocked, I mean, all these years, whether the whole Indian Government, Ministers, Army Chiefs, Defence Secretaries, everybody was doing it? I was shocked. Is the whole system corrupt? I immediately rang up the Defence Secretary and said, "The Army Chief is saying so. It is a very serious thing, and, you have to enquire into all this". The Defence Secretary, who is right now sitting here, immediately asked me, 'What type of inquiry?' I said, 'it should be a CBI inquiry.' He said, 'ok' I told him to be ready with the papers by the time I come back from Lok Sabha. But that day, due to Telengana issue, the House was adjourned. Immediately, I rushed to my office and called the Defence Secretary. By around 11.30 a.m., I ordered a comprehensive CBI enquiry, and, the order was given to the CBI by 3.00 p.m. on the same day. I read the news in the morning, ordered the CBI inquiry by around 11.30, and, that order reached the office of the CBI by 3.00 p.m. in the afternoon. We have nothing to hide. We will not spare anybody. This is what happened. You are right. Sometime in 2010, I do not remember the date, he had come to me. I cannot forget that. I did not hide anything. I said it in the Parliament. I only first brought the name publicly. He did not give the name publicly. When he came to me, he told me that somebody like him, and, he mentioned the name, Tejinder Singh, came to him and offered him crores of rupees. He did not mention Rs. 14 crore but crores of rupees. Then, I did like this. You are right. It was my natural reaction. If it is bad, it is bad; if it is good, it is good. It was my natural reaction. I was shocked. I could not believe it. You are right. I was not acting, it was a natural reaction. After two minutes, I regained my presence of mind. I told him that he should take action. He said, "I do not want to pursue it". I told him to take action. He said, "I don't want to pursue it". I did not pursue it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Why did you not pursue it? ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, please. You cannot question like that. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : Sir, it is an important question. They did not work. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Why did you not pursue it? This is my question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't question like that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him finish. He is replying. He is explaining the position. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him finish. You take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Why did he not take action? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no. This is not a Question-Answer session. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not a Question-Answer session. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, Mr. Maitreyan. *(Interruptions)* It is not Question-Answer session. Mr. Punj, he is explaining. He is giving the reply. That is okay. You take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I will answer this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Maitreyan, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Punj, please.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : Please sit down. I will answer this. It is very simple. I will answer it. I am here. I am part of the House also. Unlike some of my colleagues, who have to go to Lok Sabha, I am here only. I am part of Rajya Sabha. I am here only.

When he said that he did not want to pursue it, that day, I did not do anything. But remember, after that day, nobody took any action. Not only me, nobody took any action.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : That is the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why did you not take any action? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Punj, take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him complete his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : Nobody took any action on that day. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Let him finish the reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : Nobody in the country demanded a CBI inquiry into this. But when the matter came open specifically, when the matter was printed and a specific

allegation was made by the Army Chief, without anybody asking for a CBI inquiry, I only ordered for a CBI inquiry the same day, same time. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, a Minister of the country says that he was informed but he did not pursue it for one year. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Maitreyan ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him finish. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him finish the reply, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : That is not correct. ...(*Interruptions*)... He did not act for one year. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no, this is not the Question Hour session. ...(*Interruptions*)... You cannot do this.

DR. V. MAITREYAN : He has to answer this question. ...(*Interruptions*)... There is no point in boasting that I was the person who ordered for a CBI inquiry. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Why did he not take any action? ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, Mr. Maitreyan ...(*Interruptions*)... You are not permitted to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Punj, you take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : There is no point in self-boasting. ...(*Interruptions*)... Answer our question as to why you did not take any action in 2010. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)... He has to say what he has to say. You cannot put words into his mouth. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : He did not say anything. That is why we are asking this. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No. no. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... You have to allow the Minister to reply. ...(*Interruptions*)... Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : He has to give a proper reply. ...(*Interruptions*)... He has to give a correct reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)... Nothing will go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... This will not go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Maitreyan, you know the rules. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Maitreyan, let the Minister complete his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, we are asking a very specific question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Punj, you are a senior Member. Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Sir, we are asking a very specific question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no, let him finish the reply. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will allow you to ask specific questions, but let him finish, not while he is replying. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : He did not act for one year, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Let him finish his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)... You are not allowing him to reply. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him finish the reply. This is unfair. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no ...(*Interruptions*)... Minister should be allowed to reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : I will answer ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Punj, what you are saying will not go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him finish. ...(*Interruptions*)... Only what the hon. Minister says will go on record. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : Sir, he did not take any action for one year. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Let him finish the reply, Mr. Maitreyan. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, this is not fair. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : Without hiding anything, I told you ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : But, Sir, why did the Minister not take any action? That is the simple question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no. Let him complete his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)... He has not completed his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : I will answer that. ...(*Interruptions*)...

* Not recorded.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, he has not completed his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : What is this, Sir? You are not listening to us. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please, Maitreyan ji, let him complete his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : I put a very simple question. ...(*Interruptions*)... In 2010, because the Army Chief said he did not want to pursue it, you did not take action. ...(*Interruptions*)... You are a responsible Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : If at all you have to ask, you ask after he finishes his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : Why did you not act in 2010? ...(*Interruptions*)... You are a responsible Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A.K. ANTONY : I will answer. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will answer. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : You are accountable to the country. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Hon. Members, you know the practice in this House. While the Minister is replying, nobody will interrupt like this. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : He is not replying, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : If at all there are any questions, after the Minister finishes his reply, I will allow you. Don't do this kind of interference, please. Now, Mr. Minister, please continue. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Our problem is that the Minister is not replying.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Punj, I have given the ruling. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : But, he is not replying. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no, he will not reply to what you are asking while interfering.

DR. V. MAITREYAN : He is not replying the primary question itself. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is why we are interfering now. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Let him finish. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I will answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not allowing him to finish the reply. That is unfair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I will answer. You are right ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : Let him answer why he did not act in 2010. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I will answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Maitreyan ji, keep patience. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are you not patient? Be patient. Nobody is running away from here.

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I accept that I did not take action that day. I accept that. I am not denying that. I did not take action that day because, according to me, he told me that he was not pursuing the issue. Therefore, I did not take action. But now, after it came in the media, I took action.

DR. V. MAITREYAN : One year, Sir. You did not take any action for one year. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : You are right. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are right. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Maitreyan ji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is admitting that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : If he is accepting, he should resign immediately. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : He is explaining. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is telling you the truth. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is explaining the truth. What should he say? He is not misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : He should resign, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no, he is not misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is telling you the truth. Then, why should we question? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : Telling us the truth is different. The Minister did not act for one year. He should resign. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : That is your view. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... When you get an

opportunity, you can say that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him finish his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will allow you to ask him one question after he finishes his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is this?

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : What is the inference of what Mr. Antony is saying? The inference is, if the entire thing has been a secret ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : This is your view. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is his view. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is telling the correct position. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : The Minister knew about the corruption for one year, but he did not act. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : That is your view. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is telling the truth. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Maitreyan, this is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Punj, you are the one who initiated the debate. ...*(Interruptions)*... He replied to all your points. ...*(Interruptions)*... Then why are you doing this? ...*(Interruptions)*... He is giving an elaborate reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are you interrupting? ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't agree with this. ...*(Interruptions)* .. This will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Why don't you allow him to complete the reply? ...*(Interruptions)*.... Let him complete the reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him finish the reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is telling the whole truth. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is not misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... What do you want? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Punj, he has replied to your every point. ...*(Interruptions)*... How many questions? ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him finish his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister finish his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will allow you, but let him finish his reply first. ...*(Interruptions)*... Maitreyanji, without allowing him to finish the reply how can you make these comments? ...*(Interruptions)*... Maitreyanji, please cooperate. ...*(Interruptions)*... Maitreyanji, you are my friend, don't create problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister finish his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, please allow the Minister to finish his reply and after that, if Mr. Punj wants, I will allow him to put a question.

SHRI ANIL DESAI : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No. Only after the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not permitting. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not permitting you. ...*(Interruptions)*... You please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister finish his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody is running away from here. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why don't you allow him to finish his reply? ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him reply.

* Not recorded.

SHRI P. RAJEEV : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : What is this? It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANIL DESAI : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let the Minister finish his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Don't be angry. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra) : Sir, am a new Member of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Okay.

SHRI ANIL DESAI : Sir, the Defence Minister may be very, very honest in his task. There is no doubt about his integrity. But the reply that he has given that in the year 2010 ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Okay, that is over. Now take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... All right. ...(*Interruptions*)... You have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now please keep quiet. ...(*Interruptions*)... All of you keep quiet. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now nobody will disturb him. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him finish his reply. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY : Before the Minister concludes, will he also tell us about 'one rank, one pension' issue? What is the response of the Government?

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I have explained. We also share the concerns of ex-servicemen. That is why, on two occasions, our Government, during UPA-1 and UPA-2, made some substantial increase in the pension of ex-servicemen. But, they are not satisfied. They want more to be done because according to ex-servicemen, unlike other services, majority of them are retiring at a younger age. So, their case should be treated separately. Recently also, I had a detailed review with the three Chiefs of Services. I told them that acceptance of 'one rank, one pension' immediately may not be possible, it will be difficult. But, at the same time, I also share that there are serious

* Not recorded.

anomalies in the pension of many categories of officers and jawans. So, first, we will take up these glaring anomalies with the Government and will try to find a solution to it. Our goal is, in a phased manner. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is why, I told you that we can't equate Civil Service with Paramilitary or Armed Forces because Armed Forces are a separate group. Majority of them retire at the age of 35 to 40. So, their case is different. So, we will take up their issues. We will take up most glaring issues immediately. We will try to find out solutions. Our goal is, at the earliest, in a phased manner, to reach nearer to the goal of 'one rank, one pension'. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI (Uttarakhand) : Sir, one minute please. As the Chairman of the Petitions Committee, I would say that the hon. Minister already knows that the Committee has presented its Report to the House. We discussed it threadbare. All the heads, concerned Secretaries of Departments and others appeared before us. We have come to a conclusion. We have given certain recommendations. Please. If you don't yield, I will have to yield because I follow this. Let me complete. वे खड़े हैं, यह अच्छा नहीं लगता ...*(व्यवधान)*... I will tell you, Sir. The Committee has already submitted its Report. The Committee discussed it threadbare and we have come to a conclusion that this question of parity between Civil Service and Defence Service stands nowhere because there are so many differences between the Civil Service and Defence Service. So, I would ask: Has the hon. Minister gone through those recommendations and suggestions contained in the Report? Why is he saying that they are going forward in phases? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it is important for us. Initially, the Finance Secretary told us that there will be a burden of Rs. 6000 crore. When we discussed, they came up with a figure of Rs. 3000 crore. Ultimately, they said that there will be a financial burden of Rs.1300 crore only. So, on behalf of the whole House and the nation, I would make a request to you to please accept that. Why are you not accepting it when it is only for Rs. 1300 crore and you are talking about the welfare of the Defence Services? It is very important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : You made your point. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan) : It is only one per cent of the whole Defence Budget. Only by giving one per cent, you will be able to achieve 'one rank, one pension'. You can do that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. K. ANTONY : I am aware of the Reports of the Petition Committee, Standing Committee and the sense of the House. We will take it up seriously and, to the maximum extent possible, we will try to find a solution. To a maximum extent, we will find a solution to their long-standing demands. This is the assurance I can give. I will try my best. Maximum means, to a maximum extent. I do not want to go into other details. Whatever may be the heat during the discussion yesterday, I found the discussion

[SHRI A. K. ANTONY]

very useful. I take all your criticism very seriously. Wherever needed, we will make corrections. I once again express my thanks for giving total support to the Defence Budget. Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Sir, I want to put one question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please take your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... All of you take your seats. I will allow Dr. Maitreyan and Shri Raja. ...(*interruptions*)... Please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is not possible. I have allowed Dr. Maitreyan.

DR. V. MAITREYAN : Sir, the entire House has no doubt about the honesty and integrity of the Defence Minister, if some other Minister in his Cabinet had done this, there would be no surprise. From an honest Minister, we did not anticipate this reaction. That is why we were angry.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Raja, put your question.

SHRI D. RAJA : Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Minister. He has considered my demand and said that he would relook into the issue. On behalf of the families of martyrs, widows and the soldiers who were wounded, I am urging upon the Minister to do the needful. It is not the question of relooking into the issue; it is the question of restoring the concessions given to the children. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no, this cannot be allowed. You have put so many questions, ...(*interruptions*)... You have put a lot of questions. ...(*Interruptions*)... He has covered every point. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seats, ...(*interruptions*)... Now you can write to him. All those who are having more questions can write to the Minister. Now Shri C.P. Joshi. ...(*Interruptions*)... You can write to the Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... He has put a number of questions. ...(*Interruptions*)... Okay, the initiator can put only one question. That is all. Nobody else would be allowed. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, you are not permitted. Please take your seat.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : I have only two questions to put. Did he get any letter in 2008 about the Tatra deal? Secondly, Sir, when the General spoke to him about the bribe offer, he could not do anything except putting his hand on his head. It came only when it appeared in the media. Therefore, there is nothing for them to thump the desk and take credit for what the Minister has done. If we have to give credit for the inquiry...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : That he has already replied. Now Shri C.P. Joshi.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : This is because of the media that this inquiry had been ordered, ...(*interruptions*)...

GOVERNMENT BILL**The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2007**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C. P. JOSHI) : Sir, I move :

“That the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, be taken into consideration.”

Sir, this Bill was introduced on 15th May, 2007, in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill was then referred to the Standing Committee, and the Standing Committee gave its recommendations. We have included the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The recommendations can broadly be classified into five categories : (i) enhancement of penalties for offences under the Act; (ii) delegation of powers to the States; (iii) responsiveness on the part of the Regional Transport Authority by fixing time limits; (iv) removal of anomalies and provisions for new, emerging recruitments; and (v) compensation to road accident victims by creation of a Solatium Fund.

With these words, I recommend that the Bill be taken into consideration.

The question was proposed

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Dr. Gyan Prakash Pilonia ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal) : Sir, while the Minister said that he is incorporating the recommendations of the Standing Committee, can he tell us when the Standing Committee gave its recommendations?

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : The Standing Committee gave its recommendations on 28th April, 2008.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, today is 8th May, 2012, and the Report was given four years back. It has taken four years for the Minister to consider the Report and bring an Amendment. Can he kindly clarify why it has taken so much time?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : You can ask him while he is replying ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala) : Sir, this is a very long Bill with so many changes. And only one hour has been given for this.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : The time was fixed in the BAC... (*Interruptions*)... You should have raised it in the BAC meeting ...(*Interruptions*)... The BAC has allotted time for it. There is no discussion on that. Now, Dr. Pilonia.

[5.00 P.M.]

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan) : Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important legislation. As has been pointed out, it has been amended thrice, that is, in 1994, 2000 and 2001. And now, this comprehensive amendment has come for the fourth time. It has also been pointed out that it has taken four long years, by keeping this Bill in incubation. Anyway, देर आयद, दुरुस्त आयद। The objective of this amendment is laudable. The main objective is to ensure road safety and discipline on the road. It is a tragic scenario that when we go on the road, the traffic is so badly organized that it hardly moves. And, as far as the figures of road accidents are concerned, they are horrendous. The total road deaths in a year are 1,30,000. They die without any fault of theirs.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE) in the Chair)

They die while moving on the road to some destination. It is like a *vajrapat*, a bolt from the blue for the family members of those who die like this. And it is worth consideration by this House that in a year, not more than 4,000 deaths take place in all kinds of terrorist activities or Naxalite activities or cross-border activities or extremist activities. They become insignificant as compared to brutal deaths on the road. And the road doesn't remain a vehicle for movement but road becomes a death trap. This is a serious situation, and something has to be done. Every day 357 lives are lost and 16 lives are lost every hour. You may recollect that two days back, in a road accident, 18 persons died. Eleven of one family and seven of another family were returning from a religious pilgrimage. Such kinds of headlines keep on coming daily in newspapers. Something has to be done by the authorities concerned. The WHO has estimated that because of road accidents in our country, Rs.1000 billion of loss is there, which is mind-boggling. My submission is that we have to realize दुर्घटनाएं घटती नहीं हैं, बल्कि दुर्घटनाएं करायी जाती हैं। Accidents happen by some mistake somewhere. Mistake may be on the part of those who constructed the road. There may be a fault in road engineering. There may be a fault on the part of the driver. There may be a fault in the vehicle. There may be a fault in Enforcement. There may be a fault in educating the drivers. Sir, in traffic management there are three Es. First E is to educate everyone, moving on the road, that roads are not meant for accidents, roads are meant for travelling, and hence, travel safely. That is a lesson. Give education to drivers and to pedestrians and to those who move on the roads, then to Enforcement Directorate by the Transport Department or Police Department, then to engineering by the PWD or CPWD or Border Roads Organisation, whatever is there. Till these three Es are not rightly connected, there will be more deaths and deaths on the roads. Overloading is a main factor. Overloading of passengers or overloading of goods leads to accidents. Drunken driving is another factor which is a very common factor and which is a fatal thing. A drunken person does not know at which speed he is moving and where he is moving. He is a

moving engine of death for the people. Speed is another point. There is also another point, Sir. Licence to drive at times becomes licence to kill on the road because the situation that is there in the country is, without going to any office, by paying money here and there, you can get your driving licence at your own residence. Even a boy of 15 years of age can get a driving licence. So, something has to be done at the root level, that driving licence will be given only after very specific trial, proper trial and on the basis of merit, not on the basis of money. It is a common experience. I have spent 37 long years, Sir, in Police Department. I have retired as Director General of Police also. I understand what happens on the road and what road management should be there. That is why I am just expressing my pain and anguish on that issue. Corruption is rampant at the checking points. It may be a checking by a Transport person or it may be a checking by a Police person. Only that hand gets honour which is clean. A dirty hand does not get honour on the road. It is a very common thing. Something has to be done so that corruption at the level of checking by checking authorities is stopped somehow. There are accidental deaths per thousand vehicles, accidental deaths per lakh kilometres. How does it compare with foreign countries who have zero tolerance for deaths on roads? That has to be thought of. I am reminded of two or three very painful incidents of which I had become an eye-witness. Three very important politicians in Rajasthan died on roads, Dr. Abrar Ahmed from Sawai Madhopur, a Member of Parliament and Minister also; Rajesh Pilot, another person died in a road accident; Dr. Sahib Singh Verma died in a road accident. I have just related three prominent names. For a family, his member is as important as a Chief Minister of a State and when the family loses an earning member of a family, it is a calamity for them. It is a bolt from the blue. Something, Sir, has to be done. There is a need for public transport. Unless and until we make very easy public transport system, the roads will be choked to its capacity. Even now, there is a limit of widening the road. Its width cannot be more than that and vehicles are registered day-by-day, day-by-day and they move at snails' pace. You can see it from Gurgaon to Delhi, which is a very good highway. The road is very good, but it remains choked because vehicles are more. So, until and unless public transport system is improved and people are motivated or, somehow, in a way, cultivated to use public transport, instead of their own personal vehicles, it is very difficult. It has been pointed out, very rightly so, 4-5 kinds of danger lurk on the road. A mention about this has also been made in the Bill. I will just take a second to mention them since they are relevant for the purpose. For them, more penalty has also rightly been provided. It has also been mentioned that there should be speed governors. I would say that speed governors must be there in public transport vehicles, fog lights must be there. Sir, helmets must be there not only for the person who is driving two-wheeler but also for pillion rider. This saves precious lives. It has been experimented and found helpful.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE) : Mr. Pilania, you have another speaker from your party.

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: I will just finish; your honour.

I was pointing out about driving hazards. Driving with excessive speed is one of them. Speed-crazy people drive fast and virtually fall in the death trap. Another one is driving dangerously with acrobatics on road. Another one is driving by a drunken person or person under the influence of drugs. Another one is, driving when mentally or physically unfit to drive. Another one is, using vehicle without registration and permit. I am mentioning them because specific Clauses and penalties relating to them have been provided in the Bill.

Sir, structured compensation formula is a very right step taken by the hon. Minister. Let it be rightly followed. There is a saying "Way to hell is paved with best intentions." I admire the intention of the hon. Minister who is held in high esteem in the country and who hails from Rajasthan. But, I hope and pray that the provisions made in the Bill are very rightly enforced and, somehow, corruption should be eliminated.

Mobile phone, while driving, is another trap. I think, as you have rightly pointed out, I will mention only this much that imprisonment should be there as far as possible by invoking the provisions of the IPC, along with the Motor Vehicle Act and Rules. Imprisonment can be only a threat. Otherwise, paying Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 5,000 does not matter.

Sir, just one more point and I have done it. In a hit-and-run case, it has been pointed out, if there is death, the compensation would be Rs. 50,000. I will submit for consideration that let it be, at least, Rs. 1 lakh. God will bless the hon. Minister for this concession.

I thank you, Sir, for your kind indulgence for bearing with me. Thank you.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मोटर यान (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2007 मोटर यान अधिनियम, 1998 का संशोधन करने के लिए लाया गया है, मेरी राय में माननीय मंत्री जी इस संशोधन के लिए बधाई के पात्र हैं, लेकिन अफसोस कि इस विधेयक को लाने में काफी देरी हुई है। चूंकि हमारे देश में प्रति घंटा तकरीबन 14 व्यक्ति दुर्घटना के शिकार होकर मौत के आगोश में समा जाते हैं। करोड़ों रुपए की धन-हानि भी इन दुर्घटनाओं के जरिए होती है। सदन का यह मत है कि आबादी की दृष्टि से चीन, भारत से आगे है, लेकिन अगर दुर्घटनाओं की संख्या देखें, तो भारत, चीन से आगे है। 2005 से पहले चीन में दुर्घटनाओं का अनुपात अधिक था, लेकिन चीन ने इस मुश्किल को समझा, अपने देश में सुधार किया और धीरे-धीरे दुर्घटनाओं के मामले में चीन, भारत के बाद दूसरे नंबर पर आ गया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं यह महसूस करता हूँ कि बहुत सारे बिन्दु हैं, बहुत सारी धाराएं हैं, विषय गंभीर है, संशोधन जरूरी है, लेकिन इस पर बोलने के लिए केवल 4 मिनट का समय है। ऐसी हालत में विस्तार से इस गंभीर मुद्दे पर चर्चा करना तो संभव नहीं होगा, लेकिन फिर भी मैं एकाध बिन्दु का उल्लेख करते हुए, माननीय मंत्री जी को मशवरा जरूर देना चाहता हूँ कि दुर्घटनाओं की अधिकता मुख्यतया नशे की वस्तुओं के सेवन करने और आज के modern समय में मोबाइल फोन को कान पर लगाकर ड्राइविंग करने से हो रही है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस संशोधन में नशे की स्थिति में वाहन के संचालन करने पर सजा

का प्रावधान रखा है, जिसमें 6 महीने का कारावास और 2,000 रुपए के जुर्माने का प्रावधान है। मैं समझता हूँ कि देश की मौजूदा परिस्थितियों में सजा का यह प्रावधान पर्याप्त नहीं है और इससे मोटर accidents पर अंकुश लगाया जाना संभव नहीं है। यदि माननीय मंत्री जी मेरी बात को गंभीरता से लें, तो मेरा उनसे निवेदन है कि अगर कोई नशे की हालत में या मोबाइल फोन को कान पर लगाकर ड्राइविंग करता है और सजावार पाया जाता है, तो उसके लिए कम से 5 साल का कारावास और 10,000 रुपए के जुर्माने की व्यवस्था इस बिल में की जाए, तब शायद बहुत हद तक इस पर काबू पाया जा सकता है।

माननीय मंत्री जी, एक और महत्वपूर्ण मशवरा मैं आपको देना चाहता हूँ, आप चाहे कानून मंत्री जी से बात करें या सरकार के दूसरे नुमाइंदों से बात करें। हर घंटे में 14 व्यक्ति दुर्घटनाओं में मरते हैं और आज की परिस्थिति में बहुत सारे accidents ऐसे भी होते हैं, जिनको जान-बूझकर किया जाता है। दुर्घटना मर्डर करने का एक हथियार भी बन गया है, लेकिन एक चालक दुर्घटना के जरिए चाहे दस व्यक्तियों को मारे, पंद्रह को मारे या दुर्घटना में जितनी भी मौतें हो जाएं, लेकिन उस केस का अभियुक्त कोर्ट में सरेंडर हो जाता है, **bailable offence** है, खड़े-खड़े **bail** हो जाती है और वह अपने घर को चला जाता है। इस तरह से दुर्घटनाओं में मौत पर अंकुश नहीं लगाया जा सकता, इसलिए माननीय मंत्री जी से मेरा बहुत विनम्रता से अनुरोध है कि वे कानून मंत्री जी से बात करें और सरकारी नुमाइंदों से भी बात करें। आई.पी.सी. की धारा 304(a) में सजा का जो प्रावधान दिया गया है, जब तक उसमें हम तबदीली नहीं करेंगे, तब तक **Motor Vehicles Act** का बहुत बड़ा प्रभाव हमारे देश में नहीं पड़ पाएगा, इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि नियमों को और सख्त बनाइए, 304(a) में तबदीली कीजिए और जो भी व्यवस्था आपने इस संशोधन के जरिए दी है, उसमें बहुत सारी चीजें ऐसी हैं- जैसे **helmet** दिल्ली में लागू है, लेकिन हम दूसरे सूबों में जाएं, तो वहां के लोग उसको लगाना अपने बाल बिगाड़ने जैसा समझते हैं। इसलिए माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं यह विनम्र अनुरोध करूंगा कि **helmet** की व्यवस्था को आप **entire country** में **compulsory** कीजिए।

कुछ केसेज में आप उसको छोड़ सकते हैं जैसे सिख समाज के लोगों को हेलमेट लगाने में मुश्किल होती है, वह एक जायज मामला है, उनको छोड़कर बाकी तमाम जो व्हीकल्स को चलाने वाले चालक हैं, खासकर टू-व्हीलर के चालक हैं, उनके लिए हेलमेट कम्पलसरी हो, सजा के प्रावधान में तबदीली हो और अगर संभव हो सके तो आईपीसी से 304 (ए) को निकालकर मोटर व्हीकल ऐक्ट में ही इसको लाया जाए तो शायद ट्रायल होने में भी सुविधा होगी और कानून का सही लाभ देश के लोगों को मिल पाएगा।

महोदय, देश के सामने दुर्घटनाओं के जरिए एक गंभीर समस्या पैदा हुई है, जिसके कारण बहुत सारे नेता, बहुत सारे अभिनेता, बहुत सारे देश के ऐसे कीमती लोग दुर्घटनाओं का शिकार हुए हैं, जो देश के लिए बहुत जरूरी थे। ये दुर्घटनाएं भविष्य में न हों, हमारे देश का कोई भी व्यक्ति दुर्घटनाओं का शिकार न हो, इसके लिए कानून को और सख्त बनाइए, दंड की व्यवस्था में और बढ़ोतरी करिए, 304(ए) के कानून को मोटर व्हीकल ऐक्ट के तहत लाइए।

महोदय, आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala) : Sir, actually, when the decision of the BAC came in the Bulletin, Part II, about listing of this Bill for today. I thought that this Bill, the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2007, would be a very small Bill. But this is comparatively a big Bill, which would have been given more time. It is a very important Bill because it is related to lakhs and lakhs of vehicles which are plying in the country. But the Government took it very causally. I am not complaining; but one

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hour is very less time for this, and the time for studying this was also very less because some very serious provisions have been incorporated in this Bill.

So, Sir, within the short time at my disposal, I will like to make two-three points mainly. Our leader, Comrade Yechury, said here that the Standing Committee Report on this was prepared four years back. Four years is a long period for defining the technicalities of this kind of a Bill. But without referring it to the Standing Committee, it came to the Parliament again.

Sir, some provisions of this Bill are basically helping the insurance companies. Some other aspects are there about the drunken driving. Many other aspects are there. But some provisions of this Bill are supporting the insurance companies, for example, the provision regarding the fixation of compensation. This aspect is there. Generally, in practice, that provision would only help the insurance companies.

Sir, coming to the provisions of the Bill, I would talk about Section 28 which is about the Consignor's responsibility. If the vehicle is overloaded, the responsibility earlier was with the driver and the owner, but now the Bill is saying that it is the Consignor's responsibility. There is no clear clarification given in regard to Consignor's responsibility, in regard to clause 28. If I am sending something, I don't know whether the owner or the driver is overloading the vehicle or not. But as per this Bill, if I am a consignor, I will be held responsible for the overloading. So, this kind of provision should be deleted from this. The consignor should not be responsible in that way.

Then, there is a provision of Solatium Fund in Clause 37. Here, it is saying that the Solatium Fund could be used for 'hit and run cases', in unidentified cases. As per this provision, if there is a death in the hit and run case, the compensation is only Rs. 50,000. And, suppose it is 'grievous hurt.' Sir, the Minister is not here!

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE) : Yes, where is the Minister?

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, he has just gone out.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE) : But somebody has to take the notes so that the Minister can reply on those points.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Sir, the Minister was also not expecting that this Bill would come right now. This is the issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE) : Don't worry. Another Minister is taking notes. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Minister has come.

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL : Sir, in the hit and run cases, the compensation provided under the Solatium Fund — Rs. 50,000 — is very minimal. It should be

higher because it is the responsibility of the Government. If hit and run cases are there, it is the responsibility of the Government. So, persons who are hit by the vehicles should be given more money. Therefore, this limit of Rs. 50,000 should be increased, at least, to Rs. 2 lakh for death and Rs. 1 lakh for grievous hurt. ...*(Interruptions)*... Another provision is there. I am coming to that. Sir, according to the provisions at S.No. 40 and 41, in certain cases of compensation, where the concerned party wishes to plead the guilt of the driver, the civil court would decide about the compensation. This case could be later used by the insurance companies. The insurance companies are a big lobby and it is a business running into thousands of crores of rupees. So, the provisions at S. Nos. 40 and 41 could be used by the insurance companies of the interested parties to settle matters in their interest. I hope, the hon. Minister would talk about this aspect while making his reply.

Sir, then, at S. No. 64, they have talked about the right to claim compensation in certain cases. This section talks about injury and death. It says that if the death is not relatable or has no 'nexus with the injury', there will be no compensation. In any case, a good advocate can plead and say that the death was not relatable or has no nexus with the injury. If a person is hit by a vehicle, he is taken to the hospital and he dies there after two days, somebody can plead that it was because of a heart attack and not caused by the injury. Sir, this is a very serious issue, and that is why I say that this Amendment Bill is in the interest of the insurance companies. How can one prove the nexus of injury with death? That is why I say that this Bill cannot be passed in its present form.

Then, Sir, coming to S. No. 65, there are some clauses. There, it is said that in the case of death of non-earning persons, a fixed compensation shall be payable, that is, one lakh rupees for children upto the age of five years, and one lakh fifty thousand rupees for persons who are more than five years of age. The minimum amount payable is one lakh rupees. Then, clause 3(c) of the same says, "the maximum annual income for calculation of compensation will be deemed to be Rs. 1,00,000 even if the income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000." Sir, I am unable to understand this point. The Bill has come only recently. I got my copy just today. I think, many of the Members got their copy only today. They are saying that whatever may be the income, the maximum should be limited to only one lakh rupees for other cases. In practice, it will create problems for all accident cases in the country and insurance companies would use this.

Sir, there are many other reports of the Standing Committee. I would like to candidly admit that we were not able to go through all these reports. We were expecting The Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, which was a one-page bill, but this is a 12-page document! Sir, there are many reports of the Standing Committee; I am not going

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into the details. But there are some proposals. For instance, the penalty has been increased from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10,000. Then, talking about drunken drivers, if some drunken driver hits somebody and that man dies, such cases must be treated as culpable homicide. There are many other points in the Standing Committee reports. My request is — I know that this may be bulldozed in this House — this is a very important Bill, more serious than other Bills, because there are lakhs and lakhs of vehicles plying in this country and many accidents take place. The hon. Minister is also the Minister for National Highways. In the National Highways at Kerala, every day eleven passengers die in accidents. In Kerala, the average is 15, and the average is the highest in Kerala, but in the country as a whole, tens of thousands of people die in accidents. We had been talking about the Kargil War, the Siachen and 1962 War. At that time, 1500 soldiers had died. In Kerala itself, we are losing 15,000 people through accidents every year. We are preparing a Bill in a casual manner, which we have taken up today. One-hour discussion is not proper for this. The Chairman of the Standing Committee who was dealing with it, and other Members are also raising a complaint that this was discussed four or five years back in the Standing Committee and now it has come up suddenly for discussion in the House. This attitude is not good. I think the hon. Minister will look into it seriously. It may go to the Lok Sabha again. The points I have raised are very serious. Don't bring in such a Bill for helping the insurance companies. It should help the common people.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra) : Sir, very recently, four months' ago, I myself met with a near-fatal road accident. So, whatever I am going to speak is my self-experience. At the outset, let me recall that this Bill was brought in 2007. Five years have passed and now we are bringing it for discussion and passing in the House. That shows the total apathy of the Government towards this issue, which is deplorable.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) in the Chair]

Having said that, let me tell you, Sir, that this Bill, though it is an honest attempt, has many fallacies, lacunae and shortcomings. So much time has passed, and therefore, my request to the hon. Minister is: You sit back and bring in a comprehensive Bill about this because when we think of Motor Vehicles Act, we really think about the accidents on roads, and when we think of accidents on roads they are necessarily not because of mistake of a driver or drivers. Many times there are situations when accidents happen because of poor conditions of road and faulty signage of roads. This Bill does not speak about the road condition and who should be held responsible if roads, particularly the highways, are not kept in good condition. Who is to be held responsible? It is not necessary that it is driver who is responsible every time. Therefore, there has to be some fundamental amendments in this Act. Sir, this Act was brought in 1988.

Since then, 34 years have elapsed. In these 34 years, the road traffic, particularly in cities like Mumbai and in other bigger cities, has gone up 15 times. In such conditions, how do you believe that this Act will be sufficient to take care of the increased traffic? It won't be. Therefore, you will have to bring in another legislation. Sir, in this Bill, there is punishment for drunken drivers and there is punishment for those who run over people. But there is no punishment for cops who take bribe. There are traffic policemen who take bribe from people who jump traffic signals. Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to give some attention to what I am talking. There are some traffic policemen who openly take bribe in broad daylight from people who jump traffic signals. What is their punishment? How do you curb this practice? There are many such cases where this Bill does not provide suitable action. Then, Sir, there is another issue. I come from Maharashtra. In many cities like Delhi, Chennai or Kolkata, there are vehicles coming from other parts of the country. I can understand that these are visitors. But, if the vehicles are there for years together, that has to be taken care of. In Mumbai, I definitely find vehicles with Gujarat number plate, Karnataka number plate, or Goa number plate. I can understand that. There could be visitors from neighbouring States. But, what about a vehicle coming with J&K number plate, with West Bengal number plate, or, Tamil Nadu number plate? How could those vehicles be running in Maharashtra for years together?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please conclude.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Sir, let me speak, We don't have many speakers from 'Others' category.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, we have to finish this.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Sir, I will take only two minutes. Sir, it means that there are vehicle owners who want to avoid some extra taxes and they want to ply their vehicles in Mumbai or in many other States. So, what is the arrangement, what is the action that this Act can take to stop this practice? Sir, my concern is that when an accident of such a vehicle takes place, the local authorities, the local police, are not entitled to take action against these vehicles. Their registration is somewhere else. So, they have to keep communicating with other States which is not possible. For years together, they don't get compensation. Insurance companies don't give compensation. Therefore, my request is that the Minister has to take it very seriously and bring in a comprehensive Bill. Till that time, he can keep this Bill in abeyance.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस बिल के ऊपर उस दिन बोल रहा हूँ, जब पंजाब में एक ही दिन में रोड accidents से 18 लोग मारे गए। एक ही परिवार के 10 लोग और एक परिवार के 5 लोग मारे गए। ये accidents दिन पर दिन बढ़ रहे हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Mr. Minister.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Sir, through my speech is over, my request to the hon. Minister is that when hon. Members are speaking with all seriousness, we expect similar attention from him. I know he is a busy man, but that does not mean that he should be doing something else when the Members are speaking.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : मैंने इसीलिए अटेंशन ड्रा की है, क्योंकि मैं जो बात कहने जा रहा हूँ, वह एक एग्जाम्पल है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, with your permission, I would like to say sorry. I disturbed the Minister because as the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, I spent a large amount of time deliberating on this Bill in the Committee. We met a large number of witnesses and people were summoned before we gave our recommendations. I had gone there to ask him as to what he has accepted and what he has not accepted. Why should we rush this Bill in one hour? This is a very important Bill. It has to do with everybody. If the BAC has allotted one hour for it, I am surprised because normally, I don't miss BAC meetings. I don't know why it was given only one hour. I am saying it for no other reason because it deals with the truck operators, it deals with the movement of trucks on the road and it deals with the number of accidents of each truck and whether the road can take it. It deals with various other dimensions that are involved, including, Sir, the question of emergency medical services. Everything is included in this. Therefore, I would request that we should have more detailed and proper discussion on this Bill. We have spent time on this Bill. That is my request and I went to the hon. Minister to mention that. I am the cause for this being disturbed. So, please don't blame him because I went to him to make that request.

DR. BHARTKUMAR RAUT : That was also the demand I was making.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी मोटर यान (संशोधन) विधेयक में जो अमेंडमेंट्स आए हैं, अगर आप उनकी संख्या देखेंगे तो यह 65 से अधिक है। इसमें 65 से अधिक अमेंडमेंट्स हैं, इसलिए इस पर एक घंटे में कैसे चर्चा होगी? यह वास्तव में एक गंभीर मामला है, इस पर गंभीरता से सोचना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : This is not in my hands.

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I just want to supplement. ऑनरेबल मैम्बर येचुरी जी ने, जो स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के चेयरपर्सन हैं, I just want to bring to the notice the entire gamut. यह फैक्ट है कि यह बिल 2007 में इंटरड्यूज किया गया और स्टैंडिंग कमेटी को रेफर किया गया। स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट 28 अप्रैल, 2008 को आई। We are aware of this. We are aware about this. उसमें एक बोर्ड बनाने की रिक्मेंडेशन भी साथ में चल रही थी। The stand taken by the Standing Committee was that as it had dealt with the Bill and had given certain recommendations, we

should first address that Bill, I am aware about this. We are going ahead only with a few amendments. एक कंप्रिहेंसिव बिल लाने के लिए, जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है, एक सुन्दर कमेटी बनाई गई है। सुन्दर कमेटी की रिक्मेंडेशन हमारे पास आ गई है। सुन्दर कमेटी की रिक्मेंडेशन पर हमने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के कमेंट्स माँगे हैं, क्योंकि यह कंकरेंट लिस्ट में है। इसलिए सुन्दर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के ऊपर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स के कमेंट्स आने के बाद हम एक कंप्रिहेंसिव बिल लेकर आएँगे। यह तो आपकी स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की रिक्मेंडेशंस पर ही है, क्योंकि स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने जो रिक्मेंडेशंस दी थीं, उन 29 रिक्मेंडेशंस में से 6 रिक्मेंडेशंस, जो अलग-अलग मंत्रालय की हैं, उनके अलावा आपकी ही सारी रिक्मेंडेशंस को इनकॉरपोरेट करके हम यह बिल लाए हैं। मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि चूँकि आप ही की स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की रिक्मेंडेशंस थीं, इसलिए हम इस बिल को पास कर दें। हम एक कंप्रिहेंसिव बिल लेकर आ रहे हैं, उसमें हम इन सब चीजों को इन्क्लूड करेंगे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : This is an assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*... I think, that is enough.

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : सर, मंत्री महोदय ने यह एश्योरेंस दिया है, बड़ी अच्छी बात है, हम इसे मानते हैं। चूँकि यह हमारी कमेटी की ही सिफारिश थी कि इसके लिए एक कंप्रिहेंसिव बिल आए, आपने इस बात को मान लिया, यह बड़ी अच्छी बात है, लेकिन अगर एक कंप्रिहेंसिव बिल आ रहा है, तो यह अमेंडमेंट किसलिए?

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : I think, you must recollect the issue. It was on your own insistence. It was your statement that we were not addressing the Standing Committee's recommendations. Now, we are addressing the issue of Standing Committee's recommendations with the assurance of improving the system and coming up with a comprehensive Bill, So, you please pass this Bill.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Okay, Sir, Then, it is fine. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : He has given an assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Sir, what I want to ask is ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... The matter is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has given an assurance that after this Bill, they will bring another comprehensive Bill, ...*(Interruptions)*... Avinash ji, please continue. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. The Business Advisory Committee has decided this and it is approved. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. Avinash ji, please speak.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : सर, मैं जो बात कहने वाला हूँ, कृपया मंत्री जी और हम सब लोग...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : You please speak on the Bill. The other issue is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : सर, मैं वही कह रहा हूँ। मैं नॉर्वे गया था। वहाँ के एक एमपी ने मुझे एक घटना बताई, वह हमारे लिए एक आई ओपनर है। जब मैं ओस्लो में नॉर्वे का पार्लियामेंट देख रहा था, तो

[श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना]

उसने पूछा कि अगर कोई पुलिस वाला आपके देश में किसी मिनिस्टर, एमपी या एमएलए को रोक ले, तो आप क्या करते हैं? मैंने कहा कि उसकी हिम्मत नहीं है कि वह एक रेड लाइट लगी हुई गाड़ी को रोक ले। अगर उसने रोक भी लिया, तो वह 5-7 मिनट में सस्पेंड हो जाएगा या उसका ट्रांसफर हो जाएगा। उसने एक घटना सुनाई कि हमारे ट्रांसपोर्ट मिनिस्टर को पार्लियामेंट में जवाब देना था, वहाँ पर ओवर स्पीडिंग एक बहुत बड़ा ऑफेंस है, एक कांस्टेबल ने उस ट्रांसपोर्ट मिनिस्टर को रोका और उसका लाइसेंस लेकर ओवर स्पीडिंग होने के कारण उसे पंच कर दिया। उसका लाइसेंस कैसल हो गया और उसकी गाड़ी एक साइड में खड़ी कर दी गई। वह पैदल अपने पार्लियामेंट आई। वहाँ यह प्रोविजन है कि तीन साल तक नया लाइसेंस नहीं बन सकता। तीन साल तक वह ट्रांसपोर्ट मिनिस्टर साइकिल पर पार्लियामेंट जाती रही। हमें कुछ ऐसे उदाहरण देने पड़ेंगे। मेरे घर के पास मेरे होशियारपुर का एक ट्रैफिक इंस्पेक्टर रहता है। डेली एक्सिडेंट्स हो रहे थे, तो मैंने एक दिन उसको बुला कर पूछा कि बता, इतने एक्सिडेंट्स क्यों हो रहे हैं, तुम ट्रैफिक के इंचार्ज हो, कोई चालान नहीं हो रहा है, तो उसने कहा कि मैं क्या करूँ, जब मैं किसी को पकड़ता हूँ, तो एकदम फोन आ जाता है, मैं चालान किसका करूँ? मैंने उसी दिन एसएसपी को फोन किया कि जो चालान नहीं होते हैं, एक्सिडेंट्स कम हों, इसके ऊपर मैं एक अवेयरनेस कैंपेन करना चाहता हूँ। उसने मुझे टाइम दे दिया। जब एसपी आया, तो वह इंस्पेक्टर भी आ गया। मैंने उससे पूछा कि तुम्हें फोन कौन करता है, तो उसने कहा कि ये 26 लोग मुझे ज्यादा फोन करते हैं। मैंने उनको भी बुला लिया। बहुत डिस्कशन हुई, सबसे ज्यादा बोलने वाले भी वही थे, जो सबसे ज्यादा फोन करने वाले थे कि पुलिस काम नहीं करती, ऐसा नहीं करती, वैसा नहीं करती। अल्टिमेटली मैंने सबसे कसम दिलवाई कि अगर कोई भी ट्रैफिक का वायलेशन करेगा और पुलिस उसे पकड़ेगी, तो हम फोन नहीं करेंगे। वह सेमिनार खत्म हुआ। उसके दूसरे दिन 275 चालान हुए। यह मैं इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि जब तक ग्राउंड रियलिटी में ऐसा नहीं होगा, तब तक कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। जैसा राऊत जी ने कहा है कि पुलिस वाले पैसे लेकर भी छोड़ देते हैं, तो मैं यह कहूँगा कि *intention is good, but implementation* करने में हमें बहुत मुश्किल आती है।

सर, यह बिल लॉ मिनिस्टर को न देकर आपको क्यों दिया गया? मैं समझता हूँ कि जो रोड्स हैं, वे मोटर व्हीकल का एक इम्पोर्टेंट पार्ट हैं, इसीलिए यह बिल आपको दिया गया है। इसमें जो कम्पोनेंट बनते हैं, वे हैं— रोड्स, व्हीकल और ड्राइवर।

जब हम रोड्स की बात करते हैं, तो रोड्स में इंडिकेटर, साइन बोर्ड, डिवाइडर, उसके ऊपर फिर साइन बोर्ड, ये सब होना चाहिए। देश भर में ऐसी कितनी सड़कें हैं, जो रोड सेफ्टी को फॉलो करती हैं? आज आपके जितने भी साइन बोर्ड्स हैं, उनमें से आधे साइन बोर्ड्स के ऊपर किसी न किसी पॉलिटिकल पार्टी या किसी जलसे का पोस्टर लगा हुआ होगा या फिर दरख्तों की टहनियां लटक रही होंगी। मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे चाहूँगा कि इसे भी आप मोटर व्हीकल एक्ट में शामिल कीजिए। जो साइन बोर्ड हैं, उस पर अगर मेरी पार्टी का कोई पोस्टर लगा है, तो उसका चालान भी मोटर व्हीकल एक्ट के अन्दर होना चाहिए, तभी अवेयरनेस आएगी। कई बार साइन बोर्ड ठीक न होने के कारण भी एक्सिडेंट्स होते हैं।

दूसरा, गलत व्हीकल भी एक्सिडेंट का कारण बनते हैं। हमें प्रेशर हॉर्न यूज करने की इतनी प्रेक्टिस हो गई है कि साइकल पर जाता हुआ कोई बेचारा घबरा कर ही गिर जाता है। इसलिए प्रेशर हॉर्न यूज नहीं हों, ऐसा कोई प्रावधान होना चाहिए।

हम लोग पॉल्यूशन के सर्टिफिकेट्स तो लेते हैं, लेकिन 90% सर्टिफिकेट्स फेक होते हैं। इसके लिए भी हमें प्रावधान करना चाहिए।

मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे एक निवेदन तो यह करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर फेक लाइसेंस है और कोर्ट की रूलिंग आ गई कि यह लाइसेंस फेक है ...**(व्यवधान)**... गिल साहब, प्लीज जरा आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए, अगर फेक लाइसेंस की रूलिंग आ गई तो उसका चालान हो जाएगा, लेकिन वह फेक लाइसेंस बना क्यों? उसके लिए हम फर्दर prosecution करते हैं या नहीं करते? यह एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। ये सभी इंटरकनेक्टिड इंस्टांसिज हैं, जिनको जोड़ कर कॉम्प्रिहेंसिव एक्ट बनाया जाए। आपका यह एक्ट तो पास हो जाएगा, लेकिन जिसका आपने प्रॉमिस किया है, वह एक्ट आप कब लाएंगे? कम से कम इन बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए आप उसमें इन बातों को भी जरूर जोड़ें ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

सर, एक बात मैं और कहना चाहता हूँ। इसमें एक चीज और है— **Driving by a drunken person**। आपकी पुलिस ने किसी ड्रंकन आदमी को पकड़ लिया, चालान कर दिया और फिर उसे बेल पर रिहा कर दिया, फिर उसको उसी गाड़ी में बैठा कर कहा कि इसे आगे ले जाओ। इसके बाद फिर से वह आदमी एक्सिडेंट ही करेगा। आपको चाहिए कि कम से कम इसमें एक प्रोविजन डालिए कि अगर हमने किसी ड्रंकन ड्राइवर को पकड़ा है, तो वह आगे उस गाड़ी को लेकर नहीं जाए। आप उसके मालिक को बुलवाइए या किसी और को बुलवाइए, जो वह गाड़ी आगे लेकर जाए।

अगर मेरे पास इंश्योरेंस नहीं है, चालान हुआ, मैंने 500 की पर्ची कटवाई, उसके बाद मैं सारा दिन घूमता रहा, जहां मुझे पुलिस पकड़ती है, वहां मैं उसी पर्ची को दिखाता हूँ कि मेरा चालान हो चुका है। वहां पर आप इंश्योरेंस कम्पनी को बुलवाइए और देखिए, अगर उसके पास इंश्योरेंस नहीं है, चालान तो हमने कर दिया अब उसका इंश्योरेंस कीजिए।

सर, कुछ न कुछ प्रेक्टिकल और इनोवेटिव चीजें करनी होंगी, तभी हम अपने इस सिस्टम को सुधार पाएंगे, नहीं तो एक्ट बनते रहेंगे, अमेंडमेंट होते रहेंगे और हम सब ऐसे ही सड़कों पर मरते रहेंगे। जब तक इनोवेटिव काम नहीं होगा, तब तक इस देश में कानूनों को बनाने और लागू करने पर जनता का विश्वास नहीं रहेगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Okay, Please conclude it now.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : सर, मैं चाहूंगा कि आपने जो एश्योरेंस दिया है, उस एक्ट को आप कब तक लाएंगे, यह बात भी आप अपने जवाब में बताएं। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, I have three more names. But I got these names only after the discussion started. So, as per the rule, they are not to be allowed. However, I will allow on the condition that they will stick to two-three minutes, not more than that. Yes, Mr. Ram Kripal Yadav, if you can finish in three minutes, you can speak, otherwise not. Hon. Members may kindly note that names should be given before the discussion starts. That is the rule. The Chairman has also given direction.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : Sir, the rule is that the names have to be given half an hour before the discussion starts.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Yes, Yes. So, take only three minutes. You always give the name after discussion starts. You should go by the rule. Now, finish your speech in three minutes.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार) : महोदय, आज हम सभी मोटरयान (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2007 पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। यह एक महत्वपूर्ण विधेयक है और माननीय मंत्री जी बहुत चिन्ता के साथ और यह कोशिश करने के लिए कि दुर्घटनाओं को हम कैसे कम करें, इस बिल को लाये हैं।

सर, यह बात सही है कि दुर्घटनाएँ लगातार बढ़ रही हैं। हम लाख संशोधन करके कानून लाएँ, मगर कानून का पालन शायद सही ढंग से नहीं हो रहा है। इसके कई कारण हैं। जैसा कि अभी चर्चा में कहा गया कि पुलिस बेईमान हो गई है, भ्रष्टाचारी हो गई है और उसे कलेक्शन सेंटर मान लिया है। पुलिस में पोस्टिंग के लिए ज्यादातर लोग मार करते हैं, इसलिए कि वहाँ आमदनी है तथा गलत काम को प्रश्रय देते हैं। आज उस पर रोक लगाने और उस पर सख्ती बरतने की जरूरत है। मैं समझता हूँ कि जिस तरह से तेज रफ्तार से गाड़ियाँ चल रही हैं, उनसे काफी ज्यादा एक्सिडेंट्स होते हैं। आजकल यंग लड़के सड़कों पर मोटरसाइकिल चलाकर करामात दिखाते हैं। एक्सिडेंट्स में जितने लोग मरते हैं, उनमें यंग लड़कों की संख्या ज्यादा होती है, जो तेज रफ्तार से गाड़ियाँ चलाते हैं और किसी नियम-कानून का पालन नहीं करते।

सर, ऐसे बहुत-से शहर हैं, जहाँ अवेयरनेस की कमी है, लाल बत्तियों की कमी है, रेड लाइट्स नहीं हैं और वहाँ के लोग नियम-कानून नहीं जानते हैं। इसके लिए भी एक अभियान चलाने की जरूरत है कि कैसे हम यातायात में अवेयरनेस लाएँ, लोगों को कानून बताएँ और किस तरह से मोटर व्हिकल एक्ट के माध्यम से लोगों पर सख्ती करने का काम करें। यह भी एक महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है, जिसके लिए मंत्री जी को चिन्ता करनी चाहिए।

सर, ज्यादातर झाइवर्स अनट्रेंड होते हैं। खास तौर पर जो ग्रामीण इलाके हैं, वहाँ कम उम्र के बच्चे भी गाड़ियाँ चलाने का प्रयास करते हैं। वे ज्यादातर ट्रेक्टर और छोटी-मोटी गाड़ियाँ चलाते हैं, जो कि ट्रेंड नहीं होते हैं। अनट्रेंड बच्चों की, अनट्रेंड नौजवानों की और अनट्रेंड झाइवर्स की संख्या ज्यादा है, जिसकी वजह से एक्सिडेंट्स होते हैं। सबसे बड़ी चिन्ता की बात यह है कि मोटर वाहनों की संख्या पूरे देश में लगातार बढ़ रही है। इनकी संख्या तेज रफ्तार से बढ़ रही है। जैसा कि अभी एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि प्रतिवर्ष 15 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा मोटर वाहनों की संख्या बढ़ रही है। उस पर हम कोई नियंत्रण नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। सड़कें वही हैं। सड़कें चौड़ी नहीं हो रही हैं। अगर उसी सड़क पर, जो कम चौड़ी सड़क है, उस पर हम ज्यादा वाहन चलाएँगे तो वह भी परेशानी का एक सबब है। इसलिए, सरकार को निश्चित तौर पर यह देखना चाहिए, मंत्री जी को यह देखना चाहिए कि जो छोटी सड़कें हैं, उनका चौड़ीकरण वे कैसे करें। वैसे आप नई सड़कों का निर्माण कर रहे हैं, लेकिन जो पुरानी सड़कें हैं, उन पर भी विचार करना चाहिए। खास तौर पर जो पिछड़े प्रदेश हैं, जैसे मेरा बिहार प्रदेश है, वहाँ तो पटना शहर की यह स्थिति है, जहाँ से मैं आता हूँ कि वहाँ जो मुख्य सड़कें हैं, उनमें यातायात की इतनी समस्या हो गई है कि जब वहाँ जाम लग जाता है, तब दो-तीन किलोमीटर की दूरी तय करने में ही दो-तीन घंटे का समय लग जाता है। वहाँ की आज यह स्थिति है, उस पर भी विचार करना चाहिए। एक प्रॉब्लम और भी है। जो पुराने शहर हैं, वहाँ की सड़कों को चौड़ा करने के लिए उसमें व्यवस्था नहीं है। चूँकि वहाँ रोड्स के दोनों तरफ मकान बने हुए हैं, उनको तोड़ने का जब तक हम प्रयास नहीं करेंगे, सड़कों का चौड़ीकरण नहीं करेंगे, तब तक मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे हमें निजात नहीं मिल सकती है और आम लोग ऐसे ही परेशान होते रहेंगे।

सर, सड़कों के किनारे जब एक्सिडेंट्स होते हैं, बड़े पैमाने पर जब एक्सिडेंट्स होते हैं, तब आसपास में हॉस्पिटल्स नहीं होते हैं, जिसकी वजह से लोगों को बहुत सी दिक्कतों का सामना करना पड़ता है। लोग 20, 50 या 100 किलोमीटर दूरी तय करते हैं, तब उनको हॉस्पिटल मिलता है। इसलिए, सरकार को इस पर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए। आप ट्रॉमा सेंटर बना रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपने ठीक कहा।

...(समय की घंटी)... कम्प्लीट चिकित्सा के लिए वहाँ मोबाइल वैन की आवश्यकता है। वह समय-समय पर घूमती रहे और जहाँ इस तरह का एक्सिडेंट हो, वहाँ तुरंत एक्शन लेकर वह घायलों को राहत देने का काम करे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी. जे. कुरियन) : बस। थैंक यू।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, खास तौर पर जो हाईवेज हैं, उनका आपने चौड़ीकरण किया है, उन पर रफ्तार भी बढ़ रही है, मगर उन पर निश्चित तौर पर इस बारे में ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। मैं समझता हूँ कि मंत्री जी इस पर स्टेप उठाने का काम करेंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी. जे. कुरियन) : बस, बस। ...(व्यवधान)... ठीक है, हो गया। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, एक बात और। जिस बड़े पैमाने पर परिवहन विभाग में भ्रष्टाचार है, उस भ्रष्टाचार को रोकने के लिए आप कोई सख्त कदम उठाइए। नहीं तो, पैसा दीजिए और लाइसेंस लीजिए, वहाँ आज यह हालत है। इससे तो दुर्घटनाएँ रुकेंगी नहीं। परिवहन विभाग में पोस्टिंग के लिए मार होती है। पूरे स्टेट में कहीं भी आप चले जाइए। एक छोटा-सा चपरासी भी यह चाहता है कि वह वहीं अपनी पोस्टिंग करवा ले। आज यह हालत है, इसलिए इस पर भी बहुत ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। ...(समय की घंटी)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी. जे. कुरियन) : ओ, के., प्लीज। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : मैं आशा करता हूँ कि सरकार इन बातों पर ध्यान देगी। सर, ज्यादातर एक्सिडेंट्स जो होते हैं, वे खास तौर पर शराबखोरी के कारण होते हैं। इस पर तो जरूर सख्ती बरतनी चाहिए। जब हम इन तमाम मुद्दों पर ध्यान देंगे, तो निश्चित तौर पर इसका मतलब निकलेगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी. जे. कुरियन) : हाँ, वे ध्यान देंगे। ...(व्यवधान)... अब आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : मैं बैठ रहा हूँ, सर। मैं मंत्री जी के इस संशोधन विधेयक का पुनः समर्थन करता हूँ, इस विश्वास के साथ कि जैसा आपने आश्वस्त किया है कि हम और बड़े व्यापक पैमाने पर इस बिल को लाएँगे और कानून बनाकर सख्ती बरतने का काम करेंगे। धन्यवाद।

SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala) : Sir, thank you. One of the very serious problems we are facing now is road accidents. In this case, the main responsibility rests on the Government. Here, the hon. Minister who has piloted the Bill is in charge of roads also. Bad condition of roads, including the National Highways, is one of the main reasons for road accidents. We are constructing roads but we are not maintaining them well. In States like Kerala, the rate of accidents has alarmingly increased and roads are overloaded with vehicles. When you bring forward a comprehensive Bill, you may think about how we can restrict the number of vehicles in cities and what steps we can take to promote public transport system. Otherwise, we cannot do it. Now, there is a craze for vehicles. It has become a symbol of social status. Every house wants a car; every member of the house wants a car. But, we have only limited space on the road. That is another problem. When you bring forward a comprehensive Bill, you may take that into account.

[SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN]

Sir, coming back to this Bill, there is one point of penalty for drunken driving. We saw some cases in Mumbai, Delhi, etc., where some celebrities were involved in drunken driving, killing people sleeping on pavements. They were going in their motor vehicle. My proposal is that you have to include it in section 302 of IPC. It must be included for killing people with drunken driving. They are poor people who sleep on pavements.

Another thing is use of mobile phone while driving. You have to include that. You have to make it a penal offence. These are all causing road accidents. My point is about fixation of compensation. In the Bill, it is only Rs.1 lakh. The Bill was prepared in 2007. So, for the last five years, if you take into account the rate of inflation, the amount may have to be increased twice. So, this amount must be doubled. I think, the Minister has already promised that he will bring a comprehensive Bill. So, we will get more opportunity to speak on overall situation. Thank you.

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra) : Sir, thank you, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2007. Though I am speaking at the eleventh hour, I think it fit not to be repetitive of what other speakers have spoken. I would be making a few points. It is true that, of late, road accidents are on the rise. We have to go very deep into the factors like road conditions, maybe, on highways, free-ways, National Highways and arterial roads. Secondly, traffic regulating system has to be looked into. Much more developments are to be made on that factor. Motor vehicle and the drivers of the vehicles are the main factor for accidents. I won't be going into the details as it has been spoken of in detail by hon. Members. I would like to make a point mainly about the compensation to be paid to the deceased or the seriously injured victim or his family. The Solatium Fund is there, which makes arrangements, I would say, paltry arrangements for victims, in the hit and run cases. But what is the main reason for this Bill, especially the amendments, which are being pushed through hurriedly? I think the private insurance companies are behind this. So far as the insurance business is concerned, all along we had a kind of monopoly because the State-owned companies used to operate in the insurance business. But what has happened after the advent of private insurance companies in the general insurance field, from 1990 onwards? Practically, they came into this business in the year 2000-01. Sir, this is regarding the third party insurance, the third party accidents, where no comprehensive insurance is taken by the insured. There were cases involving public vehicles. The truckers or truck operators had a very big clout. Insurance premiums were not hiked. Then a lot of pressure was put on the Government of India. Of late, the premium hike has also been done. I think this is the main reason and this is how the things are happening to the detriment of the general public in India. The private vehicle owners are the main sufferers. The poor pedestrians, who are not concerned with the vehicles,

come into the trap and become victims of road accidents. These State-owned companies, along with private players made a pool—this is the latest arrangement which has been made—and the cap was fixed. There is the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal where accident cases are decided. There the cap was fixed like this. In the case of death of a victim in a road accident, the amount was fixed like Rs. 5 lakhs or Rs. 10 lakhs, without considering the age factor or without considering the victim's income. Whatever be the case or whatever be the cause, very paltry sum is being paid. This is the ploy of private insurance companies which have their limitations. In fact, the Government was running it to the best of its ability and it was doing well. But after the advent of private insurance companies, these kinds of things are being done and whatever social responsibilities were entrusted upon the State-owned companies, now they are being wished away by underplaying or underscoring the importance of public companies. The private insurance players and industrialists are trying to...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please conclude.

SHRI ANIL DESAI : Sir, it would be to the detriment of the society, which should be looked into. That is why I am requesting the hon. Minister to take his own time and bring a more comprehensive Bill and not hurry up with these amendments. Sir, these amendments look very minimal or nominal. But it is a ploy of private companies, which will go against the common man of India. Thank you.

श्री. सी.पी. जोशी : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्यों का बहुत आभारी हूँ, जिन्होंने इस बिल के संबंध में अपने सुझाव दिए। हमारे जो नये सदस्य आए हैं और जिन्होंने यह apprehension किया है कि यह बिल insurance company की initiation पर आया, तो मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी स्थिति नहीं है। जैसा मैंने पहले बताया, यह बिल राज्य सभा में 2007 में introduce हुआ। 2007 में introduce होने के बाद इस बिल को स्टैंडिंग कमेटी को रेफर कर दिया गया और स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने 28 अप्रैल, 2008 को अपनी recommendations दीं। स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की कुल 29 recommendations थीं, जिनमें से केवल छः recommendations अलग-अलग मंत्रालयों से संबंधित थीं। उनमें से एक लॉ मिनिस्ट्री और फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री से संबंधित थी, एक मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ होम अफेयर्स से संबंधित थी तथा एक Carriage by Road Act से संबंधित थी। उन छः recommendations को छोड़ने के बाद, स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने जितनी भी recommendations दी थीं, उनको incorporate करके हम यह बिल लाये हैं। इसको हम किसी प्राइवेट insurance company के कहने से लेकर नहीं आए हैं, बल्कि हमारे पार्लियामेंट की स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की केवल छः recommendations को छोड़ उसकी बाकी recommendations को हमने incorporate किया। फिर भी जैसा हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि एक कम्प्रिहेंसिव बिल आए तो अच्छा है। इसी दृष्टि से हमने एक मि. सुन्दर जो रिटायर्ड सैक्रेटरी हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Hon. Members, it is 6 O' clock now. We will sit and pass this Bill before we adjourn. Yes, Mr. Minister.

श्री सी. पी. जोशी : हमने सितम्बर, 2009 में एक कमेटी एपाइंट की मि. सुन्दर की अध्यक्षता में, जिसमें एनर्जी रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट के साथ दूसरे लोगों को भी मेम्बर बनाया। इस पर कमेटी ने कम्प्रिहेंसिव रिव्यू

[श्री सी. पी. जोशी]

[6.00 P.M.]

किया। रिव्यू करने के बाद, क्योंकि हम यह जानते हैं कि यह **Concurrent List** में है, जो भी माननीय सदस्य खन्ना जी और यादव जी कह रहे थे, **Concurrent List** में होने से स्टेट को **execute** करना है। ट्रांसपोर्ट डिपार्टमेंट में भ्रष्टाचार है, उसमें पुलिस ठीक ढंग से काम नहीं कर रही है या उनके जो कानून हैं उनको ठीक ढंग से लागू करना है, ये सब चीजें स्टेट सब्जेक्ट में हैं। जब तक स्टेट आगे आकर इनको ठीक ढंग से लागू नहीं करेगा, तब तक हम **apprehensive** रहेंगे। हम पूरी कोशिश कर रहे हैं, स्टेट्स के साथ बार-बार मीटिंग करते हैं, वर्कशॉप करते हैं, उनको हम मोटिवेट करते हैं कि हम इसको कैसे ठीक ढंग से लागू करें, जिससे ये एक्सिडेंट कम हों। इन सब बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए हमको सुन्दर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट 2 फरवरी, 2011 को मिली। इसके बाद हमने सैक्रेटरी जनरल के साथ मीटिंग की, मंत्री लेवल पर मीटिंग की। हमने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को कहा है कि आप उसके संबंध में अपने कमेंट्स दें। उनके कमेंट्स आने के बाद हम एक कम्प्रिहेंसिव बिल सदन में लाएंगे। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि उस कम्प्रिहेंसिव बिल में आप सब की जो मंशा है, उन सब चीजों का ध्यान रखकर, उसमें इनकार्पोरेट करने का काम हम करेंगे। यह जो बिल हम अभी इंटरोड्यूज कर रहे हैं, इसमें मोटे तौर पर 5 तरह की रिपोर्टें हैं। जैसा आपने अभी एक्सिडेंट के सम्बन्ध में कहा, यह बात सही है कि जो एक्सिडेंट हो रहे हैं, वे हम सब के लिए चिंता का विषय हैं। लेकिन हमारे पास एक सुखद आंकड़ा भी है। जितनी डेवलपिंग कन्ट्रीज हैं, उन डेवलपिंग कन्ट्रीज के मुकाबले हमारे यहां कितने एक्सिडेंट्स नहीं हो रहे हैं। मैं फिगर देना चाहता हूँ कि डेथ और इन्जरी के **per lakh** जो एक्सिडेंट्स हैं, उसमें हमारी जो फिगर है वह दूसरे देशों से ज्यादा बेटर है, उनसे कम हमारे यहां एक्सिडेंट्स हो रहे हैं। जो डेवलपिंग कन्ट्रीज हैं, जिनमें इन्जरी के जो इंसिडेंट्स हैं उनमें इंडिया और चाइना के मुकाबले में आज के दिन यू.के. में 298.4 परसेंट, यू.एस.ए. में 579.68 परसेंट, फ्रांस में 138.75 परसेंट, जर्मनी में 408.23 परसेंट है। हमारे यहां चिंता का विषय तो है, लेकिन डेवलपिंग कन्ट्रीज के मुकाबले में जितने इन्जरी एक्सिडेंट्स हो रहे हैं, उस हिसाब से हमारे यहां कम हैं। लेकिन मैं एक बात जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि ये जो एक्सिडेंट्स हो रहे हैं, उन एक्सिडेंट्स में जो मेजर एक्सिडेंट्स हो रहे हैं वे इस कारण हो रहे हैं कि हमारी रोड अलग-अलग तरह की हैं, नेशनल हाईवेज हैं, स्टेट हाईवेज हैं, पी.एम.जी.वाई. की सड़कें हैं। जो मोटा एक्सिडेंट्स का फीगर आ रहा है, आज अगर एक्सिडेंट में एक लाख चौतीस हजार लोगों की डेथ हो रही है तो उसमें पचास हजार दो सौ छिअत्तर, जो हमारी डिस्ट्रिक्ट की रोड्स हैं, पंचायत की रोड्स हैं, वहां पर ज्यादा एक्सिडेंट हो रहे हैं, बनिस्बत नेशनल हाईवेज के। इसलिए हमारे यहां एलाइन्मेंट, डिजाइन चेंज करना, ये सब काम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट आगे-आगे करेगी, तब हम उन चीजों को पूरा कर सकेंगे। इस बिल में जो चार-पांच चीजें हैं, उन पर मैं खास तौर पर कहना चाहता हूँ। एक जो सबसे बड़ा एनलिसिस किया गया है उसमें सबसे ज्यादा 78 परसेंट डेथ हो रही हैं, वे ड्राइवरों की गलती से हो रही हैं और ड्राइवर की गलती में भी सबसे ज्यादा रोल लेकर का है, ड्रंकन ड्राइविंग का है। इसलिए इस बिल में जो सबसे इंटरेस्टिंग चीज की गई है, वह यह की गई है कि इसमें हमने ग्रेडेड पेनल्टी लगाई है। किसी ड्राइवर के ब्लड में शराब का जितना कन्टेन्ट है, उसके प्रोपोशनेट में उसको पेनल्टी और पनिशमेंट मिलेगा। अगर स्पीड तेज कर रहा है तो उसकी स्पीड कितनी है, उसके मुकाबले में उसको पनिशमेंट मिलेगा। जो ड्रंकन स्टेटस है, ड्रिंक की जो कंडीशन है, उस पर हमने सोच समझकर ही पेनल्टी को प्रपोज किया है। हमने कुछ प्रोविजन किए हैं, जिसमें हमने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को अथोराइज किया है कि उनके जो इंस्टीट्यूशन हैं, उनको रिफगनाइज कर ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस देने का काम किया जाए। हमने यह व्यवस्था भी की है। खास तौर से हमने इसमें एक **Solatum Fund** बनाने का काम किया है, जिसमें हिट और रन में आदमी की डेथ की जाती थी, उसके संबंध में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी, अब हमने पहली बार व्यवस्था की है। उसके अनुसार एक लाख रुपए डेथ पर मिलेंगे, 50 हजार रुपए इन्जरी पर मिलेंगे। इसमें हमने एक और काम किया है कि **the Central Government will**

revise the rate of compensation every three years taking into consideration the rise in Price Index. इन चीजों को भी हमने इनकारपोर्ट किया है, इन्फ्लेशन का भी इसके अंदर इनकारपोर्ट किया जाए। हमने पूरी कोशिश की है कि स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की जो रिकमेंडेशंस हैं, उनको आधार मानकर हम ये सब चीजें बिल में लेकर आए हैं। मैं सदन को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि हम सब की जो चिंता है कि देश में एक्सिडेंट कम हों, इन सब चीजों को ध्यान में रखकर हम एक कम्प्रिहेंसिव बिल लाएंगे। इसी भावना के साथ मैं माननीय सदस्यों से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल को पास किया जाए।

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना : मैंने एक बात पूछी थी कि एक शराबी ड्राइवर को पुलिस पकड़ती है, उसका चालान होता है, फिर उसी के ट्रक में या गाड़ी में बिठाकर उसको छोड़ देते हैं। क्या आप ऐसा provision नहीं करा सकते कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सी.पी. जोशी : यह issue तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का है ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : That is State Governments problem.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि टी.वी. में एक विज्ञापन आता है कि एक ट्रैफिक पुलिस वाला एक मंत्री को रोकता है। मंत्री जी गाड़ी से उतरकर कहते हैं कि मुझे कौन रोक रहा है? मैं ट्रांसपोर्ट मिनिस्टर हूँ! इस पर पुलिस वाला कहता है कि उस व्यक्ति ने रूपा बनियान पहन रखी है, वह तो आगे जाएगा ही ...(व्यवधान).... इस तरह की गलत प्रेरणा देने वाले विज्ञापनों के बारे में आप क्या कर रहे हैं?

श्री सी.पी. जोशी : मेरा मंत्रालय इस तरह के विज्ञापन नहीं देता है और न ही मैं इस तरह का मंत्री हूँ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत : ऐसे विज्ञापन जिनसे गलत प्रेरणा मिलती है, उन पर कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Please take your seat.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Sir, I am ready to rely on Minister's assurance that another comprehensive Bill will come. Those recommendations have come in January or February, 2011, whatever the Minister says. Now, I would like to have a concrete assurance from the hon. Minister. When will the next Bill come? This Bill took five years to come before the House. So, when will the next Bill come?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, Mr. Balagopal, what do you want to say?

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Firstly, Sir, when will the next Bill come? I have to seek one clarification. This is regarding consignor's responsibility. I propose that owner and driver should be held responsible; the consignor should not be responsible. Then, another relates to 217 (b) — 'right to claim compensation for injury and death'. It is not relatable. The lines 'nexus with the injury' is a confusing part, Sir. On that, clarification is needed. On page 15, '(c) Annual income up to Rs. 1,00,000', (the

[SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL]

maximum annual income for calculation of compensation will be deemed to be Rs. 1,00,000 even if the income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000/-).’ Sir, these three points need to be clarified.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Would you like to clarify, Mr. Minister?

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I just want to submit to the hon. Member that we are addressing the recommendations of the Standing Committee where all party representatives are there. They have deliberated on this issue. Those recommendations will be incorporated, and I assure you. The hon. Member has raised the issue. When we go for a comprehensive Bill, we will take care of all these things.

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL : Sir, I have a right to put a question here. The Minister cannot deny it. Don’t say that it is the Standing Committee...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, no, he said he will consider it.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : This is a confusion...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : No, he gave you a positive answer. He said he will consider it when a comprehensive Bill is passed. He gave you a positive answer. Be satisfied with that.

The question is :

That the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall, now, take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. We shall now take up Clause 2. There is an amendment (No. 3) by Shri C. P. Joshi.

Clause 2: Amendment of section 2

SHRI C. P. JOSHI: Sir, I move :

(3) That at page 2, line 3, the words “defect or” be *deleted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : We shall, now, take up Clause 3. There are two Amendments (Nos. 4 to 5) By Shri C. P. Joshi.

Clause 3: Amendment of section 7

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move :

(4) That at page 2 *after* line 31, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

‘(ii) after sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:-

“(1A) No person shall be granted a learner’s licence to drive a three wheeler transport vehicle or a light motor transport vehicle unless he has held a driving licence to drive a light motor vehicle for at least one year.

Explanation:- For the purposes of this sub-section, the “light motor transport vehicle: means a transport vehicle, a public service vehicle, a goods carriage, an educational institution bus, a private service vehicle or omnibus the gross vehicle weight of any of which or a motor car or tractor or road-roller the unladen weight of any of which does not exceed seven thousand five hundred kilograms.”;

(5) That at page 2, line 32, *for* the bracket and roman numeral “(ii)’ the bracket and roman numeral “(iii)” be *substituted*.

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) : We shall, now, take up New Clause 5A. There is one Amendment (No. 6) By Shri C. P. Joshi.

New Clause 5A — (Insertion of new section 9A.)

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move :

(6) That at page 2, *after* line 43, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

‘5A. After section 9 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely:-

“9A. The State Government may, if circumstances so require, recognize an institution or automobile association referred to in the proviso to sub-section (5) of section 8 or the second proviso to sub-section (3) of section 9, for the purposes of grant of driving test certificate or driving certificate, as the case may be, and shall ensure that such institution or automobile association fulfils all the criteria prescribed by the Central Government regarding qualifications of the instructors, infrastructure requirements and other regulatory provisions under section 12” ;’;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

New Clause 5A, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall, now, take up Clause 7. There is one Amendment (Nos. 7) By Shri C. P. Joshi.

Clause 7: Amendment of section 15

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move :

(No. 7) That at page 3, *for* lines 17 to 22, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

‘7. In section 15 of the principal Act, in the second proviso to sub-section (1), for the words “the age of forty years”, the words “the age of fifty years” shall be substituted.’;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 8 to 10 were added to the Bill.

Clause 11- Amendment of Section 41

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up

Clause 11. There is one Amendment No. 8 by Minister.

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move:

(No. 8) That at page 4, line 3, *for* the words “thirty days”, the words “fifteen days” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 11, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 12 to 13 were added to the Bill.

Clause 14 — Amendment of Section 51

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 14. There are two Amendment (Nos. 9 and 10) by Minister.

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move:

(No. 9) That at page 4, *after* line 30, the following be *inserted*, namely:

‘(ii) in sub-section (9), after the words “the appropriate authority may”, the words “within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of such application and” shall be substituted;’;

(No. 10) That at page 4, line 31, *for* The bracket and roman numeral

“(ii)” the bracket and roman numeral “(iii)” be *substituted*

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

Clause 14, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 15 to 23 were added to the Bill.

Clause 24 - Substitution of New Section for Section 93

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 24. There are two Amendment (Nos. 11 and 12) by Minister.

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move:

(No. 11) That at page 5, lines 40 to 44, be *deleted*.

(No. 12) That at page 6, lines 1 to 27, be *deleted*.

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

Clause 24, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 25 to 36 were added to the Bill.

Clause 37-Substitution of New Section for Section 161

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 37. There are three Amendment (Nos. 13, 14 and 15) by Minister.

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move:

(No. 13) That at page 9, line 23, *for* the words “fifty thousand rupees”, the words “one lakh rupees” be *substituted*.

(No. 14) That at page 9, line 25, *for* the words “twenty-five thousand rupees”, the words “fifty thousand rupees” be *substituted*.

(No. 15) That at page 9, *after* line 28, the following be *inserted*, namely;

“(8) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette increase the rate of compensation referred to in sub-section (6), after every three years taking into account the rise in the price index.”;

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

Clause 37, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 38 and 39 were added to the Bill.

Clause 40 - Substitution of New Section for Section 163 A

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 40. There is one Amendment (No. 16) by Minister.

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move:

(No. 16) That at page 10, *for* lines 31 to 33, the following be *substituted*, namely :-

[SHRI C. P. JOSHI]

“(3) The Central Government keeping in view the cost of living and the rise in the price index, may, by notification in the Official Gazette, revise the amount or the multiplier specified in the Second Schedule after every three years.”;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 40, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 41 to 43 were added to the Bill.

Clause 44 - Amendment of Section 166

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 44. There are two Amendments (Nos. 17 and 18) by Minister.

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move :

(No. 17) That at page 11, line 26, *for* the figure “2007” the figure “2012” be *substituted*.

(No. 18) That at page 11, *after* line 35, the following proviso be *inserted*, namely;

“Provided that in case of a simple injury, not involving permanent partial disability or permanent total disability, no claim for compensation shall be entertained unless it is made within a period of six months from the date of occurrence of the accident.”;

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

Clause 44, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 45 was added to the Bill.

Clause 46 — Insertion of New Section 167 A

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 46. There is one Amendment (No. 19) by Minister.

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move:

(No. 19) That at page 11, *after* line 45, the following proviso be *inserted*, namely;

“Provided that if valid reasons exist, the Claims Tribunal or the court may extend the period of three months so specified in this section.”;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 46, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 47 — Amendment of Section 168

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 47. There is one Amendment (No. 20) by Minister.

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move :

(No. 20) That at page 12, *for* lines 1 to 4, the following be *substituted*, namely:-
'47. In section 168 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), the proviso shall be omitted.';

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 47, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 48 was added to the Bill.

Clause 49 - Insertion of New Section 171A

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Now, we shall take up Clause 49. There are two Amendments (Nos. 21 and 22) by Minister.

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move :

(No. 21) That at page 12, *for* lines 18 and 19, the following be *substituted** namely:-

“months from the date of filing the application with full particulars:

Provided that such interim compensation shall not exceed —”;

(No. 22) That at page 12, *after* line 23, the following proviso be *inserted*, namely;

“Provided further that any interim compensation awarded by the Claims Tribunal shall be subject to adjustment in the final amount of compensation.”;

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

Clause 49, as amended, was added to the Bill.

New Clause 49A —Amendment of Section 173

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : There is a new Clause 49A. Mr. Minister, you move the Amendment No. 23.

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I beg to move:

(No. 23) That at page 12, *after* line 23, the following be *inserted*, namely;-

'49A. In section 173 of the principal Act, in sub-section (1), -

(a) for the words “ninety days”, at both the places, the words “sixty days” shall be substituted;

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(b) in the first proviso, for the words “twenty-five thousand rupees or fifty per cent, of the amount so awarded, whichever is less”, the words “fifty per cent, of the amount so awarded” shall be substituted.’;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

New Clause 49A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 50 to 52 were added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall now take up Clause 53. There is one amendment (No.24) by Shri C.P. Joshi.

Clause 53 — Amendment of section 183

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move :-

24. That at page 12, *for* lines 41 to 51, the following be *substituted*, namely :-

“(1) Whoever drives a motor vehicle in contravention of the speed limits notified under section 112 shall be punishable with a fine which may extend to,~

- (a) one thousand rupees, if the speed limit exceeds the notified maximum speed up to ten kilometers per hour; or
- (b) two thousand rupees, if the speed limit exceeds the notified maximum speed over ten kilometers per hour but does not exceed twenty-five kilometers per hour; or
- (c) five thousand rupees, if the speed limit exceeds the notified maximum speed over twenty-five kilometers per hour.

(2) Whoever causes any person who is employed by him or is subject to his control to drive a motor vehicle in contravention of the speed limits notified under section 112 shall be punishable with a fine which may extend to,-

- (a) one thousand rupees, if the speed limit exceeds the notified maximum speed up to ten kilometers per hour; or
- (b) two thousand rupees, if the speed limit exceeds the notified maximum speed over ten kilometers per hour but does not exceed twenty-five kilometers per hour; or
- (c) five thousand rupees, if the speed limit exceeds the notified maximum speed over twenty-five kilometers per hour.”;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 53, as amended, was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : Insertion of New Clause 53A. There is one amendment (No.25) by Shri C. P. Joshi.

New Clause 53A — Insertion of New Section 183A

SHRI C.P. JOSHI : Sir, I move :-

25. That at page 12, *after* line 51, the following be *inserted*, namely :-

'53A. After section 183 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely :-

“183A. Whoever uses a mobile phone while driving the motor vehicle, shall be punishable with a fine of five hundred rupees, or, if having been previously convicted of an offence under this section is again convicted of an offence under this section, with a fine of not less than two thousand rupees but which may extend to five thousand rupees.

Explanation:— For the purposes of this section, “mobile phone” means any appliance, instrument or apparatus used or capable of use for transmission or reception of signs, signals, writing, images and sounds or intelligence of any nature by wire, visual or other electro-magnetic mission, Radio or Hetzian waves (that is, the electro-magnetic waves of frequencies lower than 3000 giga cycles per second propagated in space without artificial guide), galvanic, electric or magnetic means.’;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

New Clause 53A was added to the Bill.

Clause 54 was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall now take up Clause 55. There is one amendment (No.26) by Shri C.P. Joshi.

Clause 55 — Amendment of Section 185

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move :-

26. That at page 13, *for* lines 7 to 11, the following be *substituted*, namely :-

'55. For section 185 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely: '-

“185.(1) Whoever, while driving, or attempting to drive, a motor vehicle,-

- (a) is under influence of alcohol and on a test by a breath analyzer detects the presence of alcohol in his blood to the extent of,-
 - (i) not less than 30 mg per 100 ml but not exceeding 60 mg per 100 ml, shall be punishable for the first offence with imprisonment for a term which

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may extend to six months, or with fine of two thousand rupees, or with both; and for a second *or* subsequent offence, if committed within three years of the commission of the previous similar offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years *or* with fine of double the amount provided above for the offence *or* with both;

- (ii) more than 60 mg per 100 ml but not exceeding 150 mg per 100 ml, shall be punishable for the first offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine of four thousand rupees, or with both; and for a second or subsequent offence, if committed within three years of the commission of the previous similar offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine of double the amount provided above for the offence with both;
- (iii) exceeding 150 mg per 100 ml, shall be punishable for the first offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine of five thousand rupees, or with both; and for a second or subsequent offence, if committed within three years of the commission of the previous similar offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to four years or with fine of double the amount provided above for the offence or with both;

(b) is under influence of any narcotic substance or drug or any other drug to such an extent as to be incapable of exercising proper control over the vehicle shall be punishable for the first offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both; and for a second or subsequent offence with imprisonment for a term of six months or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both, and cancellation of the driving licence issued to him on the conviction of second or subsequent offence

(2) The Central Government may, for the purposes of clause (b) of sub-section (1), by notification in the Official Gazette, having regard to the prevalent medical standards, specify the drugs which shall be deemed to render a person incapable of exercising proper control over a motor vehicle.”.’;

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 55, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 56 to 62 were added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall now take up Clause 63. There is one amendment (No. 27) by Shri C. P. Joshi.

Clause 63 — Insertion of New Section 213A

SHRI C. P. JOSHI: Sir, I move:-

27. That at page 14, lines 11 to 18, be *deleted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 63, as amended, was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall now take up Clause 64. There is one amendment (No. 28) by Shri C. P. Joshi.

Clause 64 — Insertion of New Section 217B

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move' .-

28. That at page 14, line 24, *for* the figure 2007 the figure “2012” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 64, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 65 was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall now take up Clause 1. There is one amendment (No. 2) by Shri C. P. Joshi.

Clause 1— Short title and commencement

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move:-

2. That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure “2007” the figure “2012” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : We shall now take up the Enacting Formula. There is one amendment (No. 1) by Shri C. P. Joshi.

Enacting Formula

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move:-

1. That at page 1, line 1, *for* the word “Fifty-eighth”, the word “Sixty-third” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI C. P. JOSHI : Sir, I move:-

That the Bill, as amended, be passed

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : The House is adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

The House then adjourned at nineteen minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 9th May, 2012.