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Tuesday,

14 August, 2012

23 Sravana, 1934 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, 14th August, 2012/23rd Sravana, 1934 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

RE: DEMAND FOR DISCUSSION ON ATTACK ON MUMBAI

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : सभापति महोदय, मुम्बई का विषय है ...(व्यवधान)... जिस तरह से मुम्बई में हमला हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)... पूरे देश के सामने प्रश्न खड़ा हो गया है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I have given a notice. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. There is a reference from the Chair. ...(Interruptions)... Just one minute. ...(Interruptions)... Please hon. Members. ...(Interruptions)... Just one minute. There is a reference from the Chair. ...(Interruptions)... Please ...(Interruptions)... One minute. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, the Food Security Bill ...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय राउत (महाराष्ट्र): जिस तरह से वाहनों को तोड़ा गया है ...(व्यवधान)... पूरी मुम्बई टेंशन में है ...(व्यवधान)... आप हमें बोलने दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अनिल देसाई (महाराष्ट्र): महाराष्ट्र की सरकार ...(व्यवधान)... एक बार फिर साबित हो गई है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: एक मिनट बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... सुन लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... One minute. There is a reference from the Chair. ...(Interruptions)... One minute. ...(Interruptions)... Please ...(Interruptions)... One minute ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Sir, the Government ...(Interruptions)...

REFERENCE TO THE VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE IN IRAN

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you are aware, more than 250 persons were reportedly killed and several others were injured when two powerful earthquakes measuring 6.4 and 6.3 respectively on the Richter Scale struck the North Western region of Iran on the 11th of August, 2012.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: मुम्बई पर जिस प्रकार से हमला हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मुम्बई पर हमला हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: मुम्बई की सरकार ...(व्यवधान)... एक बार फिर साबित हुआ है ...(व्यवधान)... देश को बचाएं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: मुम्बई की जो समस्या है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: देश पर खतरा है ...(व्यवधान)... इसको तोड़ा है ...(व्यवधान)... हम मांग करते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. We will have a discussion on this. ...(Interruptions)... There will be a discussion on this subject. ...(Interruptions)... Please give notice. There will be a structured discussion on this. ...(Interruptions)... Please, don't do this. ...(Interruptions)... No photographs, please. ...(Interruptions)... No posters, no photographs. ...(Interruptions)... I am sorry. ...(Interruptions)... I am sorry. ...(Interruptions)... No posters, no photographs, please. ...(Interruptions)... We will discuss the subject. ...(Interruptions)... Please go back. ...(Interruptions)... You can't show photographs in the House. ...(Interruptions)... I am sorry. ...(Interruptions)... No, you will have to go back to your place. ...(Interruptions)... We will take up this subject later. It has been decided in the morning. ...(Interruptions)... पूछ लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... It has been decided. ...(Interruptions)... It was decided in the morning. ...(Interruptions)... Please, we will take it up. ...(Interruptions)... We are taking it up today. ...(Interruptions)... Please ...(Interruptions)... We are taking it up today. ...(Interruptions)... We are taking it up at 1 o'clock. ...(Interruptions)... Question No. 61, Shrimati Maya Singh. ...(Interruptions)...

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

मातृत्व मृत्यु दर के लिए सहस्राब्दि विकास लक्ष्य

*61. श्रीमती माया सिंह: क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मातृत्व मृत्यु-दर के लिए निर्धारित सहस्राब्दि विकास लक्ष्य को प्राप्त न करने का संशय है और मंत्रालय द्वारा इस लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति के लिए समय से पर्याप्त कदम नहीं उठाए गए जिसके कारण मातृत्व मृत्यु-दर इस समय लगभग 212 बनी हुई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या मंत्रालय ने मातृत्व मृत्यु दर के लक्ष्य में संशोधन करने का निर्णय लिया है; और

(घ) विगत दशक के दौरान प्रसव के दौरान मातृत्व मृत्यु-दर का ब्योरा क्या है?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद): (क) से (घ) विवरण सदन के पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) जी, नहीं।

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन, यूनिसेफ, यूएनएफपीए तथा विश्व बैंक द्वारा वर्ष 2012 में जारी मैटरनल मोर्टलिटी एस्टिमेशन इंटर-एजेन्सी ग्रुप (एमएमईआईसी) रिपोर्ट "ट्रेन्ड्स इन मैटरनल मोर्टलिटी: 1990 टू 2012" के अनुसार भारत में मातृ मृत्यु अनुपात (एमएमआर) में कमी आई है जो 1990 में प्रति 100,000 जीवित जन्में शिशुओं में 600 से वर्ष 2010 में 200 हो गया है।

सहस्राब्दि विकास लक्ष्य-5 (एमडीजी-5) के अंतर्गत लक्ष्य मातृ मृत्यु अनुपात (एमएमआर) में 1990 तथा 2015 के बीच तीन-चौथाई की कमी लाना है। अतः एमएमईआईसी आकलनों के आधार पर, एमडीजी-5 के अंतर्गत एमएमआर के लिए लक्ष्य वर्ष 2015 तक प्रति 1,00,000 जीवित जन्में शिशुओं पर 150 बैठता है (वर्ष 1990 में प्रति 1,00,000 जीवित जन्में शिशुओं पर 600 के बेसलाइन से)।

इस रिपोर्ट में देशों को 4 वर्गों में वर्गीकृत किया गया है; मार्ग पर, प्रगतिशील, अपर्याप्त प्रगति तथा कोई प्रगति नहीं और भारत को "प्रगतिशील वर्ग" में रखा गया है।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

चूंकि एमडीजी के लक्ष्य एवं उद्देश्य सितम्बर, 2000 के संयुक्त राष्ट्र सहस्राब्दि घोषणा-पत्र से निकले थे, जहां 147 राज्यों के प्रमुखों तथा 189 राष्ट्रों ने भागीदारी की थी, इसलिए भारत एमडीजी के तहत निर्धारित किए गए लक्ष्यों एवं उद्देश्यों को एकपक्षीय रूप से परिवर्तित नहीं कर सकता है।

(घ) भारत के महापंजीयक, नमूना पंजीकरण प्रणाली (आरजीआई-एसआरएस) की नवीनतम रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भारत के मातृ मृत्यु अनुपात (एमएमआर) में गिरावट प्रदर्शित हुई है जो 2001-03 की अवधि में प्रति 1,00,000 जीवित जन्में शिशुओं पर 301 से वर्ष 2004-06 की अवधि में प्रति 1,00,000 जीवित जन्में शिशुओं पर 254 हो गया तथा वर्ष 2007-09 में यह और गिरकर प्रति 1,00,000 जीवित जन्में शिशुओं पर 212 हो गया।

Millennium development goal for MMR

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an apprehension of not achieving the Millennium Development Goal set for Maternal Mortality Rate and the Ministry has not taken sufficient steps in time to achieve the goal due to which MMR is about 212 at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has decided to modify the target of MMR; and

(d) the details of MMR at childbirth during the last decade?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

As per the Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group (MMEIG) report, "Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010" released in the year 2012 by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the World Bank, the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in India has come down from 600 in 1990 to 200 per 100,000 live births in 2010.

Under Millennium Development Goal-5 (MDG-5), the target is to reduce by three quarters the Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR), between 1990 and 2015. So on the basis of MMEIG estimates, the target for MMR under MDG-5 works out to be 150 per 1,00,000 live births by the year 2015 (from a baseline of 600 per 1,00,000 live births in 1990).

The same report has classified the countries into 4 groups; On Track, Making Progress, Insufficient Progress and No Progress and India has been placed in the group "Making Progress".

(c) No, Sir.

As MDG goals and targets emerged in United Nations Millennium Declaration in September, 2000, where 147 heads of States and 189 Nations participated, India cannot unilaterally change the goals and targets set under MDGs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) As per the latest report of the Registrar General of India, Sample Registration System (RGI-SRS), Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of India has shown a decline from 301 per 100,000 live births in the period 2001-03 to 254 per 100,000 live births in the period in the period 2004-06 and a further decline to 212 per 100,000 live births in the period 2007-09.

श्रीमती माया सिंह: माननीय सभापति जी, मंत्री जी ने मेरे सवाल का जो जवाब दिया है, मैं उस जवाब से संतुष्ट नहीं हूँ। मंत्री जी, मैं बड़े दुख के साथ, बड़े अफसोस के साथ कह रही हूँ कि मातृ मृत्यु दर में हमारे देश का स्थान 80 विकासशील देशों में 76वें स्थान पर है। एक तरफ तो हम आर्थिक महाशक्ति बनने की ओर अपने कदम बढ़ा रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ हम देश में माँ की, जननी की सुरक्षा नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। देश में गरीबी और कुपोषण के कारण हर 10 मिनट में एक महिला मर रही है, यानी एक माँ की मृत्यु हो रही है।

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्रीमती माया सिंह: सर, मैं वही पूछ रही हूँ। 2010 में मां बनने के दौरान 57 हजार महिलाओं की मृत्यु हुई है। मंत्री जी, मातृ दर के जो आंकड़े विभिन्न माध्यमों से हमारे सामने आ रहे हैं, वे दर्शाते हैं कि इस अवस्था में हम महिलाओं को उचित पोषण और चिकित्सा सुविधाएं उपलब्ध नहीं करा पा रहे हैं और हम इसमें fail हुए हैं। इसलिए सच्चाई क्या है, यह मैं आपसे जानना चाहती हूँ?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I have said in my answer that as per the Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group Report, "Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010" released in the year 2012, which is the latest, by the World Health Organisation, UNICEF, UNFPA, and the World Bank, the Maternal Mortality Ratio in India has come down from 600 in 1990 to 200 per 100,000 live births in 2010. According to this Report, in 1990, the number was 600 and in 2010, the number has come down to 200.

Under the Millennium Development Goal-5, the target is to reduce it by three quarters, that is, 75 per cent. According to that, by 2015, we should be having 150 per 1,00,000 live births. Till 2010, we are on track. And the same Report has also classified the entire globe into four groups. One, on track. Two, Countries that are Making Progress. Three, Insufficient Progress. Four, No Progress. India has been placed in Group 2, Making Progress. It has realised that India is making progress and included it in Group 2.

श्रीमती माया सिंह: मंत्री जी, आपने इसमें जो आंकड़े बताए हैं, आपका वह जवाब मैंने पढ़ लिया है, इसके बाद ही मैंने आपसे सवाल पूछा था। आपने कहा है कि आरजीआई-एसआरएस की जो नवीनतम रिपोर्ट आई है, उसमें एमएमआर में गिरावट प्रदर्शित हुई है, लेकिन पुराने मातृ-मृत्यु दर के आंकड़ों को कोई भी बता सकता है, जो आपने मेरे सवाल के जवाब में दिया है। हमारे पास इतनी अच्छी मेडिकल सुविधाएं हैं और इतनी योजनाएं चलने के बाद आप ये calculated आंकड़े बता रहे हैं, तो यह बड़े दुख की बात है।

सर, मंत्री जी से मेरा दूसरा सवाल यह है कि वर्तमान में सरकारी नीतियां मातृ मृत्यु दर को रोकने में कितनी कारगर हुई हैं और हम लक्ष्य से कितने पीछे हैं? यदि हम पीछे हैं, तो उसका कारण क्या है? सहस्राब्दी विकास लक्ष्य की समाप्ति तक मातृ मृत्यु दर कहां तक लाने की आपकी योजना है और अभी के आंकड़े देखते हुए क्या हम उसे पा सकेंगे?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, we cannot reduce the target. This has been fixed by the United Nations and we cannot change that target. The target is to reduce it to 150 by 2015 and I am sure that we will be able to achieve that. As a matter of fact, I would like to say that some of the States — Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Gujarat — have already achieved the target. Some States like Haryana, Punjab and Karnataka are almost going to achieve it. So, a few States have achieved the target much before 2015. It's only some States — Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha — where we are lagging behind. You must also note that health is a State subject. The Government of India makes policies and provides finances for infrastructure for all types of ailments. I can say with great authority that never before in 65 years so many initiatives have been taken by any other Government as the UPA Government has taken since the launch of NRHM. Never so much funds have been given by the Government of India as we have given in the past seven years. But, it is now for the respective State Governments to make use of those funds, directions and programmes given by the Central Government.

DR. T.N. SEEMA: Sir, one of the main reasons for the Maternal Mortality Rate is anaemia among pregnant women. Now, in our country, 52 per cent pregnant women are anaemic. Sir, through you, I would like to ask: How is the Ministry going to tackle the issue of high rate of anaemia among pregnant women?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: We have a programme to deal with it. We are already giving money through ANMs and ASHAs which are located in each village. We have as many as 8,60,000 ASHAs across the country; out of which, more than 7,00,000 have already been trained and they are the ones who identify the anaemic pregnant women and give them the supplements which are being provided by the Central Government.

PROF. M.S. SWAMINATHAN: From the Minister's reply, it is clear that we are making some progress. But he has also said that there is variability among States. I would request the hon. Minister to consider the causes of this variability. For example, in Tamil Nadu, there are two catalytic interventions. One is institutional delivery in the villages and the second is ...(*Interruptions*)... May I repeat again, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do it. Please repeat yourself.

PROF. M.S. SWAMINATHAN: There are two major catalytic interventions which have helped those States which are making progress. One is institutional delivery in villages. Second is overcoming maternal anaemia and tuberculosis. I would like to request the hon. Minister to help the States which are not making progress because they have not achieved the targets. You should put faces before figures. There are mothers. I have seen them. In the villages, there are martyrs' wives, kisan's wives and so on. Would you like to take some interest in helping the States which are not making progress to attend to these two problems of institutional delivery in villages and overcoming maternal anaemia?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: This programme is a national programme and it is part of the National Rural Health Mission. So, this is not confined only to Tamil Nadu. It is for the entire country and when it was launched in 2005, in the very first year, as many as seven lakh pregnant women accessed the institutions for institutional delivery. Now, for the last few years, the number has gone up to one crore nine lakh every year. So, under the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) any pregnant woman having an access to the Government institution for delivery is paid by the Health Ministry, Government of India, to the tune of Rs.100 in villages; and in urban areas about Rs.1,000. We have seen that this incentive has worked very well.

Last year, we have launched another initiative. In addition to the incentive which has already been given, each and every pregnant woman whosoever will access to the Government institution for delivery, the transport to and fro is provided; and during hospitalisation all consumables and medicines will be provided free. The food is provided free. For the new born child these facilities will continue for one month.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, while the hon. Minister claims that India is progressing in curbing Maternal Mortality Rate on the basis of the data that he has obtained from international agencies. It is the same agencies which have said that India and Nigeria account for one third of Maternal Mortality Deaths worldwide. I would like to ask the hon. Minister that while he claims that the Union Government has done every thing under its authority to ensure that Maternal Mortality Rate comes down in India, why is it that schemes like Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana are not being implemented in every district in this country?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I don't claim that we have done and we have achieved what we should have. But I can say that we have made a great progress. I have also said in the beginning that in so far as the Government of India is concerned, the health being a State subject, it is not a subject like Defence or Finance wherein the Government of India could be held squarely responsible. As I said, the UPA Government first launched the National Rural Health Mission. Under this Mission so far, almost Rs.70,000 crores has been given. Under the Mission almost 50,000 Primary Health Centres, District Hospitals, Sub-District Hospitals, CHCs have been renovated and constructed. This has never happened that so many hospitals were renovated or constructed in the Government of India.

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: सर, इनका सवाल क्या है और ये क्या जवाब दे रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: एक मिनट, एक मिनट। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप इनको सुन लीजिए।

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I also said that a number of initiatives have been taken by the Government of India in the last six or seven years. If some States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra make use of these funds and achieve the targets, why shouldn't other State Governments follow them? It is for the respective State Governments to rise to the occasion and make use of these initiatives and implement them to achieve the targets.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question No. 62 ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, I did not receive the answer to my query. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: सर, सवाल क्या था? ...*(व्यवधान)*... इनका सवाल क्या था? ...*(व्यवधान)*... इनका एक स्पेसिफिक सवाल था। वे सवाल का जवाब नहीं देते हैं और आप हमें कहते हैं कि सुनते रहो। इसका क्या मतलब है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... उस स्पेसिफिक योजना के बारे में सवाल पूछा गया है। उसका implementation केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से नहीं हो रहा है। इसके बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहिए। आपको भी उन्हें बोलना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप ज़रा बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप एक मिनट बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री पुरुषोत्तम खोडाभाई रूपाला: सर, हम आपका संरक्षण चाहते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: अगर आपको कुछ amplify करना है, तो मेम्बर को भेज दीजिए।

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Okay, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 62.

Eradication of open defecation

*62. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of people defecating in open, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry has made any efforts to eradicate this practice; and
- (c) the quantum of funds allocated for improving the situation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) As per Census 2011, the percentage of households defecating in the open, State-wise is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) was launched by the Government of India in 1986 that aimed at construction of household toilets to address the problem of open defecation in rural areas of the country. It was restructured as a demand driven programme called Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) in 1999 that expanded the scope of sanitation to include personal hygiene, home sanitation and garbage disposal and drainage. The efforts towards good sanitation were further strengthened with the introduction of the Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) in the year 2003 which incentivized the achievements made in ensuring full sanitation coverage by Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). To accelerate the progress of sanitation in rural areas, Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in TSC that is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with "Nirmal Grams" as outcomes. Solid and Liquid Waste Management has also been prioritized under NBA so as to ensure clean environment for improved sanitation results.

(c) State-wise allocations are not made under TSC/NBA. The total project outlay and the funds released State-wise under the programme till July, 2012 is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

As per Census 2011, the percentage of households defecating in open is as follows:

State	Census 2011
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	65.1
Arunachal Pradesh	44.3
Assam	38.5
Bihar	81.4
Chhattisgarh	85.2
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	70.7
Goa	27.4

1	2
Gujarat	65.8
Haryana	42.3
Himachal Pradesh	32.5
Jammu and Kashmir	58.3
Jharkhand	91.7
Karnataka	68.1
Kerala	5.6
Madhya Pradesh	86.4
Maharashtra	55.8
Manipur	12.3
Meghalaya	43.1
Mizoram	12.9
Nagaland	22.3
Orissa	84.7
Puducherry	59.6
Punjab	28.1
Rajasthan	79.9
Sikkim	14.9
Tamil Nadu	73.3
Tripura	15.4
Uttar Pradesh	77.1
Uttarakhand	45.0
West Bengal	51.3
ALL INDIA :	67.3

Statement-II

The existing total project outlay and the funds released by Government of India under TSC/NBA from the beginning of the programme till July, 2012

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State Name	Project Outlay	Release of Central Share (Till July, 2012)
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	178187.67	78691.96
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6700.94	2893.95
3	Assam	92814.80	43676.42
4	Bihar	293380.80	95128.26
5	Chhattisgarh	67877.81	28348.60
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	91.00	3.15
7	Goa	1059.43	172.32
8	Gujarat	70231.96	30854.03
9	Haryana	23087.84	11136.10
10	Himachal Pradesh	19632.55	7081.23
11	Jammu and Kashmir	40598.74	11754.80
12	Jharkhand	90728.43	34362.22
13	Karnataka	108474.68	40326.59
14	Kerala	22189.92	10297.81
15	Madhya Pradesh	170288.99	83667.22
16	Maharashtra	148969.04	56251.27
17	Manipur	11274.03	3436.43
18	Meghalaya	14008.99	7022.86

14	<i>Oral Answers</i>	[RAJYA SABHA]	<i>to Questions</i>
1	2	3	4
19	Mizoram	6302.14	2903.48
20	Nagaland	7957.58	3116.40
21	Orissa	156204.83	51676.92
22	Puducherry	572.56	94.84
23	Punjab	24134.47	2921.86
24	Rajasthan	102243.17	29086.17
25	Sikkim	2053.82	1123.07
26	Tamil Nadu	114367.01	54224.33
27	Tripura	9838.52	5354.40
28	Uttar Pradesh	294726.00	146197.33
29	Uttarakhand	15091.07	7040.89
30	West Bengal	174147.94	50618.59

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as per the reply given by the hon. Minister the mission was started in 1999 with the aim to fully end open defecation. By 2004, the Government could achieve 27 per cent; and by 2010-11 they could achieve 70 per cent; and by 2012 the aim was to achieve 100 per cent. But this is practically not possible. Hence this new Ministry has been created. It is really disheartening to read the statement given by the Minister that when compared to our neighbours like Bangladesh it is only 7 per cent of the people who defecate openly, in China it is only 4 per cent and in Brazil it is 7 per cent. In India, the situation is really very disheartening: 91 per cent in Jharkhand, 80 per cent in Orissa and Chhattisgarh and in Tamil Nadu, it is more than 70 per cent. UNICEF claims that it is 50 per cent in India, but as per the statement given by the Minister, in India, it is 67 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Sir, I am coming to the question. The situation is really very alarming. Proper water, sanitation, hygiene and wash facilities

in schools will minimize diarrhea and respiratory tract infections by 30 to 40 per cent. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how the Ministry plans to improve wash facilities for school going children.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, open defecation remains a very serious problem. In fact, it remains a stigma and curse in our country. Over 60 per cent of all open defecations of women all over the world are in our country alone. Over the last 15 years, successive Governments have tried to address this issue. We have not succeeded to the extent that we should have. However, I do wish to bring to your notice, Sir, that Sikkim has become India's first State to be open-defecation free. By November, this year, Kerala, will become India's second State to be open-defecation free. By March, 2013, we expect Himachal Pradesh to be open-defecation free. By March, 2014, we are expecting Haryana to be open-defecation free. These are the success stories. I must also make special mention of Maharashtra where one-thirds of the Gram Panchayats already are open-defecation free. If they continue to do like this, by 2015 Maharashtra might also become open-defecation free State. However, Sir, in other States, we have a very, very long way to go. Our assessment is that we will not be able to make India open-defecation free before the year 2022 because we have a huge backlog in northern and eastern India. These are the problems where health issues are also paramount. These are the issues where water supply and sanitation issues are also paramount.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: सर, आप देखिए कि दिल्ली में रेलवे लाइन के किनारे क्या हाल है। सुबह या शाम ट्रेन से सफर कीजिए, तब देखिए कि रेलवे लाइन के आजू-बाजू क्या हाल है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I share the anguish of all the hon. Members. I can only say that we are making an honest effort. We have recently launched the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan. The objective of the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan is to make every Gram Panchayat in the country open-defecation free in 10 years' time. There are 2,40,000 Gram Panchayats in India. Out of this, only about 29,000 or 12 per cent are open-defecation free. We are hoping to achieve this target in 10 years' time. We have made a very substantial increase in the allocation for sanitation. In the past, the total financial package available to a family in rural India to build a toilet was Rs. 3,500. From this year onwards, a toilet can be built in rural India by a family with an assistance of up to Rs. 10,000. So we have actually increased the

scale of financial assistance three times. But we have a huge problem of behavioural change; we have a huge problem of education. As regards the question that the hon. Member has asked, we are trying to address that. We provide special facilities in schools for creating sanitation and water supply facilities. We are trying to catch the younger generation. But it will take a substantial time, Sir, as I said, not less than 10 years, at least.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Sir, I am really thankful to the hon. Minister because for the first time, Rs. 14,000 crores have been allocated to this Ministry for providing toilets in villages and Gram Panchayats. Despite all these things, the women have to wait for their turns because, of the risk of being seen by others and losing their personal dignity. And they have to wait for their right to relieve themselves, to avoid being seen by others, and all such things. These problems increase the chances of uterus cancer and other ailments. As the Minister has just now mentioned, 'to catch the young', I would like to know, through you, Sir, as to whether the Ministry will consider helping State Governments to support erecting vending machines to provide sanitary pads to all school-going children in the Government, Panchayati Raj and Corporation Schools.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, this is an issue which is engaging our attention. So, as for provision of sanitary pads for adolescent girls in schools, we are working with the Ministry of Human Resources Development. I do want to mention, as my senior colleague has just now pointed out, that there are, today, 8,60,000 ASHAs, the Accredited Social Health Activists, and we are making use of each of these 8,60,000 ASHAs to increase awareness on sanitation issues, and we are giving financial incentives to ASHAs for every toilet that gets constructed. So, we are trying multiple methods. As far as vending machine option is concerned, we have not looked at it very seriously and systematically. But I don't want to pass the buck on because it is a sanitation issue, and we are engaged in discussions with State Governments on how best we can provide sanitary napkin facilities, particularly, for school children. Sir, the hon. Member has raised the issue of nutrition. There is a very intimate link between malnutrition and poor sanitation. In fact, now, all medical opinions have come to the conclusion that because of poor sanitation and poor hygiene, Indian children are malnourished. So, there is this nexus that we have to address, and we are trying our best to do it. I must also

bring to the attention of the hon. Member in the House that attitudes are changing. There was a bold woman in the Betul district of Madhya Pradesh, named Anita Bai Narre, who was honoured by us at Vigyan Bhawan a couple of months ago. She refused to go and stay with her in-laws till a toilet was built. And, today, in Haryana, the campaign is built on the slogan "शौचालय नहीं, तो दुल्हन नहीं!" So, people are, actually, beginning to change their attitudes. This is the case in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, etc. But this will take a long time.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Sir, it is really shocking that 67 per cent of Indian people do not have toilets, that they have to relieve themselves in open places. I would like to ask the hon. Minister this. As for the figures, which he has given, was it a separate survey done by the Government, or, was it included in the national census. How did they arrive at these figures? Secondly, as for the amount allocated, — I am talking about Madhya Pradesh that I represent — this was much higher than the amount released. Why is this deficiency there? Is it that the Government of India was not sending enough money to the States, or, is it that the State Governments are not utilizing the amounts properly? And, Sir, one more thing I want to add here. In schools, if there are not enough toilets, then, there are more drop-outs of girls from schools. So, what action is the Government taking, in collaboration with the HRD Ministry, with regard to such schools?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the hon. Member has put three inter-related supplementaries. I will be very, very brief. As far as census data is concerned, the census data reports the availability of individual household latrines. So, a household, which does not have an individual household latrine, is automatically assumed to be defecating in the open. There is a huge difference in every State between the figures reported by the State Government and the figures reported in the census. This is true in the case of every State; no State is an exception. It is a matter of great anguish and consternation for us that according to reports given by State Governments, we have already reached about 67 per cent sanitation coverage. But according to the census, we have barely reached about 30 per cent. So, there is a lot of fudging of data. Money is being taken, but toilets are not being built. Or, toilets are being built, but they are not being used. I am afraid that there has been a lot of हेराफेरी -- I can only use this word if it is Parliamentary — going on in the sanitation campaign that is going on. We are trying to tighten up all these procedures. We do not want to release the subsidy till the toilet is built.

We are very clear. If we release the subsidy upfront, the subsidy will be taken and the toilet will not get built or if it gets built, it will not get used. As far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, Sir, I will get back to the hon. Member with the specific figures. But in Madhya Pradesh, I do want to say that this year, Madhya Pradesh has roughly about 23,000 Gram Panchayats and out of these 23,000 Gram Panchayats, roughly 8 to 10 per cent are Nirmal Gram Panchayats so far. And Madhya Pradesh is our focus State, and we will be concentrating our resources, both financial and organisational, in States like Madhya Pradesh.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: महोदय, मंत्री जी ने इस संबंध में रूरल एरिया में हो रहे डवलपमेंट के बारे में बताया, लेकिन मैं मुम्बई जैसे शहर में रहता हूँ और मैं जहाँ रहता हूँ, वहाँ बाजू में बहरामपाड़ा नाम की एक झुग्गी-झोंपड़ी कॉलोनी है, जिसमें 30 हजार लोग रहते हैं। वहाँ सिर्फ 10 टॉयलेट्स हैं और वहाँ कम-से-कम 40 टॉयलेट्स और चाहिए, ऐसा Municipal Authority का कहना है। मुम्बई में हर जगह यही हालत है। हम पूरी रेलवे लाइन के ऊपर सुबह-सुबह देखते हैं कि वहाँ लोग शौच के लिए बैठते हैं। वहाँ एन.जी.ओ. को involve किया जाता है, लेकिन ये एन.जी.ओ. उनसे हर वक्त 5 रुपए या 2 रुपए चार्ज करते हैं। क्या वहाँ free और enough toilets की व्यवस्था के लिए सरकार कोशिश कर रही है?

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, मेरी जिम्मेदारी ग्रामीण स्वच्छता अभियान की है। शहरों में इस अभियान की जिम्मेदारी शहरी विकास मंत्रालय की है। मैं कहना नहीं चाहता हूँ, यह एक सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी है। यह हमारी भी जिम्मेदारी बनती है। मैं स्वीकारता हूँ कि खास तौर से रेलों में, जिनमें हर रोज करीब डेढ़ करोड़ यात्री यात्रा करते हैं। मैंने कहा है और कई लोगों को इससे नाराजगी हुई है कि हमारा रेलवे सिस्टम एक खुला हुआ सीवर है और हमने रेलों में शौचालय के लिए जो प्रावधान किया है, उसमें और परिवर्तन लाने की जरूरत है। हमारी रेल मंत्रालय से बातचीत हुई है और मैं आपको यह खुशखबरी देना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे रेल नेटवर्क में जो 50 हजार कोचेज हैं, उन 50 हजार कोचों में डीआरडीओ से डवलपड् बIODIGESTER लगाया जाएगा। उसका आधा खर्च हमारा मंत्रालय देगा और आधा खर्च रेल मंत्रालय देगा। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि अगले पांच साल के अंदर उन 50 हजार कोचों में एक नया माहौल दिखायी देगा और उनमें सही व स्वच्छ शौचालयों का प्रावधान किया जाएगा।

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर: ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब, आपने 10,000 रुपया toilet बनाने के लिए फिक्स किया है। यह बहुत कम है। पंजाब में 1,000 ईट का रेट 5,000 से ऊपर है और सीमेंट की बैग का रेट 300 रुपए है। तो 10,000 रुपए में तो वह बन ही नहीं

सकता। इसलिए मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि स्टेटवाइज इसे बनाने में जो expenditure आता है, उसके मुताबिक आप टॉयलेट बनाने के लिए उतने रुपए फिक्स करेंगे?

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, पंजाब के मुख्य मंत्री से मुझे कई खत मिले हैं कि 14-15,000 से कम में पंजाब में शौचालय बनाना बिल्कुल असंभव है और 10,000 रुपए में जो टॉयलेट बनेगा, उसका इस्तेमाल नहीं होगा। मैंने पंजाब के मुख्यमंत्री से कहा कि हमारी ओर से हम जरूर 10,000 रुपए का प्रावधान करेंगे। अगर पंजाब सरकार और 4,000-5,000 रुपए खर्च करना चाहती है, तो उसमें हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है, परंतु आज के निर्णय के अनुसार केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से हमने 10,000 रुपए का मानक रखा है और कई राज्यों में इसे सकारात्मक ढंग से देखा गया है। मैं स्वीकारता हूँ कि पंजाब के मुख्य मंत्री और कई मंत्रियों ने कहा कि पंजाब में लोग और अच्छे बेहतर टॉयलेट चाहते हैं जिस पर 15,000 रुपए खर्च होंगे। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि वहां टॉयलेट बनाने के लिए जो और 4,000-5,000 रुपए की जरूरत है, पंजाब सरकार वह खर्च करने की स्थिति में होगी।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Number 63.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: सर, मेरा एक सजेशन है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please, three supplementaries have already been asked. Please, Khannaji.

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना: सर, मेरा एक सजेशन है।

श्री सभापति: खन्ना जी, प्लीज। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लिखकर दे दीजिए मंत्री जी को। ...**(व्यवधान)**... नहीं, नहीं ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लिखकर दे दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... No, no. I am afraid, not ...**(Interruptions)**... No, no. I cannot depart from the established practice of the House ...**(Interruptions)**... Question Number 63. Hon. Member absent. Let the Minister give her reply.

*63. The Questioner (**Shri Ramchandra Prasad Singh**) was absent

पर्यावरणीय संकट से निपटने के लिए और अधिक धनराशि का
आवंटन किया जाना

*63. **श्री रामचन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह :** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने देश में पर्यावरणीय संकट से निपटने के लिए सकल घरेलू उत्पाद का 2.6 प्रतिशत अंश व्यय करने का निर्णय लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त निर्णय का कार्यान्वयन कब से आरंभ हो जाएगा;

(ग) यदि उक्त निर्णय को पहले से ही कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है, तो इस पर प्रतिवर्ष कितनी धनराशि व्यय की जा रही है; और

(घ) उक्त धनराशि किस-किस योजना पर व्यय की जा रही है और प्रति वर्ष व्यय की जा रही औसत धनराशि कितनी है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती जयन्ती नटराजन): (क) से (घ) सरकार द्वारा बारहवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना को इसके क्षेत्रीय आवंटनों सहित अभी अंतिम रूप दिया जाना है। तथापि, 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तिम वर्ष अर्थात् 2011-12 के लिए पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय का वार्षिक योजना आवंटन 2300.00 करोड़ रुपए था जो कि सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (जीडीपी) का 0.03% है। आवंटन के योजना-वार ब्यौरे को दर्शाने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

आवंटन की योजनावार ब्योरा

(करोड़ रु.)

क्रम सं.	योजना का नाम	योजना की प्रकृति	परिव्यय
1	2	3	4
पर्यावरण			
1.	पर्यावरणीय मानीटरन और शासन	सीएस	53.50
2.	प्रदूषण उपशमन	सीएस	49.76
3.	संरक्षण और विकास के लिए अनुसंधान और विकास	सीएस	68.94
4.	प्राकृतिक संसाधनों और पारि-प्रणाली का संरक्षण	सीएसएस	80.00
5.	पर्यावरण सूचना, शिक्षा और जागरूकता	सीएस	79.58
6.	ताज की सुरक्षा सहित धरोहर स्थलों, तीर्थस्थानों और पर्यटक केन्द्रों का पर्यावरणीय प्रबंधन	सीएसएस	0.01
7.	अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग कार्यक्रम	सीएस	71.82
8.	राष्ट्रीय तटीय प्रबंधन कार्यक्रम	सीएस	267.60

1	2	3	4
9.	राष्ट्रीय नदी संरक्षण योजना (एनआरसीपी)	सीएसएस	701.71
	कुल पर्यावरण एवं पारिस्थितिकी वानिकी और वन्यजीव		1372.92
10.	वन और वन्यजीव संस्थानों को सहायता अनुदान	सीएस	122.50
11.	वानिकी क्षेत्र में क्षमता निर्माण	सीएस	84.10
12.	मूली बांस का ग्रेगेरियस पुष्पण (मैलाकाना बैसिफेरा)	सीएसएस	0.00
13.	वन प्रबंधन का तीव्रीकरण (पूर्ववर्ती आईएफपीएस) स्कीम	सीएसएस	65.00
14.	वानिकी प्रभागों का सुदृढीकरण	सीएस	18.27
15.	वन्यजीव प्रभाग का सुदृढीकरण	सीएस	29.00
16.	वन्यजीव पर्यावासों का एकीकृत विकास	सीएसएस	70.00
17.	बाघ परियोजना	सीएसएस	162.71
18.	हाथी परियोजना	सीएसएस	21.50
19.	राष्ट्रीय वनीकरण एवं पारि-विकास बोर्ड (एनएईबी)	सीएस	27.00
20.	राष्ट्रीय वनीकरण कार्यक्रम	सीएसएस	303.00
21.	पीआरआई (पंचायत वन योजना) के माध्यम से वनीकरण	सीएसएस	0.00
22.	पशु कल्याण	सीएस	24.00
	कुल वानिकी एवं वन्यजीव		927.08
	पर्यावरण, वन और वन्यजीव का कुल योग		2300.00

सीएस: केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र

सीएसएस: केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित स्कीमें

Higher allocation for fighting environmental crisis

†*63. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to spend 2.6 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to deal with the environmental crisis in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which implementation of this decision will commence;

(c) the quantum of annual expenditure in case this decision is already in force since its inception; and

(d) the names of the schemes on which this amount is being spent and the average annual expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) The Twelfth Five Year Plan, including its sectoral allocations, is yet to be finalized by the Government. However, Annual Plan allocation of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for 2011-12, last year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, stood at Rs. 2300.00 crore, which is 0.03% of the GDP. A statement giving scheme-wise details of the allocation is laid on the table of the House.

Statement*Statewise details of the allocation*

(Rs. Crore)			
Sl.No	Name of the Scheme	Nature of the Scheme	Outlay
1	2	3	4
Environment			
1	Environmental monitoring and Governance	CS	53.50
2	Pollution Abatement	CS	49.76
3	Research and Development for Conservation and Development	CS	68.94

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
4	Conservation of Natural Resources and Ecosystems	CSS	80.00
5	Environment Information, Education and Awareness	CS	79.58
6	Environmental Management in Heritage, Pilgrimage and Tourist Centres Including Taj Protection	CSS	0.01
7	International Co-operation Activities	CS	71.82
8	National Coastal Management Programme	CS	267.60
9	National River Conservation Plan (NRCP)	CSS	701.71
Total Environment & Ecology Forestry and Wildlife			1372.92
10	Grants in aid to Forests and Wildlife institutions	CS	122.50
11	Capacity building in forestry sector	CS	84.10
12	Gregarious Flowering of Muli (Melacannabaccifera) Bamboos	CSS	0.00
13	Intensification of Forest Management (former IFPS) Scheme	CSS	65.00
14	Strengthening Forestry Divisions	CS	18.27
15	Strengthening of Wildlife Division	CS	29.00
16	Integrated Development of Wild Life Habitats	CSS	70.00
17	Project Tiger	CSS	162.71
18	Project Elephant	CSS	21.50
19	National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEB)	CS	27.00
20	National Afforestation Programme	CSS	303.00

1	2	3	4
21	Afforestation through PRIs (Panchyat VanYojna)	CSS	0.00
22	Animal Welfare	CS	24.00
TOTAL Forestry and Wildlife			927.08
GRAND TOTAL Environment, Forests and Wildlife			2300.00

CS: Central Sector

CSS:Centrally Sponsored Schemes

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Sir, a statement has been annexed to the reply of the question indicating scheme-wise details of higher allocation for fighting environmental crisis. At serial number 17 of the statement, under Project Tiger, an amount of Rs. 162.71 crores outlay was made. And, at serial number 18, under Project Elephant, an amount of Rs. 21.50 was kept as outlay. But, no outlay was earmarked for Afforestation through PRIs (Panchayat Van Yojna) which is at serial number 21 of the statement.

Now, coming to my question, what has happened recently in my State is that in 3-4 national sanctuaries tourists have been barred from visiting sanctuaries in the name of protecting environment and forest. So, I would like to know what decision the Government has taken on this. I am asking this because it has created a shock in the minds of the people. Sir, tourists from various regions come North-East to visit these sanctuaries, but they are barred. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has taken note of this situation.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, I am happy to answer the question. This is a subject matter of an order passed by the hon. Supreme Court of India in a Public Interest Litigation filed by a person. The Supreme Court of India has ordered that there should be a complete ban on tourism in tiger reserves of the country. The case is now due for hearing on the 22nd. Therefore, the matter is *sub judice*. The Ministry of Environment and Forests will file its Report and anything further can only be decided after the hon. Supreme Court gives its order.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, in the written reply, there is a mention that the Annual Plan allocation of the Ministry was just Rs. 2,300 crores, which are really peanuts.

My question to the hon. Minister is this. Sir, we have the CAMPA Fund which is over Rs. 20,000 crores. There is no mention of how she is going to disburse CAMPA funds for this cause.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, the hon. Member, with all due respect, has raised a very important question.

First, I would like to say, as far as the CAMPA Fund is concerned, it is right that there is over Rs. 20,000 crores under the CAMPA Fund. These are totally monitored by the Supreme Court of India. The funds are monitored by a Committee set up by the hon. Supreme Court of India. Hon. Member is also a Member of the Committee on Environment. He knows that a vast majority of the CAMPA funds are basically meant for afforestation. However, we are looking at the Forest Act. We are examining proposals from activists. According to which, if the Supreme Court permits, if some part of those funds can be used to help wildlife, we can do so. As a part of Forest Conservation Act, some proposals have come. But, we have not taken a call on that. I would, from my point of view, like to emphasize that CAMPA funds are collected after diversion of forest land. And, in my view, they should be strictly confine to making sure that our forests are protected, regenerated and our forest cover continuously increased and they should not be diverted under any other circumstances.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the House knows, environmental problems are becoming increasingly acute around the world, and also in our country. We are already seeing very dramatic affects of deforestation, melting of glaciers and so on.

Before I put my question to the Minister, I would like to say that the amount of money provided, which is 0.03 per cent, is a pittance. If we are really serious about our environment, we will have to increase it, at least ten-fold in order to make an impact.

Now, my specific question is this. In this statement, there is no direct mention of the *Swatch Ganga Abhiyan*. I remember, thirty years ago, at a function, the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, had launched the *Ganga Bachao Abhiyan*. After that, Rajiv Gandhi had come up with the *Swatch Ganga Abhiyan*. Thousands of crores of rupees have been spent on it, but the results seem to be nowhere. What is the Government doing about the Ganga? Are you serious in trying to save the National River from disaster? If so, could you please spell out your plans?

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Sir, this falls under the National River Conservation Scheme. There is also a separate World Bank-funded project, specially set aside for the River Ganga. As the hon. senior Member knows, there is the National Ganga Committee which is chaired by the hon. Prime Minister of India. Over two thousand crores of rupees have already been spent on the cleaning-up of the Ganga.

Sir, I totally agree with the hon. Member, and with most of the hon. Members of this august House, that we are a very, very long way from the goal that we want to achieve in regard to the *Nirmal Dhara* and the *Aviral Dhara* of the Ganga. There is no doubt that our holy river is very polluted, and the flow of the river also is not to the extent that it ought to be to maintain the purity and the continuous ecological flow of the river as we desire. I know that, Sir. We are working on it. A great deal of funds are available. As I said, it is a World Bank-funded project. We have a separate Mission, the Mission Ganga.

But part of the problem, Sir, is that, all along the river, the industrial effluent accounts for about 20 per cent; eighty per cent is basically the domestic untreated sewage which flows out from the cities that lie along the River Ganga.

Sir, money is allotted for sewage treatment plants and for central effluent treatment plants. But, unfortunately, all those sewage treatment plants do not work, perhaps, because of lack of electricity and, perhaps, because the network of sewers is not connected to the central sewage treatment plants in that particular city. These are all issues that need to be addressed in a collective way and, therefore, it needs the cooperation of the urban local bodies and the State Governments to monitor that the sewage treatment plants are working. Otherwise, it will very difficult to do it.

Sir, a large amount of money is available. It is not a question of lack of money. But what is more important is how that money is directed and how it is spent. Sometimes, it is not possible for us to release the money unless those sewage treatment plants are working.

My final submission to the House, through you, Sir, would be that, had it not been for the announcements made, first, by Shrimati Indira Gandhi and, then, by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and the action taken thereafter by other Governments, the River Ganga would have been in a much worse state. We have actually managed to contain the pollution at this level only because of the work that has been done by the Ministry of Environment under the National Ganga Action Plan.

Special schemes for healthcare in rural districts

*64. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that special emphasis is required on health in rural districts;
- (b) if so, whether there is any special scheme for rural districts; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched in 2005 to bring focus on health care needs of rural population. Under NRHM, flexible financing is provided to States primarily in the following areas:

- Health system strengthening including construction and upgradation of physical infrastructure;
- Augmentation of human resources for health;
- Supplies and logistics including drugs and equipments;
- Patient transport including ambulances for emergency response;
- Mobile Medical Units (MMU) to provide health services in remote and inaccessible areas;
- Communitization which includes engagement of ASHAs and support to Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees and Rogi Kalyan Samitis;
- Initiatives in Reproductive and Child Health including Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK);
- Reducing disease burden with special focus on communicable diseases;
- Mainstreaming of AYUSH

SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI: Sir, I have carefully read the reply of the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare. What I had asked for were details of the implementation of special schemes in rural districts. He has listed in his reply the schemes, but there is no mention of implementation. Why I had asked about the details of implementation was because most of these health schemes, specially in the rural areas, seemed to be suffering from their own health problems.

The special schemes have special health problems. They are unhealthy. Every day you read reports about infant mortality and people dying of lack of medical treatment. Newspapers are full of these reports and I do not wish to take the time of the House in repeating the statistics. I would again emphasise my question about the implementation of these special schemes in the rural areas. I seek a reply from the hon. Minister.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, I would like to repeat what I had said in the first question. In so far as the Government of India is concerned, our duty is to provide funds. We have gone much beyond that. There was an acute shortage of funds for construction. While we provided funds for the construction and renovation of Primary Health Centres, Sub-Centres, Community Health Centres and district hospitals, we came across with a fact that the States were facing an acute shortage of human resource—specialists, doctors and para-medics. As a result of which, as I have said in the beginning, as of 2011-12, we have released as much as Rs.67,643 crores; for this year alone, about Rs. 17,000 crores have been allocated to the State Governments. On the human resource front, we have provided 1,50,457 specialists—MBBS doctors, nurses, ANMs, para-medics and AYUSH doctors have been provided. We are also providing them the incentives. For community involvement, 30,529 Rogi Kalyan Samitis have been constituted. For each Primary Health Centre, Rs. 1 lakh and for Community Health Centre, Rs. 1 lakh, and for district hospitals, Rs.5 lakh are being given annually to manage the contingencies. About 5 lakh village sanitation and nutrition committees have been constituted. And for each sanitation committee, an amount of Rs. 10,000 annually is being given. I have said that on infrastructure, renovation or new construction of 62,951 HCs, PHCs and district hospitals has been done. But, Sir, the management of these is for the State Governments.

SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Sir, the hon. Minister has not answered my first question. Anyway, in your reply, you talked about mainstreaming of AYUSH. How do you wish to go about it?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, he said that the first part of his question has not been answered. I have repeated a number of times that the implementation of all the schemes is for the State Governments. We cannot intervene. Health is a State subject. So, implementation has to be done by the State Governments.

So far as the second part of the question is concerned, under NRHM, there is a mainstreaming of AYUSH. Earlier, an allopathic dispensary was located at one place and an Ayurveda dispensary was located at another place. Under NRHM, there has to be a co-location. They have to be located under one roof. That process is on and as and when new constructions come up, in those new constructions— since these are spacious enough—Ayurveda and allopathic dispensaries are located under one roof.

श्री विनय कटियार: माननीय सभापति जी, यह बात ठीक है कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने धन तो बहुत दिया है, हर विभाग के लिए वे धन देते जा रहे हैं, लेकिन उसके अनुपात में घोटाले भी होते जा रहे हैं। मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश में बहुत बड़ी संख्या में ambulances खरीदी गईं, लेकिन किसी भी स्थान पर उनका उपयोग नहीं हो रहा है। इसी के साथ-साथ जो चलने वाली चिकित्सा यूनिट्स हैं, कई राज्यों में मैं भ्रमण करता हूँ, लेकिन कहीं भी वे चिकित्सा यूनिट्स दिखाई नहीं देती हैं। मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि एन.आर.एच.एम. के अंतर्गत जो घोटाले हुए हैं, क्या उन राज्यों में आप उसकी रिकवरी करेंगे या उनका पैसा रोक देंगे और जो सामान पड़ा हुआ है, उसका ठीक ढंग से उपयोग कराएंगे? सही अर्थों में इसका पैसा गांवों में पहुंचे, क्या इसके लिए केंद्र की ओर से विशेष ध्यान देने की कोई सुनिश्चित व्यवस्था आप कराएंगे?

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद: यह सही बात है कि हमारा काम है पैसा देना, सुविधाएं देना और इनका इंप्लिमेंट करना, उनकी निगरानी करना, उनका उपयोग करना, लेकिन कुछ लोग दुरुपयोग भी करते हैं और इसको पूरे देश में monitor करना मुश्किल है। इस वक्त हमारे पास तकरीबन डेढ़ लाख sub-centres हैं, करीब पच्चीस लाख Primary Health Centres हैं, चार हज़ार से ज्यादा Community Health Centres हैं, जो District Hospitals में हैं। अगर यह सेंटर का सब्जेक्ट होता तो शायद कुछ करते, लेकिन स्टेट सब्जेक्ट में आप एक सीमा तक ही दखल दे सकते हैं, उसके आगे नहीं दे सकते हैं। यह सच है और यह सिर्फ माननीय सदस्य के ही नोटिस में नहीं आया, बल्कि हमारे नोटिस में भी यह रोज़ आता है कि अभी तक तकरीबन 16,397 मोबाईल

यूनिट्स, Emergency Response Services Ambulances पूरी कंट्री में दी गई हैं और एन.आर.एच.एम. में हम उनको फंड करते हैं, उनके लिए प्रावधान करते हैं। उसमें जो डॉक्टर या नर्स जाएंगे, उनकी भी एन.आर.एच.एम. मदद करता है, लेकिन वे आगे क्या करते हैं, यह monitor करना हमारे लिए बड़ा मुश्किल है। हमारे पास कोई ऐसा सिस्टम नहीं है, जिससे हम यह पता लगाएं। हमारे पास एक ही सिस्टम है ऑनरेबल मेम्बर्स ऑफ पार्लियामेंट, जो हमारे नोटिस में इन चीजों को लाते हैं या मीडिया के ज़रिए जहां-जहां हमारे नोटिस में आता है, उसका हम संज्ञान लेते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती माया सिंह: यू.पी. का मामला नोटिस में आ गया है, लेकिन ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद: जहां तक यू.पी. का मामला है, उसकी inquiry चल रही है, कोर्ट की देखरेख में उसकी जांच-पड़ताल हो रही है।

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि सभी लोगों को पता है कि हमारा देश गांवों का देश है, देहात का देश है और हमारी ज्यादातर आबादी देहात में रहती है। शहरी निवासियों की तुलना में गांवों के लोगों में शिक्षा भी कम है और स्वास्थ्य के प्रति जागरूकता भी कम है। पूरी दुनिया में यह कहा जा रहा है कि भारत Diabetes का देश है, महामारी के रूप में Diabetes हमारे देश में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभपति: आप सवाल पूछ लें।

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: जी मैं सवाल पूछ रहा हूँ। गांवों में यह बीमारी लाखों लोगों को hidden रूप में है। शहरी नागरिक फिर भी जागरूक है, यदि उसको यह बीमारी detect हो जाती है, तो वह परहेज़ भी कर लेता है और दवाई भी कर लेता है। देहात में करोड़ों ऐसे लोग हैं, जिनको Diabetes है और उनको उसका पता ही नहीं है। दवाई लेना तो दूर, वे और उलटा खान-पान कर रहे हैं, उसे बढ़ा रहे हैं और मृत्यु को प्राप्त हो रहे हैं। तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी की ऐसी कोई योजना है कि देहात में, गांवों में जाकर pathological test किए जाएं और अगर Diabetes detect होती है, वैसे तो सारी बीमारियों के लिए मैं कहना चाहूंगा, लेकिन अगर Diabetes detect होती है, तो क्या उनका एक कार्ड बनाया जाएगा? महोदय, Diabetes कभी खत्म नहीं होती है, अपने व्यवहार और आहार से हम उसको कुछ कम कर सकते हैं, वह जीवनपर्यन्त रहती है। तो गांवों में जिन लोगों को Diabetes detect होती है, महामारी के तहत उनका अलग से कार्ड बनाकर उनको regular दवाई देने का कोई इंतज़ाम क्या केंद्र सरकार करने जा रही है?

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद: सर, माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत अच्छा सवाल पूछा और मुझे भी बहुत अच्छा जवाब देने का अवसर प्राप्त हुआ कि अभी World Health Organisation ने पूरी दुनिया के लिए कहा कि 2030 तक, यानी अगले अठारह वर्षों में पूरी दुनिया में NCDs

(Non Communicable Diseases) जो हैं, जिसमें Diabetes, Hypertension, Cancer और दिल की बीमारियाँ - Cardio-vascular diseases हैं, ये छाई रहेंगी। दुनिया में आम तौर पर सभी बीमारियों में ये नंबर वन पर रहेंगी और हिंदुस्तान इनसे सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित होगा। इसी चीज़ को देखते हुए हमारे मंत्रालय ने इन तीनों चीज़ों के लिए एक pilot project शुरू किया है। डायबीटीज़, हाइपरटेंशन, कैंसर और कॉर्डियो वेस्कुलर डिस्सीज़िज़ के लिए। इसके लिए हमने 21 राज्यों में पायलट प्रोजेक्ट पर 100 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स लिए हैं और अगले पांच साल में हम पूरे देश में डायबीटीज़, कैंसर और हाइपरटेंशन के लिए स्क्रीनिंग करना चाहेंगे। डायबीटीज़ में हमें कोई दिक्कत नहीं आ रही है, लेकिन जो हमारा पायलट प्रोजेक्ट कैंसर और हार्ट के लिए शुरू हुआ, उसमें हमें उन सौ डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में भी उसको आगे चलाने में दिक्कत आ रही है क्योंकि हमारे पास इतने डॉक्टर्स नहीं हैं कि वे डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल पर या सब-डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल पर कैंसर और हार्ट का इलाज कर सकें। उसको अब हम रिव्यू कर रहे हैं। इसके लिए एक-दो मीटिंग्स भी हुई हैं। जहां तक हाइपरटेंशन और डायबीटीज़ का सवाल है, पांच साल में हम पूरे देश में तीस साल की उम्र से अधिक के सभी व्यक्तियों की स्क्रीनिंग करेंगे। गर्भवती महिलाओं के लिए हमने कोई ऐज निर्धारित नहीं की है क्योंकि बहुत सारी महिलाएं बहुत कम उम्र में गर्भवती हो जाती हैं। यह पायलट प्रोजेक्ट है। अभी तक हमने कई लाख लोगों की हाइपरटेंशन और डायबीटीज़ की स्क्रीनिंग की है। जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा, इसके लिए लेबोरेटरी की जरूरत नहीं है बल्कि उनको यहीं से ग्लूकोमीटर, लेन्सेट और स्ट्रिप्स दी जा रही हैं ताकि वहां सब सेंटर में बैठकर लोगों की स्क्रीनिंग की जा सके।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Health whether there is any scope of evaluation of the National Rural Health Mission being implemented in the States because there are very huge buildings in district headquarters and in several Primary Health Centres but human resource, input support and pharma provisions are very meagre. The second question is about how you are mainstreaming the AYUSH, and what its implementation scope is. So far wherever we see we do not find the mainstreaming of AYUSH and in particular there is yet to be a coordinated effort to have single roof dispensaries as far as AYUSH and particularly the homeopathic medicines are concerned. Since this is a season of monsoon and contagious diseases, the provision of scope of allocation of Ayurvedic and Homeopathic is yet to appear.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, insofar as the first part of the question is concerned, yes, independent evaluation of NRHM is being done and concurrent evaluation was done by the International Institute of Population Sciences, Bombay.

They have also given their key findings. It will take time to go through the key findings. Therefore, I will inform the hon. Member about the key findings of the International Institute of Population Sciences. There is also a study by the Planning Commission of NRHM. They have also given their findings and about those findings also I will inform the hon. Member. So far as the mainstreaming is concerned, I have already said that there is a policy of the Government and wherever the new constructions are coming up, in those new locations there is a provision of collocation of AYUSH and Ayurveda.

Misuse of AICs

*65. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Aeronautical Information Circulars (AICs) issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), meant for safety checks and for some other official works, are being misused by the officials for the purpose of free travel in domestic airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the disciplinary action taken against the erring officials for the misuse of AICs?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The provisions of Aeronautical Information Circulars (AIC) 2 of 1978 issued in terms of Section 5 A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 (XXII of 1934), provides the officers of DGCA to avail official air travel for the purpose of ensuring safety of aircraft operations through enroute examination and inspection of the work of a flight crew member; inspection of maintenance facilities at enroute/terminal stations and inspection of operation of an aircraft and its equipment. In addition, provisions of AIC 2 of 1978 have been used for conduct of various surveillance inspections and examinations necessary for ensuring safety of aircraft operations and other official work related to DGCA.

(c) One case of misuse of AIC 2 of 1978 has been detected against one employee of DGCA. The concerned employee has been placed under suspension, FIR has been filed against him and major penalty proceedings have been initiated.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I can see the time closing in. We have ...(*Interruptions*)... AICs are the issues. I am not concerned so much about their travelling free but what worries me more is whether the AICs and their free travel compromises on the safety and security of civil aviation.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, the problem has been that too many people have been travelling for safety but they are not really concerned with safety. That has been the problem and that is why people have been penalised and we are in consultation with CVC. One person has been given major penalty. We are consulting with the CVC whether other people can be charged with that.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, my question was that we know that so many people have been travelling in pursuance of safety norms. The fact of the matter is there has been a spate of civil aviation accidents, not just in Air India but in other private airlines also. Have they examined any correlation between the free travel by people who are supposedly to do security measures for the airline and who did not do it, and the accidents? Is there any correlation?

SHRI AJIT SINGH: There is no correlation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Fall in global crude oil prices

*66. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil stocks have risen by 0.2 million barrels in the US and 0.1 million barrels in other Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that crude oil prices have also dropped more than 25 per cent in the past four months;

(c) whether Government is considering to reduce the prices of petro-products, *viz.* petrol, LPG and diesel in view of drop in crude oil prices;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No such data related to oil stocks of USA and OECD region is being maintained by the Government.

(b) While the average price of crude oil in 2012-13 in the international market has been slightly lower than the average crude oil price during 2011-12, the price of crude oil during 2012-13 in Indian currency has increased by 7% over 2011-12 due to sharp depreciation in value of Rs. against US \$. The price of the Indian basket crude oil during 2011-12 and 2012-13 (month-wise) as well as the exchange rate of Rs./US \$ is as follows:

Period	Average price of Indian Basket Crude Oil \$ per barrel	Average Rs. per \$	Average Indian Basket Crude Oil Rs. per barrel
2011-12	111.89	47.95	5365
2012-13			
April, 12	117.97	51.80	6111
May, 12	108.05	54.47	5885
June, 12	94.51	56.03	5295
July, 12	106.42	55.54	5910
August, 12*	105.85	55.58	5883
10th August, 12	109.84	55.34	6078
Average in 2012-13*	105.22	54.64	5749
* Change in 2012-13 over 2011-12 (approx.)	(-)6%	14%	7%

*Average upto 10th August, 2012

It may therefore, be seen that though the average price of Indian basket of crude oil in terms of dollar per barrel this year is lower by 6% than the last year's average price, but simultaneously due to depreciation in average value of Rupee per US dollar by 14%, the average price of Indian basket of crude oil in Rupee terms this year has indeed increased by 7%.

(c) to (e) The price of Petrol has been made market-determined with effect from 26.6.2010. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have been taking decision on the pricing of petrol in line with the international oil prices and market conditions. Recently, in line with reduction in price of petrol in the international markets, OMCs have reduced the price of petrol by Rs. 2.02 per litre effective 3rd June, 2012 and Rs.2.46 per litre effective 29th June, 2012 at Delhi. However, as reported by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), due to rise in international price of petrol, their under-recovery on sale of petrol is Rs. 1.37 per litre based on the Refinery Gate Price effective 1st August, 2012.

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 and their prices have not been increased in line with changes in the international market. There has been no revision in retail selling prices of these products since 25.06.2011. As a result, OMCs have incurred under-recovery of Rs. 1,38,541 crore during 2011-12 which was compensated jointly by the Government and the upstream oil companies.

During the first quarter of 2012-13, OMCs have incurred an under-recovery of Rs. 47,811 crore. Based on the Refinery Gate Price effective 1st August, 2012, the OMCs are currently incurring under-recovery of Rs.12.06 per litre on Diesel, Rs.28.54 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs.231.00 per cylinder on Domestic LPG. Based on actual under-recoveries for the first quarter of 2012-13 and projected under-recoveries for the remaining three quarters at current prices, OMCs are expected to incur an under-recovery of Rs.1,55,074 crore. Hence, reduction in the price of Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG is not feasible at present.

Revised schedule for delayed NH projects

*67. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had issued instructions to Government officials and private contractors to complete the delayed projects within a given time-frame;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had issued revised schedule for all the delayed National Highway (NH) projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government held discussions with the private contractors to complete the projects; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) to (f) In order to complete delayed projects within time-frame, regular meetings are held at the level of Hon'ble Minister/Secretary, MoRT&H and Chairman, NHAI with all the stake holders including Contractors/Concessionaires. The issues impacting the progress of the different projects are discussed and directions are given to the concerned to clear these bottlenecks which are hampering the progress of the projects.

Besides the high level meetings, regular meetings are also held at the level of Regional Officers/Chief General Managers of concerned State at site. The projects are reviewed regularly by the Project Director on fortnightly basis and by Regional Officers on monthly basis and HQ level also. The issues are also flagged to the High Powered Committee constituted under Chief Secretary for expeditious resolution of the issues for faster implementation of the projects *inter-alia* including land acquisition, shifting of utilities and rehabilitation and resettlement.

The completion schedules of the projects are revised wherever necessary depending upon the constraints/bottlenecks and resolutions thereof.

Ban on use of live animals for dissection

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has banned the use of live animals in dissection and other experiments, in hospitals and educational and research institutes to stop the unwanted cruelty to them; and

(b) if so, whether it will affect research and experiments which are required for the welfare of human beings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Ban on Gutkha products

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

(a) whether in view of priority to public health and diseases like cancer, the Ministry is in favour of banning Gutkha, tobacco, pan masala *etc.*;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken any action in this regard during the past two years and whether it has consulted the other concerned Ministries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of persons who died of cancer due to consumption of Gutkha, tobacco, pan masala *etc.* during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 dated 1st August, 2011, issued under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, lays down that tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in any food products. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Godawat Pan Masala Vs. UOI*, 2004 (7) SCC 68 has also held that "Since pan masala, gutka or supari are eaten for taste and nourishment, they are all food within the meaning of Section 2(v) of the (Prevention of Food Adulteration) Act." As such, by virtue of the regulation dated 1st August, 2011 issued under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, read with the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the issue, Gutkha products are food products containing tobacco and nicotine and their manufacture, sale or storage is not permitted under law. By virtue of the same regulation, Pan Masala, if it contains tobacco and nicotine, cannot be manufactured or sold. Enforcement of this regulation, however, lies with the Commissioners of Food Safety under the State Governments, as per the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, on the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the SLP No. 16308 of 2007 (*Ankur Gutkha Vs. Indian Asthma Society and Ors.*), compiled and submitted a comprehensive report to the Hon'ble Court on the contents of gutkha, tobacco, pan masala and similar articles manufactured in the country and harmful effects of consumption of such articles.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare organized a National Consultation on Smokeless Tobacco in April, 2011 to highlight the magnitude of the problem of smokeless tobacco use and possible policies to regulate/control its use in India.

Regular mass media campaigns have been aired in national as well as regional channels to create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco use.

The Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 dated 1st August, 2011 were notified by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India after public consultations through website and also after consultations with the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Law.

(d) Smokeless tobacco products are well known cause of cancers of mouth, tongue, pharynx and oesophagus. The data on cancer cases is being provided by the National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The NCRP does not have separate data on cancer attributable to consumption of gutka, tobacco, panmasala and other forms of tobacco chewing and bidi/cigarette smoking. The State-wise estimated number of deaths in 2011 (1,43,141) due to cancers associated with use of tobacco, based on the data of NCRP (2006-08) and using the Mortality-Incidence ratio of Population Based Cancer Registry, Mumbai, is given in Statement (*See below*). Further, as per the Report on Tobacco Control in India, 2004, approximately 8-9 lakh persons die annually in India due to tobacco attributable diseases.

Statement

*Estimated number of cancer deaths by different States of India -
Tobacco Related Cancers - (Males+Females) - 2011*

Sl.No.	States	TRC deaths
1	2	3
1	Jammu and Kashmir	1448
2	Himachal Pradesh	775
3	Punjab	3182
4	Chandigarh	123
5	Uttaranchal	1149

1	2	3
6	Haryana	2927
7	Delhi	1773
8	Rajasthan	7849
9	Uttar Pradesh	22899
10	Bihar	11909
11	Sikkim	53
12	Arunachal Pradesh	158
13	Nagaland	225
14	Manipur	234
15	Mizoram	187
16	Tripura	416
17	Meghalaya	335
18	Assam	5541
19	West Bengal	10387
20	Jharkhand	3757
21	Orissa	4742
22	Chhattisgarh	2888
23	Madhya Pradesh	8774
24	Gujarat	6915
25	Daman and Diu	31
26	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	41
27	Maharashtra	12837
28	Andhra Pradesh	9542

1	2	3
29	Karnataka	6606
30	Goa	165
31	Lakshadweep	7
32	Kerala	3708
33	Tamil Nadu	11374
34	Pondicherry	140
35	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	44
TOTAL		143141

* Based on the data of NCRP (2006-08) and using M/I ratio of Mumbai PBCR.

M/I Ratio - Mortality to Incidence Ratio

PBCR - Population Based Cancer Registry

Hike in petrol price

*70. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether oil companies had increased the price of petrol by Rs.7.50/- per litre during last week of May, this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the hike in petrol price during July, 2012;
- (c) the reasons for such huge hike in petrol price;
- (d) whether petrol price has been curtailed recently;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether hike in petrol price has led to rise in price of essential services and commodities and has caused undue burden on common man; and
- (g) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (e) 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, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on the pricing of petrol in line with the international oil prices and marketing 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. The details of revision in Retail Selling Price (RSP) of petrol since 01.04.2012, at Delhi are given below:

Revision on petrol prices since 01.04.2012

(Price Rs. per litre as per IOCL at Delhi)

Sl.No.	Date	Revised RSP (Rs. per litre)	Increase/ Decrease	Remarks
1	24.05.2012	73.18	7.54	Increase in RSP*
2	03.06.2012	71.16	(-)2.02	Reduction in RSP
3	18.06.2012	70.24	(-)0.92	Rebate in VAT at Delhi
4	29.06.2012	67.78	(-)2.46	Reduction in RSP
5	24.07.2012	68.48	0.70	Increase in RSP
6	01.08.2012	68.46	(-)0.02	Revision in siding Shunting charges
Net increase since 01.04.12			2.82	

*RSP - Retail Selling Price

The increase of Rs.7.54 per litre in the price of petrol on 24.5.2012 was after the last revision in Retail Selling Price done on 1.12.2011. The main reasons for increase in price of petrol were increase in price of petrol in international market and depreciation of Indian Rupee against US dollar. Price of petrol in the international market increased from \$ 111.17/bbl, in November, 2011 to \$ 118.19/bbl. in May, 2012 coupled with increase in rupee-dollar exchange rate from Rs. 50.84/ \$ in November, 2011 to Rs.54.47/\$ in May 2012. Subsequently, in line with reduction in price of petrol in the international markets, OMCs have reduced the price of petrol by Rs. 2.02 per litre effective 3rd June, 2012 and Rs.2.46 per litre effective 29th June, 2012 at Delhi.

(f) and (g) The Kirit Parikh Committee in its report dated 2nd February, 2010 has noted that petrol is largely an item of final consumption on its price, therefore, does not have cascading effect. Hence, it is not expected to have significant impact on the prices of essential goods and services.

Measures for saving tigers

*71. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current tiger population in the country, sanctuary-wise/forest-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that tiger poaching incidents have increased in the past 18 months;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that in the absence of a stringent law, arrested poachers have managed to secure bail from the court and are back in business; and
- (d) the steps Government has taken to arrest the decline in tiger population and curb their poaching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The country level tiger population, estimated once in every four years using the refined methodology, has shown an increasing trend with a population estimate of 1706, lower and upper limits being 1520 and 1909 respectively in the recent all India estimation (2010), as compared to the last country level estimation of 2006, with an estimate of 1411, lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657 respectively. The landscape-wise details of tiger estimation in the country for the years 2006 and 2010 are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The details of tiger mortality, as reported by States, during the last one year, including the current year are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) No such reports have been received from States.

(d) The milestone initiatives taken by the Government to protect and foster tiger conservation are given in Statement-III.

Statement-I

Details of tiger population for the years 2006 and 2010

State	Tiger Population						Increase/Decrease/Stable
	2006			2010			
	Estimate (Number)	Statistical Lower Limit	Statistical Upper Limit	Estimate (Number)	Statistical Lower Limit	Statistical Upper Limit	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Shivalik-Gangetic Plain Landscape Complex							
Uttarakhand	178	161	195	227	199	256	Increase
Uttar Pradesh	109	91	127	118	113	124	Stable
Bihar	10	7	13	8(-)***	(-)**	(-)**	Stable
TOTAL	297	259	335	353	320	388	Stable
Central Indian Landscape Complex and Eastern Ghats Landscape Complex							
Andhra Pradesh	95	84	107	72	65	79	Decrease
Chhattisgarh	26	23	28	26	24	27	Stable
Madhya Pradesh	300	236	364	257	213	301	Stable

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maharashtra	103	76	131	169	155	183	Increase
Odisha	45	37	53	32	20	44	Stable
Rajasthan	32	30	35	36	35	37	Stable
Jharkhand	Not assessed			10	6	14	Could not be compared since it was not assessed in 2006.
TOTAL	601	486	718	601	518	685	Stable
Western Ghats Landscape Complex							
Karnataka	290	241	339	300	280	320	Stable
Kerala	46	39	53	71	67	75	Increase
Tamil Nadu	76	56	95	163	153	173	Increase
TOTAL	402	336	487	534	500	568	Increase
North Eastern Hills and Brahmaputra Flood Plains							
Assam	70	60	80	143	113	173	Increase

Arunachal Pradesh	14	12	18	Not assessed	Not assessed	Not assessed	Could not be compared since it was not assessed in 2010.
Mizoram	6	4	8	5(-)***	(-)**	(-)**	Stable
Northern West Bengal	10	8	12	Not assessed	Not assessed	Not assessed	Could not be compared since it was not assessed in 2010.
TOTAL	100	84	118	148	118	178	Increase
Sundarbans	Not assessed	Not assessed	Not assessed	70	64	90	Could not be compared since it was not assessed in 2006.
TOTAL	1411	1165	1657	1706	1520	1909	

*** Statistical lower/upper limits could not be ascertained owing to small size of the population.

Statement-II

Details of tiger mortality including poaching, seizure, natural and other causes, as reported by States, during the last one year, including the current year

Sl. No.	State	2011		2012 (as on 9.8.2012)	
		Poaching including seizure	Natural and other causes	Poaching including seizure	Natural and other causes
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	3	3	1	3
4	Bihar	0	1	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	2	0	1	0
6	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0
7	Karnataka	3	3	5	4
8	Kerala	1	3	2	0
9	Madhya Pradesh	0	5	4	5
10	Maharashtra	4	2	7	4
11	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
12	Orissa	0	1	0	0
13	Rajasthan	0	1	0	0
14	Tamil Nadu	0	3	2	2
15	Uttarakhand	2	15	6	6
16	Uttar Pradesh	1	0	4	1
17	West Bengal	0	3	1	2
18	Haryana	0	0	1	0
	TOTAL	16	40	34	27

Note:- Excludes seizure of one old trophy during the year (2011) in New Delhi.

Statement-III

*Milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India
for fostering tiger conservation*

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, 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 five 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) and Satyamangalam (Tamil Nadu). Final approval has been accorded to Kudremukh (Karnataka) for declaring as a 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) Guru Ghasidas National Park (Chhattisgarh), (v) Mhadei Sanctuary (Goa) and (vi) 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 34070.46 sq. km. has been notified by 17 Tiger States as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006.

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 bilateral understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
12. A protocol has been signed in September, 2011 with Bangladesh for conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger of the Sunderban.

13. A sub-group on tiger/leopard conservation has been constituted for cooperation with the Russian Federation.
14. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
15. 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.
16. 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

17. 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.
18. 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)

19. 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 and 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 2010-11 and 2011-12, an amount of Rs. 270 lakhs has been provided to the Similipal Tiger Reserve for raising, arming and deploying the STPF. The States of Karnataka and Maharashtra have already deployed the STPF.

20. 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-STrIPES' 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.

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. Increase in the allocation for Project Tiger with additional components.
12. Providing special assistance for mitigation of human-tiger conflicts in problematic areas.
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. Regional Offices of the National Tiger Conservation Authority sanctioned at Nagpur, Bengaluru and Guwahati.
15. Launching of Phase-IV tiger reserve level monitoring.

Deregulation of natural gas price

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

(a) whether Government is considering to deregulate the prices of natural gas on the lines of crude oil and petroleum products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry of Law and Justice has also opined that the gas prices rate be linked to the price at which India imports LNG and be made applicable to the price at which private operators are producing gas and that prices of gas be increased to international level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) No, Madam.

- (b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Road development projects in North Eastern Region

*73. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been adequate progress in Road Development Projects undertaken by Government in the North Eastern Region;
- (b) if so, the details of the projects undertaken and progress made so far;
- (c) whether Government has estimated the time required for completion of these projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the details of the funds allotted for the same over the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) in the country. The Government has sanctioned National Highway Development Programme (NHDP) II, III and Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North East (SARDP-NE) for development of roads in North East region. SARDP- NE, however, also includes State roads and Strategic Roads. There has been improvement in the progress of road development projects in the North Eastern Region under the NHDP II, III and SARDP-NE despite constraints hampering the progress of work.

(b) to (d) Under NHDP II, out of total length of 670km, 416km has been completed and target for completion of balance length is March, 2014. Under NHDP III, work for the entire length of 102km has been awarded and is targeted for completion by Dec. 2016. Under SARDP-NE programme, out of total sanctioned length of 3723km, 904km has been completed as on 30.06.2012. The target for completion of entire sanctioned length under SARDP-NE is March, 2017. The funds allocated during the last 3 years is given below:

(Amt. in Rs. crore)

Programme	Funds Allocated during last 3 years		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
SARDP-NE	1200	1684.65	2229.96
NHDP-II	1044.79	1426.86	875.80
NH (O)	516.74	518.89	528.32
TOTAL	2761.53	3630.40	3634.08

Demand for flight from Dibrugarh to Guwahati and Mumbai

*74. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the facts that there is a demand for the introduction of daily morning flights from Dibrugarh to Guwahati and Mumbai;

(b) whether Government will take positive steps to fulfil this demand of the people of upper Assam and Arunachal Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Presently, the following domestic scheduled operators are operating to/from Dibrugarh:

Sector	Flights/week
Air India:	
Kolkata-Dibrugarh-Dimapur-Kolkata	3
Kolkata-Dimapur-Dibrugarh-Kolkata	2
JetLite:	
Delhi-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-and VV	7
Indigo:	
Kolkata-Dibrugarh-Kolkata	7

Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence to Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with the Route Dispersal Guidelines.

Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to develop Guwahati as a inter-regional hub and Dibrugarh, Imphal and Agartala as intra-regional hub. In this connection, AAI has already planed to construct three Aircraft Maintenance Hangars at Guwahati and one each at Dibrugarh, Imphal and Agartala in order to facilitate early morning and late night air connectivity to and from the region.

Upgradation of NH 17 in Goa

*75. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the expansion and upgradation of NH-17 in Goa has been shelved;
- (b) the exact status of the project including land acquisition, objections to some stretches of the projects etc;
- (c) whether the State Government has made any proposal to construct a second bridge on river Zuari at their expense; and
- (d) whether the Central Government is inclined to give permission for the same when National Highways come under its jurisdiction?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C.P. JOSHI):
(a) and (b) The National Highway authority of India has withdrawn the letter issued to concessionaire due to delay in land acquisition, clearances of Environment and Forest, issued related to collection of toll etc. by Government of Goa

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Question does not arise.

Development of cow urine as medicine

*76. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the AYUSH Department for research and development of cow urine as a medicine; and

(b) whether there exists any special policy or is proposed for allocation of funds to State Governments willing to conduct such research and development of cow urine as a medicine?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), which is an Autonomous Body under Department of AYUSH has initiated study on Panchagavya Ghrita, an Ayurvedic formulation containing cow urine as one of the ingredients.

(b) There is a scheme in Department of AYUSH for Extra Mural Research (EMR), in Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy for suitable Research proposals from any Organization including State Government. Moreover, Research Councils under the Department also undertake collaborative research projects under their own research schemes with reputed Academic and Research Organisations.

Reduction of seats in medical colleges

†*77. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seats in medical colleges are being reduced through-out the country whereas the number of aspiring students and population is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for reducing the medical seats in Jharkhand and Bihar; and

(d) the number of applications received for opening new medical colleges in Bihar and Jharkhand recently along with the number of Medical Colleges running at present which are recognised by MCI?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No Sir, during the year 2012-13, a total of 3595 MBBS seats have been increased in various medical colleges.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As far as Bihar and Jharkhand is concerned, there has been no reduction of MBBS seats in the year 2012-13. During this academic year, one new medical college in Saharsa has been established with annual intake of 100 MBBS students and 40 MBBS seats have been increased in Katihar Medical College, Katihar.

(d) Medical Council of India (MCI) received 5 applications for Bihar and 02 applications for Jharkhand for establishment of new medical colleges. Out of these 7 applications, only one has been approved by the MCI for the year 2012-13. At present, there are 8 recognized medical colleges in Bihar and 3 recognized medical colleges in Jharkhand. In addition, 3 medical colleges in Bihar have been permitted to run under section 10A of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

Ban on production and sale of gutkha products

†*78. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider a complete ban on the production and sale of Gutkha products as there is a ban on the sale of articles containing nicotine; and

(b) the State Governments which have banned the sale of Gutkha in their respective States?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restrictions on Sales) Regulations, 2011 dated 1st August, 2011, issued under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, lays down that tobacco and nicotine shall not be used as ingredients in any food products. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Godawat Pan Masala Vs. UOI 2004 (7) SCC 68* has also held that "Since pan masala, gutkha or supari are eaten for taste and nourishment, they are all food within the meaning of Section 2(v) of the (Prevention of Food Adulteration) Act." As such, by virtue of the regulation issued under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, read with the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the issue, since Gutkha products are food products containing tobacco and nicotine, their manufacture, sale or storage is not permitted under law. Enforcement of this regulation, however, lies with the Commissioners of Food Safety under the State Governments.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) As per available information, the State Governments which have so far issued orders/notification to enforce the ban on sale of gutkha in their States are Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Haryana, Chhatisgarh and Jharkhand.

LPG portals

*79. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched LPG portals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with their uses and benefits; and
- (c) the details of those who were supplied 30 or more LPG cylinders per month during January and February, 2012 as per these portals?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. LPG Transparency Portal was launched on 22.06.2012.

(b) To achieve efficiency, transparency and improve the business processes in the LPG supply chain, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMC) namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have hosted their transparency portals on their individual corporate websites. The portals provide details of each customer and supply details such as number of cylinders supplied, dates of supply as well as the indicative subsidy amount for the cylinders supplied. The portal offers quick search options to sort information based on consumer number/name, facility to surrender LPG connection, rate the distributor, lodge a complaint, view the dates of refill booking, cash memo data and date of deliveries etc.

The Portal empowers the consumers and civil society to verify and seek information or highlight discrepancies and irregularities, under one roof and is expected to become a powerful social audit mechanism preventing misuse of subsidized LPG cylinders.

(c) IOC and HPCL have reported that there are no domestic LPG customers, who have been supplied with more than 30 LPG cylinders for the individual months of January and February, 2012, as per the data published in Transparency Portal, whereas LPG distributorships of BPCL have supplied more than 30 LPG cylinders to 9 customers during January and February 2012. (details for both months are given in Statement).

Statement

Details of LPG Cylinders delivered to consumers

Sl. No.	Name of distributor	State	Consumer number	Consumer name	Month delivered	No. of cylinders delivered
1.	Shahhed Yougal Gas Agency	Jammu & Kashmir	844	Mohd. Ayaz	January	45
2.	Geetanjali Enterprises	Uttar Pradesh	7000003	Priority	January	63
3.	Suraj Gas Agency	Rajasthan	1124	Ms. Manju Singhal	January	50
4.	Raka Gas Service	Maharashtra	11929	Shri Sawant S.K.	January	30
5.	Aramanj LP. Gas Service	Madhya Pradesh	663	Shri R. K. Tripathi	February	36
6.	Geetanjali Enterprises	Uttar Pradesh	7000003	Priority	February	49
7.	Raka Gas Service	Maharashtra	11929	Shri Sawant S.K.	February	36
8.	Aramanj LP. Gas Service	Madhya Pradesh	969	Shri Gorelal Sahu	February	31
9.	Aramanj LP. Gas Service	Madhya Pradesh	366	Shri Jag Pd. Sharma	February	32
10.	Suraj Gas Agency	Rajasthan	1124	Ms. Manju Singhal	February	50
11.	Prasanna Gases	Rajasthan	4	Shri Praveen Bhardwaj	February	33

Transparency in clinical trials of drugs

*80. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the existing guidelines for clinical trials of drugs;
- (b) the number of drugs which have been used in India without proper clinical tests; and
- (c) the mechanism being followed by the Ministry to ensure transparency in clinical trials?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Clinical trials of new drugs are regulated under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules, 1945. The requirements and guidelines for undertaking clinical trials are specified in Schedule Y of these Rules. It is further provided thereunder that clinical trials are conducted in accordance with the Good Clinical Practices (GCP) Guidelines issued by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

(b) New drugs including Fixed Dose Combinations (FDC) are approved by the CDSCO based on non-clinical data, clinical data of safety and efficacy of drug, regulatory status in other countries etc. as per the Guidelines and requirements specified in Rule 122A, 122B, 122D and Schedule-Y of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. However, as per Rule 122 A (2) and Rule 122 B (3), the requirement of clinical trial may not be necessary if the drug is of such a nature that the Licensing Authority may, in public interest, decide to grant permission to import/manufacture the new drug on the basis of data available from other countries. Further, as per clause 1 (3) of Schedule Y, for drugs indicated in life threatening/serious diseases or diseases of special relevance to the Indian health scenario, clinical data requirements may be abbreviated, deferred or omitted, as deemed appropriate by the Licensing Authority. Further, for FDCs, as per Appendix VI of Schedule Y, Phase-III clinical trials are required for certain categories of FDCs only. Between 2008-2010, 33 drugs were approved by the CDSCO without Phase-III clinical trials on Indian population.

(c) Following measures have been taken to ensure transparency in clinical trials:

1. Schedule Y to Drugs and Cosmetics Rules provides detailed provisions in respect of responsibilities of sponsor, investigator and Ethics Committees in conduct of clinical trials.
2. The Good Clinical Practices (GCP) Guidelines, recognized under Schedule-Y to the said Rules, further provide detailed guidelines for biomedical studies which encompass the design, conduct, termination, audit, analysis, reporting and documentation of the studies involving human subjects.
3. Twelve New Drug Advisory Committees (NDAC) consisting of eminent experts/specialists from various reputed Government hospitals/medical institutions across the country have been constituted by the Government. Applications for global clinical trial, new drugs and Fixed Dose Combinations (FDCs) going to be introduced for the first time in the country are evaluated by these committees.
4. One Committee of Experts to advise the Drugs Controller General (India) [DCG(I)] in matters related to regulatory approval of clinical trials for Investigational New Drugs (IND) has been formed. All IND applications are evaluated by the IND committee.
5. 6 Medical Device Advisory Committees (MDAC) for advising on regulatory approval of medical devices have been formed.
6. Registration of clinical trials in the Clinical Trial Registry of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has been made mandatory since 15.6.2009.

Guidelines for conducting inspection of clinical trial sites and sponsor/CROs have been prepared and posted on CDSCO website.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Under utilization of aircrafts by Air India

466. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that daily utilization (in the cycle of 24 hours) of aircrafts by Air India is less than the average utilization of aircrafts by the major developed economies;

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

(c) the steps Government contemplates to take to bring usage of aircraft to the average of that of the developed economies?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The average daily utilisation of Boeing B777 and A320 aircraft by Air India are comparable to the average utilisation of aircraft by the major developed countries. However, the utilisation of B747-400 aircraft is being kept low due to its high operating cost. Air India also uses this fleet for extra section, VVIP operations.

Bailout package for Air India

467. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of money given by Government to Air India as a bailout package to save the sinking organisation;

(b) if so, the amount of the money spent on different purposes and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would ensure that in future such types of bailout money is spent judiciously?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP) and Turn Around Plan(TAP) of Air India was considered by the Government on 12.04.2012 and approved as under:

- (i) Induction of upfront equity of Rs.6,750 Crore, including Rs.1,200 Crore provided in the budget of 2011-12 and already released, in the Financial Year 2011-12.
- (ii) Equity for Cash deficit support of Rs.4,552 crore from FY 2012-13 to FY 2017-18.
- (iii) Equity for already guarantee aircraft loan of Rs. 18,929 Crore till FY 2021.
- (iv) GOI Guarantee for repayment of Principal amount and payment of Interest on the Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) of Rs.7400 crore proposed to be issued by Air India Limited to the financial institutions, Banks, LIC, EPFO etc.

During the current financial year, Government has released a sum of Rs.2916 crore towards equity infusion in Air India, which were utilised by Air India for payment to Oil Companies, for payment of salary, payment of service tax and to the vendors etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Purchase of Boeing 787 by AI

468. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India (AI) had ordered 27 Boeing 787 Dream-liners in 2005 and the delivery has been delayed by more than six years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the aircraft manufacturer has to compensate the carrier and the compensation offer from Boeing has been forwarded to Government for approval;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Air India had asked for 1 billion dollars as compensation and Boeing has agreed to pay 500 million dollars; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The delivery of 27 B787, which were due for delivery from September, 2008 to October, 2011, was delayed by Boeing due to production/design problems and various other reasons.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. Because of confidentiality Clause in the Purchase Agreement signed between Air India and Boeing, the quantum of compensation cannot be disclosed.

Losses to AI due to strike

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

(a) the total losses caused to Air India (AI) and the Exchequer by way of various taxes due to the prolonged strike by the pilots of Air India; and

(b) the corrective measures Government has taken or proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The total loss of revenue already caused to Air India due to prolonged strike by the pilots is approximately Rs.600 crores.

(b) The Management of Air India has always been open to dialogue with the Unions and is in constant touch with them to redress their grievances, if any. Open House sessions are being conducted at every level to enable employees to come out with their grievances and issues. The issues brought out in Open House Sessions are dealt with in time-bound manner.

Availability of newspapers and magazines for air passengers

†470. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is arrangement for ensuring availability of newspapers and magazines for air passengers for reading during air journey in Air India, Indian Airlines, Jet Airways, Jetlite, Kingfisher, Go Air, Indigo, Spice Jet etc. air services of the country;

(b) if so, whether Hindi magazines and newspapers are also provided among those newspapers and magazines; and

(c) if so, the details of number of Hindi and English magazines and newspapers provided each day?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. All airlines provide in-flight reading materials. In addition some airlines also provide newspapers and magazines. However, discretion of providing newspapers and magazines on board of the aircraft lies with the concerned airlines and details are not maintained by the Govt.

Privatization of airports

471. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chennai Airport is going to be privatised;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Planning Commission is also toying with the ideas of privatising Kolkata, Jaipur and Ahmedabad airports; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) To review the implementation of the Financing Plan prepared in 2006 and to prepare a Financing Plan over the Twelfth Five Plan period, a Task Force on Financing Plan for development of airports has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission. The Task Force has recommended, that operations and management of Chennai and Kolkata Airports could be taken up through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Similarly, it has also been recommended that operations and management of airports at Jaipur and Ahmedabad may also be taken up through PPP mode.

(c) The Task Force emphasised that projected investment at these airports can fructify only if the PPP approach was adopted extensively. This would not only help attract the requisite volumes of investment, it would also ensure generation of significant volumes of non-aeronautical revenues that would help reduce the passenger charges to affordable levels.

Airports in Himachal Pradesh

†472. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of airports in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the number of airports that have adequate facilities for handling air traffic and the total air traffic volume during last year; and

(c) whether Government is making adequate arrangements to promote air services in Himachal Pradesh, so that tourism could be developed in that State?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) There are three airports in the State of Himachal Pradesh located at Kangra (Gaggal), Shimla and Kullu (Bhuntar). All these three airports have facilities for handling ATR type of aircraft operations. The traffic handled at these three airports during 2011-12 was:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Airports	Passengers (Nos.)
Kangra (Gaggal)	31931
Kullu (Bhuntar)	24535
Shimla	7912

(c) Operations in domestic sector have been deregulated and flights are being operated by concerned airlines on the basis of commercial viability subject to adherence to Route Dispersal Guidelines. Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North Eastern Region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with the Route Dispersal Guidelines.

Impact of pilot's strike on Air India

473. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India pilots went on strike in May-June 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the number of times the pilots of Air India went on strike during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the number of flights affected/cancelled/rescheduled and the extent of loss suffered by Air India due to strike/quitting of pilots during the above period; and

(d) the action taken by Government against erring pilots/ staff and to compensate the losses suffered by Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Section of Air India pilots represented by Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) started reporting sick in a concerted manner effective 1900 hours on 07.05.2012. The agitation was primarily against the decision of the Management to fulfil its commitment made before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 02.05.2012 regarding training of Pilots of the erstwhile Indian Airlines on Boeing 787 aircraft. The pilots of Air India went on strike on three occasions in the last three years including the current year.

(c) Air India had been operating 46 international flights per day before the strike. Due to pilots agitation, Air India restructured its operations and in the interim schedule operated 39 international flights per day. The quantum of loss of revenue already suffered by Air India due to strike of the pilots in May, 2012 is approximately Rs.600 crores.

(d) The Management of Air India has de-recognized the Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) and the services of 98 Pilots were terminated.

Appointment of new pilots by AI

‡474. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the time when the strike by Air India pilots was started and the reasons therefor;

(b) the loss incurred by Air India so far due to strike of pilots;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government has recruited 100 new pilots and out of them 90 pilots have been engaged in work by providing training to them;

(d) if any accident takes place due to unskilled pilots, who will be responsible for that; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to end pilot's strike?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) A Section of Air India pilots represented by Indian Pilots' Guild (IPG) started reporting sick in a concerted manner effective 1900 hours on 07.05.2012. The agitation was primarily against the decision of the Management to fulfil its commitment made before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 02.05.2012 regarding training of Pilots of the erstwhile Indian Airlines on Boeing 787 aircraft.

(b) The loss of revenue already suffered by Air India due to strike of the pilots is approximately Rs.600 crores.

(c) and (d) No such recruitment action has been initiated by the Management of Air India.

(e) The IPG has called off the strike effective 03.07.2012. The Management of Air India has always been open to dialogue with the Unions and is in constant touch with them to redress their grievances, if any.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Non-payment of salaries and dues to airlines staffs

‡475. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether payment of good salary, persistent skill development of pilots and better management of the planes for the safety and security are important aspects for aviation industry which are being violated by almost all airlines;

(b) whether it is a fact that majority of the pilots, plane crew, technical staff, traffic and signal staff have not been paid their salary and arrears for the last six months; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) ensures safety of aircraft operations in accordance with various provisions of Aircraft Rules, CAR, etc. which cover skill level of pilots and their training standards, continued airworthiness of aircraft, etc.

Payment of salaries to the employees is internal administrative matter of airlines. Ministry does not interfere in the internal administrative matters of airlines.

Data link communication system

476. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trial operations of Data Link Communication for pre-departure clearance of aircraft has been launched in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the salient features of the said system;

(d) the extent to which the performance of the scheduled flights will be improved after the introduction of said system; and

(e) the names of the airports in which Data Link Departure Clearance (DLPC) Systems will be deployed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The trial operation of Data Link Communication for pre-departure clearance of aircraft has been started at Mumbai airport from June, 2012.

(c) The aircraft equipped with Aircraft Communication and Addressing System (ACARS) are able to utilise the system for Pre-Departure Clearance (DCL), Automatic Terminal Information Service (D-ATIS) and meteorological Information for aircraft in flight (D-VOLMET).

(d) The scheduled flights equipped with ACARS system and using data link will be able to get departure clearance and weather information well in advance without using voice channel. This will also reduce congestion on the voice channels thus improving efficiency.

(e) Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad.

Poor facilities at Delhi airport

†477. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps being taken by Government to improve the degrading standard of the facilities and even normal amenities like toilets at Delhi Airport, despite charging heavy fees from the passengers as service tax;

(b) whether Government monitor these services in order to upkeep them; and

(c) whether appropriate arrangement is being done to address the grievances of the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA), New Delhi is equipped with world class facilities to cater to the needs of passengers and have more than 170 washrooms/rest rooms with facilities for baby care & physically challenged passengers. Over 1100 people can use the washrooms simultaneously, which are maintained round the clock. These washrooms have eco-friendly features and all products used in the washrooms are Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified. Appropriate signages are also provided to guide passengers to the facility.

(b) and (c) IGI Airport, New Delhi has a dedicated Customer Response Management (CRM) Cell which monitors the grievances/complaints received from

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

users of airports on day to day basis. Besides, various mechanisms e.g. complaint register, feedback Kiosks, feedback Forms, Email ID, Public Grievance Officer, Call Centre, Social media network sites, etc. is being used for gathering the customer feedback including grievance/complaints. Compliance report submitted by M/s Delhi International Airport Pvt. Ltd. (DIAL) are regularly monitored by Government of India through Airports Authority of India.

Higher operating cost of air carriers

478. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether operating expenses of the country's various airlines are much higher than that at many developed countries of the world;

(b) whether it is also a fact that airfares here are lower by between 113 per cent and 280 per cent and there is a massive gap in cost and revenue and the airlines are struggling to survive; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) No such comparison is possible because the countries are different in terms of stage of development of economy, degree of maturity of market, entry conditions for aviation licensing, tax regimes governing aviation sector, purchasing power of respective currencies, general wage/salary levels of employees, rate of inflation and general price levels and rate of interest etc. However, the civil aviation sector in India is passing through a phase of crisis. To revive the aviation industry and ensure long term viability of the sector, the Government has taken several measures, such as:

(1) A Working Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation with Finance Secretary; Secretary, Financial Services; Secretary, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas; DGFT and Joint Secretary, Civil Aviation to discuss the factors causing stress in civil aviation and to suggest solutions to the same. Based on its recommendations following steps have been taken by Government.

(i) The issue of rationalization of VAT on ATF, has been taken up with the State Govts.

(ii) Director General of Foreign Trade has allowed direct import of ATF by airlines on actual user basis.

- (iii) The Ministry has undertaken a study of ATF pricing and fiscal structure through experts. The report has been submitted to Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- (2) ECB upto \$ USD 1 billion has been permitted for the airlines to meet their working capital requirement.

Airport at Nalanda in Bihar

479. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an airport at Nalanda in Bihar is likely to be set-up;
- (b) if so, by when the Airport will start operation; and
- (c) what will be the estimated cost involved?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No such proposal has been received in this Ministry.

- (b) and (c) Does not arise.

Non-compliance of CAR by flying institutes in the country

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a majority of the flying institutes in the country have been unable to submit their Civil Aviation Requirement (CAR) compliance report;
- (b) if so, the main reasons for such non-compliance; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that the inadequate level of training of these flight personnels is impairing the safety of air passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. The training is monitored by conducting regular inspection and action is taken in case of violation of any rule.

Salary and allowance of pilots in India

481. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of salary and allowances being paid to the pilots and co-pilots of Air India at present;

(b) whether it is a fact that these salaries and allowances are on the higher side compared to some private airlines;

(c) whether this will drain out limited resources of Air India and weaken its financial position;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to remedy this situation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The details of salary and allowances paid to pilots in Air India are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) Air India is not privy to information about salary and allowances of other airlines.

(c) to (e) The wage structure of all employees including pilots is being reviewed on the basis of the recommendations of Justice Dharmadhikari Committee report.

Statement

Details of Salary and Allowances paid to Pilots of Air India

Salary to Pilots on 01.04.2012			
	Allowances	Minimum	Maximum
1	2	3	4
Co-Pilot Grade 32			
	Basic	15200	19000
	HRA	4560	5700
	DA	25019	31274
	CCA	300	300

1	2	3	4
	RVSM	20000	26000
	Pilot	900	900
	Fly Lics	23000	30000
	Eductn	350	350
	Uniform	3400	3900
	TOTAL	92729	117424

Flying Allowances

	Layover Sub	79708	79708
	Flying	55884	309693
	TOTAL	135592	389401

SR CAPT Grade 36

	Basic	18725	23125
	HRA	5618	6938
	DA	30821	38064
	CCA	300	300
	RVSM	20000	26000
	Pilot	900	900
	Fly Lics	23000	30000
	Eductn	350	350
	Uniform	3400	3900
	Commd pay	2000	2000
	TOTAL	105114	131576

Flying Allowances

	Layover Sub	114267	114267
	Flying	411135	682863
	TOTAL	525402	797130

1	2	3	4
JT. GM Grade 37	BASIC	19025	23275
	HRA	5708	6983
	DA	31315	38311
	CCA	300	300
	RVSM	20000	26000
	PILOT	900	900
	Fly Lics	23000	30000
	Eductn	350	350
	Uniform	3400	3900
	Commd Pay	2000	2000
	TOTAL	105998	132018
Flying Allowances			
	Layover Sub	114267	114267
	Flying	456288	682863
	TOTAL	570555	797130
Addl GM Grade 38	Allowances	Minimum	Maximum
	Basic	19300	23600
	HRA	5790	7080
	DA	31768	38846
	CCA	300	300
	RVSM	20000	26000
	Pilot	900	900
	Fly Lics	23000	30000
	Eductn	350	350
	Uniform	3400	3900
	Commd Pay	2000	2000
	TOTAL	106808	132976

1	2	3	4
Flying Allowances			
	Layover Sub	114267	114267
	Flying	604200	717994
	TOTAL	718467	832261
GM Grade 39			
	Basic	20000	24500
	HRA	6000	7350
	DA	32920	40327
	CCA	300	300
	RVSM	20000	26000
	Pilot	900	900
	Fly Lics	23000	30000
	Eductn	350	350
	Uniform	3400	3900
	Commd Pay	2000	2000
	TOTAL	108870	135627
Flying Allowances			
	Layover Sub	114267	114267
	Flying	738242	748366
	TOTAL	852509	862633

Financial package for revival of Air India

482. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the current financial position of Air India as on 30 June 2012;

(b) whether any financial package has been sanctioned to the Air India recently for its revival and to improve its financial health; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The current Financial results of Air India for the quarter ending 30.06.2012 have not been finalised.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP) and Turn Around Plan (TAP) of Air India has been approved by the Government on 12.04.2012. The financial support to be provided to Air India is as under:

- (i) Induction of upfront equity of Rs,6,750 Crore, including Rs. 1,200 Crore, provided in the budget of 2011-12 and already released, in the Financial Year 2011-12.
- (ii) Equity for Cash deficit support of Rs.4,552 crore from FY 2012-13 to FY 2017-18.
- (iii) Equity for already guarantee aircraft loan of Rs. 18,929 Crore till FY 2021.
- (iv) GOI Guarantee for repayment of Principal amount and payment of interest on the Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) of Rs.7400 crore proposed to be issued by Air India Limited to the financial institutions, Banks, LIC, EPFO etc.

Import of aviation turbine fuel by airline companies

483. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several airline companies have moved for import of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF);

(b) if so, the details thereof, and details of the period of commencement of imports;

(c) whether any issues have been reported regarding the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has allowed import of ATF by or on behalf of airlines as actual users and on actual use basis. Such Indian Carriers who are interested to avail the opportunity to import ATF directly without going through STE route may apply to the DGFT in the prescribed format (ANF 2B) available in the website of DGFT.

Following domestic airlines have been granted permission to directly import ATF as actual user on actual use basis:

Sl. No.	Name of the firm	Qty. allowed (in KL)	CIF value	Permission issued on
1	Kingfisher Airlines Ltd., Bangalore	5,00,000	Rs. 2233 Cr. (US\$446.59 million)	11.4.2012
2	Spicejet Ltd., Chennai	50,000	Rs. 235 Cr. (US\$47 million)	11.4.2012
3	InterGlobe Aviation Ltd., Delhi	7,15,000	Rs. 3200 Cr. (US\$620 million)	18.4.2012
4	Go Airlines Ltd., Delhi	2,00,000	Rs. 1200 Cr. (US\$226.42 million)	3.5.2012
5	Air India Ltd., Mumbai	1,00,000 MTs	Rs. 503.93 Cr. (US\$90.80 Million)	6.8.2012

The validity of an import authorization is 18 months and the importer can import either partly or full quantity, at any time, before the expiry of the import authorization.

Maintenance of aircrafts in India

484. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps Government is contemplating to improve the maintenance, repair and overhauling of the aircrafts in India;
- (b) the number of aircrafts being repaired per year and the present capacity to repair, maintain and overhaul the aircrafts;
- (c) whether Government is planning to increase the capacity; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has identified action required for promoting indigenous Maintenance, Repair and Overhauling (MRO) industry. These relate to Policy, Regulatory and infrastructure based issues. The Ministry has formed three working groups to address these issues.

(b) At present there are approx. 430 aircraft operated by airlines and 600 aircraft under NSOP and general aviation. These aircrafts are maintained as per approved programmes.

Only Air India and Jet Airways have MRO capacity, which partially meets their requirement. All airlines have to depend on foreign MROs for their major maintenance checks.

(c) and (d) To encourage the MRO facility in India, Government has permitted FDI upto 100% in this sector. Apart from this, in the Budget 2012, exemption from basic and additional custom duty on imported parts and testing equipment for MRO of aircraft under specific category has been given.

Resource crunch in the ministry

485. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the resource crunch being faced by the Ministry, it was expected at the society's level that internal reforms would be undertaken to effect economies and savings; and

(b) if so, the nature of the exercise that was undertaken by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) In so far as Civil Aviation Sector is concerned, Ministry of Civil Aviation advises concerned PSUs to effect economies and savings from time to time. This is a continuous process and no special drive in this regard has been undertaken. As regards budget of the main Ministry, pursuant to the directions of Ministry of Finance, all organisations receiving non-plan budget have been advised to impose a mandatory 10% cut on the non-plan expenditure excluding interest payment, repayment of debt, salaries etc.

Compensation for delay in delivery of dreamliner aircrafts

486. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay by Boeing Company in delivery of Dreamliner aircrafts to Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Air India would claim compensation from Boeing Company for delaying the delivery of aircrafts; and

(d) if so, the amount of compensation worked out by the management of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The delivery of 27 B787, which were due for delivery from September, 2008 to October, 2011, was delayed by Boeing due to production/design problems and various other reasons.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Because of confidentiality Clause in the Purchase Agreement signed between Air India and Boeing, the quantum of compensation cannot be disclosed.

New airport at Jalgaon in Maharashtra

‡487. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work on the new airport at Jalgaon in Maharashtra has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, by when it would be completed; and

(d) the details of the amount spent so far on the construction of the said airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Construction work on Phase I of the new airport at Jalgaon in Maharashtra to facilitate operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft has been completed at a cost of Rs. 61 crores and the airport was formally commissioned on 23rd March, 2012.

Measures for boosting aviation sector

488. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all airlines in the country are making losses except Indigo;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, whether Government intends to allow global airlines to partner with large Indian companies and offer them incentives to boost aviation sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, how does Government intend to revive the aviation industry?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir. Beside M/s. IndiGo Airlines, M/s. SpiceJet and M/s. Go Air have also shown profit for the FY 2010-11.

(b) and (c) The matter of allowing FDI by foreign airlines in domestic airlines is under examination of Government.

(d) The Government has taken several measures to revive the aviation industry and ensure long term viability of the sector.

- (1) A Working Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation with Finance Secretary; Secretary, Financial Services; Secretary, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas; DGFT and Joint Secretary, Civil Aviation to discuss the factors causing stress in civil aviation and to suggest solutions to the same. Based on its recommendations following step have been taken by Government.
 - (i) The issue of rationalization of VAT on ATF, has been taken up with the State Govts.
 - (ii) Director General of Foreign Trade has allowed direct import of ATF by airlines on actual user basis.
 - (iii) The Ministry has undertaken a study of ATF pricing and fiscal structure through experts. The report has been submitted to Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- (2) ECB upto \$ USD 1 billion has been permitted for the airlines to meet their working capital requirement.

Dharmadhikari Committee Report on Air India

489. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dharmadhikari Committee have submitted their report to Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein;

(c) whether Government has implemented the recommendations of the said committee; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard along with the details of the recommendations yet to be implemented by Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Justice Dharmadhikari Committee has given its recommendations broadly in four areas *viz.* Level Mapping, Career Progression, Wage & Salary Structure and other related issues like VRS, Pension Scheme etc. The Report has been uploaded on the website of the Ministry.

(c) and (d) Government has sent the report to Air India for implementation. In order to implement the recommendations of Justice Dharmadhikari Committee in a smooth and transparent manner, Air India has constituted the following Committees:

- (i) Implementation & Anomaly Rectification Committee.
- (ii) Pay Fixation Committee for fixation of salary for each employee within the broad guidelines laid down by Justice Dharmadhikari Committee.
- (iii) Manpower Restructuring Committee for carrying out a fresh exercise for determining the number of posts at various levels as per the requirements of the fresh set up with revised hierarchy of posts in the merged entity.

In addition, Air India has also prepared a Voluntary Retirement Scheme for its employees.

Loss suffered by Air India due to strike of pilots

490. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of loss suffered by Air India due to recent strike of the pilots;
- (b) the action taken by Government against the pilots;
- (c) the steps Government is taking to improve the work culture among the employees of civil aviation department;
- (d) the number of flights which were operating before the strike and how many flights are in operation now; and
- (e) the revenue loss of the department due to less flights in operation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The quantum of loss of revenue already suffered by Air India due to recent strike of the pilots is approximately Rs.600 crores.

(b) The Management of Air India has de-recognized the Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) and the services of 98 Pilots were terminated.

(c) Government has instituted grievance redressal mechanism, monitoring of output through Results Framework Documents (RFD) and MOUs signed between Ministry and the PSUs to improve work culture.

(d) Air India had been operating 46 international flights per day before the strike. Due to pilots agitation, Air India restructured its operations and, in the interim schedule, operated 39 international flights per day.

(e) Please refer reply to (a) above.

Adverse impact of merger of Air India and Indian Airlines

491. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of any reports about the adverse impact of the merger of the Air India and Indian Airlines;
- (b) the current status of the merger of the two companies;
- (c) whether Government proposes to review the decision regarding the merger;
- (d) the reasons for the recent strike of the Air India pilots; and

- (e) the measures proposed to be taken to resolve the crisis in Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Even though the legal merger of both the erstwhile companies have taken place in August, 2007, however, the HR Integration is still under progress, in terms of the report dated 31.01.2012 of the Justice Dharmadhikari Committee. Consequent to the acceptance of the recommendations of the Justice Dharmadhikari Committee, Air India has constituted an Implementation cum Anomaly rectification Committee which will oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee and will also deal with the anomalies which may arise due to the implementation.

- (c) No, Sir.

(d) A Section of Air India pilots represented by Indian Pilots Guilds (IPG) started reporting sick in a concerted manner effective 1900 hours on 07.05.2012. The agitation was primarily against the decision of the Management to fulfil its commitment made before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 02.05.2012 regarding training of Pilots of the erstwhile Indian Airlines on Boeing 787 aircraft.

(e) The Management of Air India has de-recognized the Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) and the services of 98 Pilots were terminated. The Management of Air India has always been open to dialogue with the Unions and is in constant touch with them to redress their grievances, if any. Open House sessions are being conducted at every level to enable employees to come out with their grievances and their redressal. The issues brought out in Open House Sessions are dealt with in time-bound manner. A committee comprising of SBU Head MRO(Airframe), Director (Personnel) and ED(Project) & ED (IR Integration) have been constituted to look into the appeals of the terminated pilots on case to case basis.

Measures to fight fluorosis

492. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country affected with fluourosis, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the extent of population affected due to this and the short-term and long-term measures taken or proposed to be taken to remedy the situation in a timebound manner;

(c) whether there is any proposal before the Ministry to create a separate agency to tackle this problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As reported by the States as on 1.4.2012, there are 17,986 habitations affected with excess fluoride, in one or more drinking water sources, that remain to be provided with safe drinking water. It is estimated that 1.11 crore people are at risk as prolonged consumption of excess fluoride may lead to Fluorosis disease. In Andhra Pradesh, 332 such habitations are yet to be provided with safe drinking water and the population at risk is 2.08 lakh.

Under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the State Governments are provided technical and financial assistance to supplement their efforts in providing safe drinking water in rural areas of the country. Upto 67% of funds provided can be utilized for tackling water quality problems and coverage with safe drinking water. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh is implementing projects based on alternate safe water sources in fluoride affected areas to supply fluoride free water to the affected population.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has given in principle clearance to set up Regional Fluorosis Mitigation Centres in Hyderabad and Gandhinagar to assist States in providing solutions to Fluoride and Fluorosis problems.

Increase in grant for construction of toilets

493. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has increased the grant for construction of toilets under the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) from Rs.4,600 to Rs.10,000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has allocated Rs. 36,000 crore for sanitation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. The amount of incentive which was Rs.3500.00 (Rs.4000.00 for difficult and hilly areas) consisting of Central share of Rs.2200.00 (Rs.2700.00 in case of hilly and difficult areas), State Share of Rs. 1000.00 and beneficiary share of Rs. 300 has since been revised under NBA to Rs.5500.00 (Rs.6000.00 for difficult and hilly areas) consisting of central share of Rs.3200.00 (Rs.3700.00 in case of hilly and difficult areas) and State Government share of Rs. 1400.00 with beneficiary share of Rs.900 with effect from 1.4.2012. In addition, expenditure on unskilled labour (up to 20 person days) and skilled labour (up to 6 person days) for construction of Individual household latrine(IHHL) under NBA is also admissible under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) not exceeding Rs.4500 per Individual household latrine(IHHL). Thus total incentive available is up to Rs. 10,000 per IHHL through convergence of schemes of Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan and MNREGS.

(c) and (d) The Government has increased the allocation under TSC from Rs.1500 crore in the year 2011-12, the last year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan to Rs.3500 crore as Budget Estimate during the year 2012-13, the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Coverage of NRDWP

494. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the targeted number of habitations under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for 2010-11;

(b) whether less than 60 per cent of the targeted 'quality affected' habitations were covered in the year 2010-11 and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether over 1 lakh habitations are yet to be provided safe drinking water supply?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The total number of habitations targeted for coverage under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in 2010-11, was 121812. Out of these, 376 were Uncovered, 80342 Partially covered and 41094 Quality affected habitations.

(b) The number of targeted 'Quality affected' habitations that were covered in the year 2010-11 was 27107 (65.96%). All the 376 Uncovered habitations were covered (100%) and 91918 Partially covered habitations (114%) were covered. The reasons for not fully achieving the target of coverage of quality affected habitations, include high capital costs of large multi-village schemes to bring water from distant safe sources, time taken for planning, designing, sanctioning, procuring, execution and commissioning of such schemes, procurement issues, etc.

(c) As reported by the States on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of the Ministry, as on 1.4.2012, there are 99,380 habitations in the country where at least one drinking water supply source is reported as contaminated that remain to be provided with safe drinking water.

Drinking water in Rajasthan

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

(a) whether a scheme related to drinking water sent by the State Government of Rajasthan is pending with the Central Government;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the time by which it is to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) : (a) No, Sir. Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the State Governments are competent to plan, approve and execute drinking water projects. The drinking water supply projects are approved by the State Level Scheme Sanctioning Committee. Hence, no projects under NRDWP are pending at the Central level.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Review mechanism for NRDWP

496. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the details of review mechanism that the Ministry has with regard to implementation of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);

(b) whether the Ministry has found any lacunae in implementation of the Programme in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, how is it planning to rectify the lacunae; and

(d) the details of physical targets set and achieved under the programme in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation reviews the implementation of the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) periodically by conducting national and regional review meetings and video conferences with the State Department officers dealing with rural water supply. Conferences of State Secretaries in-charge of Rural Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation of all States were held on 17-18 December, 2009, 5-6 May, 2010, 1 June, 2011 and 24th-25th May, 2012 and in June-August, 2012, wherein the progress achieved under NRDWP was reviewed.

Senior Officers/Technical Officers of the Ministry also visit the States to observe the progress of implementation of the programme. The review meetings and visits provide information about the implementation of the Programme and enables the Government of India and State Governments to focus on the areas where progress is lacking.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The details of physical targets set and achieved under the programme in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise is given in Statement.

Statement

Andhra Pradesh - District-wise Target & Achievement of Habitation (2009-2012) under NRDWP

Sl.No.	District	2009-2010			2010-2011			2011-2012		
		20-point Target	Target on IMIS*	Ach	20-point Target	Target on IMIS*	Ach	20-point Target	Target on IMIS*	Ach
1	2	3	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	5
1	Adilabad (19)		290	119		357	315		384	209
2	Anantapur (12)		1142	1087		66	302		153	282
3	Chittoor (10)		152	148		560	523		465	440
4	East Godavari (04)		408	254		353	431		138	142
5	Guntur (07)		293	208		267	266		259	220
6	Kadapa (11)		523	285		434	507		180	422
7	Karimnagar (20)		436	221		403	516		128	142
8	Khammam (22)		111	40		103	148		92	144
9	Krishna (06)		308	202		103	271		187	226
10	Kurnool (13)		138	87		173	127		124	144

Written Answers to

[14 August, 2012]

Unstarred Questions

87

1	2	3	4	5	3	4	5	3	4	5
11	Mahaboobnagar (14)		590	253		523	414		231	265
12	Medak (17)		417	231		454	455		264	360
13	Nalgonda (23)		353	188		367	327		412	367
14	Nellore (09)		376	284		133	236		154	277
15	Nizamabad (18)		499	405		185	113		312	276
16	Prakasam (08)		582	395		583	161		266	448
17	Rangareddy (15)		206	62		243	308		109	264
18	Srikakulam (01)		330	130		251	267		321	280
19	Visakhapatnam (03)		341	313		310	108		292	172
20	Vizianagaram (02)		368	87		209	295		221	214
21	Warangal (21)		409	273		465	627		642	557
22	West Godavari (05)		264	102		301	254		366	332
	TOTAL	8500	8536	5374	6673	6843	6971	5634	5700	6183

*The targets as entered on the Integrated Management Information System of the Ministry.

Norms for installation of handpumps under NRDWP

497. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of norms fixed for installation of hand pumps under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP);
- (b) whether Government has received any proposal from State Governments, especially from Andhra Pradesh regarding relaxation of such norms; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) In the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), powers for fixing the norms for providing drinking water supply, including for installation of handpumps, to rural areas have been delegated to the States. In the NRDWP guidelines, for purposes of comparability, coverage means provision of potable drinking water supply within a distance of 500 metres from the household or 30 minutes of time taken for fetching water.

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

Allocation of NRDWP funds to Uttarakhand

†498. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the funds allocated to Uttarakhand under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for the financial year 2010-11 and 2011-12;
- (b) whether the funds allocated to the State has been fully utilized;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has in recent times allocated additional funds for drinking water; and
- (e) if so, the quantum of funds allocated head-wise details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The funds allocated to Uttarakhand under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) for the financial year 2010-11 and 2011-12 and the amounts utilized by the State in these two years is as below:

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Amount Allocated	Amount Utilised by the State
2010-11	139.39	55.44
2011-12	136.54	118.65

(c) All rural water supply schemes in the State, from November, 2006 are implemented on the basis of the demand driven approach, the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp mode). Since this involves community participation on a large scale, which takes time to obtain, there has been low utilization of funds in 2010-11, which has improved in 2011-12 as indicated in table in part (b).

(d) Uttarakhand State has not been allocated additional funds under the NRDWP.

(e) Question does not arise.

TSC in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

†499. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- the basic objective of the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC);
- the details of the achievements under the Campaign, State-wise;
- the details of progress made in Konkan region of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh under the Campaign; and
- the details of the measures taken for strengthening the Campaign?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) has been renamed as Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) since 1.4.2012. The main objectives of the NBA are as under:

- Accelerate sanitation coverage in rural areas to achieve the vision of Nirmal Bharat by 2022 with all Gram Panchayats in the country attaining Nirmal status.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- ii. Motivate communities and Panchayati Raj Institutions promoting sustainable sanitation facilities through awareness creation and Community Saturation Approach.
- iii. To cover the remaining schools not covered under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Anganwadi Centres in the rural areas with proper sanitation facilities.
- iv. Encourage cost effective and appropriate technologies for ecologically safe and sustainable sanitation.
- v. Develop community managed environmental sanitation systems focusing on solid and liquid waste management for overall cleanliness in the rural areas.

(b) The cumulative achievements made under the scheme till July 2012, State-wise, as per progress reported by the States through online monitoring system maintained by the Ministry is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The district-wise progress reported in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, including the districts in Konkan region, is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) To accelerate the progress of sanitation in rural areas, Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in TSC that is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with 'Nirmal Grams' as outcomes. The new strategy is to transform rural India into 'Nirmal Bharat' by adopting community saturation approach. The provision of incentive for individual household latrine units has been widened to cover all Above Poverty Line (APL) households who are SC/ST, small and marginal farmer, landless labourer with household, physically challenged and women headed households along-with all Below Poverty Line(BPL) households to attain community outcomes. Conjoint approach with the scheme of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been adopted to address the issue of availability of water in the Gram Panchayats for sustaining sanitation facilities created. Funds for capacity building of all stakeholders including Panchayati Raj Institutions(PRIs) and field level implementers have been earmarked under the revised strategy. Convergence with other State Departments like Health, Women & Child Development and Panchayati Raj is being focused upon.

Convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) has also been made to facilitate the rural households with fund availability for creating their own sanitation facilities. Provision has been made for incentivizing Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHAs) and Anganwadi workers for promoting sanitation. Self Help Groups, Women's Groups and NGOs of repute are encouraged by states to participate in sanitation promotion. There is now a system of social audit and active people's participation in the implementation process of NBA through Gram Sabhas. The component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) has been prioritized by developing a roster of options and focused funding.

Statement-I

The achievements made under TSC/NBA State-wise till July, 2012

Sl. No.	State	Individual Household Latrine	Community Sanitary Complexes	School Toilet Units	Anganwadi Toilets
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	8075508	962	112308	7732
2	Arunachal Pradesh	86633	123	3888	1778
3	Assam	2004572	57	33730	10956
4	Bihar	4093221	792	76345	3342
5	Chhattisgarh	1922756	276	51484	10413
6	D & N Haveli	37	1	0	0
7	Goa	34553	0	446	58
8	Gujarat	4478595	1772	33893	25021
9	Haryana	2025651	1281	9213	7502
10	Himachal Pradesh	1029102	723	16893	8442
11	Jammu & Kashmir	425570	941	18197	229
12	Jharkhand	1604778	248	38839	6917
13	Karnataka	4197542	861	42036	28207
14	Kerala	1120749	1003	3690	4719

1	2	3	4	5	6
15	Madhya Pradesh	6773509	1025	141967	23990
16	Maharashtra	7139046	6102	88190	58556
17	Manipur	139883	299	3919	1184
18	Meghalaya	218919	164	7994	1620
19	Mizoram	96161	547	3219	1157
20	Nagaland	127955	213	2157	985
21	Orissa	3914743	116	69961	24824
22	Puducherry	2268	30	0	16
23	Punjab	773230	83	8000	4217
24	Rajasthan	4326263	514	67506	13946
25	Sikkim	94600	913	1606	416
26	Tamil Nadu	6983199	1726	46062	25716
27	Tripura	602596	249	6391	6656
28	Uttar Pradesh	17226102	2379	243513	101517
29	Uttarakhand	734156	94	2911	345
30	West Bengal	8268842	1022	106371	37151

Statement-II

The district-wise progress made in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh under the components of NBA

Sl. No.	Districts of Maharashtra	Individual Household Latrine	Community Sanitary Complexes	School Toilet Units	Anganwadi Toilets
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Ahmednagar	437153	50	2800	3247
2	Akola	118066	3	1547	1000
3	Amravati	175469	65	1587	1664

94	<i>Written Answers to</i>	[RAJYA SABHA]	<i>Unstarred Questions</i>		
1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Aurangabad	179074	170	1787	1753
5	Beed	160598	143	3154	1614
6	Bhandara	144367	0	1347	1081
7	Buldhana	141155	70	2730	1833
8	Chandrapur	208942	55	2022	1833
9	Dhule	157348	142	1473	1489
10	Gadchiroli	116185	54	1278	1321
11	Gondia	171145	59	1731	1298
12	Hingoli	149971	200	1797	910
13	Jalgaon	287320	725	3627	2802
14	Jalna	207175	75	2200	1550
15	Kolhapur	383429	573	2510	3167
16	Latur	126476	27	2555	981
17	Nagpur	205756	154	2219	1649
18	Nanded	150485	19	4432	2695
19	Nandurbar	103666	77	2196	866
20	Nashik	337326	41	2072	2072
21	Osmanabad	141545	30	1689	752
22	Parbhani	109861	10	1540	863
23	Pune	389265	202	5684	2480
24	Raigad	291585	603	4915	1931
25	Ratnagiri	263552	511	4167	1345
26	Sangli	216210	265	3274	2151
27	Satara	371180	847	4878	3576

1	2	3	4	5	6
28	Sindhudurg	117333	460	2292	1050
29	Solapur	365196	22	4045	3378
30	Thane	518847	300	4883	2616
31	Wardha	116726	38	1298	852
32	Washim	91084	38	1526	950
33	Yavatmal	185556	74	2935	1787
Sl. No.	Districts of Madhya Pradesh	Individual Household Latrine	Community Sanitary Complexes	School Toilet Units	Anganwadi Toilets
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Alirajpur	96127	7	3067	751
2	Anuppur	115601	28	2382	1007
3	Ashoknagar	69089	0	2690	180
4	Balaghat	224020	35	3056	1090
5	Barwani	131044	6	3223	1169
6	Betul	110296	17	2474	512
7	Bhind	42989	11	2771	109
8	Bhopal	63055	2	593	120
9	Burhanpur	75902	31	818	155
10	Chhatarpur	89564	25	3718	253
11	Chhindwara	159636	45	6198	418
12	Damoh	86709	21	2860	83
13	Datia	50709	2	1488	93
14	Dewas	164771	41	2316	29

96	<i>Written Answers to</i>	[RAJYA SABHA]	<i>Unstarred Questions</i>		
1	2	3	4	5	6
15	Dhar	267228	18	3626	620
16	Dindori	101450	10	1958	730
17	Guna	89498	10	2476	143
18	Gwalior	110313	23	2260	142
19	Harda	67921	5	921	285
20	Hoshangabad	153569	40	2244	725
21	Indore	160514	16	1950	831
22	Jabalpur	192542	44	3154	347
23	Jhabua	172784	12	4485	804
24	Katni	128359	11	2079	770
25	Khandwa (East Nimar)	155184	6	2373	1229
26	Khargone	238961	25	3498	687
27	Mandla	107782	2	2105	300
28	Mandsaur	183470	44	1668	430
29	Morena	131671	31	3081	115
30	Narsinghpur	118673	46	2207	913
31	Neemuch	120425	33	1697	165
32	Panna	99830	10	2704	111
33	Raisen	161867	36	3274	876
34	Rajgarh	176939	40	3594	244
35	Ratlam	144214	10	2029	158
36	Rewa	260002	18	6928	211
37	Sagar	201368	22	5317	302

1	2	3	4	5	6
38	Satna	247830	42	4966	1845
39	Sehore	129120	4	2729	137
40	Seoni	169656	5	2722	884
41	Shahdol	151964	34	3669	849
42	Shajapur	154088	17	2100	288
43	Sheopur	70318	9	964	189
44	Shivpuri	129017	18	3594	148
45	Sidhi	101362	8	2971	488
46	Singrauli	90377	7	2975	468
47	Tikamgarh	80354	2	3940	110
48	Ujjain	184115	44	2843	1006
49	Umariya	108983	39	2471	326
50	Vidisha	132249	13	2741	145

Uranium contamination of drinking water in Punjab

500. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Uranium has been found in drinking water in Punjab recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any set process to remove Uranium from drinking water;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Ministry to remove Uranium from drinking water in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As reported by the Government of Punjab, out of 1,686 number of samples tested by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, 261 number of samples have exceeded the AERB limit of 60 g/l.

(c) to (e) An expert committee constituted by Government of Punjab including a representative of the Ministry, met on 24.07.2012 to discuss technological interventions for Uranium removal in drinking water. As per available information, Coagulation/filtration at high pH, Lime softening, Anion exchange, Reverse osmosis, Membrane filtration and natural clinoptilolite zeolite are effective in Uranium removal from drinking water sources.

The Ministry provides financial and technical assistance under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) to supplement the efforts of the States in providing safe drinking water, including treatment units to remove uranium from drinking water. Punjab has been allocated Rs.80.20 crore in 2012-13 of which Rs. 43.60 crore has been released so far.

Minister of Rural Development and Drinking Water and Sanitation laid the foundation stone for a new Water Quality Testing Laboratory for testing of Uranium and heavy metals contamination being set up by Government of Punjab with assistance from the Ministry.

Presence of pesticides in water

501. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that water samples tested from some parts of the country contain moderately high levels of pesticides, some of them residues of long banned pesticides like DDT;

(b) whether a study of the Ganga Basin showed that the addrin group of pesticides is specific to the Bihar region;

(c) if not, whether a thorough check on water contamination is regularly undertaken;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the future action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) It has been reported that a recent study conducted by IIT,

Delhi revealed that the groundwater in the Palla-Burari region near Delhi contain moderately high levels of pesticides; some of them are residues of long-banned pesticides, such as DDT. The same team also conducted a larger study on the entire Ganga basin covering Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The results showed that different types of organochloride pesticides predominate in different regions depending upon land use pattern. HCH, a bi-product of insecticide Lidane, was detected mostly in the mountainous stretch of Uttarakhand. The water in Uttar Pradesh contained more of Endosulfan residues, while the Bihar region contained more of the Aldrin group of pesticides.

As per studies conducted by CGWB in Oct-Nov' 2002, groundwater samples in 5 villages in Andhra Pradesh revealed Pesticide Multiple Residue above permissible limits. As reported by Indian Agricultural Research Institute, surface and ground water sources in some villages of Thiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu have revealed pesticides in excess of permissible limits.

Testing of pesticides in water requires precision instrumentation like Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrophotometry (GC-MS), High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HLC) and also skilled manpower. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments to provide safe drinking water in the rural areas of the country, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). Under NRDWP, upto 3% of funds provided to the States, on 100% central share basis, can be used exclusively for Water Quality Monitoring and Surveillance which *inter-alia* includes setting up new/ upgradation of existing drinking water quality testing laboratories for analysis of specific parameters of local concern, including pesticides, as listed in the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Drinking Water Specification, IS-10500.

Implementation of TSC

502. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether more than half of the rural population does not have access to basic sanitation facilities even after six decades of planned development;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to formulate new initiatives to improve the pace of implementation of Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC)?

THE MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) As per Census 2011, 32.7 per cent of rural households have access to sanitation facilities.

(b) A Working Group set up by the Planning Commission gave the following as major constraints in achieving good sanitation in the country:

- (i) Lack of inclusive approach for community sanitation
- (ii) Poor financial incentivisation
- (iii) Non-recognition of centrality of water for sanitation
- (iv) Lack of capacity building of all stakeholders
- (v) Non emphasis on SLWM

(c) To accelerate the progress of sanitation in rural areas, Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in TSC that is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with 'Nirmal Grams' as outcomes. The new strategy is to transform rural India into 'Nirmal Bharat' by adopting community saturation approach. The provision of incentive for individual household latrine units has been widened to cover all APL households who are SC/ST, small and marginal farmer, landless labourer with households, physically challenged and women headed households along-with all BPL households to attain community outcomes. Financial incentive for construction of toilets has been raised for all eligible beneficiaries. Conjoint approach with the scheme of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been adopted to address the issue of availability of water in the Gram Panchayats for sustaining sanitation facilities created. Funds for capacity building of all stakeholders including Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and field level implementers have been earmarked under the revised strategy. Convergence with other State Departments like Health, Women and Child Development and Panchayati Raj is being focused upon. Provision has been made for incentivizing Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHAs) and Anganwadi workers for promoting sanitation. Self Help Groups, Women's Groups and NGOs of repute are to be encouraged by states to participate in sanitation promotion. There is now a

provision of social audit and active people's participation in the implementation process of NBA through Gram Sabhas. Convergence with Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) has also been made to facilitate the rural households with fund availability for creating sanitation facilities. The component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) has been prioritized by developing a roster of options and focused funding.

Violations to rules made under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

†503. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHIYARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various rules made under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 being violated due to promotion to environment tourism policy along with non-forest activities;

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

(c) whether Government has taken any step to check arbitrary deforestation in hilly States like Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh in the name of promoting tourism;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to maintain co-ordination between various rules of the Act and environment tourism and non-forest activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) Use of forest land for execution of non-forest activities as a part of promotion of environment tourism (eco-tourism) requires prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Wherever, use of forest land for execution of non-forest activities in forest land for promotion of eco-tourism is required, the concerned State/Union Territory Governments have to seek prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from the State Governments of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, arbitrary deforestation in the name of promotion of tourism has not been observed in these States.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) To promote ecologically compatible tourism, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has finalised guidelines on eco-tourism in and around protected areas. The same have been filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Special Leave Appeal (Civil) No. 21339 of 2011 in the matter of Ajay Dubey versus National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and Others.

Achievements of National Ganga River Basin Authority

504. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'Ganga Action Plan' being run by Government to check pollution in Ganga river has proved to be an utter failure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority; and

(e) if so, the details of the expenditure incurred by the authority and its achievements till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) Ganga Action Plan (GAP) 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 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.

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.

(d) and (e) 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. An expenditure of Rs. 391.37 crore has been made so far towards sanctioned projects in the States under the Authority. 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.

Forest area in Rajasthan

†505. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the amount allocated to Rajasthan by the Central Government for development of forests in the last three years;
- (b) the total forest area in Rajasthan in square kilometres; and
- (c) the increase in forest area in square kilometre in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The details of amount allocated to Rajasthan by the Central Government for development of forests in the last three years is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) The total forest area of Rajasthan is 32712.90 square kilometres.

(c) The increase in forest area in Rajasthan in last three year is 11.55 square kilometres.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

*Details of amount allocated to Rajasthan by Central Government
for development of forests*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Funds Released by Government of India		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Forestry Sector				
1.	Sambhar wetland Project	91.87	120.57	74.35
2.	Intensification of Forest Management Scheme	149.98	103.76	161.15
3.	Tiger Project Ranthambore	10560.00	250.33	0.60
4.	Tiger Project, Sariska	134.17	2118.60	-
5.	Development of Ghana Bird Sanctuary	69.04	61.24	14.10
6.	Maintenance of other Sanctuaries	393.58	258.77	257.31
7.	Development of DNP	34.13	28.05	20.13
GRAND TOTAL		11432.77	2941.32	527.64

Coal mining in forest areas in Madhya Pradesh

506. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given permission to any company to start coal mining operations in the forests of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the coal mining will affect the environment and wildlife in the forest area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) Use of forest land for non-forest purpose, including coal mining, requires prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Central Government so far

accorded 59 final approvals involving diversion of 10,416.57 hectares of forest land and 15 in-principle approvals involving diversion of 3,360.164 hectares of forest land in Madhya Pradesh for coal mining.

(c) Coal mining does affect the environment, forests and wildlife in and around the coal mines. Central Government therefore, while according approvals under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for mining projects stipulates appropriate measures to mitigate impacts of mining on forests, wildlife and environment. Important among them are transfer and mutation of equivalent non-forest land in favour of State Forest Department (SFD) for creation of compensatory afforestation from the funds to be provided by the user agency; notification of such non-forest land transferred in favour of the SFD as Reserved Forest/Protected Forest; realization of Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land from the concerned user agency for execution of appropriate activities for conservation, protection and management of forests and wildlife, realization of funds from the user agencies for preparation and execution of appropriate plans for conservation and development of wildlife in and around the forest land proposed to be diverted for non-forest purposes.

Loss of forest cover

507. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a loss of 367 sq. km. of forest cover between 2007 and 2009;

(b) if so, whether implementation of our afforestation and conservation Programmes is not yielding the envisaged results of expanding green cover; and

(c) whether the loss of 367 km happened in a few States or the alarming situation is equal percentage-wise divided amongst traditionally forest cover States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) As per the India State of Forest Report 2011 there is a net loss of 367 Km² of forest cover between the 2011 assessment (data period pertaining to 2008-2009) and 2009 assessment (data period pertaining to 2006-2007).

(b) and (c) The implementation of afforestation and conservation programmes for expanding green cover has in fact contributed towards increase in the forest

cover. Hence, 15 States have registered aggregate increase of 500 Km² in their forest cover with Punjab leading with increase of 100 Km². However, the decline of forest cover to the extent of 867 Km² in States such as Andhra Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram etc. is due to various reasons like shifting cultivation, rotational harvesting, biotic pressures etc. The name of States where there is decline in forest cover along with the reasons for decline in forest cover is given in Statement.

Statement

States/UTs-wise decline in forest cover in the country and reasons therefor

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 clearances in some encroached areas.
2	Manipur	-190	Shortening of Shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
3	Nagaland	-146	Shortening of Shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
4	Arunachal Pradesh	-74	Shortening of Shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
5	Mizoram	-66	Shortening of Shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
6	Meghalaya	-46	Shortening of Shifting cultivation cycle and biotic pressure.
7	Kerala	-24	Rotational harvesting of Eucalyptus, Teak, Rubber, Acacia mangium etc.

1	2	3	4
8	Assam	-19	Decrease in forest cover is mainly attributed to illicit felling, encroachment in insurgency affected areas and shifting cultivation practices.
9	Tripura	-8	Clearing of rubber plantation and shifting cultivation practices.
10	Maharashtra	-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 forest areas.
14	Chandigarh	-0.22	-
TOTAL		-866.22	

UNO millennium programme for climate change

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

(a) whether it is a fact that India is not able to achieve the target of UNO millennium programme;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the strategy to fulfil the UNO millennium programme for climate change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) The United Nations Millennium Development Goal relating to ensuring environmental sustainability targets to integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources. The sustainable development principles are inbuilt in the National Environmental Policy, 2006. The

various environmental regulations of our country take into consideration the issues of sustainable development, which are implemented through a rigorous process of impact assessment of developmental projects, while granting environmental and forestry clearances. Government is prepared to implement its international obligations in respect of climate change in accordance with the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility.

Noise pollution level in Nagpur

509. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a survey conducted by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board noise pollution level in Nagpur city is growing at an alarming pace;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this increased level of noise pollution can have behavioral implications on people and can also prove to be health hazard; and

(c) if so, the appropriate action the Ministry is taking to control noise pollution in Nagpur in particular and across the country in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) had monitored noise levels at 25 locations including 3 locations in Nagpur city from 14th December to 16th December, 2008. The noise levels were reported to range from 63.9 dB to 65.2 dB at Silence Zone, 73.9 dB to 74.5 dB at Commercial Zone and 67.1 dB to 68.7 dB at Residential Zone during the day time. The noise levels during the night time at Silence Zone ranged from 63.3 dB to 65.7 dB, at Commercial Zone at 67.3 dB and at Residential Zone ranging from 61.0 dB to 62.5 dB. The noise levels were found to be exceeding the prescribed standards. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has not carried out any epidemiological study of impact of noise pollution on human health. However, CPCB has prepared a road map for establishing 160 National Ambient Noise Monitoring Network (NANMN) in 25 metro-cities including Nagpur to monitor sound levels in specified urban areas.

Conservation and growth of forests in the country

†510. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government contemplates to obtain the active cooperation of tribals for the conservation and growth of forests in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposes to make any scheme for the conservation and growth of forests in the country with the cooperation of tribals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and forests seeks the full support, involvement and active cooperation of tribals for the conservation and growth of forest in the country.

(b) to (d) 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 to be implemented through Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) involving the local people & tribal community. Besides, the Ministry has initiated the National Mission for a Green India (GIM), envisaged as one of the eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The implementation of GIM also involves active participation of people including tribal local communities in planning, implementation and monitoring.

Bio-diversity of Western Ghats

511. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of bio-diversity of the Western Ghats;
- (b) whether Government has drawn any action plan for conservation and protection of the Western Ghats;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of industries being allowed to be set up in and around Western Ghats; and
- (e) whether Government has ensured that there is no adverse impact of these industries on the bio-diversity of Western Ghats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The Western Ghats are internationally recognized as a region of immense global importance for the conservation of biological diversity, besides having areas of high geological, cultural and aesthetic values. The ecosystems of the Western Ghats include the tropical wet evergreen forests, the montane evergreen forests, moist deciduous forests, etc. There are over 4,000 species of angiosperms (1500 endemic), 332 species of butterflies (37 endemic), 288 species of fishes (116 endemic), 156 species of amphibians (94 endemic), 225 species of Reptiles (97 endemic), 508 species of birds (19 endemic) and 137 species of mammals (14 endemic) reported from Western Ghats.

(b) and (c) The Government of India has taken several steps to conserve the rich biodiversity of the Western Ghats. A large number of protected areas comprising national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, tiger reserves and elephant reserves have been established to provide stringent protection to both flora and fauna. Nearly 10% of the total area of Western Ghats is currently covered under the Protected Area category. The largest Protected Area in Western Ghats is the Bandipur National Park in Karnataka. The Silent Valley National Park in Kerala and the Kudremukh National Park in Karnataka are among the important tracts of virgin tropical evergreen forests in India, serving as the home to a healthy population of the globally threatened fauna.

(d) and (e) The Western Ghats are important from the standpoint of biodiversity conservation. For the purpose of ensuring protection of biodiversity of Western Ghats, there are some restrictions for setting up of industries in certain ecologically significant areas of Western Ghats, for example, there is a moratorium upto 31st December 2012 for consideration of projects from Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri areas of Maharashtra, and for consideration of mining projects in Goa. There is also a ban on consideration of mining projects in some districts of Karnataka in compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court Orders dated 29.07.2011 and 26.08.2011.

Measures taken for combating light pollution

512. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures undertaken by Government to combat light pollution; and

- (b) the details of steps that have been taken, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests/Central Pollution Control Board has not conducted any study to assess and combat the light pollution.

Vacant post of Members in National Green Tribunal

513. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased be state:

(a) whether a few members of National Green Tribunal (NGT) have quit the Tribunal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the number of vacant posts of members of NGT at present; and

(c) the immediate steps taken by Government to fill the vacant posts of NGT and also to expedite the process of providing adequate amenities and conducive work environment for members of NGT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, three Members have tendered their resignations in the National Green Tribunal (NGT). The reasons assigned by the three are: (i) for taking up new assignment (ii) no reason given (iii) personal inconvenience respectively. Resignation of the third Member has been kept in abeyance on his request. At present, 7 posts of Expert Member and 6 posts of Judicial Members are vacant in the NGT.

(c) A proposal for appointment of 6 Expert Members in the NGT has been sent to Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) for approval. The process for filling up of remaining vacancies of Members has already been initiated. The service conditions of the Members, NGT are governed by the National Green Tribunal (Manner of Appointment of Judicial and Expert Members, Salaries, Allowances and other Terms and Conditions of Service of Chairperson and other Members and Procedure for Inquiry) Rules, 2010 as amended from time to time.

Permission for mining in forest lands

514. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government allows mining in forest lands; and
- (b) if so, on what conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN) : (a) and (b) Use of forest land for mining requires prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. To mitigate impacts of mining on flora and fauna, approvals accorded under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for mining projects are subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

- (i) Legal status of forest land to remain unchanged.
- (ii) Creation and maintenance of compensatory afforestation as per guidelines from funds realised from the user agency.
- (iii) Transfer and mutation of non-forest land identified to raise compensatory afforestation in favour of Forest Department, if applicable.
- (iv) Notification of non-forest land identified to raise compensatory afforestation as Reserved Forest/Protected Forest under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or local Forest Act.
- (v) Payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the applicable rates.
- (vi) Undertaking to pay additional amount of NPV, if so determined.
- (vii) Transfer of funds realized from user agency to *ad-hoc* CAMPA.
- (viii) User Agency to provide alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the project site so as to avoid any damage & pressure on adjacent forest areas.
- (ix) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposals.
- (x) Phased reclamation of mined area.
- (xi) Afforestation and fencing of safety zone area.
- (xii) Afforestation on one and half times degraded forest land in lieu of the area used for safety zone.

- (xiii) In case of underground mines, areas on surface to be fenced and afforested.
- (xiv) Gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.40), if any, located in the area within 100 m. from outer perimeter of the mining lease;
- (xv) De-silting of the village tanks and other water bodies located within five km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies, whenever required;
- (xvi) Execution of following activities by the user agency at the project cost:
 - (a) A plan containing appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams shall be prepared and implemented;
 - (b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion;
 - (c) Construction of check dams, retention/toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour;
 - (d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28°; and
- (xvii) Strict adherence to the prescribed top soil management.
- (xviii) Demarcation of lease area to be done on the ground at project cost using four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars with serial numbers, forward & back bearings, distance from pillar to pillar and DGPS coordinates.
- (xix) Settlement of Rights, if any, in accordance with the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.
- (xx) Rehabilitation of project affected families, if any.
- (xxi) Environmental clearance, if required.

(xxii) Submission of annual self-monitoring report on compliance conditions to comply with the conditions stipulated in approval.

(xxiii) The User Agency and the State Government to ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Apart from the above-indicated standard conditions applicable to mining projects, Central Government also stipulate project specific conditions, to mitigate specific impact(s), if any, of mining projects.

Cleaning of River Ganga

‡515. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes to control the environmental pollution which is affecting agriculture production along with the break out of diseases because the Ganges and its subsidiary rivers which cross Bengal on their way into the sea pollutes the land of Bengal due to which ground water is being polluted continuously;

(b) the details of the annual expenditure on the cleaning of the Ganges;

(c) the details of the amount being spent in Bengal out of the total expenditure; and

(d) the details of the expenditure spent under this head during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) The need for revamping the river conservation program was widely recognized and it was felt necessary that a holistic approach based on river basin as the unit of planning may be adopted. Accordingly, the Government of India has given Ganga the status of a National River and has constituted the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in February 2009 under Section 3(3) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The NGRBA is a planning, financing, monitoring and coordinating body of the Centre and the States. The objective of the NGRBA is to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the river Ganga by adopting a river basin approach for comprehensive planning and management.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The NGRBA program will be a multi-disciplinary initiative involving multiple dimensions of Ganga clean-up and conservation, and therefore will span across many sectors, including but not limited to social, environment, urban development, water resources, agriculture, industries, and energy. Program planning and implementation would therefore require working across Ministerial/State/Departmental boundaries and also across levels of Government: Central, State and local. The program activities would include both broad-based as well as locally targeted communications and community participation campaigns, and research to address the critical knowledge gaps. Keeping this in mind, the NGRBA operational institutions at Central and State levels are envisaged to have the requisite operational flexibility and multi-sectoral skills. Depending upon degree of pollution etc., tributaries of Ganga will also be considered.

(b) to (d) Expenditure incurred during 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12 under the NGRBA Programme are Rs. 99.74 crores, Rs. 466.43 crores and Rs. 53.44 crores respectively. Of these, expenditure incurred in respect of West Bengal is Rs. 57.08 crores, Rs. 192.36 crores and Nil respectively.

It has been decided that from current financial year, year-wise allocation of fund would be made based on the Annual Action plan finalized in consultations with the 5 (five) basin States of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. For the financial year 2012-13, the annual allocation has been made for Rs. 512.50 crores under the NGRBA Programme.

Recommendations by Madhav Gadgil Panel for Western Ghat

516. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, headed by Ecologist Madhav Gadgil, has submitted its recommendations/report;

(b) if so, by when Government will implement the recommendations of the Panel;

(c) whether massive construction activity has been carried out over the Ghats zone, resulting in large-scale vegetation cutting etc.; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to preserve and protect the Western Ghats, which is about to be upgraded to the status of World Heritage sites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) and (b) The Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests has submitted its report to the Ministry. The Ministry is consulting the concerned State Governments, Central Ministries and has sought stakeholder comments and has not yet taken any view on the recommendations contained in the report. The Ministry is considering to constitute a High Level Committee to further examine the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel report.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has not received any complaints/representations in regard to massive construction activity resulting in large-scale vegetation cutting. However, all the developmental activities including construction activity as listed in the schedule of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 require prior environmental clearance from the Central Government in respect of category A projects and from the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority in respect of category B projects. The developmental activities requiring diversion of forest land and located near Protected Areas require relevant clearances under the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The same regulations apply on the developmental activities including construction activity in the Ghats zones. The Ministry has also imposed moratorium for consideration of projects from Ratanagiri and Sindhudurg districts of Maharashtra up to 31st December 2012. Further, some parts of the Western Ghats zone have now been listed in the UNESCO Natural World Heritage List.

Policy for disposal of e-waste

†517. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any policy for the disposal of electronic wastes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken to check the increasing damage to the environment due to electronic wastes?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified the E-Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 for proper management and handling of e-waste. The concept of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) has been enshrined in these rules. As per these Rules the producers are required to collect e-waste generated from the end of life of their products by setting up collection centers or take back systems either individually or collectively. 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. The guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of e-waste, published by CPCB, provide approach and methodology for environmentally sound management of e-waste. MoEF 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.

Liver transplant facility in government hospitals

†518. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is still no liver transplantation facility in all Government hospitals due to which patients are compelled to go to private hospitals where it costs them around 20-25 lakhs rupees, which is beyond reach of the poor;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to provide costly surgery facilities like liver transplantation in all the Government hospitals established on the line of AIIMS;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Since Health is a "State" subject, no such information is maintained centrally. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to regulate and provide such medical facility to the hospitals.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

However, following Government hospitals are registered under Transplantation of Human Organs Act (THOA), 1994 for liver transplantation in Union Territories:

- (i) G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi
- (ii) Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi
- (iii) Army Hospital, (R&R), Delhi Cantt.
- (iv) AIIMS, New Delhi.

(b) to (d) In the first phase of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), Government of India is setting up six AIIMS like institutions with the aim at correcting regional imbalance in the availability of affordable/reliable tertiary healthcare services and also to augment facilities for quality medical education in the country. However, the hospitals at all these six AIIMS like institutions will become operational by 2013-14.

Setting up of health regulatory body

519. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating to set up a health regulatory body in the near future;
- (b) if so, its terms of reference;
- (c) whether a new Bill will be brought forward in this connection; and
- (d) whether its functions would overlap the functions of the Medical Council of India, Indian Council of Medical Research and other such organizations in the health sector?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. It is proposed to set up the National Commission for Human Resources for Health (NCHRH) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare as an overarching regulatory body for medical education and allied health sciences with a dual purpose of reforming the current regulatory framework and enhancing the supply of skilled manpower in the health sector.

(c) The NCHRH Bill has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd December 2011, which had referred the Bill to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health & Family Welfare for examination.

(d) The Commission would subsume all the existing councils regulating the education in medicine and allied sciences viz., Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India, Nursing Council of India and Pharmacy Council of India and replace them with corresponding new Councils.

Free medicines for the needy

†520. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to provide free medicines to all the poor patients of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) 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 support for provision of free drugs in public health facilities. Under NRHM, 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.

Increase in cases of liver cirrhosis

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

(a) whether the cases of liver cirrhosis has increased in the last decade compared to the earlier period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main reasons for the increase of this ailment?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There is no National Level Scientific data compiled for trend of Liver Cirrhosis. However, the Liver Foundation, West Bengal has initiated a multi-centric study to assess the burden of liver diseases.

(c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Health centres functioning in Karnataka

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

(a) the total number of sub-centres, primary health centres and community health centres which are presently functioning in Karnataka, which provide healthcare to the vulnerable sections of society; and

(b) the healthcare facilities being provided by these centres, particularly in rural areas of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per the Rural Health Statistics in India, 2011, 8870 Sub Health Centres [SCs], 2310 Primary Health Centres [PHCs] and 180 Community Health Centres [CHCs] are functional in Karnataka to provide healthcare services to the rural population including vulnerable sections of society.

(b) Sub Health Centres provide services in relation to maternal and child health, family welfare, nutrition, immunization, diarrhoea control and control of communicable diseases programmes. Sub-Centres are provided with basic drugs for minor ailments needed for taking care of basic health needs of men, women and children. They are assigned tasks relating to interpersonal communication in order to bring about behavioral change for improved health seeking behaviour.

The PHCs provide preventive, promotive and curative health care to the rural population. It acts as a referral unit for 6 Sub Centres. It has 4 - 6 beds for patients. These centres provide a range of RCH and Family Welfare Services and implement different national programmes.

CHC provide facilities for obstetric care, specialist consultation and serves as a referral centre for 4 PHCs. A CHC generally provides 30 in-door beds with one OT, X-ray, Labour Room and Laboratory facilities.

Specialists leaving AIIMS

523. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that specialists in AIIMS are leaving the institute;

(b) if so, the reasons for their leaving the institute;

(c) the number of specialists which have actually left the institute in the last three years; and

(d) the efforts being made to retain them in the institute?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to As far as AIIMS is concerned, a few faculty members have either taken voluntary retirement/resigned from the service of the Institute on "personal grounds". During the last three years, the following number of faculty members/Specialists in different departments have resigned from the service of the Institute as under:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012
TOTAL	07	03	04	03

As against this, as many as 96 number faculty have also joined the Institute during the current year. Pay scales + allowances given to faculty are very competitive now and promotions have also been made time bound without linkage to vacancies.

Vacant posts in CGHS and AYUSH

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

(a) whether more than 18 posts of Homoeopathic doctors are lying vacant in CGHS/AYUSH since 2009;

(b) if so, the action taken to recruit new doctors;

(c) whether post of Advisor (Homoeo) in AYUSH is vacant since January, 2008;

(d) if so, the reasons for next eligible persons not being promoted to that post;

(e) whether many CGHS dispensaries/units are running with single doctors and when the doctors are on leave, the dispensary remain closed causing great inconvenience to beneficiaries; and

(f) whether doctors on contractual basis are not appointed till regular doctors are appointed; if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) 29 posts of Homoeopathic doctors are lying vacant.

(b) Proposal to fill up the vacant posts of Medical Officer/Research Officer (Homoeopathy) has been sent to Union Public Service Commission on 22.05.2012. However, the proposal has been returned by them with certain queries.

(c) The post of Advisor (Homoeopathy) in AYUSH has been lying vacant since 1st September, 2008.

(d) As per Recruitment Rules, the post is to be filled up by promotion in consultation with Union Public Service Commission. Accordingly, the proposal to fill up this post has been sent to them on 05.07.2012.

(e) Some dispensaries are running with single doctor, however, when doctors are on leave proper care is taken to avoid inconvenience to the beneficiaries by deploying doctors from other dispensaries/units.

(f) Appointment of contractual doctors against vacant posts is made in CGHS till the regular doctors are appointed. Advertisement in this regard has been published in News paper on 9/8/2012.

Central Assistance for A.P. for Urban Health Project

525. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central assistance earmarked for the Urban Health Project to Andhra Pradesh (A.P.); and

(b) whether the amount earmarked for this year has been increased as compared to the Central assistance provided during the last financial year 2011-12?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) In 2012-13, an amount of Rs. 2941.53 lakh has been earmarked as Central assistance to Andhra Pradesh (A.P.) for activities of Urban RCH Programme under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

(b) Yes. The amount earmarked for this year has been increased by Rs. 2188.21 lakh as compared to the Central assistance provided during the last financial year 2011-12 *i.e.* Rs.753.32 lakh.

Complaints against CGHS dispensary

526. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on a written complaint of a chemist some Members of Parliament wrote letters to the Minister regarding serious fraud and irregularities by the pharmacist and Incharge of North Avenue Ayurvedic Dispensary in the supply of indented medicines;

(b) if so, what action has been initiated against the alleged persons for this act of omission and commission;

(c) whether it is also a fact that said pharmacist is a union leader and as such he is threatening others; and

(d) if so, the action contemplated against them so that the system of indented medicines is streamlined?

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

(b) The issue has been examined. Statements of pharmacist and the in-charge of North Avenue Ayurvedic Wellness Centre have been obtained. They have denied all allegations made by "The Health Care", the erstwhile authorized local supplier for ayurvedic medicines to CGHS. Instead, the pharmacist has contended that poor quality medicines were being supplied to CGHS by the said supplier at a higher price and he had brought it to the notice of CGHS officials. Accordingly, CGHS stopped procuring the said medicines.

(c) and (d) The said pharmacist is an elected member of All India CGHS Employees Association, Delhi Branch. There is no information that he is threatening others.

Health schemes in A.P.

527. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes/programmes being implemented by the Ministry in Andhra Pradesh (A.P.) during the last three years;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned, released and utilized for each of the above programme/scheme in A.P. during the last three years, year-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) the details of physical targets set and achieved in each of the above programmes/schemes during the last three years, year-wise and scheme-wise; and

(d) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to address the shortfall, if any, in any of the above programmes?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The details of important Health Schemes/Programmes being implemented by this Ministry in Andhra Pradesh are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Most of the National Health Programmes aim to provide good health to the people, especially poor persons. Programme-wise data showing targets, achievements and the efforts made for the shortfalls, if any, are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of Important Health Schemes/Programmes

- 1. National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)** - The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is a Centrally sponsored programme of this Ministry. The NRHM launched in April, 2005 (for seven years *i.e.* 2005 to March 2012) seeks to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population, especially the vulnerable sections. The programme is being implemented in the country including Andhra Pradesh. The Allocation, Release and Expenditure under NRHM for the F.Ys 2009-10 to 2011-12 Programme-wise in State Andhra Pradesh is enclosed at Annexure-A.
- 2. Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP)** - The Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) based on the WHO recommended strategy of Directly Observed Treatment Short Course, is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh to control tuberculosis.

The details of fund sanctioned, released and utilized in AP during the last five years, year-wise is as below:

(Rs. in Lakhs)			
FY	Sanctioned	Release	Expenditure Reported
2007-8	1300.00	1300.00	1224.89
2008-9	1327.00	1327.00	1348.48
2009-10	1687.00	1687.00	1561.70
2010-11	2380.00	2380.00	1793.97
2011-12	1090.37	1090.37	1540.90
TOTAL	7784.37	7784.37	7469.94

- 3. Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) -** Under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), a safe motherhood intervention, Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) is being implemented which aims at reduction in infant and maternal mortality by improving coverage of institutional delivery among pregnant women from low socio-economic status *i.e* women belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and BPL category. Under the scheme cash assistance is provided to pregnant women for giving birth in a health facility. The JSY is being implemented in all States and UTs including Andhra Pradesh. The details of funds sanctioned and utilised under JSY in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years is as under:

(Rs in crores)							
Sl.No.	States/UTs	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
		Alloc.	Expen.	Alloc.	Expen.	Alloc.	Expen.
1	Andhra Pradesh	45.5	40.86	50.36	17.45	32.88	21.47

- 4. Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) -** Government of India has launched Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK) on 1st June, 2011. The initiative entitles all pregnant women delivering in public health institutions to absolutely free and no expense delivery, including caesarean section. The

entitlements includes free drugs and consumables, free diagnostics, free blood wherever required, and free diet for 3 days during normal delivery and 7 days for C-section. This initiative also provides for 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. The initiative has been rolled out in all States including the State of Andhra Pradesh under the overall umbrella of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and all the States and UTs have since, initiated implementation of the scheme. Component wise Expenditure, and utilization against the approved PIP for the year 2009-10 to 2011-12 is enclosed at Annexure-B.

- 5. Routine Immunization Programme and Pulse Polio Immunization Programme -** Routine Immunization Programme and Pulse Polio Immunization Programme are under operation in the country including Andhra Pradesh. The details of funds sanctioned, released and utilized for these two programmes in Andhra Pradesh for 2009-10 to 2011 -12 is as under:

(Rs. in Lakh)

Year	Routine Immunization (Including J.E. SIA)			Pulse Polio		
	Allocation	Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Release	Expenditure
2009-10	1422.00	935.00	913.00	2069.70	1897.78	1932.82
2010-11	1191.00	893.00	378.48	1825.68	1917.02	1779.42
2011-12	1196.00	1811.37	N.A.	1917.01	987.44	979.98

Note: Expenditure figure of Pulse Polio for the year 2010-11 & 2011-12 are provisional

- 6. National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) -** National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is one of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes in implementation in all states including Andhra Pradesh since 1976.

The status of funds allocated and released to Andhra Pradesh under NPCB during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Allocation	Release
2009-10	2051.00	2049.46
2010-11	2003.40	1560.02
2011-12	2500.00	2470.55

7. National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) - Under National Mental Health Programme (NMHP), the objective is to provide treatment and care to the mentally ill patients in the country. Funds have been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh under the following schemes of NMHP:

- i) Strengthening of State run Mental Hospitals.
- ii) Upgradation of Psychiatric Wings of Govt. Medical Colleges/General Hospitals
- iii) District Mental Health Programme.
- iv) Manpower Development Schemes

The details of funds released under various schemes of National Mental Health Programme during 2009-10 to 2011-12 are at Annexure-C.

8. National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) - The National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) has been launched in 42 Districts of 21 States in order to implement the various provisions made under Tobacco Control Act (COTPA), 2003 and to create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption. The Programme is presently under implementation in two districts of Andhra Pradesh i.e. Guntur and Hyderabad. The details about funds sanctioned and utilized in Andhra Pradesh under the programme is as under:

Year	Funds sanctioned	Funds utilized
2009-10	Nil	Rs. 2,16,365
2010-11	Rs. 7,42,000	Rs. 5,75,446
2011-12	Rs. 14,05,600	Utilization certificate and audited statements of account have not been received till now.

- 9. National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) -** The National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) is being implemented for prevention and control of vector borne diseases, namely Malaria, Dengue, Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis and Lymphatic Filariasis. Kala-azar is not endemic in Andhra Pradesh.

The details of funds sanctioned, released by Gol under NVBDCP and utilized by state of Andhra Pradesh is as below:

(Figures in Lakhs)

Year	Sanctioned	Released	Utilized
2009-10	1416.19	1048.06	1694.79
2010-11	302.61	1159.24	791.16
2011-12	3189.96	3457.42	3687.74

- 10. National Leprosy Eradication Programme(NLEP) -** The National Leprosy Eradication Programme is being implemented by the ministry in all the States/UTs of India, including Andhra Pradesh. The details of funds released and utilized for NLEP in AP during 2009-10 to 2011-12 is enclosed at Annexure-D.

- 11. National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD) :** The National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD) envisage to provide a comprehensive intervention strategy that is largely preventive and promotive. The main focus is on strengthening of public health care delivery system in relation to ear care by providing support for Manpower Training & Development, Capacity building of PHCs, CHCs and District Hospitals, Treatment and Rehabilitation of hearing and speech disorders and appropriate IEC for creating awareness regarding causes of Hearing impairment.

The Programme has been expanded to 184 districts of 16 States and 3 UTs which includes 14 districts of Andhra Pradesh. NPPCD has been implemented in the State of Andhra Pradesh with three districts (Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda and Hyderabad) in the year 2006-08 which was later extended to 1 more district (Nellore) in the year 2008-09. In the year 2009-10, ten more districts (Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishana, Guntur, Chittoor, Anantapur, Warangal, Karimnagar, Aadilabad) were added in the Programme making it a total of 14 districts of Andhra Pradesh. Funds allocated, released and expenditure thereof during the last three years is as follows:

Sl. No	Name of States	Funds released (Rs in lakh)			Total Funds released	Status of UC
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12		
1	Andhra Pradesh	132.00	Nil	Nil	218.2	UC have not been received as yet, therefore next instalment of funds could not be released to complete the activities

- 12. National AIDS Control Programme** -National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) is implemented in the country including Andhra Pradesh by the Department of AIDS Control. The programme is implemented on the basis of an annual Action Plan (AAP) which is prepared in consultation with the State AIDS Control Society and funds are released for carrying out activities under the same. Funds allocated, released and expenditure thereof during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Allocation	Release	Utilization
2009-10	8353.18	3987.55	7058.19
2010-11	9049.52	8511.78	6307.70
2011-12	9045.69	7255.13	7681.84

- 13. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries** - This Department has been implementing the following schemes in Andhra Pradesh(AP) during the last three years:

- I. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries
- II. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for National Mission on Medicinal Plants
- III. Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants
- IV. Central Sector Scheme of Promotion of AYUSH Intervention in Public Health Initiatives.
- V. Central Sector Scheme of Upgradation of Centers of Excellence scheme
- VI. Central Sector Scheme for Development of AYUSH industry cluster.

The details of funds released and utilized for the above said schemes of D/o AYUSH in AP during 2009-10 to 2011-12 is inclosed at Annexure-E.

14. Nursing Services

The following two major schemes with sub-programmes have been implemented in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the details are given at Annexure-F.

I. Development of Nursing Services

II. Strengthening/up-gradation Nursing Services

15. National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE) - The National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE) has been taken up to address the health related problems of elderly people. The programme has been initiated in 100 identified districts. It is proposed to cover the remaining districts of the country during the 12th FYP in a phased manner @ 100 districts per year. Districts covered in Andhra Pradesh during the 11th FYP is as indicated below:

2010-11: Nellore and Vijayanagaram

2011-12: Srikakulam, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Krishna, Karnool & Prakasham

Fund sanctioned/released during the Financial Year 2010-11 & 2011-12 is given below:-

		(Rs. in Lakh)		
Sl.No.	Name of the Districts	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1.	Nellore	183.47	-	-
2.	Vijayanagaram	179.94	-	-
3.	Srikakulam	-	43.60	-
4.	Chittoor	-	43.60	-
5.	Cuddapah	-	43.60	-
6.	Krishna	-	43.60	-
7.	Kurnool	-	43.60	-
8.	Prakasham	-	43.60	-
TOTAL		363.41	261.6	-

16. National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) (Cancer Component) -

The Government of India had revised National Cancer Control Programme and launched a comprehensive National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS) in 2010 and the programme envisages 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).

The details of the funds released and utilized during the last five years in AP are as under:

Year	Name of the Institute	Scheme	Released (in crore)	Utilized (Rs. in crore) Plan
2009-10	–	–	Nil	
2010-11	State Health Society of Andhra Pradesh for Nellore, Vijayanagaram districts	Development of District Cancer Care Facility, State NCD Cell and District NCD Cell	.502	UC not received
2011-12	State Health Society of Andhra Pradesh for Srikakulam, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Krishna, Kurnool, Prakasham districts	Development of District Cancer Care Facility, State NCD Cell and District NCD Cell	5.022	UC not received
	MNJIO, Hyderabad	Tertiary Cancer Centre	4.80	UC Not due

Annexure-A

The Allocation, Release and Expenditure under NRHM for the F.Ys. 2009-10 to 2011-12

Sl. No.	Programme	2009-10			2010-11			2011-12		
		Allocation	Release	Exp	Allocation	Release	Exp	Allocation	Release	Exp
1	RCH-II	187.22	186.86	138.71	212.55	209.19	77.37	235.74	183.56	171.65
2	Additionalities under NRHM	200.26	240.29	319.23	235.73	235.73	253.87	290.25	310.25	216.90
3	Routine Immunization	14.22	9.35	9.13	11.91	8.93	16.63	11.96	18.11	13.94
4	P.P.I.	20.70	18.98	19.32	18.26	19.17	18.30	19.17	9.87	9.80
5	Infrastructure Maintenance	234.55	196.28	220.94	278.60	275.96	273.64	286.98	334.13	227.29
6.	National Disease Control Programmes									
a	I.D.S.P.	1.84	2.02	1.96	1.17	1.70	1.06	2.24	1.13	1.82
b	N.I.D.D.C.P.	0.20	0.00	0.14	0.20	0.20	0.04	0.26	0.16	0.00
c	N.L.E.P.*	2.15	2.40	2.38	2.05	2.60	2.36	2.15	2.10	2.31
d	N.P.C.B.*	20.51	20.49	16.28	20.03	15.60	19.04	25.00	24.71	0.00
e	N.V.B.D.C.P.*	14.16	10.48	16.95	13.03	11.59	7.91	31.90	34.57	28.64
f	R.N.T.C.P.*	21.49	21.18	19.87	22.58	29.56	23.70	26.15	15.52	20.02
GRAND TOTAL		717.30	708.32	764.91	816.11	810.23	693.92	931.80	934.11	692.37

Annexure-B

Andhra Pradesh

RCH Flexible Pool

A. Component wise Expenditure & Utilization against the approved PIP for the year 2009-10

(Amount Rs. in Lakh)

Activity	SPIP	Utilization	% Utilization
Maternal Health	20.00	21.61	108.05%
Child Health	2.00	2.04	102.16%
Family Planning Services			N.A.
Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health/ARSH	0.11	0.04	37.41%
Urban RCH	3.53	0.82	23.23%
Tribal RCH	1.32	0.36	27.02%
Innovations/PPP/ NGO	2.10	2.72	129.68%
Training	5.45	3.29	60.40%
BCC/IEC	5.00	4.06	81.16%
Programme Management	8.73	12.29	140.86%
Total RCH-II Base Flexi Pool	48.24	47.23	97.91%
JSY	45.50	40.86	89.80%
Sterilization, IUD & NSV Camps	62.82	61.28	97.55%
	108.32	102.14	82.14%
GRAND TOTAL	156.56	149.37	95.42

B- Component wise Expenditure & Utilization against the approved PIP for the year 2010-11

(Amount Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Activity	SPIP	Utilization	% age Utilisation of PIP
1	2	3	4	5
A.1	Maternal Health	15.00	89.44	596.27%
A.2	Child Health	1,783.85	29.29	1.64%

1	2	3	4	5
A.4	Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health/Arsh	60.00	0.14	0.23%
A.5	Urban RCH	694.44	157.54	22.69%
A.6	Tribal RCH	31.92	17.23	53.98%
A.8	Innovations/PPP/ NGO	25.00	2.05	8.20%
A.9	Infrastructure & Human Resources	5,917.86	2,472.65	41.78%
A.10	Institutional Strengthening	100.00	94.33	94.33%
A.11	Training	1,220.70	81.55	6.68%
A.12	BCC/IEC	875.00	233.48	26.68%
A.13	Procurement	410.70	-	0.00%
A.14	Programme Management	1,610.08	632.32	39.27%
	TOTAL RCH II Base Flexi Pool	12,744.60	3,810.02	29.90%
A. 1.4	JSY	5,035.50	1,962.60	38.98%
A.3.1	Sterilization & IUD Compensation and NSV Camps	2,780.00	3,019.82	108.63%
	TOTAL RCH Flexi Pool	20,560.05	8,792.44	42.76%

C. Component wise Expenditure & Utilization against the approved PIP for the year 2011-12

(Amount Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	Activity	SPIP Approved	Utilization	%age Utilisation of PIP
1	2	3	4	5
A.1	Maternal Health (other than JSY)*	146.50	29.46	20.11%
A.2	Child Health	1,604.14	88.36	5.51%

1	2	3	4	5
A.3	Family Planning Services (other than sterilisation)	237.01	-	0.00%
A.4	Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health/Arsh	1,204.58	704.17	58.46%
A.5	Urban RCH	753.32	158.42	21.03%
A.6	Tribal RCH	127.80	13.60	10.64%
A.7	PNDT Activities	-	14.09	NA
A.8	Infrastructure & Human Resources	21,953.32	10,205.22	46.49%
A.9	Training	2,000.10	449.04	22.45%
A.10	Programme Management	2,993.31	1,253.38	41.87%
A.11	Vulnerable Groups	27.60	-	0.00%
	TOTAL RCH II Base Flexi Pool	31,047.68	12,915.74	41.60%
A.1.4	Janani Suraksha Yojana/JSY	3,288.01	2,344.28	71.30%
A.3.1.2-5	Female Sterilisation camps, NSV camps, Compensation for female sterilisation, Compensation for male sterilisation	3,194.00	1,904.93	59.64%
	TOTAL RCH II Demand Flexi Pool	6,482.01	4,249.21	65.55%
	GRAND TOTAL	37,529.69	17,164.95	45.74%

* Rs. 29.46 Lakh expenditure of JSSK included.

Annexure-C

Under National Mental Health Programme, the various schemes For which grants have been provided to Andhra Pradesh are as under:

I District Mental Health Programme:

Sl.No.	District	Year of Initiation	Year of Grant	Grant Released (Rs.)	Total amount released (Rs.)
1	Medak	1996-97	1996-97	22,47,500/-	1,15,70,000/-
			1997-98	23,50,000/-	
			1998-99	9,00,000/-	
			1999-00	22,00,000/-	
			2000-01	26,72,500/-	
			2001-02	12,00,000/-	
2	Vizianagaram	2000-01	2000-01	28,50,000/-	50,00,000/-
			2001-02	21,50,000/-	
3	Cuddapah	2004-05	2004-05	26,20,000	48,00,000/-
			2010-11	21,80,000/-	
4	Prakasham	2004-05	2004-05	26,20,000/-	41,50,085
			2007-08	15,30,085/-	
5	Nalgonda	2006-07	2006-07	26,20,000/-	26,20,000/-
6	Mahaboob Nagar	2006-07	2006-07	26,20,000/-	26,20,000/-

II Upgradation of Psychiatric Wings of Govt. Medical Colleges/General Hospitals.

Sl.No.	Medical College/General Hospital	Year	Amount
1	2	3	4
1	Kurnool Medical College	2005-06	47,00,000/-
2	Andhra Medical College, Vishakhapatnam	2006-07	42,50,000/-

1	2	3	4
3	SVRRG General Hospital, Tirupati Chittoor	2006-07	L9,40,000/-
4	Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad	2006-07	8,81,000/-
5	Kakatiya Medical College, Warangal	2006-07	30,00,000/-

III. Strengthening and Modernization of State Run Mental Hospitals.

Sl.No.	Institute	Year	Amount
1	Institution of Mental Health, Hyderabad	2005-06	2,71,00,000/-
2	Government Hospital for Mental Care, Vishakhapatnam	2006-07	3,00,00,000/-

IV. Manpower Development Scheme

Sl.No.	Institute	Year	Scheme	Amount
1	Institution of Mental, Health, Hyderabad	2009-10	A	5,28,00,000/-

Annexure-D

Details of funds released and utilized for NLEP

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name State/UT	2009-10			2010-11			2011-12		
		Alloca- tion	Rele- ase	Expen- diture	Alloca- tion	Rele- ase	Expen- diture	Alloca- tion	Rele- ase	Expen- diture
1	Andhra	214.67	193.54	192.42	205	198.91	175.18	216.02	153.56	173.85
	TOTAL	214.67	193.54	192.42	205	198.91	175.18	216.02	153.56	173.85

Annexure-E

Details of funds Released to Andhra Pradesh
in last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Fund sanctioned	Fund Released	Fund Utilized
Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospital and Dispensaries			
2009-10	2.50	1.25	-
2010-11	1412.08	1191.04	-
2011-12	89.08	75.72	-

Year	Fund sanctioned	Fund Released	Fund Utilized
Centrally Sponsored Scheme for National Mission on Medicinal Plants			
2009-10	900.00	900.00	900.00
2010-11	700.00	700.00	700.00
2011-12	512.52	512.52	512.52
Central Sector Scheme for Conservation, Development and Sustainable Management of Medicinal Plants			
2009-10	164.79	164.79	164.79
2010-11	84.92	84.92	84.92
2011-12	233.11	233.11	233.11
Central Sector Scheme for Public Health Initiatives			
2009-10	17.36	15.60	15.60
2010-11	-	-	-
2011-12	-	1.76	-
Central Sector Scheme for Centre of Excellence			
2009-10	-	-	-
2010-11	250.56	100.22	100.22
2011-12	-	-	-
Central Sector Scheme for Development of AYUSH industry cluster.			
2009-10	-	-	-
2010-11	1000.00	200.00	100.18
2011-12	-	-	-

Annexure-F*Andhra Pradesh**Development of nursing services*

- 1. Training of Nurses:-** To upgrade the knowledge and skills of Nursing Personnel in areas of Clinical Speciality, Education Technology and Management Techniques with the Pattern of Assistance of Rs. 1.65 lakhs per course of 7 days duration for 30 nurses per course

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Institution	Year of sanction	Amount released	Status of UC/Report
Government College of Nursing, Medical College, Campus, Kurnool-518 002, AP	2010-11	6.612	Reports received
Govt. College of Nursing, Rajiv Gandhi Instt. of Medical Sciences, Patlanpully, Kadapa	2010-11	6.612	Instn. Conducted the courses. UC. Issued.

- 2. Strengthening of Existing Schools of Nursing:-** One time financial assistance of Rs.25.00 lakhs (Modified pattern of Assistance) has been approved by CCEA during XIth Plan period towards addition and alteration of the existing schools /Hostel building., Procurement of A.V. Aids, Library Books, Laboratory Equipments.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Institution	Year of sanction	Amount released	Status of UC
Govt. College of Nursing, JNTU Engg. College (PO), Sarada Nagar Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh.	2007-08	10.00	Report awaited
Govt. College of Nursing, Kurnool, Medical College campus, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh	2008-09	10.00	Partially utilized

1. Opening of ANM and GNM Schools in difficult States:- NIL
2. Strengthening of State Nursing Councils/Cells:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Authority to whom fund has been released	Year of sanction	Amount released	Status of UC
1	Registrar, Andhra Pradesh Nurses, Midwives, A.N.M. & Health Visitor Council, Sulthan Bazar, Hyderabad (A.P.)	2008-09	100.00	Report awaited
2.	The Director, Directorate of Health Services Government of Andhra Pradesh Hyderabad	2009-10	100.00	Report awaited

Statement-II

Programme-wise data showing targets, achievements and efforts made for shortfalls

Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP)

So far as the RNTCP is concerned, the physical targets set are to achieve and maintain cure rate of at least 85% among New Sputum Positive patients (NSP) and to achieve and maintain case detection of at least 70% of the estimated NSP cases in the community.

The achievements made in AP during the last three years are as below:

Andhra Pradesh	Annual NSP case detection rate	Treatment Success rate of NSP
2009	80%	89%
2010	80%	89%
2011	78%	89%

So far as the RNTCP is concerned, the State of Andhra Pradesh is achieving its objectives.

National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)

SRS	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Infant Mortality Rate (deaths per 1000 live births)	59	59	57	56	54	52	49	46
TFR	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.8

Maternal Mortality Ratio (deaths per 100000 live births)

2001-03	2004-06	2007-09
195	154	134

National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP)

Detail of physical target set and achieved during last three years, year-wise and scheme-wise is as under:

Sl. No.	Disease	Target	Achievement		
			2009	2010	2011
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Malaria	ABER over 10% API 1.3 or less per 1000 population	ABER - 12.42 API - 0.34	ABER - 11.87 API - 0.43	ABER - 12.07 API - 0.45
2	Dengue/ Chikungunya	Reduction in case fatality rate (CFR) Strengthening of dengue surveillance by establishing SSH in state (nos.)	CFR - 0.92 SSH - 10	CFR-0.39 SSH - 10	CFR-0.5 Increased No. of SSH to 25
3	Japanese Encephalitis	Vaccination of children (1-15 years) in J.E. endemic districts & routine immunization (RI)	4 districts covered under JE vaccination of children 1-15 years and routine immunization in 6 districts	4 districts covered under JE vaccination of children 1-15 years and routine immunization in 10 districts	No district covered under JE vaccination of children 1-15 years and routine immunization in 10 districts

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Lymphatic Filariasis	% of population covered under MDA	91.85%	92.50%	92.74%
		To reduce Mf rate less than 1%	0.19	0.16	0.66
5	Kala-azar	Not endemic			

Though there is no shortfall so far NVBDCP is concerned, however, the following strategy continued to be implemented:

- I) Early Diagnosis and Complete Treatment.
- II) Integrated Vector Management including Indoor Residual Spray (IRS), Anti-larval measures including use of bio-larvicides, use of larvivorous fish and Upscaling use of Long Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs)
- III) Supportive Interventions including Behaviour Change Communication, capacity building and Monitoring & Evaluation
- IV) Vaccination only against J.E.
- V) Annual Mass Drugs Administration (only against Lymphatic Filariasis)

National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP)

The main objective of the NTCP is to create awareness about harmful effects of the consumption of tobacco products so as to discourage the tobacco usage.

- Regular review meetings with the State/District Nodal Officers are convened to monitor the progress of NTCP. The reporting and feedback mechanism under the programme has been strengthened with measurable outcome.
- Communications have been sent to various departments of the State/ UTs Government including Home Secretary, DGPs, Transport Commissioners,

Secretaries Panchayat Raj, etc 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. Guidelines under Section- 6 & 7 of COTPA, 2003 have also been sent to all the State/UTs for implementing the provisions under COTPA and the rules made thereunder.

- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare launched a pilot project for encouraging alternatives crops to tobacco in collaboration with Centre Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI), Rajamundry, Andhra Pradesh (Ministry of Agriculture) in five different agro-climatic zones of the country in 2008-09.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP)

No physical targets were given to the state under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme. The achievements in state of A.P. during last three years are as under:

Year wise New Cases of Leprosy detected & Reconstructive Surgery conducted.

New Cases detected	2009-10	-	9012
	2010-11	-	7448
	2011-12	-	7820
Reconstructive Surgery conducted	2009-10	-	617
	2010-11	-	427
	2011-12	-	390

National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD)

Targets and Achievements under NPPCD in the state of Andhra Pradesh

1. The procurement of 3 equipments *i.e.* Operating Microscope, Micro Drill

system, Ear surgery instruments for District hospitals of 3 districts (Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda and Hyderabad) have been done other 11 districts have been supplied with only Operating Microscope as against the target of procurement of equipments as per the complete list (Surgical operating Microscope, Micro drill System, Micro ear Surgery instruments, Indigenous Digital Audiometer, Impedance Audiometer, OAE Analyzer, Sound proof room) in all the 14 districts .

2. Following Sensitisation/Skill based Trainings have been completed only in three districts of Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda and Hyderabad as against in 14 districts:
 - a. ENT doctors and Audiologists at the Medical College level
 - b. 13 ENT doctors at the District level
 - c. Obstetricians and Paediatricians at the Secondary and Primary levels
 - d. 180 Primary level doctors posted at the CHCs and PHCs
 - e. 572 MPWs, PHNs, CDPOs, AWWs
 - f. 5344 Anganwadi workers, ASHA
 - g. Teacher of Primary School
3. 302 Hearing Aids have been distributed to Hearing Impaired Children in 3 districts of Mehboobnagar, Nalgonda and Hyderabad
4. Recruitment of Audiometric Assistant has been done only in Hyderabad district as against the target of 14 districts.
5. Screening camps were organised in 2008-09 however stopped because of availability of funds.

Routine Immunization Programme and Pulse Polio Immunization Programme

The details of Physical targets set and achieved in these two programmes during the last three years are as under:

Universal Immunization Programme

Andhra pradesh coverage

(Figures in lakh's)

Period	TT(PW)			DPT-3			OPV-3		BCG		MEASLES	
	Target	Ach	%	Target	Ach	%	Target	%	Target	%	Target	%
2009-10	16.93	17.01	100.5	14.59	15.07	103.3	15.08	103.4	15.39	105.5	14.99	102.7
2010-11	17.09	16.41	96	14.73	14.77	100.2	14.73	100	14.87	100.9	14.56	98.8
2011-12	16.74	16.18	96.6	14.52	14.61	100.6	14.61	100.6	14.95	102.9	14.47	99.7

Physical performance targets of Pulse Polio Programme

(In Lakhs)

Name of the State/UTs	2009-10			2010-11			2011-12		
	Targets	Ach	%	Targets	Ach	%	Targets	Ach	%
Andhra Pradesh	203.10	199.82	98.39	201.82	198.64	98.43	100.82	97.46	96.66

National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB)

The details of physical targets set and achieved in the country in respect of major performance indicators under NPCB during the last three years are as under:

Cataract operations:

Year	Target	Achievement
2009-10	60,00,000	58,10,684
2010-11	60,00,000	60,32,724
2011-12	70,00,000	62,41,769

Distribution of free spectacles to school children:

Year	Target	Achievement
2009-10	4,73,472	5,05,843
2010-11	6,00,000	5,48,611
2011-12	6,00,000	6,18,876

Collection of donated eyes:

Year	Target	Achievement
2009-10	55,000	46,589
2010-11	60,000	44,926
2011-12	60,000	48,014

Regular efforts are being made to promote various blindness control activities, including promotion of eye donation for corneal transplantation to address shortfall by undertaking various eye-care activities like intensification of Information Education Communication (IEC), support to Eye Donation Centres and Eye Banks, appointment of Eye Donation Counsellors in Eye Banks, etc. under National Programme for Control of Blindness.

National AIDS Control Programme

The details of physical targets set and achieved for ICTC by AP for the last five years is annexed as Annexure-I.

Under the TI Programme:

Indicator	Core group (FSW+MSM+IDU) and Bridge Population				
	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13
Target	71	71	105	115	167
Achieved	66	70	102	115	161

Under the STI Programme:

Years	Physical Target	Achievement
2007-08	190525	175026
2008-09	223616	368332
2009-10	281229	520157
2010-11	297386	738934
2011-12	393638	906303

The details of physical targets set and achieved in the above programme/scheme during the last five years is annexed at Annexure-II.

To address the shortfalls:

- Regular field visits for monitoring and supportive supervision are conducted.
- Regular quarterly review of the states is conducted at National level.

There is no major shortfall in target achievement. Since the focus is on effective coverage, the population was merged with some of the existing TIs.

Annexure-I

Details of physical targets and achievements for ICTC services under NACP by the state of AP for the last five years.

Service		Testing for General clients (Non ANC) clients	Testing for ANC Clients	HIV-TB Cross referral
2012-13	Physical Target	2000000	1600000	225000
	Achievement*	196758	181046	NA**
2011-12	Physical Target	1570000	1250000	225000
	Achievement	1420849	1143490	194276
2010-11	Physical Target	1300000	1100000	225000
	Achievement	1236769	919512	180334
2009-10	Physical Target	1000000	800000	150000
	Achievement	1154507	823566	145327
2008-09	Physical Target	700000	600000	75000
	Achievement	642660	584479	80386

* for the period April 2012 to June 2012.

** consolidated report for April 2012 to June 2012 will be available by 3rd week of August from RNTCP.

Annexure-II*Target for Blood collection and achievement*

	Blood Safety Targets & Achievements										
	Target					Achieved					
	Total Collection	Voluntary	%	Campus Compo- nents	Total Collection	%	Voluntary	%	Campus Compo- nents		
2009-10	492000	443000	90	5900	638127	130	496934	78	3059	106570	
2010-11	484272	435845	90	3500	65%	643815	133	501288	78	3597	148639
2011-12	619355	557420	90	4247	80%	729843	118	548148	75	4057	224461

Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries

No physical targets were fixed under the schemes for Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries, Central Sector Scheme of Promotion of AYUSH Intervention in Public Health Initiatives and Central Sector Scheme of Upgradation of Centers of Excellence scheme for Andhra Pradesh during the last three years.

The duration of the AYUSH Cluster Project on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode is three years. The project is aging behind by more than one year.

Rs 3971.42 Lakhs is the pending Utilization Certificates of grants released up to 2010-11 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries from the Andhra Pradesh. The State was asked to submit the Utilization Certificates to this Department.

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)

Physical targets are not set under the JSY and funds are approved to the States based on their expected achievement under the scheme. Physical achievement under JSY in Andhra Pradesh is at Annexure-III.

The Ministry provides feedback to the States for corrective action if any on the basis of the following:

- JSY reports furnished by the State,
- Field visit reports of officials of Ministry
- Monitoring visit reports of Regional Evaluation Teams of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Annexure-III*Number of JSY Beneficiaries*

Sl. No.	Name of States	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-2012
1	Andhra Pradesh	563401	551206	318927	254890	261860

National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE)**Physical Target:**

- Establishment of Geriatric unit at the district hospitals -
 1. Construction/renovation/extension of the existing building and furniture of Geriatrics Unit with 10 beds and OPD facilities.
 2. Procurement of Machinery and Equipment
- Establishment of Rehabilitation Units at CHCs -
 1. Procurement of Machinery and Equipment
- Establishment of Weekly Geriatric Clinic at PHCs -
 1. Procurement of Machinery and Equipment
- Activities at Sub-Centre -
 1. Procurement of Aida and Appliances

Achievement: Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has not reported any achievement during the last two years.

The implementation of the programme has been evaluated in the meeting held on 6th July, 2012 with State Programme Officers under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (Health). The States have been requested to take necessary steps to complete the programme activities.

National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) (Cancer Component)

In the erstwhile NCCP, no physical targets were fixed. In NPCDCS two districts for 2010-11 and six districts for 2011-12 were selected for release of funds for development of district cancer care facility and district NCD Cell in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Ministry has made a number of communications to the State Government/ concerned institutes for settlement of utilization certificates for releasing of further grant-in-aid.

Maintaining of data bank of experts by CDSCO

528. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) maintains any data bank of experts for seeking opinion before any new drug is approved by it;

(b) if so, on what basis these experts are selected;

(c) whether Government has enquired into the serious allegation of the Parliamentary Committee on Health that experts are appointed on the recommendations of drug manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the findings of that inquiry and what follow up actions were taken?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Government has constituted the following committees of experts for giving their opinions/recommendations to the CDSCO in respect of Investigational New Drugs/New Drug proposals:

- (i) A Committee/Core Panel of experts to advise on matters relating to regulatory approval of clinical trials for Investigational New Drugs (IND)
- (ii) A Core Investigational New Drugs (IND) panel of experts, namely, the Cellular Biology Bases Therapeutic Drugs Evaluation Committee (CBTDEC) to advise on matters pertaining to regulatory pathways leading to the approval of clinical trials and merket authorization for the "therapeutic products derived from Stem Cell, Human Gene Manipulations and Xenotransplant Technology"
- (iii) Twelve New Drugs Advisory Committees (NDACs) to advise on matters related to review and regulatory approval of clinical trials and new drugs (except for Investigational New Drugs)
- (iv) Six Medical Device Advisory Committees (MDACs) to advise on matters related to review and regulatory approval of new medical devices and clinical trials (except for Investigational New Medical Devices)

- (v) A General Experts Pool for Medical device Advisory Committees on matters related to review and regulatory approval of new medical devices and clinical trials (except for Investigational New Medical Devices)

The members of these Committees are eminent doctors/experts from different hospitals/medical/scientific institutions in the country and whose credibility are known to the Government. Most of them belong to the Government/Government-aided autonomous institutions. But eminent experts from non-Government institutions are also sometimes selected based on their scientific calibre, knowledge and eminence.

(c) and (d) The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health & Family Welfare in its 59th Report on the Functioning of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), has stated that many opinions of the experts were actually written by the invisible hands of drug manufacturers. Government has constituted a three member expert committee comprising Dr. V.M. Katoch, Secretary (Department of Health Research) and Director General, ICMR, Dr. P.N. Tandon, President, National Brain Research Centre, Department of Biotechnology, Manesar and Dr. S.S. Aggarwal, former Director, Sanjay Gandhi Post-graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow to inter-alia examine the validity of the scientific and statutory basis adopted for approval of new drugs. The Committee is yet to submit its Report.

Rising cases of leptospirosis in Gujarat

529. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cases of leptospirosis disease shows rising trend in Gujarat;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that it primarily affects the poorest of the poor and especially tribals involved in farm labour or animal husbandry; and
- (c) if so, whether Government intends to provide benefits of progress in medical science to reach poor victims of leptospirosis by sanctioning Centre of Excellence for Research in Gujarat and other States or regions for effective prevention and control of such zoonotic diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Reported cases of leptospirosis have shown an increasing trend in Gujarat during the last three years.

(b) Agricultural workers such as rice field planters and sugarcane and pineapple field harvesters and livestock holders and labourers engaged in canal cleaning operations are usually subjected to exposure to leptospire which have reservoir in rodents, cattle, sheep, goats, etc.

(c) The Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP) is being implemented in all States/UTs including Gujarat with the aim to detect and respond to outbreaks of epidemic prone diseases. Under IDSP, the districts and States have been strengthened by providing additional manpower, training of identified Rapid Response Team (RRT) members for outbreak investigations and strengthening of laboratories for detection of epidemic prone diseases including leptospirosis.

Further, the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Delhi has evolved a strategy and developed guidelines for prevention and control of leptospirosis, rabies, etc. Therefore, there is no proposal for a Centre of Excellence in Gujarat or any other State for research on leptospirosis and other zoonotic diseases.

Achieving MDGs targets

530. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per WHO, India would miss some of the most important Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targets by 2015;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the reasons for the likely failure to achieve these goals; and

(d) the steps taken to improve performance in these sectors?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are eight international development goals set by the United Nations which member countries, including India, have agreed to achieve by the year 2015. MDGs directly pertaining to Health Sector and the progress made by India is as under:

Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality: Target is to reduce Under Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) by two thirds between 1990 & 2015. In case of India, it translates into a goal of reducing U5MR to less than 39 per 1000 live births by 2015. As per the WHO/UNICEF report "countdown to 2015 on maternal, newborn & child survival", India has made insufficient progress with respect to U5MR. However, as per the latest available estimates from the office of Registrar General of India (RGI), the U5MR was 59 per 1000 live births in 2010. Assuming an average decline of 7.8% per year observed during 2009 -2010, India's U5MR will be 39 by 2015 as required under MDG-4.

Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health: Reduce Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) by three quarters between 1990 & 2015. As per the estimates of MMR released by the WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and the World Bank, India requires to reduce MMR from 600 in 1990 to 150 per 100,000 live births in 2015. As per the report "countdown to 2015 on maternal, newborn & child survival", India is "making progress" to achieve MDG-5.

Further, as per the latest estimates released by the office of RGI, the MMR in India stands at 212 per 100,000 live births during 2007-2009. Assuming that the 5.5% rate of annual decline observed during 2004-06 and 2007-09 will continue, India's MMR is likely to reduce to 143 per 100,000 live births in 2015, achieving the MDG target.

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases. Target is to halt by 2015 and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

The progress made so far in this regard is as under:

- In case of HIV/AIDS, new annual HIV infections have declined by 56% during the last decade from 2.7 lakhs in 2000 to 1.2 lakhs in 2009.
- In case of malaria, Annual Parasitic Incidence has been brought down from 2.57 cases per 1000 population in 1990 to 1.10 cases per 1000 population in 2011.
- In case of Tuberculosis, prevalence in India has come down by 57.5% from 586 per 100,000 population in 1990 to 249 per 100,000 population in 2009. Mortality has reduced by 45.2% from 42 per 100,000 population to 23 per 100,000 population during this period.

(d) The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), was launched in 2005 with the aim to improve the availability of and access to quality health care including Maternal and Child Health services and disease control programmes particularly to rural population throughout the country, with a special focus on 18 States with weak public health indicators and infrastructure.

The following steps have been taken by the Government to achieve the MDG indicators in the health sector in the country.

For reducing child mortality, the steps taken include Integrated Management of Neo-natal & childhood illness, training of ASHAs (Accredited Social Health Activist) in Home based new born care, Navajati Shishu Suraksha Karyakram, setting up of sick new born care units at district hospitals, promoting exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding, strengthening routine immunisation programme, focussing on reduction in morbidity and mortality due to Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) and Diarrhoeal Diseases, name based tracking of pregnant women and children, etc.

For improving maternal health, the steps taken include promoting institutional deliveries, strengthening of infrastructure, Strengthening of Essential and Emergency Obstetric Care services, Strengthening Referral Systems, launching of Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram, Maternal Death Review, organising village health and nutrition days, engagement of ASHA at community level, introduction of integrated mother and child health card, etc.

The steps taken to control diseases like HIV / AIDs, Malaria and Tuberculosis include early diagnosis and treatment, improving monitoring and evaluation, strengthening human resources, involvement of NGOs, Private sector and community, providing services near to the doorstep of community, etc.

Rise in Thalassemia cases

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

(a) whether it is a fact that number of Thalassemia patients are on the increase in India; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check this deadly disease?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) While there is no national level data it is estimated that 10,000-12,000 new Thalassaemia syndrome patients are added every year in India (as submitted by a working group on burden of non-communicable diseases).

(b) Health being a State subject, the identification and treatment services are provided by the concerned State Governments. However, the following steps have been taken up by the Central Government:

- (i) The National Blood Transfusion Council under National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) has issued guidelines to all States/UTs that patients suffering from haemophilia or sickle cell anaemia should be provided blood free of cost.
- (ii) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare also give financial assistance for treatment of life threatening diseases at different hospitals under the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) and also the Health Minister's discretionary grant. The categories of treatment to be provided from RAN fund include Anti-haemophilic globulin, Blood and Blood products.
- (iii) Under the Reproductive Child Health (RCH) component of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), the State/UTs submit area specific proposals for inclusion in their state specific Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) for the particular year. These proposals may be for reagents, capacity building or human resources.

H1N1 infections

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

- (a) the number of persons found infected with H1N1 this year in the country;
- (b) whether the number of H1N1 infected persons have risen this year compare to last two years; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government has taken as preventive measures?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The number of laboratory confirmed persons found infected with H1N1 in this year is 2393 (as on 09.08.2012).

(b) No.

(c) Community surveillance to detect early clusters of influenza like illness is done through Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. Laboratory surveillance and testing is done through 45 laboratories (26 in Government Sector and 19 in Private Sector). The affected States were provided Oseltamivir, the antiviral drug, H1N1 vaccine (to vaccinate health care workers), personal protective equipments and masks. Awareness was created through print and visual media. All such information was made available on the website: <http://mohfw-hlnl.nic.in>.

Discovery of anti-malarial compounds in Marine organisms

533. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists have found anti-malarial compounds from marine organisms recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. Scientists have found anti-malarial compounds from marine organisms recently.

Potent anti-plasmodial molecules derived from marine organisms of the Indian waters have been isolated by activity guided chromatographic methods. The potency of these molecules has been examined against *Plasm odium falciparum* in human red cell culture. One of these molecules has been characterized by spectroscopic tools and tentative molecular structure has been obtained. The validation of the structure through chemical synthesis is currently in progress. Following chemical synthesis, the antiplasmodial molecules will be tested in mouse model of Malaria to see their promise as antimalarials of future.

Problems in refilling of CGHS oxygen cylinders

534. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a CGHS beneficiary has to visit his/her dispensary and Medical Store Depot, Gole Market, New Delhi every time to refill their oxygen cylinders prescribed by the doctor and has to incur substantial money on transportation;

(b) whether the capacity of oxygen cylinders provided by CGHS is very less and it got empty within hours;

(c) whether the store is located at 2nd floor and pensioners are compelled to carry the cylinders themselves; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to allow CGHS beneficiaries to get their oxygen cylinders refilled at their place of residence to avoid unnecessary travelling?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Beneficiaries can refill Oxygen Cylinder from any authorized refill station and get it reimbursed from CGHS/Department/Office as the case may be. Also, CGHS Medical Store Depot provides filled cylinders against the vouchers issued from respective Wellness Centers.

(b) CGHS provides Oxygen Cylinders sealed and full to their capacity.

(c) Store is located at 2nd floor associated with lift facility and ramp, which can be utilized. Labourers are also available for carrying/delivering Oxygen cylinders.

(d) This facility is already available. CGHS beneficiaries are allowed to get their oxygen cylinders refilled from an authorized refill station and get it reimbursed from CGHS/Department/Office as the case may be.

Domestic requirements of BCG vaccines

535. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total BCG vaccines domestically produced and marketed in India during the last three years;

(b) the total domestic requirement of BCG vaccines;

(c) whether BCG vaccines are imported to meet the domestic requirements; and

(d) if so, the quantum of import during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The details of total BCG vaccines domestically produced and marketed in India during the last three years is as under:

(In lakh doses)		
Year	Total Production	Sale in India
2009	1677.7	1057.0
2010	1478.3	333.2
2011	1759.8	494.0

Source: Drugs Controller General (India)

(b) The domestic requirement of BCG Vaccine under the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) during the last three years is as under:

(Quantity in lakh doses)	
Year	BCG vaccine requirement under UIP
2010-11	670.01
2011-12	367.93
2012-13	627.32

(c) BCG vaccine is not imported in India.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

Prevention of drug-resistant TB

536. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken to prevent drug-resistant TB;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there has been any attempt to track cases of drug-resistant TB in the country;

- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) Yes. Drug-resistant TB is a man-made phenomenon which can be prevented by quality assured diagnosis and treatment of drug-resistant TB patients. The Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP), based on the WHO recommended strategy of Directly Observed Treatment Short-course (DOTS), has been implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the entire country for diagnosis and treatment of TB. Advocacy for rational use of anti-TB drugs has also been taken up with the health care providers.

Drug-resistant TB services have been initiated across the country. Quality assured diagnosis is provided through a network of culture and drug susceptibility testing laboratories. All drugs for treatment are provided free of cost to all confirmed drug-resistant TB cases registered under the RNTCP.

- (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes. The RNTCP has a surveillance system in place to follow up drug-resistant TB patients diagnosed and initiated on treatment. "DOTS-plus Treatment Card" is opened for each patient (Drug Resistant TB Patient). Who is followed up till an outcome of treatment is obtained.

- (f) Does not arise.

Short-term course in modern medicines

537. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to start a short term course in the modern medicines for rural areas;
- (b) if so, whether Government is aware about the protest received from Delhi as well as other Medical Associations;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Indian Modern Medical System is among the best in the world;

(d) whether Government is aware that graduates of modern medicines are available in abundance in the country; and

(e) if so, the purpose to be served by starting short term course in modern medicines?

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

(c) The Indian System of Medicine and the Modern System of Medicine are two entirely different systems of treatment. The Indian System of Medicine which is also known as the traditional system of medicine consists of Ayurveda, Yoga Siddha and Unani and some of these traditional systems like yoga and ayurveda are increasingly becoming popular in the world.

(d) There is a shortage of doctors in the modern system of medicine, more commonly known as allopathic doctors, particularly in the rural and remote areas of the country. The Government is continuously striving to overcome the shortage.

(e) The purpose of the proposed short term course in modern system of medicine is to generate a cadre of health care providers who by the virtue of the way they are chosen, trained, deployed and supported will be motivated to live in and provide comprehensive primary health care in the rural areas at the sub-center level. The course will focus on essential public health skills to ensure competence in preventive, promotive and rehabilitative services required for rural population.

Misuse of health centres

538. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that health centres were being used as godowns for storage of foodgrains and cow-dung;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No such report has come to the notice of the Government.

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

(c) As mentioned above, no such information has come to the notice of the Government. However, Public Health being a State subject, health centres are maintained and run by respective Government of State/UT.

Underweight and malnourished children

539. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to 2011 Hunger and Malnutrition Survey conducted by Nandi Foundation which examined the nutritional status of almost 1,10,000 children, 42 per cent of children under the five years of age in the country are underweight and malnourished;

(b) whether the Prime Minister has termed child malnutrition in India a National Shame; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps Government proposes to take because the health of the country's economy and society lies in the health of its future generation?

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

(c) Malnutrition is multidimensional and intergenerational and requires interventions through various Ministries to address its many underlying causes in different stages of the life cycle. Under NRHM, the remedial steps taken are as follows:

- Promotion of appropriate infant and young child feeding practices that include early initiation of breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding till 6 months of age.
- Management of malnutrition and common neonatal and childhood illnesses at community and facility level by training service providers in IMNCI (Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses) training.
- Treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition at special units called the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs), set up at public health facilities. Presently 564 such centres are functional all over the country.

- Specific program to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid. Vitamin A supplementation for children till the age of 5 years and Iron & Folic Acid supplementation for children 6 to 60 months.
- Village Health and Nutrition Days and Mother and Child Protection Card are the joint initiative of the Ministries of Health & Family welfare and the Ministry of Woman and Child for addressing the nutrition concerns in children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- Nutrition Education on VHNDs (Village Health and Nutrition Days) to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breastfeeding.
- Growth monitoring of children up to three years by promoting use of Mother and Child Protection card.

Measures for preventing child mortality

540. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the first 50 districts of the country in terms of child mortality (under-5 mortality);
- (b) the districts in Karnataka which top the list of child mortality in that State; and
- (c) the targets Government has fixed for itself in the next three years to reduce child mortality in India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per Annual Health Survey (AHS) 2010-11 report of Registrar General of India, conducted in 9 high focus states (EAG and Assam) comprising 284 districts the list of first 50 districts with high Under-five mortality is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) As AHS 2010-11 has not been conducted in state of Karnataka, district specific information is not available.

(c) State wise Under-five mortality targets given in Record of Proceedings (ROP) of state's PIP 2012-13 by Ministry of Health & Family welfare is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I*First 50 districts of 9 high focus states in term of child mortality*

Sl. No.	State	District	Under 5M Rate
1	2	3	4
1.	Orissa	Kandhamal	145
2.	Uttar Pradesh	Shrawasti	142
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Panna	140
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Satna	130
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Faizabad	129
6.	Uttar Pradesh	Balrampur	128
7.	Uttar Pradesh	Kaushambi	128
8.	Uttar Pradesh	Chitrakoot	125
9.	Uttar Pradesh	Siddharthnagar	121
10.	Uttar Pradesh	Sitapur	120
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Sidhi	118
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Damoh	117
13.	Uttar Pradesh	Kheri	117
14.	Orissa	Balangir	115
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	115
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Lalitpur	114
17.	Uttar Pradesh	Hardoi	113
18.	Uttar Pradesh	Pratapgarh	113
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Budaun	112
20.	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	111

1	2	3	4
21.	Madhya Pradesh	Umaria	110
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Maharajganj	110
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Basti	109
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Sant Ravidas Nagar Bhadohi	109
25.	Orissa	Puri	108
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Chandauli	108
27.	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly	107
28.	Bihar	Sitamarhi	106
29.	Uttar Pradesh	Kushinagar	106
30.	Uttar Pradesh	Shahjahanpur	106
31.	Madhya Pradesh	Shivpuri	105
32.	Orissa	Rayagada	105
33.	Madhya Pradesh	Dindori	104
34.	Assam	Kokrajhar	103
35.	Bihar	Khagaria	103
36.	Chhattisgarh	Surguja	103
37.	Bihar	Purnia	102
38.	Madhya Pradesh	Rewa	102
39.	Orissa	Khordha	102
40.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghazipur	102
41.	Bihar	Madhepura	101
42.	Madhya Pradesh	East Nimar	101
43.	Madhya Pradesh	Sheopur	101

1	2	3	4
44.	Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha	101
45.	Uttar Pradesh	Bahraich	101
46.	Uttar Pradesh	Jaunpur	101
47.	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	101
48.	Chhattisgarh	Jashpur	100
49.	Madhya Pradesh	Datia	99
50.	Madhya Pradesh	Raisen	99

Statement-II

*Under-five mortality targets for major states given
in ROP 2012-13*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	U5 Mortality targets for next three years		
		2013	2014	2015
1	2	3	4	5
Non High Focus States				
1	Andhra Pradesh	34	30	27
2	Delhi	21	18	15
3	Gujarat	36	31	26
4	Haryana	40	36	32
5	Himachal Pradesh	32	27	21
6	Karnataka	30	26	22
7	Kerala	13		
8	Maharashtra	22	19	16
9	Punjab	28	23	18
10	Tamil Nadu	17	14	11
11	West Bengal	25	21	17

1	2	3	4	5
High Focus States				
12	Bihar	46	40	34
13	Chhattisgarh	50	45	40
14	Jammu & Kashmir	37	34	31
15	Jharkhand	44	40	36
16	Madhya Pradesh	64	58	52
17	Orissa	64	58	52
18	Rajasthan	51	45	39
19	Uttar Pradesh	58	51	44
NE- High Focus States				
20	Assam	68	64	60

Note: Under-five mortality data is not available for small NE states and UTs

Radiation from mobile towers

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

- (a) whether the exposure limit of radiation due to mobile towers in the city is not safe;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is planning to reduce the exposure limits of radiations; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Department of Telecommunications had adopted the international EMF norms in the year 2008 in respect of mobile towers prescribed by International Commission on non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). The ICNIRP guidelines are being followed by a number of countries in the world.

(c) and (d) Many Countries, mostly developed Countries have developed their own health based precautionary guidelines where the exposure limit of these radiations is very low.

As per the recommendations of Inter Ministerial Committee on EMF Radiation, the radio frequency emission level exposure limits have been revised to 1/10th of the existing prescribed base station emission level which will be effective from 01.09.2012.

Resumption in production of swine flu vaccine

542. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian drug makers have resumed production of swine flu vaccine as the disease threatens to strike again and nearly 281 patients have tested positive and 21 people have lost their lives in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has ordered sufficient dosage of this vaccine to meet the demands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Indian drug manufacturers namely M/s Serum Institute, Pune; M/s Panacea Biotech, Baddi (Himachal Pradesh) and M/s Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad have been licensed to manufacture and market swine flu vaccine.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recommended vaccination of health care workers and arranged vaccine for the same.

Government medical colleges

†543. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 1980 there were a total of 100 Government Medical Colleges in the country and today after 32 years, these numbers have reached just to 120 while the number of private medical colleges in the country has reached 235 which is double of the number of Government colleges;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so; whether Government proposes to establish more Government Medical Colleges so that maximum number of countrymen could get admission and they have not to go abroad; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per the information provided by the Medical Council of India, there were 99 government medical colleges and 13 private medical colleges in the country in the year 1980. At present, there are 355 medical colleges in the country, out of which 161 are in government sector and 194 in private sector.

(b) and (c) The Working Groups constituted by the Planning Commission have recommended to open new medical colleges in government sector during the 12th Plan Period. Opening of new medical colleges will depend inter alia on the plan allocation and priorities finalized.

Strengthening of PNDT Act

544. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of convictions during the last three years under the PNDT Act in different States in the country;

(b) whether Government is satisfied with the implementation of the law; and

(c) whether Government would consider toughening up the law so that the obnoxious practice of female foeticide is brought to an end at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The State-wise details of convictions secured under the PNDT Act during the last three years are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) The fact that the Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) continues to be disturbingly low reflects that the PC & PNDT Act has not been implemented by the States as effectively as is desirable.

(c) Government of India is continuously taking all steps possible that will bring to an end the obnoxious practice of female foeticide. It has notified important amendments in Rules under the Act, including:

- Amendment to Rule 11 (2) of the PC & PNDT Rules, 1996 to provide for confiscation of unregistered machines and further punishment under the Act.
- Amendment to regulate the use of portable ultrasound equipment and services offered by mobile genetic clinics.
- Amendment to allow the doctors to be registered with a maximum of two USG clinic/centres within a district only.
- Amendment to Rule 5(1) of the PC&PNDT Rules, 1996 regarding enhancement in Registration fee for bodies under PC&PNDT Act.
- Amendment to Rule 13 of the PNDT Rules, 1996 with regard to mandating every Genetic Counselling Centre, Genetic Laboratory, Genetic Clinic, Ultrasound Clinic and Imaging Centre to intimate every change of employee, place, address and equipment installed, to the Appropriate Authority 30 days in advance of the expected date of such change, and seek issuance of a new certificate.

Government of India is also pursuing with the State Governments for effective implementation of the PC & PNDT Act. As an outcome of this, Quarterly Progress Reports are now reflecting an improved compliance of the provisions of the Act by States. 436 cases have been registered against violation of the PC & PNDT Act in last two years as against only 789 cases between 1995 and 2010.

Statement

Convictions under PNDT in last three years

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2009	2010	2011
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3	Assam	0	0	0
4	Bihar	0	0	0
5	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
6	Goa	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	2	1	0
8	Haryana	0	4	7
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
10	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
11	Jharkhand	0	0	0
12	Karnataka	0	0	0
13	Kerala	0	0	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	1
15	Maharashtra	1	2	11
16	Manipur	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	0	0	0
18	Mizoram	0	0	0
19	Nagaland	0	0	0
20	Odisha	0	0	0
21	Punjab	1	0	0
22	Rajasthan	0	0	0
23	Sikkim	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu*	0	0	0
25	Tripura	0	0	0
26	Uttarakhand	0	0	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0
28	West Bengal	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
29	A & N Island	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
32	Daman & Diu	0	0	0
33	Delhi	0	0	0
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35	Puducherry	0	0	0
	TOTAL	4	7	19

CGHS empanelled hospitals in the States

†545. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of hospitals which are on panel of CGHS, State-wise;
- (b) the number of such persons who are registered under CGHS and have taken treatment from these recognised hospitals; and
- (c) whether Government contemplates to increase the number of CGHS Recognised hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) State-wise details of number of private hospitals and diagnostic centres empanelled under Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) are given in Statement (*See* below). The names and addresses of the empanelled private hospitals/diagnostic centres are available at the following link <http://msotransparent.nic.in/cghsnew/index.asp>

(b) The information is not maintained centrally in Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Different Ministries/Departments are empowered to grant permission to their employees to avail medical treatment in CGHS empanelled private hospitals.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) CGHS empanels eligible hospitals and diagnostic centers and revises the rates periodically through tendering and continuous empanelment scheme from time to time. The last empanelment process was completed in 2011.

Statement

Number of CGHS empanelled private hospitals and diagnostic centres - Statewise and locationwise

State	City	Empanelled Hospitals	Diagnostic Centres
1	2	3	4
Delhi	Delhi & NCR	108	35
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	52	10
Assam	Guwahati	2	5
Bihar	Patna	8	4
Gujarat	Ahmadabad	4	3
Karnataka	Bengaluru	32	6
Jharkhand	Ranchi	3	Nil
Kerala	Trivandrum	2	1
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	12	2
	Jabalpur	23	9
Maharashtra	Mumbai	26	3
	Nagpur	28	5
	Pune	36	4
Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	4	Nil
Rajasthan	Jaipur	25	4
Tamilnadu	Chennai	18	2
Uttarakhand	Dehradun	5	3

1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	12	3
	Kanpur	28	14
	Lucknow	18	9
	Meerut	16	2
West Bengal	Kolkata	12	5
Chandigarh (UT)	Chandigarh	7	5
TOTAL		481	134

Directions for clinical trials of all new drugs

546. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every month one drug is being approved without trial;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in many cases even the mandatory Phase-III clinical trials had not been conducted;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has given any direction to conduct clinical trials for all drugs without fail; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No. New drugs are approved in the country based on non-clinical data, clinical data of safety and efficacy of drug, regulatory status in other countries etc. as per the requirements and Guidelines specified in Rules 122A, 122B, 122D and Schedule Y of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

(b) to (e) As per the Schedule Y, for new drug approved outside India, phase III clinical trials need to be carried out primarily to generate evidence of efficacy and safety of the drugs in Indian patients when used as recommended in the prescribing information. However, as per Rule 122 A (2) and Rule 122 B (3), the

requirement of such local clinical trial may not be necessary if the drug is of such a nature that the Licensing Authority may, in public interest, decide to grant permission to import/manufacture the new drug on the basis of data available from other countries.

Further, as per clause 1 (3) of Schedule Y, for drugs indicated in life threatening/serious diseases or diseases of special relevance to the Indian health scenario, clinical data requirements may be abbreviated, deferred or omitted, as deemed appropriate by the Licensing Authority.

Malnutrition problem in Bihar

‡547. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that according to a committee appointed by the Supreme Court, 55 per cent population in Bihar is suffering from malnutrition and 70 per cent population of women and children is suffering from anaemia; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS-III) 2005-06 report in Bihar, 55.9% children under age five years are underweight and 45.1% women in the age group 15-49 years have chronic energy deficient (BMI below 18.5). Prevalence of anaemia in women of 15-49 years & children under age five years is 67.4% & 78.0 % respectively.

(b) Government has taken the following measures to improve the health and nutritional status of vulnerable population including women and children of the country:

1. Prime Minister's National Council on India's Nutrition Challenges was set up in October, 2008 for policy direction, review & effective coordination between Ministries which all will have a sectoral responsibility for the challenge of Nutrition.
2. A National Nutrition Policy has been adopted in 1993 and a National Plan of Action for Nutrition (1995) is being implemented through various Departments of Government.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

3. Reproductive Child Health Programme under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) includes:
- Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) to promote maternal health & institutional deliveries for better birth outcomes.
 - Focus on Maternal Health by promoting institutional deliveries improved coverage and quality of ANC skilled care to pregnant women, Post-partum care at community level.
 - Emphasis on appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding.
 - Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK).
 - Immunization of children to prevent them from both morbidity and mortality.
 - Promotion of ORS with zinc supplementation for a period of two weeks during the diarrhoea management.
 - Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illnesses and malnutrition.
 - Treatment of severe acute malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers (NRCs) set up at public health facilities.
 - Specific Programme to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A, Iron & Folic Acid. Vitamin A supplementation for children from 9 months to the age of 5 years. Iron & Folic Acid syrup to children from the age of 6 months to 5 years. Iron & Folic Acid Supplementation to pregnant and lactating women & adolescents.
4. National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP) for promotion of adequately iodated salt consumption at household level.
5. Nutrition Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification is encouraged under both Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

Ambulance service for the North-eastern States

548. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry would consider providing 108 ambulance service to the North-Eastern States without insisting on the State Government's contribution;

(b) whether the Ministry contemplates on providing Neonatal 108 ambulance service to these States; and

(c) if so, the State-wise allocation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Under NRHM, all State/UT Governments project their requirements of funds for undertaking various activities including 108 ambulance services for improvement in health care transportation facilities in their respective annual Programme Implementation Plan(PIP). The Government of India releases the fund for taking up the approved activities. At present, no such proposal is being considered for providing 108 ambulance service to the North-Eastern States without insisting on the State Government's contribution. Under NRHM Programme, funding share between, Centre and the North-Eastern States is 90:10, unlike most other States for which this ratio is 75:25.

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

Sharp increase in premature births

549. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a sharp increase in the number of premature births in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for this increase;

(c) the figures in this regard for the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken to reverse this trend of premature birth?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) As per recent WHO publication "Born too Soon: The Global Action Report on Preterm Births", out of an estimated annual 2.7 Crore live births in India, 35 lakh babies are born preterm. This report also highlights the fact that preterm births are rising all over the world. However there is no specific data available for India in this regard.

(b) Most preterm births happen spontaneously without any underlying cause. The common causes of preterm births include:

(i) Socio-Economic causes: Poor socioeconomic status, early age of marriage, low literacy rate, inadequate spacing between pregnancies, maternal malnutrition and micronutrient deficiency, smoking and indoor air pollution

(ii) Maternal causes

- Maternal Stress factors like, depression, domestic violence, poor antenatal care, inadequate rest during pregnancy.
- Maternal infections and Sexually transmitted infections and HIV.
- Maternal Medical Conditions like diabetes and hypertension.
- Greater use of infertility treatments leading to increased rates of multiple pregnancies.
- Changes in obstetric practices such as more caesarean births before term.

(iii) The genetic factors also play a role in the preterm births.

(c) The data regarding preterm births are not maintained at the national level.

(d) The following interventions under RCH programme of NRHM are being implemented;

- 1) Prevention and treatment of Anaemia by supplementation with Iron and Folic Acid tablets during pregnancy and lactation.
- 2) Name Based Tracking of Pregnant Women to ensure complete antenatal, intranatal and postnatal care.
- 3) Operationalizing Community Health Centers as First Referral Units (FRUs) and Primary Health Centers (24X7) for round the clock maternal care services.)
- 4) Promotion of Institutional Delivery through Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) and Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK): Promoting Institutional delivery to ensure skilled birth attendance is key to reducing both maternal and neo-natal mortality.

- 5) Strengthening Facility based newborn care: Newborn care corners (NBCC) are being set up at all health facilities where deliveries take place; Special New Born Care Units (SNCUs) and New Born Stabilization Units (NBSUs) are also being set up at appropriate facilities for the care of sick newborn including preterm babies.
- 6) Home Based Newborn Care (HBNC): Home based newborn care through ASHA has been initiated to improve new born practices at the community level and early detection and referral of sick new born babies.
- 7) Capacity building of health care providers: Various trainings are being conducted under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to build and upgrade the skills of health care providers in basic and comprehensive obstetric care of mother during pregnancy, delivery and essential newborn care.
- 8) Adolescent Reproductive Sexual Health Programme (ARSH) – Specially for adolescents to have better access to family planning, prevention of Sexually transmitted Infections, Provision of counselling and peer education.

Illegal removal of uterus

†550. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that a large number of women in different districts of Chhattisgarh like Raipur, Durg etc. induced with the fear of having uterus cancer, their uterus were removed and 20 to 25 thousands rupees were charged from them by the doctors;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a large number of nursing homes and private hospitals are active in this work;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that most of the women are in the age group of 25 to 35; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government against such doctors, nursing homes and private hospitals?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Government of Chhattisgarh has informed that on the basis of news paper reports, they have ordered an enquiry into the matter.

Study of neuro-disorders among children

551. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is conducting a study on neuro-disorders among children in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of children who have been screened so far, including the number of children found positive, State-wise, including Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) the details of steps Government has taken to provide specific treatment to cure such children, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) There is no proposal at present under consideration in this Ministry for conducting a study on neuro-disorders among children in the country.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Non-essential drugs in the market

552. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steering Committee on Health headed by the Planning Commission member, Syeda Hameed, recently stated that the market is awash with irrational, non-essential and hazardous drugs of the top 10 products which accounted for 10 per cent of the medicines sold in the market; and

(b) if so, the detailed actions taken so far, to totally curb all such irregularities and to curb all such unethical promotions of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No.

(b) In order to check the unethical conduct of the pharmaceutical companies promoting their medicines through the medical professionals by giving them gifts, hospitality, trips to foreign and domestic destinations, etc, the Medical Council of

India has prohibited acceptance of gifts by the doctors from the pharma companies. Department of Pharmaceuticals under Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has also prepared a draft Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices, which is voluntary in nature.

Deaths due to NCDs

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) are emerging as a leading cause of death in the country accounting for 42 per cent of all deaths;

(b) whether it is also a fact that NCDs cause significant morbidity and mortality in population with considerable loss in potentially productive years of life; and

(c) the details of programmes formulated and implemented to check NCDs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes. As per the report on cause of death in India 2001-2003 by office of the Registrar General of India, 2009 non-communicable diseases are the leading causes of death in the country for 42% of all deaths. According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Burden of Disease study, the disease burden estimated for Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD), Stroke, Diabetes Mellitus is given below:

Burden of disease estimates for IHD, Stroke, Diabetes and Cancer (2004)

Disease	Number of cases (in millions)	No. of deaths (in millions)	Days Lost (in millions)
IHD	22.4	0.55	16.0
Stroke	0.93	0.64	6.4
Diabetes	37.8	0.1	2.3
Cancer	0.82	0.26	5.9

(c) The Government of India has initiated a National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

(NPCDCS) during the 11th Five Year Plan. The programme focuses on health promotion, capacity building including human resource development, early diagnosis and management of these diseases and integration with the primary health care system. 100 selected Districts of 21 States have been taken up under the programme during the 11th Five Year Plan.

Resolutions moved by India in World Health Assembly

554. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has moved any resolution during the sixty-fifth World Health Assembly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the status of such resolutions;

(d) whether Government proposes to develop a mental health policy for the country and introduce new legislation to replace the Mental Health Act, 1987;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government has made any assessment to find out the number of persons with mental illnesses in the country; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c) India proposed initially an additional agenda item for discussion during 130th meeting of Executive Board (EB) of the WHO held during 16-23 January 2012 on the "Global burden of mental disorders and the need for a comprehensive, coordinated response from health and social sectors at the country level". A resolution in this regard has also been moved by India which was co-sponsored by Switzerland and USA and had been approved by the EB with the recommendation to the 65th World Health Assembly (WHA) for adoption of the resolution. The 65th WHA in its meeting held during 21-26 May 2012, adopted the above resolution.

(d) and (e) Yes. A new Mental Health Care Bill, 2011 has been drafted, and is under consideration to replace the Mental Health Act 1987. This aims to provide

access to mental health care for persons with mental illness and to protect and promote the rights of persons with mental illness during the delivery of mental health care.

(f) and (g) Yes, as per the National Survey of Mental Health Resources carried out by the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare during May and July 2012, the number of patients with mental illness in the country are 6,15,21,790. Out of this, 1,02,70,165 persons have major mental disorders and 5,12,51,625 persons have minor mental disorders.

Establishment of RIMS in the States

†555. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for establishing Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) on the lines of AIIMS received by the Ministry from the States, State-wise;

(b) the details of States to whom permission on establish RIMS has been accorded;

(c) the details of scheme to establish RIMS in all States of the country in future; and

(d) the number of States where RIMS have been established so far?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes. The Central Government has received requests from the Governments of Delhi, Kerala, Maharashtra and Jharkhand.

(b) Presently there is no proposal to establish RIMS on the lines of AIIMS in the above mentioned four States.

(c) The working group on Tertiary Health Institutions constituted under the Steering Committee has inter alia recommended to Planning Commission to establish four more AIIMS-like Institutions in various parts of the country during the 12th Plan.

(d) Presently there is only one Regional Institute of Medical Sciences located in Imphal.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Setting up of Government-owned medical stores

556. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration with the Ministry to open and establish Government owned/operated medical stores of Government pharmaceutical companies in each district of Gujarat most probably near district civil hospitals;

(b) how many life saving medicines can be sold at concessional rate or subsidized rate for BPL people;

(c) whether doctors serving in Government hospitals can be made to prescribe medicines of Government pharmaceutical companies;

(d) whether it is possible to manufacture certain medicines compared to private companies medicine; and

(e) what other steps can be taken to provide cheap life saving medicine to the needy patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare does not have any proposal to open Government owned/operated medical stores of Government pharmaceutical companies. The Department of Pharmaceuticals has, however, informed that it has initiated a Jan Aushadhi Campaign in November, 2008, which aims to open and establish Jan Aushadhi Stores (JAS) to make available quality unbranded generic medicines to common person. Under the Jan Aushadhi Store Campaign, the State Government has to provide space in Government hospitals. At present no Jan Aushadhi Store is functional in Gujarat.

(b) The aim of Jan Aushadhi Store Campaign is to make available quality medicines at affordable prices for all especially the poor and the disadvantaged.

(c) Repeated circulars/instructions have been issued to all Central Government hospitals and CGHS dispensaries to prescribe generic medicines to the maximum extent possible. The State Governments have also similarly been asked to instruct their doctors to prescribe generic medicines.

(d) Yes. Certain medicines are also manufactured by the Public Sector Undertakings.

(e) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has already requested the Department of Pharmaceuticals, the administrative Department of the Drug Price Control Order (DPCO), 1995, to bring all medicines in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2011 within the purview of the price control of the DPCO.

Setting up of AIIMS-like institute under PMSSY

557. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) has two components in the first phase;
- (b) whether the AIIMS-like institutions in 6 States have been set up; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that upgradation work in the second component was to be completed by 2011-12?

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

(b) The six AIIMS like Institutions are in the process of being set up. However, the academic session for MBBS course at these Institutions is scheduled to start from September 2012.

(c) Yes.

Sale of fake drugs

558. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the US Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) has recently issued warning on fake Tamiflu, Alii, 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 NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The office of the Drugs Controller General (India) has

stated that it does not have any information of any recent warning issued by United State Food and Drugs Administration (US-FDA) regarding availability of fake tamiflu, Alii, Surgical mesh and Glucose test strips in the USA. Though 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.

Cases of blindness from eye operations

559. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of his Ministry that 9 people became blind upon being operated in a private hospital, Amma Eye Hospital in Ongole of Andhra Pradesh on 22nd May, 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for people becoming blind;

(c) whether any enquiry by the State Government or his Ministry has been instituted;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action the Ministry has taken against the hospital involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) and (b) As per the report furnished by the Director of Public Health & Family Welfare, Government of Andhra Pradesh, thirteen patients lost vision in one eye due to post operative infection during Eye operation on 22.05.2012 at Amma Eye Hospital in Ongole, Andhra Pradesh. Nine cases were sent to Sarojinidevi Eye Hospital, Hyderabad and remaining four cases were sent to Sankara Netralaya Eye Hospital, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh for treatment.

(c) A duly constituted Enquiry Committee by the Government of Andhra Pradesh through the Director of Medical Education, Andhra Pradesh has enquired into the eye mishap on 07.06.2012 at the Amma Hospital, Ongole, Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The Enquiry Committee, in their concluding report, has stated that the Operation Theatre was properly sterilized, but the consumed fluids: viscoelastic & other fluids, which could not be collected for testing immediately, may be the source of infection.

(e) The State Government Eye Hospitals and identified private Eye Hospitals including Amma Eye Hospital, Ongole, Andhra Pradesh are participating in various eye-care activities under direct supervision of respective State/District Health Society as per the guidelines issued under National Programme for Control of Blindness by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. As per the report furnished by the Government of Andhra Pradesh following action has been taken against the Amma Eye Hospital, Ongole, Andhra Pradesh:

1. The Operation theatre of the hospital was sealed on 24.05.2012 by the DM&HO, Prakasham. Andhra Pradesh.
2. As per the judgement of the Lok Adalat, Ongole, Andhra Pradesh an agreement has been made to pay @ Rs.90,000/- to four patients and @ Rs.80,000/- to nine patients towards compensation by the Hospital.

Unethical promotions of new drugs

560. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Parliamentary Committee on Health has reported that between January, 2008 and October, 2010, 33 drugs were approved without clinical trials and that many of the expert opinions recommending new drugs were clearly written by drug manufacturers; and

(b) if so, what action have been taken by Government to withdraw such drugs from the market and what penal actions were initiated against those medical experts who indulged in such unethical activities?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health & Family Welfare in its 59th Report on the Functioning of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has raised various issues pertaining to the functioning of the organisation, including alleged approval of drugs without clinical trials.

New drugs are approved by the CDSCO based on non-clinical data, clinical data of safety and efficacy of drug, regulatory status in other countries etc. as per the Guidelines and requirements specified in Rule 122A, 122B, 122D and Schedule-Y of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. However, as per Rule 122 A (2) and

Rule 122 B (3), the requirement of clinical trial may not be necessary if the drug is of such a nature that the Licensing Authority may, in public interest, decide to grant permission to import/manufacture the new drug on the basis of data available from other countries. Further, as per clause 1 (3) of Schedule Y, for drugs indicated in life threatening/serious diseases or diseases of special relevance to the Indian health scenario, clinical data requirements may be abbreviated, deferred or omitted, as deemed appropriate by the Licensing Authority.

Government has constituted a three member expert committee comprising Dr. V.M. Katoch, Secretary (Department of Health Research) and Director General, ICMR, Dr. P.N. Tandon, President, National Brain Research Centre, Department of Biotechnology, Manesar and Dr. S.S. Aggarwal, former Director, Sanjay Gandhi Post-graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow to *inter-alia* examine the validity of the scientific and statutory basis adopted for approval of new drugs without Phase-III clinical trials on Indian population. The Committee is yet to submit its Report.

Complaints received by MCI against doctors

561. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India (MCI) have received any complaints against the doctors (Government/Private) for their illegal acts, during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of doctors whose registration has been cancelled by the MCI for illegal acts till date, across the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) As per information furnished by the Medical Council of India (MCI), the Council had received 1948 complaints against doctors during the period from 2008-09 to 2010-11. The complaint were ethical in nature. Out of these, 718 were referred to concerned State Medical Councils/State Authorities for necessary action while the remaining 1230 complaints were disposed off by MCI. Out of these 1230 complaints, licenses of 32 doctors were temporarily suspended for various time periods and 14 doctors were warned.

Approvals to drugs without clinical trials

562. SHRI SABIR ALI:

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI:

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

(a) the 30 drugs found approved without clinical trials between January, 2008 and October, 2010;

(b) whether Government is aware of the damning revelations made of the unholy nexus existing in the country between the drugs industry, medical profession and the body that oversees the licensing and trial of drugs; and

(c) if so, the steps Government has taken to break the nexus and punish those experts who have recommended for approval of the drugs to insure manufacture and sale of safe and efficacious drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health & Family Welfare in its 59th Report on the Functioning of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has raised various issues pertaining to the functioning of the organisation, including alleged approval of drugs without clinical trials.

New drugs are approved by the CDSCO based on non-clinical data, clinical data of safety and efficacy of drug, regulatory status in other countries *etc.* as per the Guidelines and requirements specified in Rule 122A, 122B, 122D and Schedule-Y of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. However, as per Rule 122 A (2) and Rule 122 B (3), the requirement of clinical trial may not be necessary if the drug is of such a nature that the Licensing Authority may, in public interest, decide to grant permission to import/manufacture the new drug on the basis of data available from other countries. Further, as per clause 1 (3) of Schedule Y, for drugs indicated in life threatening/serious diseases or diseases of special relevance to the Indian health scenario, clinical data requirements may be abbreviated, deferred or omitted, as deemed appropriate by the Licensing Authority.

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graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow to inter alia examine the validity of the scientific and statutory basis adopted for approval of new drugs without Phase-III clinical trials on Indian population. The Committee is yet to submit its Report.

Scheme for providing free generic medicines

†563. CHAUDHARY MUNABBAR SALEEM:

SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

- (a) whether Government has any such scheme wherein generic medicines will be given free of cost in Government hospitals;
- (b) whether the Centre and the States will operate this scheme jointly;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when this scheme will get implemented and how many people will get benefited from it?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) The Government proposes to start an initiative for free supply of essential medicines in public health facilities in the country aiming to provide affordable health care to the people by reducing out of pocket expenses on medicine.

This initiative will promote rational use of medicines and reduce the consumption of inessential, unscientific and hazardous medicines.

The initiative is based on the Tamil Nadu model where free medicines procured in bulk by the Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation (TNMSC), in generic name, directly from the manufacturers is supplied through an IT enabled supply chain management system to the public.

States would be encouraged to set up TNMSC like institutions or use any existing institution with sufficient autonomy for bulk procurement of essential drugs in generic names directly from the manufacturers in generic names.

The drugs would be supplied by the district warehouses through an IT enabled supply chain management system.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Special focus on cancer treatment

564. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study one in six cancer cases is caused by preventable infection;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in India viral infections account for 25-30 per cent of all cervical cancers;

(c) whether Government is giving special focus on treating cancers in all the Government hospitals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), a study on "Global burden of cancers attributable to infections in 2008: a review and synthetic analysis" published by International Agency for Research on Cancer reported that of the 12.7 million new cancer cases that occurred in 2008, the population attributable fraction (PAF) for infectious agents was 16.1%; meaning around 2 million new cancer cases were due infections.

(b) Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is an important risk factor in causation of cervical cancer. HPVs are a group of more than 150 related viruses. High risk HPV infection accounts for approximately 5 percent of all cancers worldwide. Virtually all cervical cancers are caused by HPV infections, with just two HPV types, 16 and 18, responsible for about 70 percent of all cases. Most high risk HPV infections occur without any symptoms, go away within 1 to 2 years and do not cause cancer. Persistent infections with HPV can progress to cancer.

(c) and (d) Health is a State subject and the Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by providing financial assistance to Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals/Institutions. 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 envisages implementation in 100 districts across 21 States during 2010-2012. Under Cancer component of NPCDCS, the district hospitals are strengthened for early diagnosis of Cancer, chemotherapy facilities and palliative

care to Cancer patients. The programme also envisages strengthening Government Medical Colleges/Hospitals and erstwhile Regional Cancer Centres across the country as Tertiary Cancer Centre (TCC) for providing comprehensive Cancer care services. These TCCs 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). Besides, this Ministry has recognized 27 Regional Cancer Centres under the National Cancer Control Programme in various States/UTs for carrying out research activity and providing cost effective treatment to the poor and needy cancer patients.

Dengue menace in Delhi

565. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the mosquito menace in Delhi, if so, the number of patients found afflicted by dengue fever as of now; and

(b) whether there has been unprecedented increase in the mosquito population, if so, how Government proposes to meet the challenge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): (a) Yes, 9 dengue cases have been reported from Delhi in 2012 (till 31st July).

(b) No.

Modernisation of BCG vaccine laboratory, Guindy

566. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest status of the BCG Vaccine Laboratory at Guindy, Chennai;

(b) whether Government has decided to modernise the BCG Vaccine Laboratory at Guindy, Chennai; and

(c) if so, the time-frame to complete the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Consequent upon revocation of suspension of vaccine manufacturing license in 2010, the production of BCG vaccine has resumed in BCG Vaccine Laboratory, Guindy. The batches produced have been sent to Central Drugs Laboratory (CDL), Kasauli for testing.

(b) The upgradation of BCG Vaccine Laboratory Guindy, Chennai as per Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) standards has been approved.

(c) The target date for completion of project including commissioning and validation is twenty four months from the date of commencement of the project.

Infrastructural problems in Government hospitals

567. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that every Government hospital in the country is overcrowding due to inadequate infrastructure including doctors, medicines and building accommodation *etc.*;

(b) if so, whether Government felt the need to provide adequate infrastructure to Government hospitals;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is taking any concrete measure to solve this problem;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f) Health is state subject and it the responsibility of the State Governments to create adequate health infrastructure in the States to meet the growing number of the patients. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing assistance through various programmes such as NRHM *etc.* In addition, Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yoiana (PMSSY) was approved. It aims at correcting the imbalances in availability of affordable/reliable tertiary level healthcare in the country in general and augmenting facilities for quality medical education in the under-served States.

The scheme envisages setting up six institutions like the AIIMS, one each in the States of Bihar (Patna), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Odisha (Bhubaneshwar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur), Chhattisgarh (Raipur) and Uttarakhand (Rishikesh); and upgradation of 13 existing medical institutions.

As far as three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi, viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and LHMC and associated Hospitals are concerned, it is a fact that there is an increase of patients. In order to meet the need of increasing load of patients in these hospitals, up-gradation of Hospital infrastructure and services is done on a continuous basis in their available resources.

Production of electric and hybrid vehicles in the country

568. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans, to promote electric and hybrid vehicles production in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by Government for early implementation of the National Mission for Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (NMHEV) in order to encourage manufacturing and selling of alternative fuel based vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has launched National Mission for Electric Mobility in the country for hastening the early manufacture and adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles so as to reduce dependence on imported fuel. The Government has set up National Council for Electric Mobility (NCEM) having Union Ministers of all stakeholder Ministries as its members and National Board for Electric Mobility (NBEM) consisting of Secretary level officers of stakeholder Ministries. The National Council and National Board for Electric Mobility also have very senior level representatives of industry, research institutes etc. as its members.

(c) The NBEM has met twice and formed three working groups on R&D, Infrastructure and Demand & Supply for effective roll out of the electric mobility initiative. Based on the NBEM meetings, a draft National Electric Mobility Mission Plan-2020 has been formulated in consultation with all stakeholders including Ministries/Departments, Academia and Industry.

Amount earmarked for SCSP and TSP

569. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount earmarked for Scheduled Caste Special Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) to the Ministry for the last three years;
- (b) the actual amount spent under these plans, separately, year-wise; and
- (c) the details of beneficiaries and achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Nil, as the Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises provides support to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under its control for industrial projects, restructuring, up-gradation and modernization, which has no scope for Scheduled Caste Special Plan or Tribal Sub Plan.

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

Shortfall in gas production

570. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether production of gas is estimated to decline in 2012-13 and 2013-14;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for the likely shortfall in the production of gas;
- (d) whether gas prices are likely to increase in view of estimated shortage of gas supplies; and
- (e) the measures proposed to be taken by Government to protect the consumers from this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The details of actual production of gas during 2011-12 and estimated production of gas for the years 2012-13 and 2013-14 in respect of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and Private/Joint Venture companies (Pvt/Jvs) are as under:

Year	In Billion Cubic Metre (BCM)		
	ONGC	OIL	Pvt/Jvs
2011-12 (Actual)	23.32	2.63	21.61
2012-13 (Projected)	24.88	2.91	15.38
2013-14 (Projected)	25.47	3.80	14.50

Under the Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) regime, the gas production is projected to decrease in 2012-13 and 2013-14 as compared to the gas produced during 2011-12. The reasons for reduction in the production of gas under the PSC regime is due to estimated lower gas production from D1 & D3 fields in KG-DWN-98/3 (KG-D6) block, and from ageing and matured fields.

(d) The Government approves the price formula/basis under the PSCs signed under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) regime after considering the price formula submitted by the contractor on the basis of competitive arms length sales in the region for similar sales and under similar conditions. The Administered Price Mechanism (APM) and Non-APM Gas price is determined by the Government. However, imported Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) price is decided by international factors.

(e) The following measures have been taken by the Government to protect the consumers by way of increasing gas availability, infrastructure and utilizing the existing gas in accordance with the Gas Utilization Policy:-

- (i) Increase in Exploration activity.
- (ii) Building infrastructure for RLNG.
- (iii) New/expansion of pipeline network.
- (iv) Pro-rata cuts on supply of gas to different priority sectors in the reverse order of priority, viz non-core sectors, City Gas Distribution, Power, LPG and then Fertilizers.

Funds allocated for SCSP and TSP

571. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount earmarked for Scheduled Caste Special Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) to the Ministry during the last three years;
- (b) the actual amount spent under these plans, separately, year-wise, and
- (c) the details of beneficiaries and achievements thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No budgetary allocation was made for Scheduled Caste Special Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) in the Ministry during the last three years.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Disaster Recovery Centre of ONGC at Hyderabad

572. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telangana movement disturbances went against the development of telangana region as the disturbances scared the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation(ONGC) to drop plans to build Rs.282 crore Disaster Recovery Centre near ICICI building at Gachibowli, Hyderabad;

(b) whether a piece of land of 2.6 acres was allotted to ONGC more than six years back at Hyderabad and ONGC continues to pay crores of rupees every year without using the land for the purpose for which it was allotted; and

(c) whether the project would commence immediately in the interest of development of telangana region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) No Sir. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC)'s building development plan was not affected. While ONGC has carried out all preparatory work such as design and architectural plans already, construction activities have now been put on fast track, to meet the office space requirement at Hyderabad. For this, piece of land measuring 2.6 acre has been allotted to ONGC and Statutory levies for the same have been paid by the ONGC.

Reduction in kerosene oil quota for Uttarakhand

†573. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether different norms are being adopted for fixing kerosene oil quota for Himalayan States of India viz. Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for reducing the Kerosene oil quota for Uttarakhand?

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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 (in states 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. In view of peculiar geographical/security situation no reductions were made in 2012-13 in J&K, North East States, A&N Islands, UT of Lakshadweep and Sikkim. However, quantity lapsed has been reduced in respect of all the States/UTs wherever applicable.

(c) Kerosene quota for the State of Uttarakhand was reduced on account of expansion in Domestic LPG and cap on account of per annum per capita allocation (PCA) for non-LPG population.

Impact of global fall in crude oil price

†574. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the difference between demand and supply at international level, the price of crude oil during the month of June, 2012 had fallen up to 25 per cent;

(b) if so, the difference between the minimum and maximum sale price of crude oil in international market during the said period;

(c) whether, as a result of fall in the prices in the international market, prices of petroleum products were cut in India; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) The price of Indian Basket Crude touched \$123.9 per barrel on 3.4.2012. Thereafter, it started decreasing and reached \$ 89.18 per barrel on 22.6.2012. The price once again started increasing and has reached \$ 109.15 per barrel on 8.8.2012.

(b) The minimum and maximum daily average price of Indian basket crude oil during June, 2012 are given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

	Date	Indian Basket Crude Oil (\$/bbl.)
Minimum during June 2012	22.06.2012	89.19
Maximum during June 2012	06.06.2012	98.59
Difference		9.40

(c) and (d) The price of Petrol was made market-determined with effect from 26.6.2010. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have been taking decision on the pricing of Petrol in line with the international oil prices and market conditions. Accordingly, OMCs reduced the price of Petrol by Rs.2.02 per litre effective 3rd June, 2012 and Rs.2.46 per litre effective 29th June, 2012 at Delhi.

However, in order to insulate the common man from the impact of the international oil prices and the domestic inflationary conditions, the Government continues to modulate the retail selling price of Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG. There is no revision in basic prices of these products since 25.6.2011. As a result, OMCs have incurred under-recovery of Rs. 1,38,541 crore during 2011-12 and Rs.47,811 crore during April-June, 2012 on sale of these petroleum products. Based on the refinery gate price effective 1st August 2012, the OMCs are currently incurring under-recovery of Rs.12.06 per litre on Diesel, Rs.28.54 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs.231.00 per cylinder on Domestic LPG.

Use of gas as alternative to oil

†575. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of decreasing global crude prices, Government has worked on any action plan to stabilise the prices of oil in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is making any policy to use alternative source of gas as an alternative to oil; 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 price of Petrol has been

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

made market-determined with effect from 26.6.2010. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have been taking decision on the pricing of Petrol in line with the international oil prices and market conditions. Accordingly, in line with reduction in price of Petrol in the international market, OMCs have reduced the price of Petrol by Rs.2.02 per litre effective 3rd June, 2012 and Rs.2.46 per litre effective 29th June, 2012 at Delhi.

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 resulting in under-recovery to the OMCs on sale of these products. Based on the Refinery Gate Price effective 1st August, 2012, the OMCs are currently incurring under recovery of Rs.12.06 per litre on Diesel, Rs.28.54 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs.231.00 per 14.2 kg cylinder on Domestic LPG. There is no revision in price of these products since 25th June, 2011.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (c).

Production capacity of oil refineries

†576. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country's oil refineries have more production capacity than the requirement of consumption of petroleum products in the country;

(b) if so, the details of quantity of requirement for the consumption of petroleum products and production capacity of oil refineries of the country during March 2012;

(c) whether production capacity is likely to be increased further in the country; and

(d) if so, the expected capacity of production by 2017 and reasons for sharp increase in expansion of this industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

country's oil refineries have more production capacity than the requirement of consumption of petroleum products in the country. Surplus refined petroleum products are exported.

Details of production capacity of oil refineries and consumption of various petroleum products in the year 2011-12 are given as under:

Products	Production (Million Metric Tonne)	Consumption (Million Metric Tonne)
LPG	9.554	15.358
Naphtha	18.707	11.105
MS	27.207	14.992
ATF	10.061	5.536
SKO	8.019	8.229
HSD	82.929	64.742
LDO	0.502	0.415
Lubes	1.027	2.745
FO + LSHS	19.433	9.232
Bitumen	4.599	4.628
Others	21.955	11.014
TOTAL	203.993	147.996

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Production capacity is projected to increase to 313.556 MMTPA by the end of the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17). The processing of crude oil and production of petroleum products by refineries/oil companies are undertaken by the oil companies/refineries based on their individual economic consideration and viability assessment. Addition of refining capacity also contributes to economic growth, creating direct and indirect employment and boosting socio-economic development.

Oil refinery project in Rajasthan

577. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vedanta Resources is keen to take on a stake in the Rs.20,000 crore oil refinery project in Rajasthan;

(b) which of the Indian companies are likely to be stakeholders in the venture; and

(c) the quantum of refined oil likely to be produced, annually, by this venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) So far, there is no concrete proposal to set up a refinery in Rajasthan.

Restriction on sale of gas by contractors

578. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether while inviting bids for NELP I to VI, Government had promised contractors that they would be free to sell gas in domestic market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) also provide that contractors have the freedom to market the gas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if so, the reasons for Government violating the PSC by restricting sale of gas to parties chosen by it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (e) Article 21 of NELP Production Sharing Contract (PSC) contains stipulations on domestic sale obligations and marketing freedom of the Contractor in respect of natural gas. The relevant provisions from NELP-I to NELP-VI PSC are reproduced below:

21.1 Subject to Article 21.2, the Indian domestic market shall have the first call on the utilization of Natural Gas discovered and produced from the contract area. Accordingly, any proposal by the Contractor relating to discovery and production of Natural Gas from the contract area shall be made in the context of the Government's Policy for the utilization of natural gas and shall take into account the objectives of the Government to develop its resources in the most efficient manner and to promote conservation measures.

21.2 The Contractor shall have the right to use Natural Gas produced from the Contract Area for the purpose of Petroleum Operations including reinjection for pressure maintenance in Oil Fields, gas lifting and captive power generation required for Petroleum Operations.

21.3 For the purpose of sales in the domestic market pursuant to this Article 21, the Contractor shall have freedom to market the Gas and sell its entitlement.

LPG subsidy

†579. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

- (a) whether Government is going to abolish subsidy on LPG;
- (b) the norms fixed by Government for abolishing subsidy; and
- (c) whether subsidy for the BPL persons will continue and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Oil export to Pakistan

580. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Pakistan have held series of talks over export of refined fuel to Pakistan in near future from Punjab's Bathinda Oil Refinery; and
- (b) if so, the outcome of the talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Pursuant to the decisions taken in the 5th Round of Talks on Commercial and Economic Cooperation between the Commerce Secretaries of India and Pakistan held in Islamabad on 27-28 April 2011, a 'Group of Experts' to Expand Trade in Petroleum Products between India and Pakistan' was constituted.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The objective of the Experts' Group is to initiate and substantially expand trade in all types of petroleum products between the two countries. The Group's mandate includes the trade arrangements, building of cross border pipelines and use of road/ rail route, including the Munabao-Khokrapar route, etc.

The First Meeting of the Experts' Group on Trade in Petroleum & Petrochemical Products between India and Pakistan was held on 17-18 July, 2012 at New Delhi.

(b) In order to boost trade in Petroleum and Petrochemical Products, both sides recognized that in the current international scenario, trade in petroleum products between the two sides would have to be guided by the principles of commerciality and market considerations. It was also agreed that commercial matters such as matching product specification requirements, pricing, other term and conditions of trade, participation in tenders etc. would be left to the commercial entities of both sides.

Both Sides agreed to take up infrastructure and logistics-related issues with their respective authorities like Department of Posts, Railways, Finance, Home Affairs etc.

Different estimates of gas reserve in KG-D6

†581. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different estimates regarding quantity of gas reserve in KG-D6 areas have been received so far;

(b) if so, the details of these estimates and the periods when these estimates were made and by whom;

(c) whether variations in figures of these estimates are being found and, if so, to what extend; and

(d) if so, whether such a big difference in estimates puts a question mark on the authenticity of estimates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) The quantum of recoverable gas

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

reserves for D1 & D3 fields of the block KG-DWN-98/3 in November, 2004 was 3.81 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) which was increased by the contractor to 10.03 TCF in December, 2006. In April, 2012, the contractor has revised the recoverable gas reserves to 3.10 TCF for D1 & D3 fields.

In case of MA field, the quantum of recoverable gas reserves was 681.4 Billion Cubic Feet (BCF) in April, 2008. Subsequently, the contractor has revised the estimates of recoverable reserves to 788 BCF.

Initially, the contractor has submitted the estimates of reserves based on the studies carried out by resource/reserves estimation agencies like D&M, Petrotel & PGS. Subsequently, the contractor had submitted gas reserves certified by Gaffney Cline Associates (GCA) of U.K.

The Contractor has attributed the following reasons for such changes in reserves:

- i) Increase in recoverable gas reserves from 3.81 TCF in IDP to 10.03 TCF in AIDP was based on results of additional inputs from 9 more discoveries in KG-DWN-98/3 block, additional 3D seismic data covering about 7600 Sq. Km area, extensive coring in two wells, other G&G studies and reserves assessment by an internationally reputed resource & reserves estimation agency M/s Gaffney Cline Associates (GCA) of UK.
- ii) The Contractor said that decrease in gas reserves from 10.03 TCF in AIDP to 3.10 TCF subsequently in April, 2012 was due to various reasons such as reservoir and production performance, pressure decline, early water encroachment, less contribution from the sands outside the main channel areas, results obtained from Material Balance, Simulation and Geological Models etc.

Gas pipeline to Goa

582. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of construction of gas pipe line to Goa;
- (b) by what date the project will be completed;
- (c) the estimated cost of the project, the amount spent and revised estimates, if any;

- (d) the details of the route of the pipeline;
- (e) whether there were any objections to the route of the pipeline partly or otherwise; and
- (f) if so, how were the issues resolved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) GAIL is executing Dabhol-Bangalore pipeline, a part of which, is being laid in the State of Goa. The length of gas pipeline through the State of Goa is 36 Kms out of which 22 kms is completed.

(b) GAIL expects that the pipeline is likely to be ready by December, 2012.

(c) The initial estimated cost of Dabhol-Bangalore pipeline is Rs.4543 Crores including spurlines to various consumers. This has been further revised to Rs. 4994 Crores. The expenditure so far is Rs. 1776 Crores.

(d) Specifically in Goa, the pipeline is passing through two districts, namely North Goa and South Goa. In North Goa, the pipeline is passing through Bicholim and Ponda Taluka. In South Goa, the pipeline passes through Mormugao Taluka. The end point is Zuari fertilizers.

(e) GAIL has informed, that objections were raised with the Competent Authority on RoU acquisition in villages of Amona, Orgaon, Tivrem, Adcolna, Cundaim, Quellossim and Cortalim.

(f) All the objections were resolved with mutual consent by Competent Authority designated for the project in the State of Goa.

Appointment of LPG distributors in U.P.

583. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 4296 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15 May, 2012 and state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation against advertisement dated 16th April, 2012, for appointment of LPG distributors in Uttar Pradesh under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitarak Yojana from Members of Parliament and other quarters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the action taken thereon till date;

(d) whether Government would cancel that advertisement and re-advertise in open category or issue corrigendum for the errors and relax the competent applicants willing to apply;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. There were errors in the name of some of the locations/tehsil, which were rectified through a corrigendum dated 14.05.2012. As the location 'Patna Malipur' had appeared twice under different districts, the incorrect location was dropped in the corrigendum. The details of other locations are given in Statement (*See below*) and are under various stages with the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for action based on extant guidelines.

The applicants need to meet the eligibility criteria of Selection Guidelines in vogue.

Statement

Details of other locations

Name of Location	District
Jakhania Govind	Ghazipur
Birhun	Ramabai Nagar
Ahirauli, Chhapia, Tikar, Sinduar, Binduar	Kushinagar
Bhauri	Unnao
Tikarmafi	CSM Nagar
Budwan	Fatehpur
Raipur Bharsaul	Fatehpur
Kora Kanak	Fatehpur
Haringston Ganj	Faizabad
Chilla	Banda

Import of LNG

584. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the price of imported Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) is cheaper than that of crude oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the estimated saving from importing additional LNG to meet existing crude oil requirements; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to increase LNG Port capacity in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Based on the information obtained from GAIL (India) Ltd., the average price of LNG from the international market during FY 2011-12 was USD 13.22/MMBTU whereas the average price of imported crude oil (Indian basket) for the same period taking into consideration the conversion factor (1 barrel = 5.8 MMBTU) worked out to be USD 19.28/MMBTU. Hence, on energy basis, the price of LNG was lesser as compared to crude oil by around USD 6/MMBTU. This difference would vary from consignment to consignment.

(c) While LNG cannot be a perfect substitute of crude oil, its use for specific applications, in place of crude oil, would result in corresponding savings as indicated above.

(d) As on date the available regasification capacity is 13.6 MMTPA (10 MMTPA at Dahej terminal of Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) and 3.6 MMTPA of Hazira LNG Pvt. Ltd. (HLPL), Hazira). The regasification capacity of Dahej terminal of PLL is expected to reach 15 MMTPA by 2015-16 and that of HLPL Hazira to 5 MMTPA by 2015-16. PLL is also adding 5 MMTPA regasification capacity at its upcoming Kochi Terminal. Moreover, Ratnagiri Gas Power Pvt. Ltd. (RGPPL) is expected to commission its Dabhol LNG Terminal by end of 2012 with an initial regasification capacity of 1.5 MMTPA which will subsequently increase to 5 MMTPA. Besides GAIL is also planning for setting up Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) on the East Coast of India at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh.

Decontrolling price of diesel and LPG

585. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating to decontrol the price of diesel and LPG cylinders;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for decontrolling the price of diesel and LPG;
- (d) whether Government has assessed the resultant burden on farmers and common man;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons for ignoring the plight of Aam Aadmi and farmers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (f) In the light to 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 Government took a decision 'in principle' on 25.06.2010 that the price of Diesel would be made market-determined, both at Refinery Gate and Retail Level.

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. The current prices of Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG are below the required market price, resulting in huge under-recovery to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). Based on the Refinery Gate Price effective 01.08.2012, the OMCs are incurring an under recovery of Rs.12.06 per litre on sale of Diesel, Rs.28.54 per litre on PDS Kerosene and Rs.231.00 per 14.2 kg cylinder on Domestic LPG.

**Levy of marketing margin by private
gas marketeers**

586. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Petroleum Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has initiated public hearing to decide marketing margin levied by private sector natural gas marketeers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when Government is regulating prices of diesel, LPG, Kerosene and partially that of petrol then why it is not regulating marketing margin of natural gas; and

(d) the steps taken by PNGRB for early decision to decide marketing margin levied by private sector natural gas marketeers as this subject is getting delayed unnecessarily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a), (b) and (d) Yes, Sir. Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has reported that, in the initial stage, it was decided to seek information from entities in order to ascertain details of marketing margin/other elements included in the selling price of natural gas to consumers during the last three years. In most of the cases, the information received was inadequate or sketchy. It has now been found appropriate to take the process for determination of marketing margin further by interacting with the affected entities. PNGRB has informed that based on the information made available, the process of hearing the entities would commence from September, 2012.

(c) As PNGRB has been set up as a statutory regulator for downstream activities under the PNGRB Act 2006, the determination of marketing margin has been entrusted to PNGRB under Section 11 (j) of the PNGRB Act.

Relaxation of norms for LNG imports from US

587. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that GAIL has requested Government to intervene in the matter of relaxing the export norms by the US with regard to supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any initiative has been taken by Government with the US Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) In view of recent increase in commercialization of Shale Gas resources in US, there has been considerable availability of gas in US resulting in low Henry Hub prices and increased possibility of LNG exports from US. GAIL is pursuing gas sourcing opportunities across the world including US. MoP&NG has asked the Ministry of External Affairs to take up the matter with appropriate authorities in the US Government for allowing LNG/Liquid Shale Gas exports to India from USA, by keeping India outside the purview of Free Trade Area (FTA)/non FTA framework.

Lane conversion of National Highways

588. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the number of single lane National Highways (NHs) in the country, State-wise and NH-wise;

(b) whether Government has received any proposals/requests from the State Governments, including Madhya Pradesh to convert single lane/intermediate lane NHs into two lanes and four lanes;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon and the time-frame fixed for their completion; and

(d) the financial assistance being provided by the World Bank for these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of National Highways (NHs) having less than 2-lanes are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) This Ministry envisages to convert all single/intermediate lane NHs into two lane NHs in the next five year plan (2012-17) subject to availability of funds and also keeping in view inter-se priority of other required development works under Annual Plan through budgetary allocations including Special Projects likely to be taken through proposed loan assistance from World Bank and other programmes such as National Highways Development Project (NHDP)-Phase IVA, Phase-A of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in North-East (SARDP-NE) and Arunachal Pradesh Package, road connectivity programme for Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, etc.

However, it is premature to indicate any time frame for their completion along with likely expenditure to be incurred pending finalization of the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(d) 3,420 km length of various NHs has been identified for their development to 2-lane NH standards with proposed World Bank Loan Assistance. The World Bank has agreed to provide fund partly for the development of these identified NH stretches subject to successful completion of project appraisal, loan negotiation and loan signing agreement with the World Bank.

Statement

*The State/ Union Territory (UT)-wise details of National Highways (NHs)
having less than 2-lanes along with their lengths*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Details of NHs which are single/intermediate lane NH No.	Total length (km)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16, 43, 63, 202, 214, 214A, 221 & 234	318
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	37, 52, 52A, 52B, 153, 229 & 315S	1,811
3.	Assam	52, 53, 54, 127B & 315A	505
4.	Bihar	2C, 19, 28B, 30A, 57A, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, 110, 131 A, 327E, 330 & 527C	1,537
5.	Chhattisgarh	16, 78, 200, 202 & 221	370

1	2	3	4
6.	Goa	4A, 17 & 17B	42
7.	Gujarat	8A, 228, 360, 947 & 953	140
8.	Haryana	65 & 73A	31
9.	Himachal Pradesh	20, 20A, 21 A, 22, 70, 72B, 73A, 88 & 305	842
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1A, 1B& ID	353
11.	Jharkhand	33, 75, 78, 80, 98, 99, 100, 114A, 333 & 343	792
12.	Karnataka	4A, 13, 67, 206, 209, 212, 218 & 234	820
13.	Kerala	17, 49, 2 08, 212, 213 & 220	298
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12, 12A, 26B, 27, 59A, 69, 75, 76, 78, 86, 92 & 927A	1,126
15.	Maharashtra	204,211 & 222	51
16.	Manipur	53,150,102A, 102B,137 & 155	850
17.	Meghalaya	40, 44, 51, 62 & 127B	665
18.	Mizoram	44A, 54, 54A, 54B, 150, 154 & 502	784
19.	Nagaland	61, 150 & 155	291
20.	Odisha	6, 23, 75, 200, 201, 203,217 & 224	676
21.	Rajasthan	3A, 11A, 11B, 65, 65A, 76A, 76B, 89, 90, 112, 113, 116, 116A, 158, 162 & 709	1,422
22.	Sikkim	31A & 310	149
23.	Tamil Nadu	45A, 49, 208, 226, 230 & 532	60
24.	Tripura	44	362
25.	Uttar Pradesh	28C, 73A, 76, 91 A, 92, 231, 232, 233, 330A, 730, 930 & 931A	358
26.	Uttarakhand	58, 72B, 74, 87, 94, 108, 109, 119, 121, 123 & 125	1,564
27.	West Bengal	2B, 31A, 31D, 35,55, 60, 60A, 80, 81, 116B & 117	478
28.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	223	300

Proposal for four laning of NH 103

‡589. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for the four laning of the road from Paswan Chowk Hazipur in Hazipur to Musrigharari on National Highway No. 103 in Bihar is under consideration of the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the action being taken with respect to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Progress of Golden Quadrilateral

590. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Golden Quadrilateral part of NHDP was originally targeted for completion by December, 2003 and its NS & EW corridors by December, 2007;

(b) if so, the present status of the project and the reasons for delay in the project;

(c) the details of consequent cost escalation thereof; and

(d) who have been penalized therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Present status of Golden Quadrilateral and North-South & East-West Corridors of National Highways Development Project is as follows:

Golden Quadrilateral (GQ): Out of 5846 km of GQ, construction work has been completed in a length of 5842 km. The balance length of 4 km is mainly on those projects which have been terminated and re-awarded.

North-South & East-West Corridors: Out of 7142 km of North-South & East-West (NS & EW) Corridors, construction work has been completed in a length of

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

6031 km. The completion of some projects is delayed due to poor performance of some contractors, problems in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, Railways approval of General Arranged Drawings for Rail Over Bridges etc.

Five projects were foreclosed due to some law and order problems in Assam. One project in West Bengal could not be awarded, as the wild life/forest clearance was not granted by Ministry of Environment and Forest and therefore, the fresh alignment was selected for the project. Two projects in Jammu & Kashmir are to be taken up on BOT (Annuity) basis as project costs are high due to difficult terrain.

(c) and (d) The cost escalations due to delay are paid as per contract provisions. In fact the escalation is a contractually enabled provision which permits to limit for payment of material actually consumed, at price which actually exist. In case the project is delayed due to reasons attributable to the contractor, liquidated damages are imposed and no escalation is paid. Escalations are paid only in case where the delay is beyond the control of the contractor.

On the basis of review of performance of various contractors in implementing contract packages of NS-EW Corridors, some contractors are identified by NHAI as non performing contractors. As per the policy of NHAI, the contractors put on the, "Non-performing" list are not prequalified for award of any future contracts in NHAI until such time their performance improves in course of subsequent reviews. Apart from above seven contractors have been terminated due to consistent non-performance of the contractors.

Work plan for Yadgiri-Warangal project

591. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of work plan for Yadgiri- Warangal Project on NH 202 in Andhra Pradesh proposed in 2012-13; and

(b) by when the project is going to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The four laning of Yadgiri-Warangal Project of NH-202 is included under NHDP Phase-IV. Feasibility Study has been completed.

(b) As work is not yet awarded it is too early to indicate the date of completion.

Proposals for National Highways from Bihar

592. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Bihar has submitted their annual plan of National Highways' works to the Ministry for approval; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry has approved the Annual plan amounting to Rs. 667.80 Crore for sanction of National Highway works in Bihar during 2012-13. The Annual Plan includes the provision for widening of 66.65 km. to two lane, improvement of riding quality in 423.20 km length, construction of paved shoulders in 14 km. length, re-construction/widening/rehabilitation of 14 numbers of major/minor bridges and road safety works. In addition a provision of Rs. 235.00 Crore has been kept for construction of Bhagalpur bypass on NH-80. Out of these, the Ministry has already sanctioned four works with aggregate amount of Rs. 66.50 Crore so far.

Construction of Yamuna bridge on Saharanpur Karnal road

†593. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the bridge being constructed on the river Yamuna with Central help in Daulatpur near Gagouh on Saharanpur-Karnal road will be made operational for public;

(b) whether the work of connecting the approach roads at both ends of the bridge has been started by the respective State Governments of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if not, whether Government would request to both State Governments for speedy construction of approach roads to the bridge; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yamuna River Bridge (Under Inter State Connectivity Scheme) near village Daulatpur Gangoh, on Saharanpur-Karnal Road is expected to be operational for public by November, 2014.

(b) to (e) The bridge and its approaches fall in the State of Uttar Pradesh and commencement of construction of approaches is targeted in October, 2012.

Four laning of Khed-Sinner highway

594. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether feasibility report and PPPAC proposal of 135 Kms. on Khed-Sinner NH-50 has been finalised and submitted to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, whether Government plans to pursue the project of four laning of the said highway under NHDP-IV;

(c) if so, whether Government has included the same in work plan of 2012-13;

(d) if so, the details therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The project is proposed to be implemented on Design Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) Toll mode.

Four laning of Tripura National Highway

595. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved four laning of Tripura National Highway-44;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when this project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Implementation of SARDP-NE

596. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has begun implementation of the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-East Region (SARDP-NE) scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the targeted date for completion of all roads under the scheme; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure safety of passage for the roads constructed in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Improvement of 10141km length of roads in the North Eastern Region has been envisaged under the Special Accelerated Road Development in North East (SARDP-NE). The programme has been divided into three parts, Phase 'A' covering 4099km, Arunachal Pradesh Package for Roads and Highways (APPRH) covering 2319km and Phase 'B' covering 3723km. The Government has so far approved implementation of 3325km under Phase 'A' and 2319km under APPRH and balance length of 774km under Phase 'A' has been approved in-principle. Phase 'B' of SARDP-NE has been approved for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) only. Out of the total length of 5644km length approved for implementation under Phase 'A' and APPRH, 3723km have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 18,081 Crore.

(c) The target for completion of all roads which have been approved for implementation under the Scheme is March 2017. Out of total ongoing length of

3723km, 904km has been completed as on 30.06.2012 at an expenditure of Rs.5,631 Crore. It is too early to indicate the date by which the roads approved in-principle under Phase 'A' and Phase 'B' would be completed as the DPR preparation is in progress and final investment approval is to be sought from the Government.

(d) Necessary steps as per Ministry guidelines have been incorporated in the Contract Agreement to ensure safety of passage for the roads constructed in the region.

Contracts awarded by NHAI

597. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target of awarding the contract and actual contract awarded by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) since the year 2009 and during last quarter of April-June 2012;

(b) the details of actual completion of road construction during this period;

(c) the reasons for the delay in awarding contracts and completion of roads; and

(d) what action Government contemplates to take to speed up the completion of roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The target of awarding the contract and actual contract awarded by NHAI along with actual completion of road construction since the year 2009 and during last quarter of April-June 2012 is as under:

Year	Target of Award length (in km)	Awarded length (in km)	Completed length (in km)
2009-10	9806	3360	2693
2010-11	9000	5058	1784
2011-12	7995	6376	2248
2012-13 (by June, 2012)	7464	99	610

(c) The major reason for shortfall in achieving the targets for award is due to overall economic slowdown leading to dampening of the bidder's response towards new projects. The completion of some projects/road stretches were delayed due to poor performance of some contractors, problems in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, environment and forest clearance, approval for Rail Over Bridges etc.

(d) In order to expedite implementation of projects Regional Offices each headed by Chief General Manager have been set up by NHAI for close monitoring of implementation of projects. Measures have been taken to expedite land acquisition, shifting of utilities etc. High Powered Committee has been constituted in the states under Chief Secretary with Principal Secretaries of Public Works Department, Revenue, Power and Water Supply and other concerned State Government officials as Members. The Regional Officer/Chief General Manager of NHAI of concerned state has been nominated as Member Secretary. The Committee's mandate is to make expeditious resolution of above mentioned issues for faster implementation of projects. Achievement of targets is being monitored closely. Projects are periodically reviewed at field as well as at Head Quarter.

Toll collection at Jaipur-Ajmer highway

†598. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether toll tax is still being collected from the Kishangarh Marble Area Railway bridge on the Jaipur-Ajmer National Highway even after 8-10 years of its construction; and

(b) if so, till what date it will continue to be collected and since when it is being collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The toll is being collected since 15.02.2000. The project consisting of Kishangarh - Beawar section NH-8, is expected to be completed by December, 2012; after which, the railway over bridge at Kishangarh will become part of the road project. The tolling at ROB Kishangarh shall be discontinued with effect from commercial operation day of Kishangarh - Beawar section NH- 8.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Expansion of highways in Uttar Pradesh

599. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the detailed status of the proposed Six lanning of NH 58 from Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut-Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar via Modinagar;

(b) the detailed status of proposed four lanning of NH 91 from Bulandshahar-Aligarh-Mainpuri stretch;

(c) the time of completion of these projects, and allocation made so far; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to speed up the process of expansion of these Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Six laning is proposed from Delhi/UP Border-Ghaziabad-Meerut section of NH-58 under Delhi-Meerut Expressway project. Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) proposal for the same has been submitted in the Ministry for approval. The work is likely to commence after one year of PPPAC/CCI approval and completion of construction work will take another three years. At present, there is no proposal for six laning of Meerut-Muzaffarnagar-Haridwar section of NH-58. However, four laning of the same has been completed in August, 2011 and four-laning of Muzaffarnagar - Haridwar Section of NH-58 has been awarded to the Concessionaire on BOT(Toll) basis. The work started on 03.09.2010 with schedule date of completion by March, 2013.

Four- laning of Bulandshahar - Aligarh section of NH-91 has been taken up on BOT (Toll) basis with schedule completion by August, 2013. Aligarh - Kanpur section of NH-91 has been taken up for development to 2-lane with paved shoulders on BOT (Toll) basis. The work has been awarded and Concession Agreement signed on 11.03.2011.

Speeding up of National Highway projects

600. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) had failed to award 1,500 km. length of roads in the first quarter;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government had fixed a target of awarding 9,500 km. and construction of 3,500 km. during the current financial year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government is considering for the new engineering, procurement of equipments and transfer model to speed up National Highway projects; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During first quarter of current financial year, 99 km length of road has been awarded by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI).

(c) and (d) A target of 8800 km for award of works and 3000 km for completion of construction works have been fixed during the current financial year 2012-13 under National Highway Development Project.

(e) and (f) Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) mode of lump sum contract is targeted for adoption in replacement of traditional Item Rate Contract for Public Funded National Highways Projects, to speed up the construction work by harnessing efficiency of Private Sector.

Recommendation for uniform road tax

601. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the recommendations made by the Ministry's Panel on the need for uniform road tax;
- (b) the follow up action taken thereupon; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to levy a uniform one time road tax and legal and financial implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) To bring uniformity

in the taxes levied on motor vehicles across States/Union Territories, the Group set up under the Task Force of Transport Development Council (TDC), has recommended a floor rate of 6% of sale price for two-wheelers, cars, light motor vehicles, taxies, maxi cabs, goods vehicles with Gross Vehicle Weight up to 10 tonnes. These recommendations were discussed in the 34th meeting of Transport Development Council held on 13th February, 2012 at New Delhi. As a follow up of the meeting, an Empowered Group of State Transport Ministers on the issue of rationalization of motor vehicle taxes has been constituted.

(c) Implementation of a uniform registration tax in all States/Union Territories would require consensus amongst them as this issue falls within the domain of States/Union Territories. The Empowered Group of Ministers of States set up in this regard would also consider legal and financial implications of levying uniform tax.

Underpass at Kharki Daula chowk

602. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1181 given in Rajya Sabha on 1st December, 2011 and state:

(a) whether the Ministry has agreed in principle for the construction of an underpass at Kharki Daula Chowk on NH-8 in Haryana;

(b) if so, whether the cost sharing formula among the stake holders *i.e.* HUDA, HSIIDC and NHAI have since been finalized to construct underpass at Kharki-Daula Chowk where a large number of pedestrians lose their lives while crossing the road; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the date by which underpass at Kharki-Daula Chowk will be completed and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Target for laying of NHs in current year

603. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has contemplated to lay 9000 kms. of National Highways (NHs) in the current financial year 2012-13;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any of NHs or any parts thereof from Andhra Pradesh have been included in the list; and

(d) the details of the action plan envisaged by Government in this regard to achieve the desired results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) 3000 km under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and 3089 km under Non-NHDP are proposed to be developed/improved during the current financial year 2012-13. The scheme-wise details of targets fixed for development/improvement of National Highways (NHs) during the current financial year 2012-13 are given in Statement (See below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) To achieve the desired results, Government has set up Regional Offices by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) headed by Chief General Managers with adequate delegation of powers, special land acquisition units, High Powered Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretaries of State Governments to resolve the bottlenecks relating to shifting of utilities, land acquisition issues, etc. Further, the projects are closely monitored and periodically reviewed at the Headquarter as well as the field units for expeditious completion.

Statement

Scheme-wise details of targets fixed for development/improvement of National Highways (NHs) during the current financial year, i.e. 2012-13

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme	Target
1	2	3
1	National Highways Development Project (NHDP)	
	i) Widening to four lanes (kms)	3000
	ii) Construction of bridges (Nos)	1
	iii) Construction of bypasses (Nos)	6

1	2	3
2	Non-NHDP	
	i) Improvement of low grade section (kms)	13
	ii) Widening to four lane (kms)	52
	iii) Widening to two lane (kms)	795
	iv) Strengthening of weak pavement (kms)	745
	v) Improvement of riding quality (kms)	1475
	vi) Rehabilitation/construction of bridges (Nos)	130
	vii) Construction of bypasses (Nos)	7
	viii) Construction of missing link (kms)	9

Fatal cases of accidents on national highways

604. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is steep rise in deaths due to road accidents in the country particularly on National Highways during 2011 as per the recent report of the Ministry;

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

(c) the reasons for rise in accidents;

(d) whether at least 1.42 lakh people died due to road accidents in the country during 2011;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether three out of 10 deaths on roads in India have been reported from National Highways; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHARBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) No Sir. As per the latest issue of "Road Accidents in India 2011" published by the Transport Research Wing of the Ministry, the annual growth rate in the number of deaths due to road accidents has decreased to 5.9 per cent during 2011 as compared to 7

per cent in the year 2010. Details of State-wise/Union Territory wise number of person killed in road accidents including those on National Highways reported during each of the year 2010 and 2011 (the latest available data) are given in Statement (*See* below). The analysis of road accident data received from States/UTs reveals that drivers' fault is the single most important factor responsible for road accidents (77.5%). Some of the other factors responsible for road accidents are as under:

Fault of pedestrian	2.4%
Fault of cyclist	1.3%
Defect in road conditions	1.5%
Defect in condition of motor vehicle	1.6%
Weather condition	1.0%
All other causes	14.8%*

* Includes Fault of Driver of other vehicles, Fault of Passengers, Poor light condition, Falling of boulders, Neglect of civic bodies, Stray animals, other causes and causes not known.

(d) to (g) Yes Sir. A total number of 142,485 persons were killed in road accidents during the year 2011 out of which 52,924 died on National Highways. The State/UT-wise details of the road accident fatalities in India during the year 2011 are given in Annexure .

Statement

*Details of Statewise/UT-wise number of persons
killed in road accidents*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total Number of Persons Killed in Road Accident in States/UTs		Total Number of Persons Killed in Road Accidents on National Highways	
		2010	2011	2010	2011
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	15,684	15,165	5,122	5,112
2	Arunachal Pradesh	148	126	33	41
3	Assam	2,256	2,342	1,401	1,481
4	Bihar	5,137	5,090	2,317	2,232
5	Chhattisgarh	2,956	2,983	1,037	1,145
6	Goa	327	333	122	116

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	Gujarat	7,506	8,008	1,953	2,036
8	Haryana	4,719	4,762	1,845	1,904
9	Himachal Pradesh	1,102	1,072	369	361
10	Jammu & Kashmir	1,045	1,116	403	565
11	Jharkhand	2,540	2,572	455	1,009
12	Karnataka	9,590	8,971	3,278	3,240
13	Kerala	3,950	4,145	1,371	1,432
14	Madhya Pradesh	8,085	7,869	2,566	2,327
15	Maharashtra	12,340	13,057	3,445	3,802
16	Manipur	154	158	96	94
17	Meghalaya	163	212	108	122
18	Mizoram	82	81	23	22
19	Nagaland	40	25	20	12
20	Orissa	3,837	3,802	2,028	1,842
21	Punjab	3,542	4,931	1,293	1,799
22	Rajasthan	9,163	9,232	3,501	3,459
23	Sikkim	71	106	37	40
24	Tamil Nadu	15,409	15,422	6,333	6,052
25	Tripura	231	245	93	103
26	Uttarakhand	931	937	538	522
27	Uttar Pradesh	15,175	21,512	6,122	9,175
28	West Bengal	5,680	5,664	2,040	2,373
UTs					
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	27	17	10	9
2	Chandigarh	138	136	34	29
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	62	63	0	0
4	Daman & Diu	31	33	0	0
5	Delhi	2,153	2,065	343	348
6	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
7	Puducherry	239	233	130	120
TOTAL		134,513	142,485	48,466	52,924

Review of delay in NH projects

605. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 87 National Highway (NH) projects are running behind schedule and in some cases the delay is more than seven years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise;
- (c) the reasons for the delay, project-wise;
- (d) the details of cost escalation due to delay;
- (e) whether Government has ever reviewed the progress of these delayed projects, particularly those in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;
- (f) if so, the details thereof, project-wise and the outcome thereof; and
- (g) whether Government has fixed responsibility for delay in NH projects and resultant cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, 80 National Highway (NH) projects under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) are running behind schedule. The project-wise details of these delayed projects along with reasons for their delay are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) Cost overrun is applicable only to Public Funded Projects. In case the project is delayed due to reasons attributable to the contractor, liquidated damages are imposed and no escalation is paid. Actual escalation due to delay or cost overrun will be known only after completion of the project and final settlement of bills.

(e) to (g) Meetings are held at the level of Hon'ble Minister (RT&H), Secretary (RT&H) and Chairman, NHAI with all the Concessionaires/Contractors/Consultants/Project Directors of NHAI where project related issues are discussed for overcoming the delays. Hon'ble Minister has recently also reviewed the projects in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Meetings are also held for review of projects of other States including the State of Madhya Pradesh. In these meetings, project specific issues have been discussed and instructions have been issued for expediting the pending matters. Penal action is taken as per the provisions of contract for delays attributable on the part of the contractors.

Statement

Project-wise details of delayed National Highway (NH) projects along with reasons for delay under National Highway Development Project (NHDP)

Sl.No.	Stretch	State	NH No.	Total Length (in Km)	Comp-leted Length (in Km)	Funded by	Date of Start	Date of completion as per contract	Date of completion/ anticipated completion	TPC (Rs. Cr.)	Time overrun	LOA Date	Reason for delay
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Hyderabad-Yadgiri (Approved Length 30)	Andhra Pradesh	202	35.65	33.4	BOT	Aug-2010	May-2012	Aug-2012	388	3	Dec-2009	There was initial delay in land acquisition.
2	Armur to Kadloor Yellareddy (NS-2/AP-1) (Approved Length 60.25)	Andhra Pradesh	7	59	58.89	BOT	Feb-2010	Feb-2012	Jul-2012	390.56	5	May-2009	Poor Performance of contractor.

3	Chilikaluripet- Vijayawada (Six lane)	Andhra Pradesh	5	82.5	27.1	BOT	May-2009	Oct-2011	Jun-2013	572.3	20	Feb-2008	Delay in land acquisition.
4	Gundla Pochampalli to Bowenpalli Shivarampalli to Thondapalli (NS-.23/AP)	Andhra Pradesh	7	23.1	21.25	NHAI	T E R	M I N A	T E D	71.57	58	Sep-2001	-
5	Brahmputra Bridge (AS-28)	Assam	31	5	0	NHAI	Oct-2006	Apr-2010	Dec-2012	217.61	32	May-2006	There have been no land issues earlier. However there was some initial delay due to shifting of oil pipeline. Thereafter there were some design discrepancies noticed which affected the work. Then due to change in scope of grade separator at Jalukabari, work has been delayed.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
6	Sonapur to Guwahati (AS-3)	Assam	37	19	16.6	NHAI	Sep-2005	Jun-2009	Mar-2013	245	45	Mar-2005	Land was handed over more than three years back except Amchung Wild Life (land affecting about 3.6 Km.). This was acquired in Dec 2009. Also there was delay in eviction.
7	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-6)	Assam	31	25	22.9	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2009	Mar-2013	225	45	Mar-2005	There has been delay in acquisition of land in this package.
8	Maibang to Lumding (AS-27)	Assam	54	21	0	NHAI	Oct-2006	Apr-2009	Mar-2013	200	47	Feb-2006	Length affected due to MoEF clearance which was obtained on 23.03.2010.
9	Harangajo to Maibang (AS-23)	Assam	54	16	11.73	NHAI	Aug-2006	Feb-2009	Mar-2013	280	49	Mar-2006	Due to poor law and order condition, non availability of land and delay in utility shifting, delay in finalization of working drawing of tunnel, In-adequate

10	Bijni to Assam/ WB Border (AS-12)	Assam	31C	30	27.2	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2008	Sep-2012	230	51	Jul-2005	mobilization of manpower and machinery, increased quantity of hard and ordinary rock. Poor law and order condition, paver was destroyed by the miscreants. Poor mobilization by the contractor. Initial delay in forest clearance in about 6 kms out of 30 kms. The clearance is obtained in May 2010. Utility shifting affecting.
11	Bijni to Assam/ WB Border (AS-10)	Assam	31C	33	25.34	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2012	237.8	54	Jun-2005	Initially delay due to LA, utility shifting, tree cutting, ROB clearance, redesign of bridge bearings, In-adequate mobilization of manpower and machinery.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-9)	Assam	31	21.5	19.4	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2012	142	54	May-2005	Initially delay due to LA, utility shifting, tree cutting
13	Daboka to Nagaon (AS-17)	Assam	36	30.5	30.362	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2012	225	54	Apr-2005	Delay due to land acquisition and utility shifting
14	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-8)	Assam	31	30	27.94	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Dec-2012	200	54	May-2005	There was initial delay in land acquisition.
15	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-7)	Assam	31	27.3	18.3	NHAI	Oct-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2012	208	56	May-2005	There has been delay in acquisition of land in this package.
16	Guwahati to Nalbari (AS-4)	Assam	31	28	10.6	NHAI	Dec-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2012	175.96	56	Jun-2005	Due to delay in acquisition of land, cutting of trees, shifting of electric line/poles, unprecedented floods and law & order problem, acquisition of defence land.

17	Guwahati to Nalbari (AS-5)	Assam	31	28	15.5	NHAI	Oct-2005	Apr-2008	Dec-2012	198.16	56	Jun-2005	There has been delay in acquisition of land in this package.
18	Bijni to Assam/ WB Border (AS-11)	Assam	31C	30	16.04	NHAI	Nov-2005	Jun-2008	Mar-2013	195	57	Jun-2005	Initially delay due to LA, utility shifting, RF clearance, tree cutting, poor law and order condition, redesign of bridge bearings, Inadequate mobilization of manpower and machinery.
19	Nagaon to Dharmatul (AS-2)	Assam	37	25	22.4	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Mar-2013	264.72	57	Jun-2005	Initially delay due to shifting of electric lines and poles in about 1 km.
20	Dharamtul to Sonapur (AS-19)	Assam	37	25	21.65	NHAI	Dec-2005	Jun-2008	Mar-2013	200	57	Apr-2005	There were delays in utility shifting.
21	Dharamtul to Sonapur (AS-20)	Assam	37	22	19.7	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Mar-2013	160	58	Apr-2005	There was initial delay in land acquisition and poor performance of contractor. The progress by contractor is very slow.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
22	Silchar-Udarband (AS-1)	Assam	54	32	19.5	NHAI	Sep-2004	Sep-2007	Mar-2013	154.57	66	Sep-2004	Initially delay due to LA, utility shifting, tree cutting, ROB clearance, In-adequate mobilization of manpower and machinery. ROB clearance obtained in Jan, 2011.
23	Jhanjhapur to Darbanga (BR-7)	Bihar	57	37.59	37.4	NHAI	Apr-2006	Sep-2008	Dec-2012	340	51	Nov-2005	Due to slow mobilization of contractor, initial delay in land acquisition, shifting of utilities, cutting of trees, removal of encroachments, delay in approval of drawings of ROB from Railways, unprecedented floods in year 2007 & 2008 etc.

24	Forbesganj-Simrahi (BR-3)	Bihar	57	34.87	32.5	NHAI	Apr-2006	Sep-2008	Dec-2012	332.94	51	Nov-2005	Due to forest clearance, delay in shifting of electric lines, delay in acquisition of land and unprecedented floods in year 2007 & 2008 etc.
25	Kotwa to Dewapur (LMNHP-10)	Bihar	28	38	37.5	WB	Nov-2005	Nov-2008	Mar-2013	240	52	Sep-2005	Poor Performance of contractor.
26	Deewapur to UP/Bihar Border (LMNHP-9)	Bihar	28	41.085	29.78	WB	Nov-2005	Oct-2008	Mar-2014	300	65	Sep-2005	Contract terminated due to non performance of contractor on 07.02.2009 and termination or evoked on 27.08.2010.
27	End of Durg Bypass - Chattisgarh/ Maharashtra Border	Chattisgarh	6	82.685	82	BOT	Jan-2008	Jan-2011	Dec-2012	464	23	Dec-2006	1. Delay in progress of work caused mainly due to poor management of Concessionaire. 2. Delay in construction of flyover in Rajnandgaon town due to non-removal of structures/encroachment. 3. Delay in construction of underpass due to hindrance created by public.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
28	Aurang - Raipur	Chattisgarh	6	43.485	43.07	BOT	Apr-2006	Jan-2009	Dec-2012	190	47	Mar-2005	Delay due to poor management of Concessionaire and inadequate resources.
29	Surat - Dahisar (Six lane)	Gujarat [118.2]/ Maharashtra [120.77]	8	239	232	BOT	Feb-2009	Aug-2011	Sep-2012	1693.75	13	Feb-2008	There was initial delay in land acquisition.
30	Delhi/ Haryana Border to Rohtak	Haryana	10	63.49	58.442	BOT	May-2008	May-2010	Dec-2012	486	31	Jul-2007	i) Due to lack of work planning, machinery labour and frequent changes in the project management personnel by the Concessionaire. ii) Land for the major portion of the stretch was acquired by the PWD B&R Govt. of Haryana and delays observed in settlement of compensation.

31	Panipat - Jalandhar (Six lane)	Haryana [116]/ Punjab [175.1]	1	291	215.93	BOT	May-2009	May-2011	Aug-2013	2288	27	Feb-2008	Poor Performance of contractor.
32	Gurgaon - Kotputli - Jaipur (Six lane)	Haryana [64.3]/ Rajasthan [161.3]	8	225.6	143.35	BOT	Apr-2009	Oct-2011	Dec-2012	1673.7	14	Feb-2008	Delay in land acquisition.
33	Srinagar Bypass (Bridge Portion) (NS-30A)	Jammu Kashmir	1A	1.23	0	NHAI	Jun-2006	Dec-2008	Oct-2012	62.96	46	Aug-2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LA Problems • Law and order problems • Inclement weather
34	Jammu to Kunjwani (Jammu Bypass) NS-33/ J&K	Jammu Kashmir	1A	15	14.7	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Jul-2012	85.34	50	Jun-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delay in Land acquisition on both sides of project stretch contributed to delay. • Delay in approval of GAD by the Railways

Written Answers to

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
													<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • change in scope of Kunjwani flyover • Non execution of work relating to ROB by M/s IRCON
35	Vijaypur to Pathankot (NS-35/J&K)	Jammu Kashmir	1A	30	29.65	NHAI	Sep-2005	Feb-2008	Jul-2012	193.1	53	Jun-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of land was effected in the Hasrath village and Chichi Mata Temple. • Delay in shifting of utilities.
36	Vijaypur to Pathankot (NS-34/J&K)	Jammu Kashmir	1A	33.65	33.25	NHAI	Sep-2005	Feb-2008	Jul-2012	166.3	53	Jun-2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Problems in land acquisition, delay in shifting of utilities. • Initially work of Overpasses was halted by J&K govt. • Delay in handing over of land in Lakhanpur/Ujh river

37	Haveri - Harihar	Karnataka	4	56	56	NHAI	Nov-2008	Jul-2010	Aug-2012	196.65	25	Mar-2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slow progress of super structure works of major bridges. • Shortage of skilled manpower. <p>Initial contract was terminated on 16.1.2007. Re-awarded in Nov' 2008 for the balance work. Initial delay due to Non-utilisation of plant and equipments by the new Contractor due to number of court cases filed by the expelled contractor. Slow progress by Contractor. Delay in ROB-CRS clearance</p>
38	Harihar - Chitradurga	Karnataka	4	77	77	NHAI	Oct-2008	Jun-2010	Aug-2012	207.56	26	Mar-2002	<p>Initial contract was terminated on 16.1.2007. Re-awarded in Oct' 2008 for the</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
													balance work. Initial delay due to Non-utilisation of plant and equipments by the new Contractor due to number of court cases filed by the expelled contractor. Slow progress by Contractor. Delay in ROB-CRS clearance
39	New Mangalore Port	Karnataka	13, 17 & 48	37	36.74	SPV	Jun-2005	Dec-2007	Dec-2012	196.5	60	Mar-2005	Shifting of Utilities, obstruction from local public, shifting of religious structures and Court cases against land acquisition.
40	NH Connectivity to ICTT Vallarpadam	Kerala	47C	17.2	15.1	NHAI	Aug-2007	Feb-2010	Dec-2014	557	58	May-2007	1) Inadequate provisions for treatment of soil for reclaimed portion of 6.7 km and approaches of bridges - which involved heavy financial commitment.

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Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

													2) Adverse climate conditions-extended monsoon in the region 3) Regular labour problem
41	Lakhnadon to MP/MH Border (NS-1/BOT/MP-3)	Madhya Pradesh	7	56.475	27.73	Annuity	Dec-2007	Jun-2010	Oct-2012	407.6	28	Jan-2007	Non-availablilm of wildlife/forest clearance.
42	Lakhnadon to MP/MH Border (NS-1/BOT/MP-2)	Madhya Pradesh	7	49.35	40.11	Annuity	Mar-2007	Sep-2009	Oct-2012	263.17	37	Apr-2006	Non-availability of forest clearance.
43	Gwalior Bypass (NS-1/BOT/MP-1)	Madhya Pradesh	75,3	42	40.45	Annuity	Apr-2007	Oct-2009	Dec-2012	300.93	38	May-2006	Initial delay in issue of clearance of defence land.
44	Sagar Bypass (ADB-II/C-5)	Madhya Pradesh	26	26	26	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Aug-2012	151.3	46	Dec-2005	Poor Planning and performance of contractor. Delay in approval of GAD for ROB.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
45	Rajmarg Choraha to Lakhandon (ADB-II/C-9)	Madhya Pradesh	26	54.7	51.06	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Sep-2012	229.91	47	Dec-2005	Poor performance of contractor in mobilization of plants & machineries.
46	Sagar - Rajmarg Choraha (ADB-II/C-6)	Madhya Pradesh	26	44	40.84	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Dec-2012	203.43	50	Dec-2005	Poor Planning and performance of contractor. Change in alignment to avoid Defense land for which permission could not be obtained even after the best efforts of the NHAI.
47	Rajmarg Choraha to Lahknadon (ADB-II/C-8)	Madhya Pradesh	26	54	46	ADB	Apr-2006	Oct-2008	Dec-2012	251.03	50	Dec-2005	The contractor's delay in mobilization for agencies and plants & machinery
48	Dholpur - Morena Section (including chambal	Madhya Pradesh [I] Rajasthan [9]	3	10	7.11	NHAI	Sep-2007	Sep-2010	Dec-2012	232.45	27	Jun-2007	(i) The Project falls in Chambal wild life sanctuary and the necessary clearance was delayed substantially.

	bridge) NS-1/RJ- MP/1												(ii) Delay in obtaining clearance for cutting of trees and start of work in Forest land falling in 8 km of Dholpur District of Rajasthan.
49	Gwalior - Jhansi	Madhya Pradesh [68.5]/ Uttar Pradesh [11.5]	75	80	52.77	Annuity	Jun-2007	Dec-2009	Dec-2012	604	36	May-2006	Initially problems in land acquisition. This has been mainly solved. Delays on the part of the Concessionaire.
50	Four laning from MP/ Maharashtra border to Nagpur I/C Kamptee Kanoon and Nagpur bypass	Maharashtra	7	95	58.5	BOT	Apr-2010	Jun-2012	Oct-2012	1170.52	4	Aug-2009	Delay in Forest Clearance.
51	Pimpalgaon- Nasik - Gonde	Maharashtra	3	60	50	BOT	Jan-2010	Jul-2012	Dec-2012	940	5	Jan-2009	There was initial delay in land acquisition.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
52	MP/ Maharashtra Border-Dhule	Maharashtra	3	98	87	BOT	Dec-2009	Jun-2012	Dec-2012	835	6	Jan-2009	Delay in land acquisition.
53	Pune- Sholapur Pkg-I (Approved Length Pkg I & II 170 Km)	Maharashtra	9	110.05	84	BOT	Nov-2009	Mar-2012	Oct-2013	1110	19	Feb-2009	Delay in land acquisition.
54	Wadner- Devdhari (NS-60/MH)	Maharashtra	7	29	0	NHAI	Feb-2011	Nov-2010	Nov-2012	193.45	24	Apr-2005	Earlier contract Terminated vide NHAI, HQ letter dated 25.02.2009.
55	Nagpur - Kondhali	Maharashtra	6	40	39.84	BOT	Jun-2006	Dec-2008	Dec-2012	168	48	Sep-2005	(i) Financial Problem of Concessionaire. (ii) Initial delay in Land Acquisition (iii) Non Utility Shifting due to non availability of land (iv) Removal of unauthorised structure.

56	Borkhedi- Jam (NS-22/MH)	Maharashtra	7	27.4	27	NHAI	Jun-2005	Dec-2007	Jul-2012	110	55	Feb-2005	(i) Delay in approval of design and drawings of ROB at Borkhedi at Km.37.418. (ii) Court Case for land at Km.64.000 of encroachments: (iii) Land Acquisition problems at Borkhedi ROB. (iv) Shifting of Water pipe line at at Km.63.000 & Km.64.000
57	Sunakhala - Ganjam (OR-VII)	Orissa	5	55.713	50.7	NHAI	Oct-2009	Oct-2011	Jul-2012	241.53	9	Aug-2001	Original contract was terminated in Apr' 2008 and the balance work was awarded in Oct' 2009. Bank Guarantee of the contractor forfeited.
58	Balasore - Bhadrak (OR-III)	Orissa	5	62.64	62.61	NHAI	Dec-2008	Dec-2010	Jul-2012	228.7	19	May-2001	Original contract was terminated in Dec' 2007 and the balance work

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
59	Ganjam - Icchapuram (OR-VIII)	Orissa	5	50.8	50.714	NHAI	Jul-2006	Nov-2008	Jul-2012	263.27	44	Jun-2001	was awarded in Nov' 2008 Bank Guarantee of the contractor forfeited. There was initial delay of about 11 months due to quarry permission not granted by the State Govt.
60	Bhuba- neswar- Khurda (OR-I)	Orissa	5	27.15	27.15	NHAI	Jan-2001	Jan-2004	Jul-2012	140.85	102	Jan-2001	Original contract was terminated in Jan' 2004 and re-awarded in July 2006. Delay is mainly due to non availability of quarry lease, blasting license, siting criteria for crusher plant. Indian Rear Earth Ltd. is yet to grant closer of Railway siding.
													Mismanagement of Contractor and JV problem between the JV Partners.

61	Pathankot to Jammu & Kashmir Border (NS-36/J&K)	Punjab	1A	19.65	18.65	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Jun-2013	97.73	61	Jun-2005	Initial delay in land acquisition.
62	Pathankot to Bhogpur (NS-37/PB)	Punjab [29]/ Himachal Pradesh [11]	1A	40	40	NHAI	Nov-2005	May-2008	Jul-2012	284	50	Jul-2005	Initial delay in land acquisition.
63	Kishangarh-Ajmer-Beawar	Rajasthan	8	82	80.5	BOT	Nov-2009	May-2012	Sep-2012	795	4	Apr-2009	Poor Performance of contractor.
64	Chambal Bridge (RJ-5)	Rajasthan	76	1.4	0	NHAI	Nov-2006	Feb-2010	Dec-2013	281.31	46	Jun-2006	(i) Initial delay in getting final forest clearance from MoEF which was obtained during Dec 2007 after clearance from NBWL and Hon'ble Supreme Court for diversion of wildlife area of Chambal Gadial Sanctuary.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
65	Kota Bypass (RJ-4)	Rajasthan	76	26.42	26.35	NHAI	May-2006	Nov-2008	Sep-2012	250.39	46	Sep-2005	(i) Delay in final forest clearance from MoEF; project site being in Chambal Gadial Sanctuary and Forest area. (ii) Delay in approval from Railways regarding launching scheme for pre-cast PSC girders.
66	Tuticorin Port	Tamil Nadu	7A	47.2	42.5	SPV	Apr-2010	Apr-2012	Sep-2012	182.25	5	Feb-2004	Delay in land acquisition & utilities. Mainly, there was delay in shifting of water pipelines
67	Salem-Ulundrupet (BOT-I/TN-06)	Tamil Nadu	68	136.357	134.2	BOT	Jan-2008	Jan-2011	Feb-2013	941	25	Mar-2007	1). Absence of construction Contractor (MAYTAS INFRA for more than 6 months in project site 2). Delay in

														introduction of new construction Contractor in the place of MAYTAS INFRA
														3). Delay in mobilisation of new construction Contractor
68	Chennai - Tada (Six lane)	Tamil Nadu	5	43.4	7	BOT	Apr-2009	Oct-2011	Mar-2014	353.37	29	Feb-2008	Project is restructured to accommodate 6-lane within available Right of Way.	
69	Trichy - Karur	Tamil Nadu	67	79.7	70	BOT	Jan-2008	Jul-2010	Mar-2013	516	32	Mar-2007	1) In respect of three irrigation tanks in Trichy Karur project, the Hon'ble Madurai Bench of Madras Highcourt has delevered judgement to revise the alignment Review petition filed in the Hon'ble Madurai Bench of Madras High Court for 4.80 Kms length.	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
70	Thanjarur-Trichy	Tamil Nadu	67	56	54.2	BOT	Dec-2006	Jun-2009	Nov-2012	280	41	Feb-2006	i) Delay in land acquisition ii) poor mobilization of resources and man power by the Concessionaire iii) Court Cases iv) Delay in shifting of Utilities by the Concessionaire
71	Lucknow-Kanpur (EW/3B)	Uttar Pradesh	25	16	15.3	NHAI	Feb-2010	Aug-2011	Oct-2012	54	14	Dec-2003	Poor Performance of contractor.
72	Jhansi to Lalitpur (NS-1/BOT/UP-2)	Uttar Pradesh	25, 26	49.7	44.5	Annuity	Mar-2007	Sep-2009	Dec-2012	355.06	39	Apr-2006	Delay in forest clearance.
73	Ganga Bridge to Rama Devi Crossing (UP-6)	Uttar Pradesh	25	5.6	1.64	NHAI	Dec-2005	Sep-2008	Mar-2013	201.66	54	May-2005	(i) Delay in acquisition of land by the Competent Authority and removal of encroachments/ structures by Distt. Authorities.

74	Orai to Jhansi (UP-5)	Uttar Pradesh	25	50	50	ADB	Sep-2005	Mar-2008	Dec-2012	340.68	57	May-2005	(ii) Delay in removal of earthen mound belonging to Archeological Survey of India falling in the alignment of the stretch. (i) Initial delay in tree cutting by the State Forest Deptt. due to imposition of additional condition of providing of 10 mtr. strip along the highway. (ii) Delay in acquisition of land by the Competent Authority and removal of encroachments/structures
75	Garhmukteshwar - Muradabad	Uttar Pradesh	24	56.25	55.85	NHAI	Mar-2005	Sep-2007	Sep-2012	275	60	Mar-2005	Initial delay in tree cutting by the State Forest Deptt. due to imposition of additional condition of providing of 10 mtr. strip along the highway. There was delay in wild life clearance.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
76	Hapur - Garhmuk- teshwar	Uttar Pradesh	24	35	34	NHAI	Mar-2005	Sep-2007	Sep-2012	220	60	Mar-2005	(i) Initial delay in tree cutting by the State Forest Deptt. due to imposition of additional condition of providing of 10 mtr. strip along the highway. (ii) Delay in approval for tree cutting from Central Wild Life Board in about 2 km. stretch.
77	Agra- Shikohabad (GTRIP/ I-A)	Uttar Pradesh	2	50.83	50.76	WB	Mar-2002	Mar-2005	Oct-2012	367.49	91	Mar-2002	The delay is mainly due to non availability of ROB clearance from Railway Authorities. There was change in the design from 2-lane ROB to 3-lane ROB due to introduction of 3 Railway line by Railways. The revised drawings could be

														submitted only in Nov' 2009 for which approval obtained in Mar' 2011. The entire 4-laning as well as 3-laning of ROB has been completed in Apr' 2009.
78	Assam/ WB Border to Gairkatta (WB-1)	West Bengal	31C	32	25.5	NHAI	Jun-2006	Nov-2008	Sep-2012	221.82	46	Jun-2005	* Delay in land acquisition and slow Progress of the Contractor.	
79	Siliguri to Islampur (WB-7)	West Bengal	31	26	18.69	NHAI	Jan-2006	Jul-2008	Dec-2012	225	53	Oct-2005	Delay in acquisition of land.	
80	Bridges section (WB-III)	West Bengal	6	1.732	0.48	NHAI	T E R	M I N A	T E D	81	59	Jan-2001	Contract terminated	

Growth of toll mafia

†606. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government feels that there is a need to reconsider about collection of toll tax throughout the country;
- (b) whether toll mafias have replaced tolling across the country and arbitrary toll is being imposed at toll collection points;
- (c) whether toll collection has been continued till now at many places even after toll period is over; and
- (d) whether Government would conduct audit of entire tolling process once again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No, Sir. The National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008 have been amended vide notification dated 03.12.10, 12.01.11 and 12.10.11 to include concern of all stakeholders, including the road users.

- (b) No, Sir, user fee (Toll) is being collected as per notified fee rules.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) No such need now Sir.

Utilization of funds for highway projects in Maharashtra

607. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of funds sanctioned and released for the construction of National Highways (NHs) included in the 2011-12 Annual Plan in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether there were any reasons for undue difference in the amount sanctioned and released as mentioned during the period; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) An amount of Rs.276.60 crore has been sanctioned and released for construction of National Highways in the year 2011-12 for the State of Maharashtra

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

Maintenance of assets created under MGNREGS

†608. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to include the construction of pucca drains, ladies lavatories and kharanjas for the purpose of maintaining cleanliness and the construction of rooms for schools and dispensaries etc. and works like cleaning of water bodies etc. under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) for rural development;

(b) if so, the organisations assigned with the responsibility of the maintenance of water-bodies, drains and ladies lavatories and for making arrangement of electricity and water therein by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The provisions in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are effected through Schemes formulated by States under Section 4(1) of the Act. Para IB of Schedule-I of MGNREGA as amended from time to time, lists the category of works upon which any Scheme prepared by a State Government under Section 4 (1) of MGNREG Act shall focus. A large number of works related to rural sanitation such as individual household latrines, school toilet units, anganwadi toilets, solid and liquid waste management, water-conservation and water harvesting, flood control and protection related works, rural drinking water related works, irrigation facilities, renovation of traditional water bodies etc. are included in Schedule-1. Gram Panchayats in meetings of the Gram Sabha and Ward Sabha are to determine the order of priority of works to be taken up.

(b) and (c) Responsibility for making arrangements for maintenance of assets/works under MGNREGA rests with concerned State Governments/Union Territories.

Fake MGNREGS job card holders in Bihar

609. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that on inquiry by social organizations it was revealed that Government servants, Railway officials, *etc.* feature in the list of job card holders under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had conducted any detailed enquiry into these irregularities to find out the persons responsible for these;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has taken any penal action against them; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (f) The Ministry receives a large number of complaints of all types about implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in the country. 11 job cards related complaints (non issue of job cards, manipulation in job cards and job cards kept by Sarpanches *etc.*) in Bihar State have been received in the Ministry as on 9.8.2012. Instances where job cards were issued in the names of professionals and other affluent individuals have also come to the notice of the Government.

Para 1 of Schedule-II of MGNREG Act stipulates that adult members of every household who reside in rural areas and are willing to do unskilled manual work may apply for registration of their household for issuance of a job card to be eligible to apply for work. Economic or social status of applicants is not a criteria for issuing or denying a job card under MGNREGA.

National Level Monitors (NLMs) are also deputed by the Ministry in complaints of serious nature and their reports are analyzed and findings are forwarded to the concerned State Government for taking corrective measures. As per Section 18 of the Act, it is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to make available to the District Programme Coordinator and Programme Officers, necessary staff and technical support as may be necessary for the effective implementation of the Scheme. Hence, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise procedures and measures to deal with such irregularities including lodging of criminal cases and to take other action against persons involved.

PMGSY roads in Himachal Pradesh

610. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is giving priority to hilly and rural areas for construction of roads under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for not commencing construction of the Jalwari-Maghara, Amboi-Gumna, Tordsa-Gumna link road from Bakhaul-Nandla and link road Jalwari-Kailu in Chirgaon Tehsil of Shimla District in Himachal Pradesh;

(c) by when Government will fulfil the long pending demand of people of that area; and

(d) whether Government will take special care for construction of these roads on priority basis so that farmers may be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the objective to provide all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations, existing in the core-network, in rural areas of the country. The programme envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations in core network with a population of 500 persons and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in Hill States, Tribal (Schedule V) areas, the Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and in the Selected Tribal and Backward Districts under Integrated Action Plan (IAP) as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) Rural Road is a State subject and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention of the Central Government to improve the Rural Infrastructure through construction of roads. Habitations are cleared out of the eligible unconnected habitations from core network on the basis of proposals sent by the States. As informed by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh no proposal has been sent for approval of the Jalwari-Maghara and Amboi-Gumna road due to land related issues. Further as informed by the State Government Tordsa-Gumna road, link road Bakhaul-Nandla and link road Jalwari-Kailu in Chirgaon Tehsil of Shimla District are not eligible as per PMGSY guidelines.

Computerization of land records

611. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a computerization of land records was initiated by the various State Governments including Karnataka;

(b) if so, the number of States which have implemented the scheme so far;

(c) whether the Centre has provided any financial assistance to States in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the work is going on at a snail pace;

(f) if so, whether Government has fixed any target to complete the said work;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the response of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) This Department was implementing two Centrally Sponsored Scheme *viz.* Computerization of Land Records (CLR) and Strengthening of Revenue Administration & Updating of Land Records (SRA & ULR) from the year 1988-89 & 1987-88, respectively. These schemes were merged into new and enhanced schemes in the shape of National Land Records Modernization Programme (NLRMP). NLRMP was launched in the year 2008-09. The funds released to the States/UTs is given in Statement (*See below*). Computerization of Records of Rights has been completed in 20 States/UTs and is under progress in 9 States/UTs.

(f) to (h) So far 267 districts have been covered under the NLRMP. It is proposed to cover the remaining districts by the end of 12th five year Plan.

Statement

The funds released to States/UTs

Sl. No.	Name of State/UTs	SRA & ULR		CLR		NLRMP	
		Funds released	Funds utilised	Funds released	Fund utilized	Total Reselased	Funds Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	1692.80	885.50	3708.31	3378.59	5466.24	18.75
2	Arunachal Pradesh	173.75	173.75	75.35	75.30	48.6	-
3	Assam	888.45	357.18	2010.30	480.50	2135.745	-
4	Bihar	1979.38	1244.08	3105.72	2688.23	4495.938	1453.52
5	Chhattisgarh	1447.18	662.20	1061.50	1061.50	3345.565	156.625
6	Gujarat	2030.20	928.17	3257.67	2149.38	6255.685	1646.34
7	Goa	585.48	572.33	243.90	240.83	-	-
8	Haryana	848.54	848.01	1575.30	1400.41	3878.48	1024
9	Himachal Pradesh	959.38	744.88	1445.51	1029.56	2298.77	461.23
10	Jammu and Kashmir	1509.00	1312.88	1828.00	286.00	1479.005	-

Written Answers to

[14 August, 2012]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	Jharkhand	250.00	0.00	1701.50	725.76	2389.91	-
12	Karnataka	2190.35	681.59	3831.71	2650.36	-	-
13	Kerala	2589.84	2078.38	1261.94	1079.23	926.24	815.74
14	M.P.	5126.84	4738.81	5168.46	4372.69	10068.79	2935.49
15	Maharashtra	4877.75	4665.35	4247.40	3312.58	4716.43	412.26
16	Manipur	60.18	0.15	348.77	149.00	168.53	-
17	Meghalaya	74.00	74.00	28.00	28.00	623.75	-
18	Mizoram	2144.79	2144.79	569.96	569.96	588.96	387.72
19	Nagaland	958.36	908.45	213.55	168.40	815.135	68.47
20	Orissa	1523.47	762.84	4321.07	3590.82	2538.54225	-
21	Punjab	1548.31	1427.19	562.25	429.61	1399.783	-
22	Rajasthan	2360.29	1767.77	3612.27	3133.27	4137.21	-
23	Sikkim	186.46	186.46	210.73	207.23	231.9	-
24	Tamil Nadu	1012.68	672.32	3698.34	2855.82	281.14	-

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Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

25	Tripura	1209.14	1192.09	738.03	738.03	774.963	87.96
26	Uttar Pradesh	4521.58	2551.68	3609.45	2820.57	1852.488	25.99
27	Uttrakhand	549.71	298.99	1874.55	660.08	117.5	-
28	West Bengal	3629.64	2436.90	3934.16	3103.64	7491.37	436.36
29	A and N Islands	43.03	28.18	-	-	72.25	51.4
30	Chandigarh	32.00	32.00	15.00	0.00	-	-
31	D and N Haveli	219.74	213.74	12.38	0.22	91.65	24.29
32	Delhi	62.00	44.26	101.13	4.31	117.5	-
33	Daman and Diu	6.50	6.50	50.00	6.58	103.72	-
34	Lakshdweep	61.23	50.71	50.00	15.90	166.41	136.66
35	Pondicherry	184.15	93.21	189.09	77.15	344.57	-

Written Answers to

[14 August, 2012]

Unstarred Questions 261

CAG report on implementation of MGNREGS in Odisha

612. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CAG has found ghost workers, bunglings in implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Odisha resulting in misappropriation of public money;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any enquiry to find out the guilty officials/persons responsible for this;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of actions taken by Government against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The CAG, in its draft report submitted to the State Government of Odisha, has pointed out instances of 93 ghost workers in Chandbali and Basudevpur Blocks of Bhadrak District and 54 ghost workers in Bamara Block of Sambalpur District of Odisha in the muster rolls for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). As per the CAG's estimation, payment of Rs. 2,87,913 has been made to these ghost workers.

(c) to (e) Being a part of the draft Report of the performance audit by CAG, these are only tentative findings. As per the settled procedure for performance audit by CAG, the State Government of Odisha will, after due enquiry, respond to the observations made in the draft report. Appropriate action will be taken by the State Government after final findings are known.

First meeting of NCLR

613. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Council on Land Reforms (NCLR) has not yet hold its first meeting;

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

(c) whether despite the fact that the Ministry has given its consent, the first meeting of NCLR is still pending;

- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the likely time by which it would be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The first meeting of the 'National Council for Land Reforms' is yet to be held. However, a preparatory meeting for the 'National Council for Land Reforms' has been held on 26th June, 2012 with the non-official members under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development.

(e) The first meeting of the 'National Council for Land Reforms' is likely to be held shortly.

PMGSY proposals from Maharashtra

614. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);
- (b) the funds released to Maharashtra under PMGSY since the beginning of Yojana till date;
- (c) the number of villages provided road connectivity with these funds;
- (d) whether proposals from Maharashtra under PMGSY are pending with the Central Government; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and by when these proposals will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the objective to provide all-weather road connectivity to all eligible unconnected habitations in rural areas of country. The programme envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations in the Core Network with a population of 500 persons and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in Hill States, Tribal (Schedule V) areas, the Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and in the Selected Tribal and Backward Districts under Integrated Action Plan (IAP) as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/Planning Commission.

(b) An amount of Rs.5,266.33, crore has been released to the State of Maharashtra under PMGSY till date.

(c) The unit for the programme is a Habitation and not a revenue village. A total of 1168 habitations have been connected under PMGSY in Maharashtra upto June, 2012.

(d) and (e) The proposals of Phase X and Phase XI, duly scrutinized by the concerned State Technical Agencies (STAs) were received on 19th March 2012 and 10th April 2012 and were placed before the Empowered Committee for PMGSY in its meetings held on 22nd March, 2012 and 10th May, 2012 respectively. The Committees' recommendations have been accepted by the Ministry on both cases. The State Government is required to communicate its compliance on the observations of the Empowered Committee and seek for a formal clearance on that basis.

Skill development training for MGNREGA workers

615. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to provide skill-development training to one Member from each of the family, which has completed 100 mandays under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA); and

(b) if so, the details of the content of the skill-development training proposed to be imparted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) No sir. However, as per the guidelines governing Placement Linked Skill Development of Rural Youth under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna (SGSY), the Below Poverty Line (BPL) beneficiaries who have completed 100 days (or maximum permissible days of work) under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are to be given preference in selection as beneficiaries under such skill development projects.

Grants under NRLM-Aajeevika Programme

616. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria for allocation of grants to States under NRLM-Aajeevika for support to livelihood programmes;
- (b) whether the Ministry plans to link allocation of the grant on the basis of percentage of poor and population of the State;
- (c) whether at present in the absence of specific and rational principles, grant is being allocated randomly; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) follows a demand driven strategy. Under NRLM, the States have the flexibility to develop their livelihoods-based perspective plans and annual action plans for poverty reduction. Before the commencement of the financial year, each State would get an indicative allocation based on the inter-se incidence of poverty among the States/UTs to enable the states to prepare their annual action plans. The annual action plans would be appraised and approved by the NRLM/ Empowered Committee, and the approved outlay would not exceed the indicative allocation for the State.

- (c) and (d) Does not arise.

Implementation of IGNOAPS in Bihar

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

- (a) whether the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) is being implemented in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the number of old persons getting pension under this scheme in the State;
- (c) whether handicapped persons are also included in this scheme and they could get pension under this scheme; and
- (d) the ratio of Central and State fund earmarked for this pension and how much amount is being paid to old persons monthly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received, 36,25,843 persons are getting old age pension under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) in Bihar.

(c) IGNOAPS is applicable for persons of age 60 years and above and belonging to a household living below poverty line (BPL) as per criteria prescribed by the Government of India. BPL persons with severe or multiple disability in the age group of 18-59 years are covered under Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS). All persons who are 60 years and above, including disabled persons, are covered under IGNOAPS.

(d) Additional Central Assistance (ACA) is provided to States @ Rs. 200/- per month for beneficiaries in the age group of 60-79 years and @ Rs. 500/- for beneficiaries who are 80 years and above. There is no state contribution from Bihar under IGNOAPS.

Projects undertaken by Mormugao Port Trust

618. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new projects undertaken by the Mormugao Port Trust (MPT);

(b) the cost of each of the projects;

(c) the machinery and equipments imported by the MPT in recent years, cost thereof and utility of the same; and

(d) the details of projects proposed to be undertaken under Public-Private-Partnership model?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) The details of the projects undertaken by MPT along-with cost thereof are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme	Estimated cost (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Development of 2nd Coal Handling Terminal at Berth No. 7 on DBFOT basis	406.00
2.	Four lane road connectivity including flyover at Gate No. 9 of Mormugao Port	145.00
3.	Remodelling and upgradation of existing railway yards at Harbour including other allied works	46.95

1	2	3
4.	Procurement of 1 no. 100T and above capacity Harbour Crane	38.87
5.	3 Nos. of Rail Mounted stackers at Mechanical Ore Handling Plant	34.15
6.	Receiving Yard Conveyor System at Mechanical Ore Handling Plant	33.05
7.	Capital Dredging for Mooring Dolphin area (balance work)	22.50
8.	Construction of Cruise Terminal Bldg. near Lighthouse	10.00
9.	Construction of internal road from gate No. 1 to MOHP	4.65

(c) During the last three years (2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12), no machinery or equipment was imported by the MPT.

(d) The details of the projects proposed to be undertaken under Public-Private Partnership model of MPT are as under:

(i) Development of 7.2 MMTPA Iron ore export Bulk Handling Terminal West of breakwater at Mormugao Port on DBFOT basis with an estimated cost of Rs.721 crores.

(ii) Development of Mechanised Coal Handling Terminal and covered Storage Facility at Berth No. 11 with an estimated cost of Rs.204 crores and capacity addition of 2 MMTPA.

Maritime cooperation between India and China

619. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have worked out maritime cooperation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to undertake seabed research?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Agreement on Maritime Transportation between India and China was earlier signed on 29th November, 1996 for maintaining and developing effective working relationship in maritime affairs between the two countries. Further, during

the visit of Chinese Foreign Minister Mr. Yang Jiechi to India in March, 2012, the two countries agreed to establish a bilateral Maritime Cooperation Dialogue so as to strengthen policy coordination on maritime issues and explore possibilities of maritime cooperation between India and China.

Development of new ports in country

620. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an increase in traffic at non-major ports in the country over the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is planning to set up more ports in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the details of the investment to be made in the development of such ports;
- (e) whether some ports are handling cargo above their capacities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the details of traffic handled in Non Major Ports are:

Sl.No.	Year	Traffic handled (in MMTPA)
1.	2008-09	213.222
2.	2009-10	288.937
3.	2010-11	315.358
4.	2011-12	351.556
	(Provisional)	

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The Government has initiated steps for the establishment of a new Major Port one each in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh.
- (e) No Major Port is handling cargo above its capacity.
- (f) Does not arise.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, Prof. P. J. Kurien, in the Chair)

STATEMENT BY MINISTER CORRECTING ANSWER TO QUESTION

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, I lay on the Table, a Statement (in English and Hindi) correcting the answer to Unstarred Question 5044 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd May, 2012 regarding "Promotional avenues for CGHS employees".

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I Report and Accounts (2010-11) of PGIMER, Chandigarh and related papers

II Report and Accounts (2010-11) of AIIMS, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 18 and Section 19 of the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh Act, 1966:—
 - (a) Forty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, 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.
- (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. 7094/15/12]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 18 and Section 19 of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956:—
 - (a) Fifty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (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. 7095/15/12]

Report and Accounts (2010-11) of HDPEL, Kolkata and related papers

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G. K. VASAN): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

1. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
 - (a) Twenty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited (HDPEL), Kolkata, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (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. 7073/15/12]

**Report and Accounts (2010-11) of National Biodiversity Authority,
Chennai and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7426/15/12]

I Notifications of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**II Report and Accounts (2010-11) of NIH, Kolkata and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) Notification No. G.S.R. 372 (E), dated the 18th May, 2012, publishing the Indian Medicine Central Council (Election) Second Amendment Rules, 2012, under Section 25 of the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7110/15/12]
- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of AYUSH) Notification No. G.S.R. 373 (E), dated the 18th May, 2012, publishing the Homoeopathy Central Council (Election) Second Amendment Rules, 2012, under sub-section (2) of Section 33 of the Homeopathy Central Council Act, 1973. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7111/15/12]
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Homoeopathy (NIH), Kolkata, 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 (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7109/15/11]

Notifications of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

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, under Section 62 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas:—

272 *Statement of implementation* [RAJYA SABHA] *of Recommendations contained in*
Eleventh Report of *Department Related Parliamentary*
Standing Committee *on External Affairs*

- (1) F. No. S-Admn/II/XI/2012, dated the 10th April, 2012, publishing the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Appointment of Consultants) Amendment Regulations, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7069/15/12]
- (2) F. No. M (C)/2009, dated the 6th July, 2012, publishing the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Guiding Principles for Declaring or Authorizing Petroleum and Petroleum Products Pipelines as Common Carrier or Contract Carrier) Regulations, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7071/15/12]
- (3) F. No. PNGRB/M(C)/11 Final Tariff Filing, dated the 30th May, 2012, publishing the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Determination of Natural Gas Pipeline Tariff) Amendment Regulations, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7070/15/12]

**REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

DR. KARAN SINGH (NCT of Delhi): 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:—

- (i) Fifteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Problems relating to Overseas Indian Marriages: Scheme for providing legal/financial assistance/rehabilitation to Indian women deserted by their Overseas Indian spouses'; and
- (ii) Sixteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'The Piracy Bill, 2012'.

**STATEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED
IN ELEVENTH REPORT OF DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

DR. KARAN SINGH (NCT of Delhi): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of

the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs on the replies to the recommendations contained in their Tenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2011-12)' of the Ministry of External Affairs.

**STATEMENTS RE. ACTION TAKEN REPORTS OF RECOMMENDATIONS/
OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN NINETEENTH, TWENTIETH AND
EIGHTEENTH REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR**

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I lay on the Table, copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour:—

- (i) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Twenty-fifth Action Taken Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the recommendations contained in their Nineteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2011-12)' of the Ministry of Labour and Employment;
- (ii) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Twenty-sixth Action Taken Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the recommendations contained in Twentieth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2011-12)' of the Ministry of Textiles; and
- (iii) Statement showing further action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Twenty-seventh Action Taken Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the recommendations contained in their Eighteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Directorate General of Employment and Training — A Review'.

REPORT OF RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA (Odisha): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fourth Report of the Railway Convention Committee (2009) on 'Pending on-going projects of the Ministry of Railways - Commissioning of the Autokast Factory at Cherthala, Kerala - A Case Study'.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G. K. VASAN): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

"That in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (2) of Section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (44 of 1958), read with Rule 3 of the National Shipping Board Rules, 1960, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, two Members from amongst the Members of the House to be members of the National Shipping Board w.e.f the date of its re-constitution due on the 1st September, 2012."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DEMAND FOR DISCUSSION ON AMARNATH YATRA

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, we take up the Calling Attention. Shri Prakash Javadekar.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अमरनाथ की यात्रा एक सद्भाव और भाईचारे की यात्रा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): First you call the attention. He will reply. You just call the attention and the hon. Minister will reply.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, we can have a...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, we can call the hon. Minister to speak on the inadequate facilities during the Amarnath Yatra which has resulted in the death of a large number of pilgrims.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, I was told that after calling attention, usually, a written reply is given, but, today, it has not come to me. But I am prepared for the discussion and would listen very carefully to the points. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार): सर, यह नोटिस दस दिन पहले से दिया हुआ है, फिर इस पर माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब क्यों नहीं दे रहे हैं? अमरनाथ यात्रा में 130 लोग मरे हैं, इसलिए यह बहुत ही गंभीर विषय है। मैं आप से माफी चाहूंगा और चाहूंगा कि मंत्री जी इस विषय पर वक्तव्य दें।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Minister, do you have the statement?

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, I have just received the Statement. I will read it out.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): He has a statement. Please.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, there has been a statement from various quarters regarding the duration of the Amarnath Yatra ...(*Interruptions*)... and there have been demands for having yatra for a fixed period. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत (राजस्थान): सर, हमें इस स्टेटमेंट की कॉपी मिलनी चाहिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... हम इसको पढ़ने के बाद ही तो प्रश्न पूछेंगे। ...(*व्यवधान*)... ऐसे तो यह नियमों का उल्लंघन है।

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, the rule says that copies of the statement, both in Hindi and English, should have been circulated to the Members before the hon. Minister starts reading it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, I agree.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: First of all, the hon. Minister did not receive it and now, the Members are not receiving it.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: I will read it out. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: सर, हमें इस स्टेटमेंट की कॉपी मिलनी चाहिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, it should have been circulated in advance. I don't know why it didn't happen. ...(*Interruptions*)... It should have been done. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, this issue is listed on the List of Business for the last four days. We knew from Friday that it would be taken up on Tuesday. The hon. Minister had enough time to take a call on this. I don't wish to quote the rule which clearly says that in a Calling Attention, the moment the hon. Minister starts reading the statement, we are entitled to get a copy of that. First, he did not have the copy. Now, we are not having a copy. It is a serious issue. About 130 people have lost their lives while going to Amarnath and the Government is taking it in such a casual manner. It is a matter of great regret. Therefore, I humbly request that we are entitled to have a copy of that. Allow the issue of Mumbai to be raised immediately. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The point raised by the hon. Deputy Leader of the Opposition is valid. It was for the Government to circulate the copy of the Statement in advance. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, I fully subscribe to your point of view. What the Deputy Leader of the Opposition has said is also right. I request the Opposition to cooperate. Within a few minutes, we will get it circulated. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ (Odisha): Sir, in the meantime, ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, that is there. I will allow you. That will be taken up later. ...(*Interruptions*)... पूंज जी, आप बैठिए। मैं आपको बोलने के लिए टाइम दूंगा। I will give you time. Let me dispose of this issue. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, now the hon. Minister has got the statement. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, we need a copy. Meanwhile, we want to raise the issue of Mumbai.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I will allow to raise the Mumbai issue. I have already said that the point raised by hon. Ravi Shankar Prasad is valid. The Government should have done this. Now, that the Government has made a request that copies would be circulated immediately, whether you will cooperate, that is for us to decide. ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Leader of the Opposition wants to say something.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): The hon. Chair has been kind enough to allow this Call Attention and also some Members to raise the issue of Mumbai. Since it will take up a few minutes before the copies are xeroxed and circulated to us, and since the Minister concerned is the same for both the issues, the Members may be allowed to raise Mumbai in the meanwhile. We will immediately take up the Call Attention after that.

श्री संजय राउत (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मुंबई का इश्यू बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. The suggestion of hon. LoP is accepted. We can take up the Mumbai issue. Now, Shri Punj.

MATTER RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Violence and Vandalism in Mumbai in Azad Maidan against the Ethnic violence in Assam

श्री बलबीर पुंज (ओडिशा): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया है। शनिवार को मुम्बई में जो हिंसा हुई, प्रदर्शन हुआ, उसके जो कारण हैं, उसके पीछे जो मानसिकता है और उसके जो शिकार हुए, the targets of that violence, वे इस देश के भविष्य के ऊपर बहुत सारे प्रश्न खड़े करते हैं। जब आप मुम्बई की हिंसा की बात करते हैं, तो मन में चिन्ता, क्षोभ और उसके साथ-साथ बहुत दुख भी होता है। प्रजातंत्र में सबको विरोध का अधिकार है। कल हमने दिल्ली में एक बड़ा प्रदर्शन देखा। परंतु जिस तरह का प्रदर्शन मुम्बई में हुआ और जिस तरह की हिंसा हुई, जिस तरह के नारे लगाए गए, वह अपने आप में बहुत चिंता का विषय है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह प्रदर्शन आज़ाद मैदान में हुआ। आज़ाद मैदान का सम्बन्ध भारत की स्वतन्त्रता के आंदोलन के साथ रहा है। एक तो वहां पर दो लोगों को एक बड़े बड़ के पेड़ पर लटका कर फांसी दी गई थी और दूसरे, गांधी जी के बहुत सारे आन्दोलनों की शुरुआत भी आज़ाद मैदान में हुई थी। आज़ाद मैदान में यह प्रदर्शन स्वतन्त्रता दिवस से केवल चार दिन पूर्व शुरू हुआ, इसलिए वहां पर जो हुआ, उसका महत्व बहुत बढ़ जाता है। वहां पर जो रैली हुई, उसमें दो मुद्दे उठाने की बात थी। एक तो तथाकथित असम में हिंसा और दूसरे, बर्मा में रोहंगंग मुसलमानों के ऊपर अत्याचार। पिछले दिनों मैंने सदन में कहा था कि असम में जो हिंसा हुई, वह कोई साम्प्रदायिक हिंसा नहीं थी। वहां की बोडो जनजाति के स्थानीय असमी लोग अपनी पहचान के लिए, अपने सम्मान के लिए, अपनी सम्पत्ति के लिए लड़ रहे थे और आक्रमणकर्ता थे, विदेशी घुसपैटिए। परन्तु वहां पर जो रैली हुई, उसमें स्थानीय लोगों के लिए सहानुभूति नहीं थी, वहां पर बोडो लोगों को, असम के लोगों को समर्थन नहीं था, अपितु वहां पर विदेशी घुसपैटियों का समर्थन किया गया कि उनको अधिकार है कि वे जब चाहें बंगलादेश से आएँ और यहां की स्थानीय जनता के ऊपर, उनके सम्मान पर, उनकी सम्पत्ति पर, पहचान पर जितना आक्रमण कर सकते हैं, करें। रैली के लोगों ने कहा कि हमारी सहानुभूति इस देश के लोगों के साथ नहीं है, हमारी सहानुभूति विदेशी घुसपैटियों के साथ है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, क्या मज़हब का रिश्ता इस देश की मिट्टी के रिश्ते से बड़ा होगा, क्या वह रिश्ता गहरा होना चाहिए, क्या हम सब भारत माता की संतान नहीं हैं, क्या भारत के अंदर जो हिंदू, मुसलमान, सिख, ईसाई, अन्य अलग मज़हबों के लोग रहते हैं, वे इस देश की मिट्टी से, पानी से, वायु से प्राण प्राप्त नहीं करते हैं, क्या वे लोग जीवन नहीं जीते हैं? क्या वे सारे के सारे आपस में बहिन-भाई नहीं हैं, क्या उनको आपस में सहानुभूति नहीं होनी

चाहिए और क्या आपकी सहानुभूति विदेशी पार से आने वाले घुसपैठियों के साथ इस कारण होनी चाहिए कि वे आपके मज़हब के हैं?

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, उस रैली में हिंसा हुई और जो निशाने बनाए गए, उनमें एक तो मीडिया की ओ.बी. वैंस को निशाना बनाया गया, महिला पुलिस अधिकारियों के साथ अभद्रता की गई, उनके कपड़े फाड़े गए, उनके अस्त्र-शस्त्र भी छीन लिए गए और दुकानें जलाई गईं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, कोई यह बताए कि अगर बर्मा में रोहांग मुसलमानों के साथ अत्याचार हुआ है, तो उसके लिए मुम्बईवासी और भारत के लोग किस तरह से जिम्मेदार हैं और उनको किस कसूर की सज़ा दी गई? उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, क्या यह हिंसा प्रायोजित नहीं थी? क्या केन्द्रीय गृह मंत्रालय को इसकी पूर्व जानकारी नहीं थी? उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं दो मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ। क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि शंभु सिंह, जो ज्वायंट सेक्रेटरी हैं और गृह मंत्रालय में नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के इंचार्ज हैं, उन्होंने उत्तर-पूर्व के एक छोटे से चैनल, फ्रंटियर चैनल, जो अन्य चैनल्स में भी आया, मैं दो बातें कहीं कि मौलाना अजमल बदरुद्दीन ने टेलीफोन करके सारी मुम्बई के लोगों को इकट्ठा होने के लिए कहा और उनको हिंसा के लिए उकसाया? गृह मंत्री जी, क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि आपके दबाव के कारण संयुक्त सचिव शंभु सिंह ने अपना बयान बदला, जबकि उसका बयान सीडी के ऊपर आज भी उपलब्ध है और सुना जा सकता है? अगर केन्द्र सरकार को इसकी जानकारी थी, तो क्या इन्होंने महाराष्ट्र सरकार को इसकी जानकारी दी? इन्होंने जानकारी दी, परन्तु महाराष्ट्र की सरकार ने हिंसा को रोकने के लिए कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की। क्या इसका कारण वोट बैंक पॉलिटिक्स था? क्या वोट बैंक पॉलिटिक्स के प्रेशर के अन्तर्गत आकर महाराष्ट्र की सरकार ने उन लोगों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई नहीं की? अब भी जो कार्रवाई हो रही है, उसमें कहा जा रहा है कि रमजान का महीना है, रमजान के महीने में पुलिस कार्रवाई नहीं करेगी। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अगर रमजान के महीने में अपराध किए जा सकते हैं, रमजान के महीने की पवित्रता को बरकरार नहीं रखा जा सकता, तो रमजान के महीने में पुलिस अपराधियों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई क्यों नहीं कर सकती? ...**(समय की घंटी)**... दीवाली के दिन शंकराचार्य जी को गिरफ्तार किया जा सकता है, दीवाली की पवित्रता को ध्यान में नहीं रखा जाता, परन्तु रमजान के कारण, चूंकि जो कसूरवार हैं, जो आरोपी हैं, उनका मज़हब इस्लाम है, इसलिए उनके साथ नरमी बरतने के पीछे अगर वोट बैंक पॉलिटिक्स की *compulsion* नहीं है, तो क्या कारण है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

सर, मैं दो मिनट लूंगा। सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के लोगों को पुणे के अन्दर, कोलकाता के अन्दर, आन्ध्र प्रदेश के अन्दर और रांची के अन्दर निकाल-निकाल पर पीटा गया, यह योजनाबद्ध ढंग से किया गया और यह सरकार मूकदर्शक बन कर देखती रही। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं दो बातें और कह कर अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ। इस प्रदर्शन का, इस रैली का, जिसे कहना चाहिए, सबसे ज्यादा शर्मनाक पहलू यह है कि छत्रपति शिवाजी टर्मिनल ...(समय की घंटी)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You have taken more time ...(Interruptions)... It is not a Short Duration Discussion. ...(Interruptions)... Please conclude ...(Interruptions)...

श्री बलबीर पुंज: सीएसटी के अन्दर एक शहीद स्मारक अमर जवान ज्योति है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, उपद्रवियों ने वहां जाकर उस स्मारक को तोड़ा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It is not a Short Duration Discussion. ...(Interruptions)... Please conclude. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री बलबीर पुंज: उन्होंने वहां पर सैनिकों की टोपी, जो भारतीय सेना के सम्मान के प्रतीक के रूप में थी, उस टोपी को नीचे उतारा। ...(व्यवधान)... वहां पर जो बन्दूक थी, वे उस बन्दूक को भी चुरा कर ले गए, उस बन्दूक को भी उठा कर ले गए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): पुंज जी, आप बैठिए। आपका समय समाप्त हो गया।

श्री बलबीर पुंज: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... इस सदन के इस तरफ के लोगों से कहना चाहता हूँ कि ...(व्यवधान)... यह देश कभी शहीदों का अपमान नहीं सहेगा।

एक आखिरी बात यह है कि उस रैली के अन्दर तिरंगे झंडे ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please conclude. It is not a Short Duration Discussion. ...(Interruptions)... You have taken more time. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री बलबीर पुंज: पाकिस्तान के झंडे फहराए गए। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): पुंज जी, आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... श्री संजय राउत। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री बलबीर पुंज: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, क्या उस रैली में पाकिस्तानी उपस्थित थे? ...(व्यवधान)... क्या उस रैली में पाकिस्तानी उपस्थित थे? क्या उस रैली में ऐसे लोग थे, जिनके पास पासपोर्ट नहीं है, परन्तु जिनका मन पाकिस्तान में है? ...(व्यवधान)... *

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): पुंज जी, आप बैठिए, प्लीज़। ...(व्यवधान)... It is not a discussion. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Chairman has allowed special permission to Punjji. That is all. You have made your point. ...(Interruptions)...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री बलवीर पुंज: इतना बड़ा काम हो गया और किसी सेकुलर पार्टी ने इसके खिलाफ आवाज नहीं उठाई। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No discussion, please ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश): आप ऐसे लोगों को संरक्षण दे रहे हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No discussion, please ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Sanjay Raut also asked in advance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री बलवीर पुंज: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं अपनी बात ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Punj, please co-operate ...*(Interruptions)*... You took special permission. Yes, Mr. Raut. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय राउत (महाराष्ट्र): सर, बलवीर पुंज जी ने जो कहा है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Since it is related to Mumbai, I will allow you for one minute.

श्री संजय राउत: सर, एक मिनट में तो कुछ भी खत्म नहीं होगा ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह देश का सवाल है, सर ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम मुम्बई में रहते हैं, हमें मालूम है कि वहां क्या चल रहा है ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपको मालूम नहीं है, सर ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, it is not a discussion ...*(Interruptions)*... You can give notice ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not a discussion ...*(Interruptions)*... Only Mr. Raut was allowed to mention. If you want a separate discussion, give separate notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, मुम्बई में क्या हुआ, यह सबने देखा है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार): सर, हमारी बात भी सुनी जाए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, this is not a discussion. I cannot allow all ...*(Interruptions)*... We have to take up the Calling Attention Motion. Mr. Raut, please finish in one minute.

श्री संजय राउत: सर, आप एक मिनट की बात मत करें ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): एक मिनट की बात मैं कर रहा हूँ, आप एक मिनट में फिनिश कीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... बोलिए, बोलिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, मुम्बई में जो भी हुआ है, सबने देखा, लेकिन वह क्यों हुआ, कैसे हुआ, यह बात सिर्फ हमको मालूम है। बलबीर पुंज साहब ने जो बताया, समस्या उससे भी ज्यादा गंभीर है।

सर, म्यांमार में वहां के मुसलमानों के ऊपर जो अन्याय हुआ और मुम्बई में आप जो दंगा भड़काते हैं, मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि म्यांमार के मुसलमान आपके कौन लगते हैं, जिनके लिए आप भारत माता की छाती पर नाचते हैं? ये बंगलादेश के मुसलमान आपके कौन लगते हैं, जिनके लिए आप मुम्बई और पूरा देश जला रहे हैं?

सर, वहां की पूरी बात और पूरी घटना हमारी आंख के सामने हुई। अमर जवान ज्योति का शिल्प जला दिया गया ...(व्यवधान)... उसे तोड़ दिया गया ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, please conclude.

श्री संजय राउत: उसके ऊपर जूते फेंके गए ...(व्यवधान)... जो लोग इस देश में रहते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, please conclude.

श्री संजय राउत: उसके ऊपर जूते फेंके गए और हमने बार-बार सरकार को चेतावनी दी थी। रज़ा अकादमी ने इस रैली का आयोजन किया था, यह रज़ा अकादमी कौन है? ...(व्यवधान)... ये पाकिस्तान परस्त लोग हैं। यह वही रज़ा अकादमी है, जिसने ...(व्यवधान)... दंगा फैलाया था और दो पुलिस कर्मियों को पुलिस के सामने मार दिया था। यही रज़ा अकादमी के लोग हैं, जिन्होंने सल्मान रशदी का ...(व्यवधान)... उसके बाद रैली निकाली थी, उसमें 10 लोग मारे गये थे ...(व्यवधान)... यही वह रज़ा अकादमी है ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please, be brief.

श्री संजय राउत: डेनमार्क में जो कार्टून का इश्यू हुआ था, जिसके बाद मुम्बई में दंगा किया गया, जिसमें 10 लोग मारे गये थे, ऐसी रज़ा अकादमी एक रैली निकालती है और महाराष्ट्र की सरकार उसको परमिशन देती है। यह किसके इशारे पर हुआ? देश के गृह मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... वहां राज्य के मुख्य मंत्री थे ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, take your seat.
...(Interruptions)... Take your seat.

श्री संजय राउत: * और ये देश को, मुम्बई को एवं महाराष्ट्र को जलाना चाहते हैं, अराजकता फैलाना चाहते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, take your seat.
...(Interruptions)...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री संजय राउत: नहीं, सर, आप मुझे बोलने दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): नहीं, नहीं, तीन मिनट हो गए ...(व्यवधान)... बैठिए, बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, ये जो हैं कांग्रेस के, कांग्रेस के ...(व्यवधान)... कांग्रेस के दो मंत्री और उनके एक पीए हैं, जिन्होंने इस रैली के लिए आज़ाद मैदान बुक किया था। ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, please ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए, बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: कांग्रेस के एक मंत्री ने परमिशन दी थी ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You have made your point. तीन मिनट हो गए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: मुम्बई पुलिस के पुलिस कमिश्नर ...(व्यवधान)... 50 पुलिसकर्मी ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is over. Take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... Please, take you seat. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, क्यों? ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You have made your point. Now, take your seat.

श्री संजय राउत: नहीं, सर, हम नहीं बैठेंगे ...(व्यवधान)... मैं नहीं बैठूंगा ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं बैठूंगा ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Listen to me ...(Interruptions)... एक मिनट बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)... आप एक मिनट बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: ये रज़ा अकादमी वाले लोग ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I will tell you ...(Interruptions)... Please, listen to me ...(Interruptions)... आप लोग एक मिनट बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: वहां इतना कुछ हो रहा है, तो पांच मिनट क्यों नहीं बोल सकते? ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आप एक मिनट बैठिए, मेरी बात सुनिए ...(व्यवधान)... Let me say ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members ...(Interruptions)... I am on my legs ...(Interruptions)... आप बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, पाकिस्तान के ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I will allow ...(Interruptions)... I am on my legs. ...(Interruptions)... When the Chair is on his legs, you know the rules ...(Interruptions)... You should know the rules ...(Interruptions)... See, I am only your servant. Now, I am requesting on one point. I am taking your opinion. This discussion is neither a Short Duration Discussion nor a formal discussion. Because Mr. Punj specially requested hon. Chairman, he allowed him to raise the matter. And, because Mr. Sanjay Raut also made a request earlier, I allowed him. If you want to convert it into a discussion ...(Interruptions)... Let me complete. ...(Interruptions)... I am on my legs. ...(Interruptions)... Let me complete. If you want to convert it into a discussion, it should be a structured discussion as per the rules, and, certainly, there is no objection. ...(Interruptions)... If you convert this into a discussion in this manner, and, if you ask me to allow every Member to speak, then, you will not be able to discuss Calling Attention relating to Amarnath Yatra, which is very important. So, my request is ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand) : Sir, I have already given notice on this important issue. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Tarunji, please ...(Interruptions)... आप मेरे दोस्त हैं। आप बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)... My suggestion is that if you want ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार): सर, अगर इस विषय पर structured debate के लिए सरकार मान जाए, तो हम लोग तैयार हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आप नोटिस दे दीजिए। It is up to the Government ...(Interruptions)... See, Members can give notice. Chair cannot give any more commitment. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, ...(व्यवधान)... इस पर सभी दलों को ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, मैं एक मिनट और लूंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुम्बई में जो कुछ हुआ ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): What can I do?
...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, अब सवाल इतना है कि देश की सरकार कौन चला रहा है।
...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, I can't allow.
...(Interruptions)... What can I do? ...(Interruptions)... We can have a structured
discussion. ...(Interruptions)... We can have a structured discussion.
...(Interruptions)... Yes, yes. That can be allowed ...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, ...(व्यवधान)... यही मेरा सवाल है, सर। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुम्बई में जो कुछ हुआ ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, let us take up next item,
that is, Calling Attention on ...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You have finished.
...(Interruptions)... This way, you cannot speak. ...(Interruptions)... I have allowed
you to speak for three minutes.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Why not, Sir? It is not a Zero Hour
discussion. Special permission has been given to raise it. ...(Interruptions)... It is
not Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): That is what I am saying. It is
not a discussion. ...(Interruptions)... Let us hear the hon. Minister.
...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): Sir,
after the discussion.. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं खड़ा हूँ। आपने मेरी बात नहीं सुनी।
...(व्यवधान)... इसका कोई मतलब नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात हुई है।
...(व्यवधान)... इस सदन में जिस ढंग से और जिस भाषा में बात की गई है, वह बहुत
गेरजवाबदेह है। मुम्बई में सड़कों पर जिन लोगों ने जिस भाषा का इस्तेमाल किया, House
of Elders में भी उसी तरह की भाषा का इस्तेमाल किया गया है। यहां की कार्यवाही पूरे

देश में प्रसारित हो रही है और पूरा देश इसे सुन रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं चाहूंगा कि इस मामले में पूरी चर्चा हो। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस पर हम लिख कर नोटिस भी देंगे। जिस तरह की भाषा का लोगों ने यहां इस्तेमाल किया है, वह कहीं से भी देश के हित में, राष्ट्र के हित में नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. CHANDAN MITRA (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, we have given notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government cannot ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You give a notice. आप नोटिस दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, already, a notice has been given three days back. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government is not responding. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, सड़क पर फुटपाथ पर जिस तरह की भाषा का इस्तेमाल होता है, कम्युनल भाषा का इस्तेमाल होता है, इस सदन में भी अगर उसी तरह की भाषा का इस्तेमाल होगा, तो यह देश कहां जाएगा? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, this is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: इसलिए, मैं एतराज़ करता हूं कि यहां इस तरह का भाषण हुआ और आपने उसको अलाऊ किया। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं आपसे मांग करता हूं कि ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं आपसे मांग करता हूं कि नेशनल इंटरैस्ट के खिलाफ जो बात हुई है, उसको एक्सपंज किया जाए। उसको प्रोसीडिंग से एक्सपंज किया जाए। मैं यह मांग करता हूं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पूरे भाषण को पढ़ा जाए और ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विनय कटियार: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Let us take up 'Call Attention'. Regarding this important Bombay issue, you please give notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Sir, Mr. Tarun Vijay gave a notice three days back. The Government is not responding to that, and, you say, 'give notice'. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, as directed by the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं आपसे डिमांड करता हूं कि आप पूरे भाषण को पढ़िए और उसमें जो ऑब्जेक्शनेबल है, उसको एक्सपंज कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Let us first listen to the Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... Listen to the Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him say. ...(*Interruptions*)... आप इनकी बात सुनिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, ...(*व्यवधान*)... मैं आपसे रूलिंग मांग रहा हूँ। ...(*व्यवधान*)... आप पूरे भाषण को पढ़िए और उसमें जो ऑब्जेक्शनेबल है, उसको proceedings से expunge कीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

डा. वी. मैत्रेयन: सर, आपने इनको मुझसे ज्यादा समय दिया है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): If anything objectionable has been raised, let the Government respond to that at a later time. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, let us take up the issue of Amarnath Yatra and let the Minister make a statement on Amarnath Yatra. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Let us now take up the Calling Attention on Amarnath Yatra ...(*Interruptions*)... You can give notice. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, आप proceedings को पढ़िए और उसमें जो communal बातें हैं, उनको proceedings से निकालिए ...(*व्यवधान*)... उनको expunge कीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... इस तरह की भाषा का इस्तेमाल भारतीय संसद में नहीं किया जा सकता है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): What do you want? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री तारिक अनवर (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मुझे एक मिनट बोलने का मौका दिया जाए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, मुझे एक मिनट बोलने का मौका दिया जाए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You can give notice. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The point is ...(*Interruptions*)... Are we not governed by rules? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, आपने इसको कैसे tolerate किया? ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You spoke for three minutes ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री तारिक अनवर: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, उन्होंने जो भी objectionable बातें कहीं हैं, उनको expunge किया जाए। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आप अपनी सीट पर जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... आप नोटिस दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... I will have to adjourn the House, if it goes on this way. ...(Interruptions)... I will be forced to adjourn the House. ...(Interruptions).. The discussion on the issue of Amarnath Yatra is also very important. I want to take up that. All of you want it to be discussed. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, हाउस की proceedings ऐसे नहीं चलती है। ...(व्यवधान)... आप हाउस को ऐसे नहीं चला सकते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, सदन में जो बोला जा रहा है ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आप अपनी सीट पर जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... आप सुनिए, hon. Members, why should there be ...(Interruptions)... Why should there be a conflict between the two important subjects which have been listed? ...(Interruptions)... You can give notice. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, हाउस ऐसे नहीं चलेगा ...(व्यवधान)... इस सदन में क्या बोला जा रहा है, क्या आप इसको नहीं देखेंगे? ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The House is adjourned for ten minutes.

The House then adjourned at thirty-two minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled at forty-two minutes past twelve of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN) *in the Chair.*

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने यह कहा था कि जो कुछ भी इस सदन में कहा गया है ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I heard it. ...(Interruptions)... मैं समझ गया।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, आप प्रोसिडिंग्स को देखिए। ...(व्यवधान)... यह पार्लियामेन्ट्री डिग्नटी के खिलाफ होगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): मैं समझ गया। Hon. Members, I will go through the record of all the statements made here in this House and if there is anything unparliamentary or unsubstantiated, I will remove that from the record.

श्री संजय राउत: सर, आप मेरी बात भी सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Sanjay Raut, please cooperate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय राउत: सर, वहां इतने लोग मारे गए हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): This is not the way. Mr. Sanjay Raut and others want a discussion on the Mumbai issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... I already said that this is a very important issue. It is better to have a structured discussion ...*(Interruptions)*... You are violating the rule ...*(Interruptions)*... You are violating the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री तारिक अनवर: अगर आप उनको परमिशन दे रहे हैं, तो हमें भी दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... ऐसे तो एक ही तरफ की बात सामने आएगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Let me complete. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is what I am saying ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Sanjay, please ...*(Interruptions)*... I am in full agreement with what Mr. Sanjay Raut and other hon. Members say regarding Mumbai issue. It is very important. But what happened before this was not a discussion. Mr. Punj was allowed ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me complete. What I am suggesting ...*(Interruptions)*... आप सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Let me complete. This is not the way one should behave in Parliament. You can give a notice for discussion. If the Government is in agreement, there can be a structured discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): Sir, if they give notice to the hon. Chairman for a structured debate, the Government is prepared for a statement.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The hon. Home Minister has said that the Government is prepared for a discussion. That ends the matter.

Now, we shall take up Calling Attention to matter of urgent public importance.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Inadequate facilities and safety measures along Amarnath Yatra route resulting in death of pilgrims

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to inadequate facilities and safety

measures along the Amarnath Yatra route resulting in death of a large number of pilgrims.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): There have been statements from various quarters regarding the duration of the Amarnath Yatra and there have been demands for having the yatra for a fixed period.

The yatra is organized by the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, which is a body created by an Act of the State Legislature. The Board has the Governor of the State as the Chairperson and the members. The present members are: (i) H.H. Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, (ii) Justice (Retd.) G.D. Sharma, (iii) Ms. Sunita Narain, (iv) Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, (v) Shri Vijay Dhar, (vi) Pt. Bhajan Sopori and (vii) Dr. Ved Kurnari Ghai.

The beginning and the end of the yatra are determined by two factors — the date on which the routes get clear of snow and the date on which the Raksha Bandhan falls. The yatra begins on the date on which the route is clear of snow and it ends on the date of the Raksha Bandhan. It has been our experience that the routes get clear either in the last week of June or in the first week of July. In the year 2003, the yatra started on 12th July and in 2004, it started on the 15th of July. In the year 2010, the yatra began on the 1st of July. This year, the yatra started on the 25th of June.

On each of these occasions, the yatra closed on the Raksha Bandhan day. The Yatra duration in a given year can be longer or shorter, depending on the date in August on which Shravan Purnima, that is, Raksha Bandhan, falls.

In 2011, the Shrine Board constituted a Committee headed by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar to determine the duration of the yatra. A copy of the Committee's Report is placed at Annexure-I with my statement and laid on the Table of the House. *...(Interruptions)...* I hope you have the copy. *...(Interruptions)...* I have to be very careful of what is given and what is not given. That's why, I am asking.

The Committee's Report was discussed by the Shrine Board at length and it was noted that the duration of the yatra would be determined by the following factors: (i) the extent of the snowfall received in the yatra area during the preceding winter, that is, November to March; (ii) the weather conditions during

April-May and the status of snow melt; (iii) the period necessarily required by the Army/security forces to get on the ground to establish the security-grid/area security; (iv) the date on which Raksha Bandhan falls in the year (the Board noted that assuming a fixed date of commencement of the yatra, the longest duration of the pilgrimage shall be in the year in which this festival falls around end of August).

The Board fully endorsed the Ravi Shankar sub-committee recommendations and decided that the Yatra 2012 should commence on 25th June and conclude on Raksha Bandhan, *i.e.*, on 2nd August.

The next issue which has been raised is regarding the casualties in the yatra. The number of pilgrims who made the pilgrimage and the number of pilgrims who died in the past four years are as follows. In the year 2009, the number of pilgrims were 3,92,653 and the casualties were 45. In the year 2010, the number of pilgrims were 4,51,710 and the casualties were 77. In the year 2011, the number of pilgrims were 6,35,611 and the casualties were 106. In the year 2012, the number of pilgrims were 6,21,145 and the casualties were 93.

The above figures pertain to deaths in the yatra area and do not include casualties due to accidents on the national highway, etc. while approaching the yatra area. It will be seen that the number of casualties though unfortunate have not been excessive as compared to the previous years. In fact, it has come down marginally this year compared to last year.

The Shrine Board as well as the State Government advertised widely the fact that the yatra is in difficult terrain at an altitude where the oxygen levels are low and that only those yatris who are medically fit should undertake the yatra.

A copy of the health advisory which was issued to the Yatris is placed at Annexure-II and laid on the Table of the House. This advisory was distributed through pamphlets; displayed on the website of the Shrine Board and printed on the back of the registration form. The Shrine Board made it compulsory for yatris to produce a medical certificate indicating fitness of the yatris before they are registered by the Board for undertaking the yatra. The State Government of Jammu and Kashmir had set up a High Level Committee in 2011 to review the health and other arrangements for the yatra and in accordance with its recommendations the

State Government had established 15 medical camps along the route. These were supplemented by 32 medical camps set up by the Army, CRPF and BSF. All these camps had adequate number of doctors, staff and medicines. A total of 33 medical ambulances were provided at the base camps and more than one thousand oxygen cylinders were kept on the yatra route. In addition to the above, 37 medical aid centres were set up along the national highway in J&K. For yatriis developing serious medical complications; arrangements were made to evacuate them by helicopters/dandies to base camps for onward transfer to Medical College Hospital in Srinagar for specialised treatment.

The overall arrangements for the yatra were also upgraded from the year 2011. For the first time, transit camps were established for overnight stay of Yatriis at Walnut Factory, Qazigund, Mir Bazar, Anantnag District, Manigam and Yangoora, Ganderbal District.

Emergency Shelters were set up in 19 locations in the yatra area, 13 on the Pahalgam route and 6 on Baltal route. Arrangements were made for 24 x 7 control room. Telephone services were provided on entire yatra route as well as provision of helicopter services. Both the Shrine Board and the State Government took all possible steps to make the yatra as convenient and safe for the pilgrims as possible.

By order dated 20th July, 2012, the Supreme Court has desired that a Special High Powered Committee may go into the arrangements of the yatra and suggest improvements for the future. The Committee is expected to submit its report by the first week of September, 2012 after which any additional steps which are recommended will be taken for the yatra in the future years.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I am not making a speech. The statement made by the Minister mentions that Annexure-I, recommendation made by the Board, Annexure-II, medical advice given are laid on the Table along with the statement. Both of them are missing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Must be done. It has to be laid.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, along with the Minister's statement, it has to be laid.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I agree. I saw it. It has to be laid.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: I also asked whether it has been received by the hon. Members or not. Somebody said, "yes".

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Nobody has received it.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Anyhow, it will be provided. The gist of it I have already mentioned here. Regarding the Ravi Shankar Committee's report also I have mentioned here.

श्री अरुण जेटली: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अमरनाथ यात्रा के दौरान इस बार जो हुआ, यात्रा से पूर्व इसके ऊपर बजट सेशन में एक बार चर्चा हुई थी और यात्रा से पूर्व हमने शायद सरकार का ध्यान भी दिलवाया था। उस वक्त भी जब हम लोग सरकारी अधिकारियों से मिलते थे, तो यह आश्वासन मिलता था कि यात्रा की पूरी तैयारी है और जो चिंताएं प्रकट की जा रही थीं उनमें कोई आधार नहीं है।

महोदय, चिंताएं मूलतः दो प्रकार की रही हैं। पहली, गृह मंत्री जी का बयान यदि पढ़ें, तो ऐसा लगता है कि वहां सब सुविधाएं बहुत अच्छे तरीके से दी जा रही हैं, *that all facilities are there with utmost perfection*, लेकिन जमीनी हकीकत यह नहीं है। इसके पीछे मूल कारण यह है कि सन् 1996 के बाद आपने बोर्ड बना दिया, लेकिन बोर्ड को जो जमीन देनी थी, जिस जमीन के ऊपर वे सुविधाएं बन सकती थीं, वह जमीन आज तक उसे नहीं मिली। दूसरा कारण यह है कि इस यात्रा की अवधि हर वर्ष घटाई जा रही है, यात्रियों की संख्या हर वर्ष बढ़ती जा रही है। एक समय था, जब सैंकड़ों में, हजारों में भी नहीं, यात्री वहां जाते थे और आज भी पढ़ने को मिलता है कि उस वक्त, सन 1950 के दशक में, चार महीने के लिए यात्रा खुली रहती थी। अब पिछले चार वर्ष का हम लोग देखें, तो 2009 में यह यात्रा 60 दिन की थी, 2010 में 55 दिन की गई, 2011 में 45 दिन की गई और इस बार 39 दिन कर दी गई। यात्रा की अवधि कम हो रही है और यात्रियों की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है। मंत्री जी ने स्वयं कहा कि इस बार 6 लाख 20 हजार से अधिक यात्री वहां गए, इनके साथ कुछ अनरजिस्टर्ड यात्री भी होंगे, तो संख्या वास्तविकता में उससे भी ज्यादा हो सकती है। वर्ष 1996 में जब यहां लैंड-स्लाइड आया था, तो सरकार ने एक नीतिश सेनगुप्ता जी की कमेटी बनाई थी। उस कमेटी ने यह कहा कि सरकार का यह काम नहीं है कि वह यात्रा का आयोजन करे, यात्रा के आयोजन के लिए किसी ट्रस्ट या बोर्ड का निर्माण किया जाए। इसीलिए जम्मू-कश्मीर की विधान सभा ने कानून बनाया और श्राइन बोर्ड का गठन कर दिया गया। यह भी निर्णय था कि श्राइन बोर्ड को वहां पर जमीन दी जाएगी और श्राइन बोर्ड ही यात्रा का पूरा संचालन करेगा। कमेटी का दूसरा सुझाव यह था

1.00 P.M.

कि पूरा जो रास्ता यहां पर है, वहां गुफा तक किसी भी दिन 20 हजार से ज्यादा लोग नहीं जाने चाहिए। उन्होंने यह फिगर दी कि अगर 20 हजार से ज्यादा लोग वहां जाएंगे, तो वहां वे सुविधाएं नहीं हो सकेंगी और इस प्रकार की घटनाएं होंगी। उस कमेटी के ये दो सुझाव थे, जो स्वीकार किए गए। आज वास्तविक स्थिति यह है कि यह जो अवधि-काल तो आपने घटा दिया, लेकिन कुछ दिन इस बार ऐसे रहे हैं, जब एक-एक दिन में 44 हजार लोग भी गए हैं। Because you have shortened the duration of the Yatra, 44,000 people have gone there on a given day. Conceivably, no arrangement is there for 44,000 people on a given day. उनको उस मौसम के साथ acclimatise करना पड़ता है और acclimatise करने के लिए वहां कुछ समय शेल्टर में रहेंगे, वहां जो शेल्टर हैं उनकी संख्या कम है। फिर आपने मेडिकल कैम्प से एंबुलेन्स दे दीं, लेकिन 44 हजार लोग एक दिन वहां जा रहे हैं और कुछ लोग वापस आ रहे हैं, इतनी बड़ी संख्या के लिए ये मेडिकल सुविधाएं बिल्कुल अपर्याप्त हैं, पूरी नहीं हैं। इस परिस्थिति में केवल सरकार ने एक जिद पकड़ ली है और इस यात्रा की अवधि को कम करना है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, कैलाश मानसरोवर 22,000 फुट की ऊंचाई पर है और मई के महीने में वहां की यात्रा आरम्भ हो जाती है। The snow conditions are far more grave than they are during the Amarnath yatra. And the yatra at Kailash Mansarovar begins in the month of May. लेकिन आपने एक तर्क कागज़ों पर बना लिया है कि जुलाई के महीने से पहले यह यात्रा आरम्भ नहीं हो सकती। अमरनाथ की गुफा की ऊंचाई 12,323 फुट की है, जो कैलाश मानसरोवर से लगभग 10,000 फुट नीचे है। कैलाश मानसरोवर की यात्रा मई के महीने में आरम्भ हो जाती है, जब कि अमरनाथ की यात्रा मई के महीने या जून के महीने के अन्त में आरम्भ नहीं हो सकती। इसका समारोह रक्षा बंधन के दिन होता है। इसलिए सरकार इस पर पुनर्विचार करे। मैं मंत्री जी से आग्रह करूंगा कि यह जो पूर्व नियोजित सोच है कि इसकी अवधि को कम करो और सुविधाएं न दो, वे इसे बदलें। आज वहां क्या स्थिति है? आप वहां temporary सुविधाएं बनाते हैं। अगर यात्रा हर साल होनी है और कुछ महीनों तक चलनी है, तो वहां permanent सुविधाएं बन सकती हैं। हर साल इनको बनाना और फिर उन्हें उतारना, इस पर जो खर्च होता है, वह व्यर्थ हो जाता है। सरकार इसके लिए वहां जमीन दे, अगर जमीन नहीं देना चाहती, तो सरकार सुविधाएं बना दे और Shrine Board को एक nominal lease पर दे दे। अभी यहां सुप्रीम कोर्ट का ज़िक्र आया, वहां स्थिति इतनी खराब है कि निजी लोगों ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जाकर यह कहा, industrial houses ने यह कहा कि हम बिना किसी स्वार्थ के अपने पैसे से वहां वे facilities बनाना चाहते हैं। One industrial house seems to have intervened and said, "We are willing to create, as a part of our charity, facilities/camps on the way where people

will get medical facilities, where they can rest, etc." But there seems to be a cussed attitude of the Government that they will now not provide these facilities on a permanent basis, that only skeleton facilities will be provided. इसके लिए आपने एक तर्क बना लिया कि लोग फर्जी मेडिकल सर्टिफिकेट लेकर आ जाते हैं, जिन लोगों का स्वास्थ्य अच्छा नहीं है, वे लोग वहां क्यों जाते हैं? इस प्रकार के तर्क आपने बना लिए हैं। हकीकत में यह यात्रा इस देश की सांस्कृतिक और धार्मिक आस्था का एक अटूट अंग है और अगर इसमें एक समाज के लोग जाते हैं, तो इससे कश्मीरी भाइयों की अर्थव्यवस्था को बहुत लाभ पहुंचता है। इस साल अगर हम देखें तो कश्मीर घाटी में गरमी के दिनों में टूरिज्म भी बहुत अच्छा रहा है और उसके बाद अमरनाथ की यात्रा की वजह से वहां की अर्थव्यवस्था को बहुत लाभ पहुंचा है। इसके दो बड़े लाभ हैं। इसलिए सरकार इस बात पर विचार करे कि वहां आपने जो बोर्ड बनाया है, वह इन सुविधाओं को स्थायी तौर पर वहां बनाए। इसके लिए आप बोर्ड को जमीन दीजिए और इस यात्रा के अवधि काल को बढ़ाइए। यह जो सोच बनी है कि जुलाई के आरम्भ या जून के अन्त से पहले यह यात्रा आरम्भ नहीं हो सकती, यह अपने आप में गलत सोच है और वहां की हकीकत के एकदम विरुद्ध है।

इसके अतिरिक्त मैं सरकार को यह सुझाव भी देना चाहूंगा कि बोर्ड में किसको डालना है, इसके ऊपर भी सरकार विचार करे। मैंने कुछ दिन पहले, जब इस यात्रा के दौरान लोगों की काफी संख्या में मृत्यु हो रही थी, उन दिनों मैंने एक कार्यक्रम टेलीविजन पर देखा जिसमें इस बोर्ड के कुछ सदस्य विशेष रूप से बोल रहे थे। उस चर्चा को देखकर मुझे यह लगा कि बोर्ड में ऐसे सदस्य चर्चा कर रहे थे और एक सदस्य डाल दिए गए हैं, जिनमें से कुछ ऐसे हैं, जो पूर्ण रूप से यात्रा के विरोधी हैं। वे जिस भाषा का प्रयोग कर रहे थे, the kind of language that they were using! They can be agnostic or atheist, I don't mind. But to be completely opposed to the yatra and saying, "These organizations are pressing us. They are the ones who are responsible." And the kind of language, which they were using, was almost one of hostility to the yatra. So, you need not constitute a Board which comprises such people, and then, going by the advice of those members, you shorten the duration, not provide facilities and not allow your State Government to transfer the land to the Board. And, because of inadequate facilities, these tragedies keep occurring year by year.

Ninety-three people are dying because of medical reasons; about 40 others are dying because of accidents. The casualties are in excess of 130 people this year. We cannot afford to lose so many people and, therefore, I draw the attention of the Government towards this, and I would like the hon. Minister to respond to

it. Is this Government going to seriously consider increasing the duration of the Yatra? Secondly, are they going to consider the fact that facilities be created on a permanent basis, upon transfer of land to the Board, and if they find some difficulty, let the State Government build those facilities and they can lease it out to the Board on some arrangement between the Board and the State Government? The Yatra is a reality and if it is a reality, we can't allow people to die. Human lives can't be lost in this manner. Thirdly, would he consider that in the Board a serious reflection takes place, that if he finds that there is something wrong in their initial constitution of the Board by the State Government, he should draw the attention of the State Government to this very fact itself? Thank you.

डा. कर्ण सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हिमालय में हमारे बहुत सारे तीर्थ स्थान हैं और भगवान शंकर तो विशेष हिमालय के ही रहने वाले हैं और हिमालय में हम उनकी पूजा करते हैं-

"कर्पूरगौरं करुणावतारं संसारसारम् भुजगेन्द्रहारम्।
सदावसन्तं हृदयारविन्दे भवं भवानिसहितं नमामि।।"

अभी जो सीरियल चल रहा है, उस सीरियल में पार्वती जी जो तपस्या कर रही थीं, वह अमरनाथ में ही दिखाई गई है, तो यह एक बहुत प्राचीन स्थान है। मैं इसका थोड़ा सा इतिहास बता दूँ। यह कई शताब्दियों के लिए अदृश्य रहा, फिर एक मुसलमान परिवार है "मलिक", जो वहां रहते हैं, उन्होंने इसको फिर से खोजा और खोजकर लोगों को बताया। तो अमरनाथ यात्रा आज उन मुसलमान "मलिक" की वजह से ही चल रही है, जिसमें हमारे चढ़ावे का एक-तिहाई हिस्सा उनको मिलता था।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, एक सौ वर्ष तक अमरनाथ यात्रा हमारे परिवार का जो धर्मार्थ ट्रस्ट है, उसके नियंत्रण में थी और हर साल नागपंचमी पर मैं और मेरी पत्नी "दशनामी अखाड़ा" में जाकर छड़ी मुबारक की पूजा करते थे। "छड़ी" शंकर भगवान का त्रिशूल है, जिसको महंत जी ले जाते थे। नागपंचमी के दिन इसकी पूजा करते थे और दस दिनों में पड़ाव करते-करते, शंकराचार्य, बीजबिहाड़ा, अनन्तनाग, चन्दनवाड़ी, पंचतरणी इत्यादि जाते-जाते रक्षाबन्धन पूर्णिमा पर पहुंचते थे। उन दिनों में यह यात्रा दस दिन की होती थी, जो official यात्रा मानी जाती थी और इसका धार्मिक महत्व माना जाता था। उसके बाद Shrine Board बना, राज्य सरकार ने इसको ले लिया और वास्तव में, विपक्षी नेता ने ठीक कहा कि इसकी संख्या में अद्भुत वृद्धि हुई है। जब 1949 में, पहले-पहले मैंने वहां पूजा करना आरम्भ किया था, तब पांच हजार यात्री जाते थे। देखते-देखते अब संख्या छः लाख से ऊपर बढ़ गई है। लोगों में श्रद्धा बढ़ रही है और उसके साथ कुछ समस्याएं पैदा हो रही हैं, जिनके विषय में विपक्षी नेता

ने बातें कहीं। पहले तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह कहना कि राज्य सरकार या बोर्ड की यह नीति है कि इसकी अवधि को घटाना है और सुविधाएं नहीं बढ़ानी हैं, तो यह अन्यायपूर्ण है। मैं मानता हूँ कि जो सुविधाएं दी गई हैं, वे अपर्याप्त हैं, लेकिन उनकी नीति और उनकी नीयत के ऊपर शक करना, मैं समझता हूँ कि ठीक नहीं है। वहां तीन प्रकार की समस्याएं हैं - पहले तो अवधि का प्रश्न है। कितनी देर की यात्रा होनी चाहिए? जैसे मैंने कहा कि पहले यह दस दिन की होती थी, फिर बढ़ाई गई। अवधि का एक बड़ा महत्व है। अंतिम दिन रक्षाबन्धन पूर्णमा है, वह तो स्थिर है, लेकिन यात्रा का आरम्भ कब हो, वह इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि कितनी बर्फ पड़ी? जिस साल बर्फ कम पड़े, उस साल रास्ता जल्दी खुल जाता है, लोग जल्दी जा सकते हैं, लेकिन जिस साल बर्फबारी अधिक हो, उस वक्त लोगों को भेजना भी तो घातक हो सकता है! अगर कोई मेजर लैंडस्लाइड आए तो सैंकड़ों लोग यूं ही समाप्त हो सकते हैं। इसलिए यह भी देखना पड़ता है कि रास्ता कब तक साफ होता है। यह किसी के हाथ में नहीं है। यह या तो भगवान शंकर कहिए या प्रकृति कहिए, उनके वश में है कि बर्फ कितनी पड़ेगी, कितनी नहीं पड़ेगी, और किसी के वश में नहीं है। इसमें हम यह दोषारोपण नहीं कर सकते हैं कि अवधि को जानबूझकर कम किया जा रहा है।

महोदय, मैं न श्राइन बोर्ड में हूँ और न ही मेरा सरकार के साथ कोई संबंध है। महोदय, श्री श्री रवि शंकर मुझे मेरे घर पर मिलने आए थे। उनसे मैंने इस बारे में पूछा। उन्होंने कहा कि हमें जो बताया गया और हमने जो तस्वीरें देखीं, उन्हें देखकर पता लगा कि वहां इतनी बर्फ पड़ी हुई थी कि इससे पहले यात्रा आरम्भ करना बिल्कुल संभव नहीं था और उसमें बड़ा खतरा था। इस प्रकार यह एक कारण है। यह वाकई अजीब बात है कि यात्रा की अवधि घटती चली जा रही है। इसके बारे में ध्यान करना चाहिए। अगर स्विट्ज़रलैंड में लोग 12 महीने रह सकते हैं, यूरोप में इतनी अधिक बर्फ पड़ती है, लेकिन फिर भी वहां जाड़ों में कोई काम बंद नहीं होता तो क्या हमारे यहां कोई रोड क्लीयरिंग इक्विपमेंट वहां पर नहीं पहुंच सकता है, जिससे जल्दी सड़क को ठीक किया जा सके? इससे अवधि बढ़ सकती है। इस प्रकार पहली समस्या अवधि की है। मैं इस बात से सहमत हूँ कि अवधि कम हो रही है, यात्रा बढ़ रही है। इस प्रकार यह परस्पर विरोधी और अद्भुत विडम्बना बन गयी है। इसके बारे में इनको यथा शीघ्र विचार करना चाहिए। आजकल नए यंत्र आए हैं, नयी टेक्नोलॉजी आयी है इसलिए यह कोई असंभव बात नहीं होनी चाहिए।

दूसरी समस्या सुरक्षा की है, जिसकी ओर इन्होंने संकेत नहीं किया है। वहां कुछ ऐसे गिरोह भी हैं, जो धमकियां देते हैं कि हम यात्रियों पर हमला करेंगे। वे पोस्टर्स वगैरह भी निकालते हैं। मुझे आपको समझाने की जरूरत नहीं है। वे अतिवादी गिरोह हैं, गुप्स हैं। इसलिए यात्रियों की सुरक्षा के बारे में भी प्रबंध करना पड़ता है। राज्य सरकार की पुलिस और सीआरपीएफ की बहुत बड़ी संख्या वहां लगानी पड़ती है, ताकि लोग सुरक्षित तरीके से

यात्रा कर सकें। आपको याद होगा, पहलगाम में दो-तीन साल पहले किसी ने बम फेंक दिया था। इस प्रकार यह समस्या भी है, उसके बारे में भी देखना पड़ता है। यह इतना आसान नहीं है कि यात्रा खोल दी और लोग वहां चले गए। जब तक हर पड़ाव, हर जगह, हर मुकाम पर सिक्योरिटी का प्रबंध न हो, तब तक उन्हें भेजना कठिन है। अगर कहीं सिक्योरिटी का लैप्स हो गया तो सारा देश और सारा सदन कहेगा कि वहां आपकी सिक्योरिटी नहीं थी। इसलिए सिक्योरिटी भी एक पक्ष है, जिसके बारे में सोचना पड़ेगा।

तीसरा है, सुविधा। सुविधाएं तीन प्रकार की हैं। पहली, मेडिकल सुविधाएं हैं, जैसा इन्होंने कहा। इसी प्रकार टॉयलेट फैसिलिटी है। आज ही इस संबंध में प्रश्न आया था। जहां टॉयलेट फैसिलिटीज नहीं होती हैं, तो आस-पास सब प्रदूषित हो जाता है और सारी गंदगी पहलगाम के नाले में चली जाती है। महोदय, पहलगाम का दरिया जो इतना स्वच्छ और स्पष्ट हुआ करता था, वह दरिया भी अब प्रदूषित होता जा रहा है। इसलिए अगर 6 लाख लोग जाएं तो उनकी सुविधा के लिए जब तक टॉयलेट्स नहीं बनते हैं, तब तक कार्य कैसे आगे चलेगा? तीसरी समस्या शेल्टर की है कि उनके लिए कोई न कोई शेल्टर की व्यवस्था हो। जैसा नेता विरोधी दल ने कहा कि उन्हें स्थायी रूप से बनाया जाए। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहां इतनी अधिक बर्फ जाड़ों में पड़ती है कि वहां आसानी से कोई स्ट्रक्चर खड़ा नहीं हो सकता है, जब तक सीमेंट कंक्रीट का बहुत बड़ा स्ट्रक्चर न बनाया जाए, जिसके बारे में एन्वायरमेंटलिस्ट्स को और वहां के लोगों को आपत्ति थी।

महोदय, मैं एक बात बताना चाहता हूँ। जो लद्दाख और मानसरोवर है, वह हाई ऑल्टीट्यूड डेज़र्ट है। वहां पर बहुत कम बर्फ पड़ती है और बहुत कम बारिश होती है। आप अगर आंकड़ें देखें तो लद्दाख में तीन इंच बारिश होती है।

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी (उत्तराखंड): सर, मैं आपके नियमों का उल्लंघन करके बोल रहा हूँ जो लोग इस समय कैलाश यात्रा पर जाते हैं।

डा. कर्ण सिंह: क्या आप वहां हो आए हैं?

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी: मैं केवल एक वाक्य में अपनी बात समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। वे लोग मेरे प्रदेश से होकर जाते हैं, मेरे जिले से होकर जाते हैं। वह रास्ता, मैं अभी अमरनाथ होकर आया हूँ, उससे भी ज्यादा खतरनाक है।

डा. कर्ण सिंह: हो सकता है, मैं गलत होऊँ।

श्री भगत सिंह कोश्यारी: आप लद्दाख की बात कर रहे हैं, टकलाकोट के बाद की बात है।

डा. कर्ण सिंह: हो सकता है कि रास्ता कठिन हो। ये कह रहे हैं कि इनके राज्य से जाता है। मैं बड़ी देर से कह रहा हूँ कि अगर हमें लद्दाख से रास्ता मिल जाता, अगर

चीनी मान जाते तो वह सबसे सरल रास्ता है। जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है, मानसरोवर 22,000 किलोमीटर पर नहीं है। कैलाश पर्वत का शिखर 22,000 होगा। मुझे लगता है कि मानसरोवर लगभग 13000-14000 है, लेकिन मुझे इसके बारे में पूरी जानकारी नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यहां से जो चढ़ना पड़ता है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, please. It is already 1.15 p.m.

श्री बलबीर पुंज (ओडिशा): वहां से चढ़ना बहुत कठिन है और सर्दियों में जो टेम्परेचर है, वह -2 या -3 तक चला जाता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वहां ऑक्सीजन बहुत कम है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. कर्ण सिंह: वहां पर ठंड बहुत है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं मानता हूं। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं। मैं ऑक्सीजन और टेम्परेचर के बारे में नहीं कह रहा था, मैं बर्फबारी के बारे में कह रहा था। लेकिन जो भी हो, मानसरोवर में चीनियों से और चीनी सरकार से कई बार हमने यह सवाल उठाया है कि वहां से सीधा रास्ता मिल जाए। इससे मानसरोवर कैलाश जाने में बहुत सुविधा हो जायेगी। लेकिन हम अमरनाथ की बात कर रहे हैं, उनकी नहीं कर रहे हैं। जो तीन समस्याएं हैं, एक अवधि की, दूसरी सुरक्षा की और तीसरी सुविधाओं की। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि इन तीनों की तरफ ध्यान देना पड़ेगा। वहां पर पर्याप्त परिस्थितियां नहीं हैं। मैं नीयत खराब नहीं मानता हूं, लेकिन अभी परिस्थितियां पर्याप्त नहीं हैं। अब जो सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कमेटी बना रखी है, मुझे आशा है कि जब उस कमेटी की रपट आयेगी, तो उसमें जो सुझाव होंगे, उनको स्वीकार किया जायेगा और अगले वर्ष आशा है कि परिस्थितियां अच्छी हो जाएंगी। कुछ लोग मर जाते हैं, शिव जी, तो महाकालेश्वर भी हैं, लेकिन जहां तक सम्भव हो सके इसको राकने के लिए उपाय किये जायें। अब हेल्थ सर्टिफिकेट की बात आती है। हेल्थ सर्टिफिकेट का बहुत साधुओं ने विरोध किया। हमें कुछ नहीं होगा, हम शिव जी, की यात्रा करते हुए मरना चाहते हैं, आप क्यों हमारे से हेल्थ सर्टिफिकेट मांगते हो? फिर बीच में कहा गया कि जितने लोग वहां जाते हैं, उनसे थोड़ा-सा चार्ज होना चाहिए। फिर कहा गया कि नहीं, यह जज़िया हो गया है, इसमें बड़ी कठिनाइयां हैं। जो बाबा लोग त्रिशूल लेकर जाते हैं, उनको टोकना भी बहुत मुश्किल है। वे कहीं दुर्वाशा की तरह श्राप दे दें, तो सारे ही भस्म हो जायें। महोदय, इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि शंकर भगवान की कृपा रहे और सुविधाएं अच्छी-अच्छी बढ़ती रहें। धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): श्री नरेन्द्र कश्यप। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : सर, lunch-break के बारे में कुछ निर्णय करिए!...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): If you want, we can do away with the lunch-break. That is up to the House. ...**(Interruptions)**... I request the remaining Members to only seek clarifications. It is a Calling Attention.

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु: सर, मेरा सुझाव है कि आप थोड़ा समय लंच के लिए दीजिए और बाद में इसे कंटीन्यु करिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no; that is not possible. It is a very strict rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Kashyap ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. चंदन मित्रा (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, मैं एक बात कहना चाहूंगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, मैं डा. कर्ण सिंह जी का बहुत सम्मान करता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, आपके माध्यम से मैं डा. कर्ण सिंह जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I have called Mr. Kashyap. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, please. Mr. Kashyap.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, व्यवस्था का मामला है। आपने मेरा नाम पुकारा है, लेकिन मुझे बोलने का मौका नहीं मिल पा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, आपने मेरा नाम पुकारा है, क्या मैं बोलना शुरू करूँ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): जो नाम लिस्ट में है, उनको मैं बोलने के लिए बुलाऊंगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: महोदय, सदन को व्यवस्थित करवाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI M. VENKAI AH NAIDU: But, Sir, why has the lunch-break been cancelled without the consent of the House? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No. That will be only if the House wants.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, इस पर हमारी पार्टी को भी बोलने का समय दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): मैंने अभी कश्यप जी को बुलाया है। आपका नाम लिस्ट में नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: महोदय, सदन व्यवस्थित करने की कृपा कीजिए।

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, hon. Members are asking for a lunch break. There is a consensus for lunch break.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): I request every Member to seek clarifications and, thereafter, we can break for lunch.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: महोदय, आज आपने मुझे जो व्यवस्था दी है, मैं उस व्यवस्था से बाहर नहीं जाऊंगा। मैं आपकी व्यवस्था के आधार पर ही अपनी बात रखूंगा।

महोदय, अमरनाथ गुफा के प्रति भारत के हिन्दुओं की विशेष आस्था है। इस बात को कोई नकार नहीं सकता है। अमरनाथ यात्रा देश के हिन्दुओं की सबसे महत्वपूर्ण यात्राओं में से एक है। हम इस यात्रा को सैंकड़ों सालों से देखते आ रहे हैं, लेकिन आस्था की इस यात्रा में होने वाली अव्यवस्था, आज सारे देश और सरकार के सामने है। माननीय सदन को यह जानकार आश्चर्य होगा कि सैंकड़ों वर्षों से होने वाली इस यात्रा के मार्ग में सरकार की तरफ से कोई रास्ता, पगडंडी या सड़क नहीं बनाई गई है। इसके अलावा किसी फैंसिंग या रेलिंग की भी कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है। सरकार की ओर से मैडिकल कैम्प व आवश्यक सुविधाओं के बारे में भी कोई सकारात्मक व्यवस्था नहीं हुई है और न ही पर्यावरण की दृष्टि से किसी बड़ी योजना का क्रियान्वयन हुआ है।

महोदय, प्रतिवर्ष सैंकड़ों श्रद्धालुओं की मौत अव्यवस्था के कारण ही होती है। अगर पिछले पांच सालों के आंकड़ों पर विचार किया जाए, तो इन सालों में तकरीबन तीस लाख श्रद्धालुओं ने यात्रा की है। इस दौरान 600 से ज्यादा यात्रियों की मौत हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): कश्यप जी, आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि सरकार ने और Shrine Board ने अगर समय रहते, इस महत्वपूर्ण यात्रा पर ध्यान दिया होता तो शायद इतनी मौतें नहीं होतीं। महोदय, इसे सरकार की अनदेखी ही कहा जाएगा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट को स्वयं इस पर संज्ञान लेना पड़ा और 12 सदस्यों की एक कमेटी बनाकर, तय समय-सीमा में उसने आवश्यक कार्यवाही करने का निर्देश दिया है। इससे स्पष्ट होता है कि कहीं न कहीं Shrine Board या स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की कार्यवाही में कोई चूक या कमी जरूर हुई है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... जब तक हम सदन के सामने आवश्यक चीजों की चर्चा नहीं करेंगे, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): This is not a discussion; so, please put questions only.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: इस गंभीर समस्या का हल नहीं हो सकता है। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार को कुछ जरूरी सुझाव देना चाहता हूं। पहला सुझाव यह है कि इस यात्रा के दौरान जो यात्री पैदल जाते हैं या घोड़े व पालकियों में बैठकर जाते हैं, उनके लिए अलग से one way की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): Please conclude.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: सर, मैं बस दो मिनट में ही खत्म कर रहा हूँ। महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ कि बालटाल और पंचतरणी, दोनों रास्तों पर स्वास्थ्य जांच की समुचित व्यवस्था करना, यात्रा के लिहाज से बहुत ही आवश्यक है।
...(समय की घंटी)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): कश्यप जी, प्लीज़ कन्क्लूड।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: सर, मेरा तीसरा प्रश्न है ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): This is not a discussion; so, please put questions only. आप प्रश्न क्यों नहीं पूछते? ...(व्यवधान)... आपको प्रश्न के लिए कितना समय चाहिए? यह अच्छी बात नहीं है। आप रुल्स तोड़ते हैं, मैं क्या करूँ?

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: सर, दो-तीन सवाल पूछ कर खत्म कर रहा हूँ। महोदय, मेरा चौथा सवाल है कि रास्ते में ग्लेशियर के पास बुनियादी सुविधाओं का भी होना बहुत जरूरी है। इसके साथ-साथ मुख्य रास्तों पर सुरक्षा बलों की कमी को दूर करके सुरक्षित यात्रा किया जाना बहुत जरूरी है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Shri Kumar Deepak Das. ...(Interruptions)... Let me exhaust the names which are already here. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप: पर्यावरण का जो मुद्दा है, ...(व्यवधान)... उसके भी समाधान की आवश्यकता है। आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ।
...(व्यवधान)... आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Shri Kumar Deepak Das. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Kumar Deepak Das, you just ask questions. You have just two minutes. ...(Interruptions)... Now, please take your seat. I want to know whether the House wants blatant violation of rules. ...(Interruptions)... Just seek clarifications only. Each Member is given two minutes. You just seek clarifications so that more Members can get the chance. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri Kumar Deepak Das. Take two minutes; ask questions. That is all. You ask questions in two minutes.

SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS (Assam): Sir, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak on this Amarnath Yatra issue. Sir, my question is in regard to the Supreme Court order. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it has

been carried out by the Government in toto. It is because the Supreme Court was concerned about the deaths that have taken place there. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether proper toilet facilities are provided in every base camp. I also want to know whether the Government would provide modern facilities like railing, and other facilities up to the glacier area in this yatra route. I am asking this question because already 100 deaths have taken place. It happened due to poor medical facilities. Despite the fact that specialists doctors have been deployed and free medical camps have been set up, these many deaths have taken place. My concern is that the pilgrims who are visiting this Shrine are not being protected properly. So, the Government should take special steps in this regard. Thank you very much, Sir.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): शिवानन्द तिवारी जी बोलिए।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस बार अमरनाथ की यात्रा से लौटा हूँ। मैं पहली दफ़ा वहां गया था यह बिल्कुल सच है कि वहां इतनी भीड़ है कि हम लोग हेलीकॉप्टर से ऊपर गए। वहां से पैदल जा रहे थे, जो पैदल रास्ता है, हमने उस रास्ते पर आदमियों को चलते हुए देखा। हमने देखा कि जिस तरह से चींटी चलती है, उस तरह से लोग चले जा रहे हैं। इसमें कहीं कोई संदेह नहीं है कि वहां अपार भीड़ थी। दूसरी बात, जो मैंने महसूस की, वह यह है कि वहां किसी तरह की सुविधा नहीं है। सरकार ने रास्ता तक नहीं बनाया है। हेलीकॉप्टर से उतरने के बाद हम लोगों ने देखा कि अमरनाथ जाने का जो रास्ता है, वह रास्ता है ही नहीं। पता नहीं, वहां पर घोड़ी वाले, डोली वाले या पैदल लोग किस तरह से जाते हैं? यह उनकी हिम्मत को बलिहारी है। लोग नीचे के रास्ते का भी वही हाल बता रहे थे। वहां कोई सुविधा नहीं है। दूसरी बात, जो मैंने देखी, वह यह थी कि वहां इतनी गंदगी है कि जब हम लोग अमरनाथ की गुफा पर सीढ़ियों से चढ़ रहे थे, जोकि खड़ी और काफी ऊंची सीढ़ी थी, चूंकि हम लोग विधायक थे, एम.पी. थे, इसलिए वहां जो सी.आर.पी.एफ. का टेंट था, वहां एक डॉक्टर ने हम लोगों की हेल्थ चेक की और कहा कि आपकी धड़कन बढ़ी हुई है, लेकिन आप सीढ़ी से चढ़ सकते हैं, उस सदन के हमारे साथी श्री दिनेश यादव जी भी साथ थे, उनको कहा कि आप डोली से ऊपर जा सकते हैं, हम लोग गए, तो देखा कि वहां इतनी गंदगी थी कि कपड़े, लत्ते सड़क के किनारे ऐसे ही फेंके हुए थे। यह आश्चर्य है कि हम किस तरह से अपने तीर्थ स्थानों को मैनेज कर रहे हैं। जहां तक भीड़ का सवाल है, यह भीड़ सिर्फ अमरनाथ में नहीं जा रही है। जितने तीर्थ स्थान हैं, उन तीर्थ स्थानों पर इतनी भीड़ जा रही है, इतने लोग जा रहे हैं कि हमको तो लग रहा है कि जैसे-जैसे समाज में पाप बढ़ रहा है, भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ रहा है, वैसे-वैसे लोगों के अंदर पूजा और भक्ति का भाव भी बढ़ रहा है।

हमारे यहां देवघर में जाइए, देवघर में पहले कांवर लेकर कुछ हजार लोग ही जाते थे। हमें याद है कि जब हम पढ़ते थे, उस समय, सावन में हमको एक बार जाने का मौका मिला था। हमने देखा ...(समय की घंटी)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): तिवारी जी, प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। जैसा कि अरुण जी ने कहा कि वहां पर कोई स्थायी चीज बनाई जाए, वहां की यह हालत है, इसलिए इसको किया जाए। हमें पूरी तरह से याद नहीं है, शायद कर्ण सिंह जी को याद होगा, लेकिन जहां तक स्मरण है, वाक्या यह है कि जब एस.के. सिन्हा साहब यहां के गर्वनर हुआ करते थे, उन्होंने उस समय कुछ अस्थायी इंतजाम करने के लिए, ठहरने के लिए जमीन वगैरह देने की बात कही थी, जिसको लेकर कश्मीर में भयानक आंदोलन हुआ था। इसलिए इस मामले में कोई निर्णय लेने के पहले इन सब चीजों को ध्यान में रखना चाहिए।

मैं वहां गया था। मैंने भगवान शंकर से कहा कि इस युग में आप कहां बैठे हुए हैं, अपने भक्तों को इतना परेशान कर रहे हैं। हमारा देश इतनी तरक्की कर गया, 5 स्टार होटल, 7 स्टार होटल खुल गये, आप आइए, आप जिस तरह की व्यवस्था कहिएगा, दिल्ली में, मुम्बई में, चेन्नई में, हम लोग करा देंगे। आप इस झंझट में स्वयं को और अपने भक्तों को क्यों डाल रहे हैं? इसलिए हम यह गुज़ारिश करेंगे कि भगवान शंकर, जिनके हम लोग भक्त हैं, जो हम लोगों के नायक हैं, वे वहां से नीचे उतरें और वे जहां कहेंगे, हम लोग उनका सब इंतजाम करा देंगे।

SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, recently one person lost his life. His family was explaining the conditions which I wanted to bring to the notice of the House but seeing the mood, I would like to seek some clarifications only. Sir, I would like to know the procedural lapses that the Ministry has found at the time of the medical clearances of yatis. What are the reasons for not taking steps for removing such lapses by the Ministry? Secondly, whether it is true that the Supreme Court has issued a direction to the Union Government and also the State Government to explain the reasons behind the death of so many pilgrims. If yes, what are the details of the notice and the reply submitted to the Supreme Court? Thirdly, what are the reasons for not implementing the recommendations of the former Governor of Jammu and Kashmir for construction of a ropeway? Fourthly, whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has set up a high powered committee to recommend the measures for safe journey and whether it is true that the committee has submitted its report on 10th August, 2012. If yes, what are the

details of the recommendations made by the Committee? I wanted to explain certain things, but there is no time. So, I seek clarifications from the hon. Minister on these points. Thank you.

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा (हिमाचल प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, कॉलिंग अटेंशन मोशन के माध्यम से आदरणीय लीडर ऑफ ऑपोजीशन, श्री अरुण जेटली जी ने बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय सरकार के समक्ष रखा है, जिसका जवाब गृह मंत्री जी देने वाले हैं। आदरणीय अरुण जेटली जी ने बहुत विस्तृत रूप से इस समस्या के बारे में ध्यान आकृष्ट किया है। इसमें बहुत कुछ जोड़ने के लिए नहीं है, लेकिन मैं कुछ प्रश्नों के माध्यम से सरकार से जरूर कुछ जानना चाहता हूँ।

जहां तक अवधि का सवाल है और जहां तक इस यात्रा का सवाल है, अगर हम scriptures को ध्यान में रख कर इस यात्रा के इतिहास को ढूंढ़ें, तो 3rd BC से इस यात्रा में यात्री शामिल होते रहे हैं और बाबा अमरनाथ की श्रद्धा के लिए इस रूट को लेकर जाते रहे हैं। कालावधि में पहले यह यात्रा साल भर चलती थी, धीरे-धीरे इस यात्रा का समय कम हुआ और कम होते-होते, जैसा लीडर ऑफ ऑपोजीशन ने बताया कि पहले 120 दिन, फिर 60 दिन, फिर 55 दिन, फिर 45 दिन और इस बार इसको 39 दिन तक सीमित कर दिया गया। जवाहर लाल नेहरू जी अपनी Autobiography में लिखते हैं कि he went for this Yatra in the month of April. अगर हम बात करें, तो प्रोफेसर यशपाल, जो जाने-माने लेखक हुए, अपने संस्मरण में लिखते हैं कि वे सितम्बर महीने में इस यात्रा में गए थे। कर्ण सिंह जी भी इस बात की पुष्टि करते हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या रक्षा बन्धन इस अवधि के लिए कोई बन्धन है कि इसी दिन इस यात्रा को समाप्त होना है?

यह तो छड़ी का सवाल है। ज्येष्ठ पूर्णिमा से लेकर ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): नड्डा जी, आप क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए, यह आपकी मेडन स्पीच नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... This is not your maiden speech. Maiden speech will be in some discussion. If you make it your maiden speech you will lose the chance of a maiden speech. It is in your favour.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Okay, Sir, I will put 5-6 specific questions.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No; no, put just one questions.

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा: क्या यह रक्षा बन्धन कालावधि का कोई बन्धन है कि इसी दिन इसको समाप्त होना है? यह छड़ी की मान्यता है कि ज्येष्ठ पूर्णिमा से लेकर श्रावण पूर्णिमा तक छड़ी की यात्रा को वहां पहुंचना है, लेकिन यात्री तो उसके पश्चात् भी वहां जाना चाहते हैं, वे तो जा सकते हैं और इसकी व्यवस्था की जा सकती है।

दूसरा, क्या सरकार को राइट्स ने छः साल पहले रोप वे का प्रपोजल दिया था? श्राइन बोर्ड और जम्मू कश्मीर की सरकार ने उस रोप वे पर क्या डिसेज़न लिया और उस पर अभी तक कोई ऐक्शन क्यों नहीं हुआ? यह इतनी इम्पोर्टेंट यात्रा है, इसके लिए राइट्स ने पहले ही प्रपोजल दे रखे हैं।

नेरो पाथ, छोटे रास्तों को वाइडन करने के लिए क्या श्राइन बोर्ड कोई तैयारी करेगा?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आप प्रश्न पूछिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा: सर, मेरा लास्ट प्रश्न ...(व्यवधान)... These are all questions. पीडब्ल्यूडी वहां कहता है कि It is difficult to remove the snow. सच्चाई यह है कि उसकी मेल्टिंग के लिए पीडब्ल्यूडी इंतजार करता है और फाल्स बिल्स रेज़ करता है। इस तरीके से भ्रष्टाचार को भी बढ़ावा मिलता है। क्या श्राइन बोर्ड वहां स्नो को रिमूव करने का अपने से कोई प्रयास करेगा? ...(समय की घंटी)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): ओके, बस, बस ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा: मैडिकल कैम्पस की दृष्टि से क्या श्राइन बोर्ड per kilometer, 200-300 patients को अटेंड करने के लिए एक medical camp की सुविधा प्रदान करेगा?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): This is not your maiden speech. Your maiden speech has been kept reserved.

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा: इन प्रश्नों के साथ अपने आप को लीडर ऑफ द अपोज़िशन और पूरे हाउस के साथ जोड़ते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं। इन बातों पर सरकार गम्भीरता से विचार करे, सुप्रीम कोर्ट की फटकार के बारे में विशेष तौर पर विचार करे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): श्री नरेश अग्रवाल। दो मिनट में आप सिर्फ प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, बहुत से बिन्दु हमारे नेता प्रतिपक्ष और माननीय डा. कर्ण सिंह जी ने उठाए, जिनसे अपने को पूरी तरह सम्बद्ध करते हुए, मैं मंत्री जी से सिर्फ दो बातें कहना चाहता हूं। क्या कारण है कि यह सरकार माननीय न्यायालय के आदेश के बाद ही जागती है, उससे पहले उस पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं करती? यह मैं इसलिए कह रहा हूं कि यह समस्या कोई आज की नहीं है, यह सैंकड़ों साल पुरानी समस्या है। जब इस बात पर माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय की कठोर टिप्पणी आई, उसने कठोर निर्णय लिए, तभी यह सरकार जागी। क्या कारण है कि हम लोग अदालतों के खिंचाव के बाद या अदालतों की टिप्पणी के बाद ही कोई कार्यवाही करते हैं? क्या इससे पहले हम अपना कोई कर्तव्य नहीं समझते कि जो चीजें धर्म की भावना से जुड़ी हुई हैं, उन पर हम कार्यवाही करें?

दूसरा, जैसा डा. कर्ण सिंह जी बोल रहे थे, जब स्विटज़रलैंड और पूरे यूरोप में, जहां साल भर बर्फ गिरती है, पक्का निर्माण हो सकता है, हमारे यहां कैदारनाथ में भी लगभग 6-7 महीने बर्फ रहती है, वहां भी पक्का निर्माण हो सकता है, तो फिर इस यात्रा में हम पक्का निर्माण क्यों नहीं करवाते? इसका हम जायजा लें। हम अभी कैदारनाथ भी गए थे, बद्रीनाथ, कैदारनाथ पूरे छः महीने बर्फ से ढका रहता है, लेकिन वहां पर पक्का निर्माण बना हुआ है। छः महीने के बाद वह खुल जाता है और लोग वहां जाते हैं। क्यों नहीं हम बद्रीनाथ और कैदारनाथ के तरीके से अमरनाथ में भी पक्का निर्माण करवाएं, जिससे यात्रियों की जो आकस्मिक मृत्यु हो जाती है, वह बंद हो सके।

मंत्री जी, मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि धर्म से जुड़ी इस भावना को अगर सरकार ने गंभीरता से न लिया, तो यह भविष्य में खतरनाक साबित हो सकता है,

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): धन्यवाद। Now, Shri Ishwar Singh. Put just one question.

श्री ईश्वर सिंह (हरियाणा): सर, अभी तो मैंने बोलना भी शुरू नहीं किया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): इसीलिए मैंने बोला कि बस एक क्वेश्चन पूछिए।

श्री ईश्वर सिंह: सर, अमरनाथ यात्रा के सन्दर्भ में आपने क्वेश्चन की बात की, सबसे पहले तो मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि देश के कोने-कोने से और दूसरे प्रान्तों से भी यहां लोग आते हैं। हमने अमरनाथ गुफा तक इंतजाम करने के लिए श्राइन बोर्ड तो बनाया, लेकिन दूसरे प्रान्तों के यात्रियों का भी इसमें सुझाव लिया जाये। कोई जरूरी नहीं कि इस बोर्ड के 10 आदमी ही सारे सुझाव दे सकते हैं। वे अपनी कठिनाई बता सकते हैं। जैसे तिवारी साहब और डा. कर्ण सिंह जी ने हमें अपनी बीती बातें बताई हैं, वे भी अपनी आस्था रखते हैं और उन्हें बता सकते हैं।

मेरा दूसरा एक प्रश्न यह है कि हमारे यहां कुरुक्षेत्र में सूर्यग्रहण पर बहुत बड़ा मेला लगता है। वहां महाकुम्भ भी लगता है। देश के अन्दर गंगा किनारे हर साल मेले लगते हैं। इन मेलों के लिए सीवरेज का कनेक्शन, वाटर सप्लाई का कनेक्शन तथा अनेक ऐसी चीजें हैं, जो वहां परमानेन्ट बनाई जा सकती हैं। ये चीजें हर समय यूज होंगी, हर साल यूज होंगी और जब वहां मेले लगेंगे, तब यूज होंगी। हमारे यहां कुरुक्षेत्र में ऐसी चीजें प्रैक्टिकली बनाई गयी हैं और वहां जब भी मेला लगता है, उनको यूज किया जाता है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Please put the questions.

श्री ईश्वर सिंह: सर, इस ढंग से मैं कैसे पूछ सकूंगा? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आपको जो क्वेश्चन पूछना है, पूछिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री ईश्वर सिंह: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि इससे सरकार का कम खर्चा होगा। उसे वे चीजें परमानेन्ट हासिल हो जाएंगी। उसे ये सब चीजें बार-बार लगानी नहीं पड़ेंगी। यदि सीवरेज पक्का होगा, तो इससे यहां-वहां जो कोई गंदगी रहती है या सफाई नहीं रहती है, उसकी व्यवस्था हो जाएगी।

तीसरा यह है कि चैरिटेबल परपज़ ...(समय की घंटी)... वाली जो संस्थाएं हैं, ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay, Now, Mr. Ratanpuri.

श्री ईश्वर सिंह: सर, ऐसी बहुत सी संस्थाएं हैं, जो वहां शिविर लगाती हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

शिविर के माध्यम से उनको प्रशिक्षण दिया जा सकता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Put a question; otherwise, take your seat.

श्री ईश्वर सिंह: सर, मेरा क्वेश्चन यह है कि सेना से और सी.आर.पी.एफ. से ज्यादा बेहतर काम वे शिविर करेंगे। वे मानसिक तौर से केवल सेवा के लिए तैयार होकर जाते हैं। उन शिविरों के अन्दर जो यात्री जाते हैं, उनको भी प्रशिक्षण दिया जाए। यह भी एक क्वेश्चन है। मैं आपसे एक निवेदन यह करता हूँ कि जितने भी ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no. Nothing will go on record. Now, Mr. Ratanpuri.

श्री ईश्वर सिंह: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Nothing will go on record. The time given is two minutes. That will not go on record. ...(Interruptions)... It is not going on record. That is enough. Mr. Ratanpuri, just put a question. You were not there when I called you. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी (जम्मू और कश्मीर): सर, मैं यहां क्वेश्चन करने के लिए नहीं, बल्कि कुछ सवालों का जवाब देने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। यहां जम्मू और कश्मीर गवर्नमेंट का कोई रिप्रिजेंटेटिव नहीं है और जो बातें यहां कही गई हैं, वे सारी बातें J&K Government को pertain करती हैं।

सर, मुझे यह महसूस हो रहा है कि अमरनाथ यात्रा रूट के बारे में, वहां के हालात और वाक्यात् के बारे में बहुत कमइल्मी है। जब मवाजना किया जाए, तो एन.डी.ए. सरकार ने Nitish Sengupta Committee बनाई थी, जब वहां एक बड़ा मसला पैदा हो गया था। उस कमेटी ने उसकी पूरी प्रोफेशनल जांच के बाद यह सुझाव दिया था कि वहां एक साल में 85,000 से ज्यादा यात्री नहीं जाने चाहिए और एक पार्टिकुलर टाइम पर 3000 से ज्यादा यात्री नहीं होने चाहिए। बदकिस्मती से इस यात्रा में अब आस्था उतनी ज्यादा नहीं दिखाई

देती, जितना इसको एक frenzy में ट्रांसफर किया गया है। यह एरिया ecologically इतना fragile है ...(व्यवधान)... मुझे अपनी बात कहने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार): यह ...(व्यवधान)... आपको पूरा अधिकार है, ...(व्यवधान)... किसी की आस्था पर यह मत कहिए कि यह आजकल फिल्मी हो गया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी : सर, मेरी बात सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)... पहले मेरी बात सुनिए। ...(व्यवधान)... सैंकड़ों सालों में यह यात्रा होती चली आ रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Ratanpuri, listen to me. It is not going on record.

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Mr. Ratanpuri, you are not supposed to reply on behalf of any Government. This is number one. Number two, when I called your name, you were not there. Therefore, I was not to call you, yet I called you. So, you can put a question. That is all. Nothing more. Just put a question.

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी : सर, ...(व्यवधान)... गलत बातें जो कहीं गई हैं, वे रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं आनी चाहिए। उनकी सफाई पेश करना बहुत जरूरी है। ...(व्यवधान)... यह बहुत जरूरी है, सर।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): No, then, you seek other avenue, not here ...(Interruptions)... Here, you can ask a question. That is all.

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी: सर, आप मुझे बताइए कि अगर उत्तराखंड सरकार ...(व्यवधान)... सर, आप मुझे बताइए कि अगर उत्तराखंड सरकार गोमुख के लिए रेस्ट्रिक्ट करती है कि वहां 250 यात्री से ज्यादा नहीं जा सकते, क्योंकि वह ecological fragile area है और यह एरिया, यह रूट जहां से जाता है, यह ग्लेशियर्स के ऊपर से जाता है, वह खतरनाक रूट है और अगर हम इस यात्रा को रेगुलेट नहीं कर पाते, अगर हम यह नहीं देख पाते कि सेहत किनकी अच्छी है और कौन उस इलाके में जा सकते हैं, कौन hypertensive नहीं है, तो हम tragedies को नहीं रोक सकते। फिर यह भी देखना कि जम्मू और कश्मीर सरकार कितना कुछ इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर फराहम कर सकती है। छः लाख यात्रियों के लिए हम कहां से सुविधाएं लाएंगे? इस साल छः लाख यात्री थे। हमें सारी डिस्पेंसरीज़ से और अस्तालों से डॉक्टर्स को लाकर वहां पर जमा करना पड़ा, उनको वहां पर ऑन ड्यूटी रखना पड़ा। इसके कारण अस्पतालों में बहुत से लोग बिना इलाज के मर गए। आपको यह जानना जरूरी है कि यह जो सारा पानी ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Now put the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Put the question, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी: सर, जिस इलाके में यह पानी जाता है, आज वहां हेपाटाइटिस की बीमारी है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): Put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not supposed to reply on behalf of any Government. Put your question. It is Calling Attention.

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी: वहां सैंकड़ों नहीं, हजारों लोग बीमार हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमारा जो चश्मेशाही है, डा. कर्ण सिंह जी मुझे माफ करेंगे, ये जानते हैं कि तीन साल पहले चश्मेशाही के पानी में human excreta देखा गया था। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

इन बातों को ध्यान में रखना बहुत जरूरी है। ...*(समय की घंटी)*... यह यात्रा unregulated नहीं हो सकती है और अगर यह यात्रा unregulated रहेगी, तो उसकी वजह से परेशानी हो जाएगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No; please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Prakash Javadekar; ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing will go on record. Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Take your seat. I gave you time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Javadekar, you can put the question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can put the question. That's all. ...*(Interruptions)*... Rule is same for everybody. Put the questions. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मैं सिर्फ प्रश्न ही पूछूंगा, लेकिन पहले उनको तो रोकिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी: सर, वह सही बोल रहे हैं। हर जगह संकट हो रहा है। हिमालय रेंज में जहां-जहां तीर्थ स्थान हैं, वहां इतनी तादाद में लोग जा रहे हैं कि वहां ecological problem हो रही है। पहली दफा ऐसा हुआ है कि गंगा अभी गोमुख से नहीं निकल कर नंदन वन से निकल रही है, इसलिए संख्या को रेग्युलेट करना जरूरी है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: सर, आप इनको रोक नहीं रहे हैं, ये कैसे बोल रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री जी.एन. रतनपुरी : *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Mr. Ratanpuri, it is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Ratanpuri, please take your seat. It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Javadekar, please put your questions.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: सर, मेरे दो प्रश्न हैं। इसका सबूत भी मिल गया कि कुछ लोगों की नीयत नहीं है कि यात्रा ठीक तरह से चले और इसका दूसरा भी सबूत मिला कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने *suo motu* लिया और दो बार फटकार लगाई। नीयत का मामला इसी से साफ होता है। मेरा आपके माध्यम से होम मिनिस्टर से सवाल है कि ये जितने भी श्रद्धालु आते हैं, सरकार उनको सुविधा देना चाहती है या नहीं देना चाहती है? यह नीयत की बात है। मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि बालटाल और मुनावर में हॉस्पिटल, पांच रास्तों में हॉस्पिटल, रोप-वे की बात, रोड की अलग बात और जैसा कर्ण सिंह जी ने मशीन की बात कही कि मशीन लाकर जल्दी बर्फ को क्लीयर करें और जैसे आपने तिरुपति और सात हिल्स को sacred place का दर्जा दिया है, वैसे ही इसको sacred hills का दर्जा देकर वहां निर्माण करवाएंगे या नहीं करवाएंगे?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Mr. Desai. Put just one question only. Just one question.

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra): You are letting all others but...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Yes, yes. For you, it is only that. Your name is not there. I should not have called you. But I called you because you were insisting.

SHRI ANIL DESAI: My question is, अमरनाथ यात्रा, जो हिन्दू धर्मियों की सांस्कृतिक और धार्मिक यात्रा सदियों से है, इसको बढ़ावा देना चाहिए। जो श्राइन बोर्ड आपने गठित किया है, it should be reconstituted with positive-minded people who would encourage this Yatra and yatris. Security के लिए जिस तरह से यह frenzy पैदा की गई है, यह डरावना ख्याल यात्रियों के दिमाग से निकालने के लिए इस तरह की पुष्टि करना सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है। जो मेडिकल सुविधाएं हों, जो आधार शिविर हों या वहां पर जो परमानेंट सुविधाएं बनाने की जरूरत है, उनको बनाया जाए। आपको कठिन ऊंचाइयों के रास्ते पर air ambulance जैसी सुविधा को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए। इन सबकी व्यवस्था करने की जरूरत है। आपको snow-clearing machinery तैनात करनी होगी। यह यात्रा हिन्दू धर्मियों के लिए इतनी महत्वपूर्ण है और अगर सदियों से चली आ रही यात्रा को बढ़ावा देना है, तो आपको बाकी चीजों पर विचार करने की जरूरत नहीं है। गवर्नमेंट का यह दायित्व है कि इसको बढ़ावा दिया जाए। हम हिन्दुस्तान में हिन्दू कह कर रहते हैं, तो हमारा भी कोई हक है और हमारा हक हमको मिलना चाहिए ...(*समय की घंटी*)... हमारी यह यात्रा सदैव चलनी चाहिए

*Not recorded.

और इस पर कोई पाबंदी नहीं लगनी चाहिए। अगर इस पर कोई पाबंदी लगाना चाहेगा, तो हम इसको नहीं मानेंगे। The Shrine Board should be reconstituted with the like-minded people who would support this Yatra and Yatris.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav. Just put a question.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं विस्तार से चर्चा नहीं करना चाहता, क्योंकि इस पर कई माननीय सदस्यों ने अपनी भावनाएं व्यक्त की हैं।

सर, अमरनाथ यात्रियों को कठिनाई हो रही है और यह एक महत्वपूर्ण यात्रा है, जिसमें करोड़ों लोगों की आस्था है। वहां सड़कों की हालत खराब है, स्वास्थ्य व्यवस्था ठीक नहीं है और संसाधनों की कमी है। इस पर वहां की राज्य सरकार का कोई ऑफिशियल view नहीं है, मगर वहां के माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि राज्य सरकार असमर्थ है, क्योंकि इतने बड़े पैमाने पर वहां तीर्थयात्री जाते हैं, जिसकी वजह से अव्यवस्था फैली है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आप प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: मैं प्रश्न ही पूछ रहा हूँ, सर। आप हमको सबसे कम प्यार करते हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, put the question.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस महत्वपूर्ण यात्रा के लिए, जहां यात्री आस्था के साथ जाते हैं और जिस तरह से वहां लगातार कैजुअल्टी हो रही है, जिसके निदान के लिए वहां की राज्य सरकार असमर्थ है, तो उनके सहयोग के लिए केन्द्र की सरकार कौन-कौन से उपाय करने जा रही है ताकि जो यात्री वहां जाते हैं, हम उनको जीवन की सुरक्षा दे सकें और उन्हें हर तरह की सुविधा मिल सके?

महोदय, मैं एक जानकारी यह चाहूंगा कि बहुत सारे ऐसे एनजीओज़ या प्राइवेट हाउसेज़ हैं, जो यह चाहते हैं कि वे वहां के काम में कोऑपरेट करें। ...(समय की घंटी)... अगर सरकार सक्षम नहीं है, तो क्या सरकार को उनसे सहयोग लेने में कोई आपत्ति है? क्योंकि ऐसे बहुत सारे लोग हैं, जो यह चाहते हैं कि वे वहां कोऑपरेट करें, वे वहां सड़क बनाने का काम करें, तो उनसे सहयोग लेने में आपको क्या आपत्ति है?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): You have asked two questions. ...(Interruptions)... That is enough ...(Interruptions)...

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श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, अभी एक मिनट भी तो नहीं हुआ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): आपके दो क्वेश्चंस हो गये। Now, Mr. Minister.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: मैं एक और क्वेश्चन पूछ रहा हूँ, सर। मैं चाहूँगा माननीय मंत्री जी ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो. पी.जे. कुरियन): राम कृपाल जी, बैठिए।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: सर, यह लास्ट क्वेश्चन है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It is already 1.50 P.M. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव: *

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): Sir, please. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Your name is not here. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: You cannot be a bad neighbour to me. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, you cannot be a bad neighbour to me. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. Only Shri V.P. Singh; nobody else.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, I have a specific question. Is it not a fact that the distance between Pahalgam and Gufa is 17 kms and the distance between Baltal and Gufa is only 8 kms? In Switzerland and Canada, there are ropeways which are of 20 to 25 kms. Why can't the project of ropeway be installed and commissioned here? If you do that, pollution problem will be solved and the problem of ecological fragility will be sorted out. Why can't it be done?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): It is a very pertinent question.

श्री सुशील कुमार शिन्दे: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं विरोधी दल के नेता का बहुत आभारी हूँ कि उन्होंने बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न पूछा और प्रश्न के ज़रिये चर्चा की। मैं उनका और सभी सदस्यों, विशेषकर डा. कर्ण सिंह जी का भी बहुत आभारी हूँ और बाकी सब सदस्यों का भी आभारी हूँ।

*Not recorded.

जिस चर्चा को हम बहुत दिनों से पेपर्स में पढ़ते थे, उसे पूर्ण करने के लिए मुझे आज मौका मिल रहा है। हमें एक बात यह सोचनी चाहिए कि इन सब चीजों पर जिसका अधिकार है, वह जम्मू एंड कश्मीर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट है, जिसके अंडर ये सब चीजें आती हैं। श्राइन बोर्ड भी उनके अख्तियार में आता है। मैं यहां बताना चाहूंगा कि यह बात सही है कि वहां डिफिकल्टी होती है, वहां बहुत कठिन terrains हैं, यह हम सब को मालूम है, यह कोई नयी बात नहीं है और इसको बोलना जरूरी नहीं है, लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि मेट्रोलाजिकल डिपार्टमेंट के लोग, जिनके साथ पुलिस के लोग भी होते हैं और गवर्नमेंट के, श्राइन बोर्ड के लोग भी होते हैं, वे मई महीने के आस-पास वहां जाकर इस बात का अंदाजा ले लेते हैं कि वहां बर्फ है या नहीं। वे यह देख लेते हैं कि वहां कितनी बर्फ है और वे उसको क्लियर करने के बारे में पता कर लेते हैं। इसके बारे में मैंने यह भी मालूमात करने का प्रयास किया कि यह काम करने के लिए आप वहां मार्च में क्यों नहीं जाते हैं? उनका कहना था कि चूंकि वहां 25 से 30 फुट तक बर्फ पड़ी रहती है, तो यह बहुत ही डिफिकल्ट काम होता है, इसलिए बर्फ के थोड़ा-थोड़ा पिघलने के बाद यह काम वहां चलाया जाता है। यह काम करने का अभी तक उनका यही ढंग रहा है, लेकिन इस पर हम हमेशा मेट्रोलाजिकल डिपार्टमेंट की सलाह लेते हैं। जो सुझाव इस बारे में किए गए हैं, मैं भी खुद इनको देख लूंगा कि जैसा स्विट्ज़रलैंड में हो सकता है, यहां क्यों नहीं हो सकता। गवर्नर साहब ने स्टेटमेंट कर दिया था कि वहां रोप लगाएं। वह भी इक्वायरी करने के लिए तथा मालूमात करने के लिए देखा है। गवर्नर साहब ने सिर्फ एनाउंसमेंट कर दी थी, वहां कोई डी.पी.आर. वगैरह नहीं था, इसकी कोई तैयारी नहीं थी। यह भी समझने की बात है, लेकिन यह सुझाव अच्छा है, मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूं। हम इसको देख लेंगे और उनको बतला देंगे, क्योंकि यह सरकार की भावना है। वहां इतने लोगों की मृत्यु होती है, मैं फिगर देकर के ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Do you name the Governor ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Just let me speak. I am not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me speak.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Was the Governor not serious? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): The Minister is not yielding.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: After I conclude my speech, you can ask anything. That day, due to this reason, the whole House was unnecessarily disturbed. So, I am not yielding.

सर, मैं इतना कहूंगा कि यहां बहुत श्रद्धा का संबंध है। वहां जो मेडिकल ट्रीटमेंट दिया जाता है, मेरे पास ईयरवाइस फिगर्स हैं कि पहलगाम और बालटाल से कितने मेडिकल कैम्प जाते हैं। 2009 में टोटल 20 मेडिकल कैम्प पहलगाम और बालटाल में लगाए गए थे।

2.00 P.M.

2010 में 22 मेडिकल कैम्प लगाए थे, जिसमें पहलगाम में 12 और बालटाल में 10 थे। 2011 में 23 मेडिकल कैम्प लगाए थे, जिसमें पहलगाम में 12 और बालटाल में 11 थे। 2012 में 26 कैम्प लगाए थे, जिसमें पहलगाम में 14 और बालटाल में 12 लगाए थे। वहां हमने स्पेशल डॉक्टर्स भी बुलाने का प्रयास किया है। 2009 में केवल 50 डॉक्टर्स भेज दिए थे जो इंडियन सिस्टम के थे। 8 स्पेशलिस्ट थे और पैरा मेडिकल 183 थे। 2010 में 39 एम.बी.बी.एस. थे, 4 इंडियन सिस्टम के थे, 9 स्पेशलिस्ट थे और पैरा मेडिकल स्टाफ 208 था। 2011 में 39 थे और इंडियन सिस्टम के 7 थे, 7 स्पेशलाइज्ड थे और पैरा मेडिकल के 180 थे। 2012 में 83 एम.बी.बी.एस. के लोग थे, इंडियन सिस्टम के 4, स्पेशलिस्ट 11 और पैरा मेडिकल के 255 लोग भेजे थे। इस बार हमने सबसे ज्यादा स्टाफ भेजा था। एम्बुलेंस भी 36 गई थीं। यह बात सही है कि वहां जाने वाले जो व्यक्ति हैं, कई साधु हैं, जैसा डा. कर्ण सिंह जी ने कहा कि साधु लोग भी वहां मेडिकल सर्टिफिकेट के लिए एप्रोच करते हैं, लेकिन नहीं देते हैं। यह श्रद्धा का विषय है, लेकिन मैंने पूछा कि कहां के ये सर्टिफिकेट स्वीकार करते हैं, श्राइन बोर्ड देता है या कहीं और कोई दूसरा रास्ता है। 6 लाख लोगों को सर्टिफिकेट इश्यू करने का काम श्राइन बोर्ड भी नहीं कर सकता। जैसे-जैसे तीर्थयात्री आते हैं अपने सर्टिफिकेट पेश करते हैं, जिनको सेंटर पर मान्य किया जाता है। क्योंकि इस यात्रा में एक श्रद्धा है, बताया गया कि लोगों की यह सोच है कि अगर वहां मृत्यु हो जाती है तो वह भगवान शंकर की कृपा है। यह उनकी श्रद्धा और विश्वास की बात है। लेकिन सरकार का यह काम होता है कि वहां पर ज्यादा ऐसी स्थिति न आए। तो हम यह सोच रहे हैं कि वे लोग जहां से आते हैं वहीं से किसी अथॉरिटी से उनको सर्टिफिकेट मिले, जो विशेषतः कार्डियोलॉजी का हो। क्योंकि यात्रा में ऊपर उंचाई पर ऑक्सिजन की कमी होती है। मैं बाकी चीजों में नहीं जाऊंगा कि वहां कितने ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर भेजे हैं, एक हजार भेज दिए, डेढ़ हजार भेज दिए, इसमें नहीं जाऊंगा। यह मैं बतलाना चाहूंगा कि वहां ज्यादा से ज्यादा कार्डियोलॉजी एक्सपर्ट भेजा जाना चाहिए। यह भी इंफोर्मेशन मिली है कि वहां कार्डियोलॉजी एक्सपर्ट भेज देने के बाद भी वहां कुछ ऑपरेट नहीं कर सकता है, मेडिकल कॉलेज में ही उसे भेजना पड़ता है, यह भी दिक्कत है। लेकिन जो सुझाव विरोधी दल के नेता ने दिए हैं, मैं समझता हूँ कि इनको एक्जामिन करके लेने में कोई दिक्कत नहीं है। इसमें हम कोई दूसरा विचार नहीं रखते, लेकिन यदि आप चाहें तो सिक्यूरिटी से संबंधित फिगर्स भी दे सकता हूँ। हमने बड़ी तादाद में वहां कम्पनियां भेजी हैं। हमने अभी 85 कम्पनीज भेजीं, जिनमें 66 कम्पनीज सीआरएफ की थीं। हमने इस वक्त दो महिला कम्पनीज भी भेजीं क्योंकि हमने तय किया कि वहां बड़ी तादाद में हमारी महिला श्रद्धालु भी जाती हैं। पिछले साल से हमने दो महिला कम्पनीज भी भेजना तय किया है।

महोदय, इस यात्रा का जो पीरियड है, मैं उससे संबंधित बात देखकर वहां की सरकार को भी बता दूंगा। मुझे बताया गया कि पहले वहां भगवान शंकर की मूर्ति राखी पूर्णिमा के दिन बनती थी। पहलं वहां राखी पूर्णिमा के दिन छड़ी लेकर जाते थे और वह छड़ी उस मूर्ति को श्रद्धा से लगाते थे। उस दिन वह यात्रा खत्म हो जाती थी, ऐसा मुझे बताया गया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मुझे पता नहीं क्योंकि मैं कभी अमरनाथ नहीं गया हूं, बाकी सब जगह गया हूं। अब बाबा बुलाएंगे तो जाऊंगा। बद्रीनाथ तो गया हूं। अब बाबा बुलाएंगे तो आपकी शुभ इच्छा से वहां भी जाऊंगा, लेकिन उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि वहां terrain बहुत difficult है और रास्ते बहुत छोटे हैं, लेकिन हम वहां की सरकार को यह भी सुझाव देंगे कि वह इन रास्तों को चौड़ा करने के बारे में भी विचार करे और अभी जावडेकर साहब ने बताया कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज साहब ने *suo motu decision* दिया है। हम उस decision को देख रहे हैं। उस पर एक कमेटी appoint की है और गवर्नर साहब उस कमेटी के चेयरमैन हैं। उस कमेटी की दो बैठकें हो चुकी हैं - एक बैठक चीफ सेक्रेटरी के अंडर हुई है और दूसरी गवर्नर साहब के नेतृत्व में हुई है। हम except कर रहे हैं कि सितम्बर तक उसकी रिपोर्ट आ जाए और रिपोर्ट आने के बाद हम इस सुविधा पर भी विचार करेंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह हम लोगों के लिए एक opportunity थी, लेकिन डा. कर्ण सिंह, जिनका पहले वहां उस एरिया में राज था और बहुत श्रद्धा से वे लोग वहां जाते थे। पहले, स्वतंत्रता के एक-दो साल पूर्व, 5,000 लोग जाते थे, आज वहां 6,00,000 से ज्यादा लोग जा रहे हैं। हमें यह भी सोचना चाहिए। हम चाहते हैं कि वहां ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा लोग जाएं और उनको यात्रा में कोई तकलीफ भी न हो। यह हमारी सद्भावना है और उसके लिए हम राज्य सरकार को पूरा सहयोग देंगे और भी कुछ सुझाव अगर आएंगे तो हम वे भी राज्य सरकार को भेज देंगे। यही मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा।

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Sir, one clarification. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. It is because the Minister had agreed to it.

SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it is clear that the State Government is in charge of the Yatra, and, it is also clear that the State Government feels that it does not have the necessary resources to finance the proper arrangements for the Yatra. What I want to know from the hon. Minister is: can the Central Government consider a proposal to give subsidy to the State Government on per-Yatri basis, as is being done in the case of Haj, where the Centre is giving Rs. 800 crore as Haj subsidy? Secondly, Sir, he said...
...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): No, no; you have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)... You have put the question. That is enough. ...(*Interruptions*)... Would you like to respond to this?

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, he has made a suggestion. I will look into it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Okay. The House is adjourned for lunch for half-an-hour.

The House then adjourned for lunch at four minutes past two of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-six minutes past two of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Prof. P.J. Kurien) in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Now, we shall take up further discussion on the Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011. Shri V. Narayanasamy, I think on that day you had made the speech.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011 - *contd.*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Sir, my speech was disrupted on that day.

Sir, the Right to Information Act was passed by both the Houses in 2005. It is under implementation. When the Right to Information Act was in force, the persons who were making disclosure, the whistle-blowers, were being harassed. It started from Satyendra Dubey's case. He brought into focus corruption involved in laying of roads. Thereafter, several murders took place in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and in various other States. I do not want to go into the details. The persons, who were exposing corruption in public offices, had been targeted consistently in this country. Considering the need for giving protection to those people, the Government adopted a Resolution on 21st April 2004 giving powers to the Central Vigilance Commission as the designated agency to receive written complaints from whistle-blowers and take action accordingly. There is a clear

provision in that that the identity of the whistle-blower has to be concealed. There was a lot of demand from various quarters that the Government should bring a legislation to this effect. Accordingly, Sir, the Public Interest Disclosure and Protection to Persons Making the Disclosure Bill, 2010 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 26th August 2010. I would like to mention the basic features of the Bill. The aim is to bring public servants of the Central Government, the State Governments, Government companies, corporations and local authorities within the ambit of the Bill. Its another feature was to provide adequate protection to persons who have been making disclosure of corruption in public offices as well as of those who are doing wilful wrong leading to loss to the public exchequer. Then, Sir, there is a procedure for the purpose of enquiring into those complaints that are being given by the whistle-blowers and the punishment for those people who disclose the identity of the whistle-blower without his permission. If there is a frivolous complaint given by the whistle-blowers, there is adequate provision for taking action against them also. It is a balanced Bill. Then, Sir, the Bill went to the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee looked into it. In the original Bill, the Members of Parliament, the Council of Ministers, the judiciary, Defence Forces and intelligence forces have been excluded. But, Sir, when the Bill was referred to the Standing Committee, the Committee, in its 46th Report, gave its observations. They said that the term 'public servant' should be the same as defined in the Prevention of Corruption Act, which was accepted by the Government. Then, Sir, as far as the recommendation for bringing others under the Bill is concerned, the Standing Committee said that the Council of Ministers, the Members of Parliament, the Members of Legislative Assembly and also the judiciary should be brought within the ambit of the Bill because the higher judiciary is covered by the Judicial Accountability Bill. Therefore, the Government considered it and brought an amendment to that effect in the Lok Sabha. Thirdly, Sir, we found that in the case of Defence Forces, intelligence agencies and security forces, under the RTI Act, no exemption is given to them in respect of the part relating to corruption and human rights violation. Even the Defence Department has agreed that they should be given protection only on two issues and on other issues including corruption and human rights violation, the Whistle-Blowers Protection Act will apply. Therefore, it has been accepted by the Government. Sir, the Special Protection Force of the Government has been exempted because it is dealing with sensitive national security issue.

Then, Sir, coming to the other issue which has been that if the complaint is considered to be frivolous or *mala fide* or false then, before closing that complaint, the concerned competent authority has to give an opportunity to the complainant to explain. Thereafter, after satisfying itself, it has to close the complaint. Therefore, that opportunity has also been provided to the complainant. Sir, initially in the original Bill, the limitation period for the whistle-blower to give a complaint from the date of occurrence was five years. But, the Standing Committee said that it should be seven years. The Government accepted it and the period of seven years has been incorporated in that. Then, if the competent authority forwards a complaint for the purpose of getting a report from the head of the department and if they fail to comply with that within the stipulated time-frame or they delay or disclose the information to the other people without the permission of the complainant then, there is a penal provision for those officers who are delaying or wilfully not allowing the enquiry to be carried on. That was also agreed by the Government. This was agreed in general and thereafter, the Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha. Now, it is in the domain of this hon. House. For the NGOs and certain other people who have been involved in public service and the persons who are making public disclosures, this Bill has to be passed. Apart from that, the hon. Members and we also feel that the persons who are making disclosures and giving information about corruption in the public service should be protected. Now, the Bill is in the domain of this House. After its passage in the Lok Sabha, we are bringing forward a small amendment which is relating to the security of the country and the unity and integrity of the country.

It also relates to our foreign relation which is there in Section 6. But it has not been worded properly. It has to be brought in Section 4. In Section 8 it is there. Therefore, we are bringing in a small amendment. I commend the Bill for consideration in this House.

The question was proposed.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am really grateful to you that on a crucial Bill like the Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011, you have given me the privilege and honour to speak and initiate the debate. Today is a very unique day in the pursuit of our democratic polity. Democracy means accountability. Democracy means equity. And democracy means good

governance. Good governance can never come about if there is corruption. I shall be dealing with that issue separately a little later. But in exposure of corruption in a conclusive manner an insider plays a very crucial role. An insider takes a great risk in seeking to expose corruption. When I am speaking today let me at the very outset pay my profound homage to Satyendra Dubey, the courageous engineer of the National Highways Authority of India who was exposing corruption in the construction of national highway in my own State of Bihar; and was killed. When I am speaking on this Bill, let me pay my homage to Manjunath, Sales Executive of the Indian Oil Corporation, a graduate of IIM who was exposing adulteration of fuel near Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh and was killed. Let me pay my homage to Kalol Sood, the brave Block Development Officer of Bengal who was exposing the scam in our NRAG and was found to be dead in very mysterious circumstances. About 9 or 10 RTI activists had to pay with their life for exposing scams. Therefore, I begin with my homage to them.

Sir, our democracy day after tomorrow would become exactly 65 years old. As I see, these 65 years have been years of learning. These 65 years have been years of ups and downs. If I may briefly reflect upon the growth of our democratic process there had been one party rule for a good measure. Then, in States, non-Congress (I) Party started occupying the political space; and thereafter the people realised the worth of their vote. Today, they know that they can defeat any political party howsoever powerful, any political leader howsoever popular through the power of their vote. I always feel as an activist from the very beginning, this has led to a very sobering impact on our democratic polity. It has stabilised our democracy. The people of the country know that there should be no military coup in India. The people of the country know that in view of the very, I would say, extraordinary experience of the seventies, no leader howsoever popular would seek to impose Emergency in the country, impose Press censorship, arrest people without trial in a very brazen way. Now with this establishment of our democratic polity the voters recognise that they support a political party consistent with their ideology of support base; and they in turn try to understand the identity of India. Sir, I am a great believer in the democratic power of our people; and the best thing I recognise, I was present in the Lok Sabha when I was a Minister in Vajpayee's Government, that from Punjab a political activist had been elected who never believed in the identity of India, who never believed in the Indian Constitution, but

the day people gave him the mandate, he took oath in the Lok Sabha under the Indian Constitution.

This is the great sobering experience of the working of our democracy which we have had. Therefore, we are very proud of our democracy. Sir, democratic process cannot survive only in the context of an opposition party and a Government. Democracy means political process; democracy means non-political process. All those processes, in one way or the other, strengthen the cause of democracy. I remember the time when Public Interest Litigation came up. There was a lot of doubt as to what was happening and why it was happening. I remember, Sir, in my days in Patna, when I used to practise law there, I was a whistleblower myself. This whole fodder scam case was argued by me. Then I was a small known lawyer, not a known political leader. The entire bitumen scam was argued by me. *...(Interruptions)...* All right, I stand corrected. Will you allow me to speak? It is a serious matter. We will talk about the Goa issue separately.

Then there was a lot of apprehension. But both, the political process and the non-political process, were working together. Therefore, I also salute a large number of NGOs, who, over the years, have articulated because of our democracy. People used to say that the court was interfering too much. Maybe, they were right to some extent. I have always felt that the court has got no business to intervene in the executive Government of the day. The right to govern the country has been given to the Government of the day, whether in a State or in a country. Yes, in cases of violation of fundamental rights, violation of human rights and gross corruption, the courts must intervene. That is how the democracy has strengthened over the years.

In this whole quest of governance, accountability is important. For accountability, transparency and integrity are equally important. You cannot have the element of good governance; you cannot have constructive accountability, if you jettison integrity and probity. Yes, today India is growing very well. We see a very aspirational India. Young people are having a dream; young graduates are working very hard and there is a lot of perseverance. But they also get disheartened when they see the present image of the country. Sir, I keep on travelling in the country and interact with young people. I keep on going abroad. Hardly, a month ago, I was in the United States. The kind of writings I heard about, the kind of negative

image I heard about, was certainly disturbing for me as an Indian. We have to rise above all these things. In the exposure of all these massive scams and corruption cases, whistleblowers have played a very crucial role. Gopikrishna was consistently writing articles in *The Pioneer* newspaper about what was happening in the 2G. As I was a Member of the Standing Committee on Information Technology, I was following it up closely. We tried to do our best but could not succeed. That is a separate chapter altogether. I will discuss it in the Chamber as to what happened and why. But he kept on writing. He was threatened. Ultimately, when the whole 2G issue became very explosive, people started listening to him. He was also given a CNN-IBN award for the best journalist. I asked him one day, "Gopi, what happened?" He said, "There was a whistleblower in the Department of Telecom, who was my source. He was fed up with the happenings so much that he used to give me this information." I told him to give my regards to the whistleblower for exposing such a big corruption in contemporary history of India. The same is the case of Commonwealth Games and other things. I am not being partisan today. But what is important is, if mal-administration or corruption or abuse of power is exposed, one should not take it in a negative way as impinging upon the Government of the day. I would see it as a kind of warning that please usher in course correction. Sir, our democracy is very strong today. Today, you are in power; tomorrow we can come to power. Earlier, we were there. This exchange will keep on going. That is the flow of democracy. But there are certain fundamental obligations which we owe to the country, to the people of the country and to posterity. That is, we must leave an India which is strong, resurgent and accountable. In that process, I see today's Bill as a moment of great historic opportunity, and it is in that larger context that I was seeking to elevate this debate. And there has been a trinity. The first is the Right to Information Act. The second is the Lokpal Bill. We wish, Mr. Minister, that your Government will bring it at the earliest. Today there is a meeting of the Select Committee. I hope that it is expedited, and in this Session itself, the Lokpal Bill will be brought before the House. And the third is the Whistle Blowers Protection Bill. Therefore, this whole process is very important. Sir, when I was a young student, a school-going boy, the first question of whistle blower, which we heard very vaguely, was about Deep Throat in the Watergate Scandal. There were stories and stories, and finally, the very arrogant, imperial, U.S. President, Nixon, had to bow down from office. But it

is truly amazing that after 32 years, they found that the great journalist or insider, whose name was William Mark Felt, was the Deep Throat and the whistle blower who led to the exposure of the Watergate Scandal. Now, world over, it is being recognized. It is important. Sir, I was just going through a literature. In America, the frauds of public and private companies are pursued very strongly. And I learnt, to my amazement, that America has so many regulators, and yet, nearly one-fifth of the frauds are explored by whistle blowers from inside, who keep on fighting. This movement has been recognized world over. And, we have got, in the U.S.A., the Whistle Blowers Protection Act, 1989. Now, there is the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, 2010. There is a provision of reward for reporting frauds to the Security Exchange Commission. In Canada, we have the Public Servants Disclosure Act for the public sector. Sir, when I was doing my research for this debate, to my utter amazement, I find that there are smaller countries like Romania, South Africa, Uganda, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, etc., which all have some form of protection for whistle blowers. So, why has the esteemed Minister taken so long to bring this Bill? I think it must have been a matter of some priority. And, I would like to say one thing, with profound respect to the hon. Minister, who is a good friend of mine. On a matter of moment like this, allow the House to have a proper debate. I have no grievance. It is your right to bring in a Bill and get it passed. But the manner in which it was passed in the other House — I am not making any comment — leaves much to be desired because this Bill, which we are passing today, is not for your Government or for my Government. This Bill, which we are passing today, is for strengthening of India. Therefore, all the hon. Members, present here, need to share their views so that all the shortcomings may be taken care of and, if need be, they should be addressed.

Sir, I was going through the 2009 Report of the Transparency International, and India's position was 89. I would like to be enlightened by the hon. Minister as to what the contemporary position is. I am sure that post-2009, in the light of what India has experienced, the number would have gone down.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): It is 109.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Thank you, Tapanji. Therefore, our position has again gone much down. I think it is very important that we must understand

3.00 P.M.

that a corrupt Government, a corrupt governance, saps the morale of the people. I am not making a partisan statement today. I know India is a fine country. I am a chronic optimist. I have not got the slightest doubt that India, in our lifetime, will become the biggest powers of the world, not only economic and military, but also spiritual. That is my confirmed belief. And, when I see this great promise of these young people, who have an idea of a 'Great India', and the kind of pessimism which creeps in because of simmering corruption, then, how do we respond? That is, indeed, very important. Therefore, today, when we are seeking to give some kind of statutory cover to a whistle blower, it is a step in the right direction for the strengthening of the accountability process of India.

Sir, I was just going through Satyam Computer's great scam. I was trying to know how this huge scam of 7000 crore plus -- Then and how it might have gone to 10,000 crore plus who unearthed it and I learnt, to my great dismay, that it was an insider's job. His name I have, Sir, but I will not like to disclose so that it may not have any problem for him because I have some questions to ask about the private sector when I come to specifics of the provision. Sir, we have the 179th Law Commission Report which insisted for a Public Interest Disclosure Bill. We had the Second Administrative Reform Commission Ninth Report; Ethics in Governance, and you talked about the Standing Committee Report. I have to ask certain questions; I will come separately about that. But, let me go to certain very fundamental issues. Hon. Minister, I have tried to find the answer. Correct me if I am wrong. Does this Bill apply to a public disclosure in the private sector or does it not? I want a very categorical answer. I see Section 19. Then, there is a provision for punishment to executives of private companies. But when I see Section 4, as far as the obligation to disclosure is concerned, then I don't see private sector being there because there is a case of registered cooperative society, there is a case of a Government company; there is a case of a Minister, Departments, MPs, MLAs, universities' Vice-Chancellors. But does a non-Government, public or private company, come within the ambit of disclosure? It is a little ambiguous. I would like to have clarity on that. The second is, the CVC is the competent authority. Sir, I have the highest regard for the office of the Chief Vigilance Commissioner. But what is the authority of the CVC? At best, it is

recommendatory. What happened to Mr. Thomas, we all know. What kind of comments Supreme Court had to offer, we need not go into that. Past is history, but when you discuss a Bill of such seminal importance, you cannot completely ignore as to what has happened in the past. Now, the authority of the CVC is indeed, very important. The CVC should not be merely a recommendatory body. What kind of rights have we given additionally to the CVC, apart from giving direction in the case of a particular whistleblower being victimised? Why is it important? Who is the competent authority before whom complaint can be filed in the event of corruption in a private sector? Hon. Minister, this issue, is indeed, very important that today, private sector is playing a very crucial role in the economic development of India. We welcome that. We have the PPP model, the Public-Private Partnership model. We have other models. Now, if in the award of contract, if in the award of any particular tender, if in the award of any particular work, there has been a lot of corruption within the meaning of the Prevention of Corruption Act. There has been a lot of wilful, I would say demeanor or wilful kind of action which led to a loss to the Government as enshrined in the Prevention of Corruption Act, Section 13, then what is the remedy available to a whistleblower under the present Act? This clarity has to be there. Sir, now we are believing in an open Government. Yes, there is a conventional view that RTI is creating problem in administration, whistleblower will create problem in administration, Lokpal will create problems in administration. It may have a logic, but I don't believe it because the growth of the country has seen that with the activism of judiciary through the instrument of public interest litigation, when Governmental decision became subject to frequent challenges before the court, the growth did not stop. The biggest period of judicial intervention in Governmental decision, as a lawyer, Narayanasamyji, you would recall, is post-1989 or post-1988.

And if you see the growth chart of India, maybe, in coalition Government, the biggest chart began post-1991 as well. Therefore, to say that these kinds of interventions in the form of PIL, in the form of RTI, in the form of Lokpal, in the form of Whistle blower would impede growth, is, I would say, not a correct way of looking at it. Maybe, your discretions would be circumscribed; maybe, your reckless abuse of power would be controlled. If that is controlled, that is good for India. The second thing I feel is that if things get established, some of our political friends say, हम लोगों के सारे अधिकार खत्म हो रहे हैं। I hear that and I can see

that. Why should be grudge that? We know that there is pressure on us. We can say that यह काम नहीं हो सकता, this law is a part of the Act. Once the people will come to know about it, I would certainly expect that it is going to be a further maturing of India's democracy that people will know what work we can get, the people will know what work we cannot get. Therefore, all these processes I see as a part of augmentation of our democratic process. That is indeed very important. Therefore, hon. Minister, the private sector is a very important issue about which I would like to know from you because we have a whole range of corruption in many of the private sector companies, not only in their dealings between the companies *per se* but also in the dealings between them and the Government. You must have seen that in the whole 2G, coal blocks allocation, the private sector was interacting with the Government. They were the people who were the beneficiaries of hurried licences given in a manner buried by the Supreme Court. Ultimately, we saw as to how they made quick money. Tapanbabu, I am opposed to Marxism but, at least, one phrase I have learnt to admire, the crony capitalism. And what India witnesses is crony capitalism. We all are supportive of the enterprise of our people, of companies, of private sector entrepreneurs, but one who wants to toil and rise in the country through fair means should not be put behind by means foul through the instrument of crony capitalism. That is the real irony of India and that is the real agony of India. ...(Interruptions)... We can agree on some of your issues, no problem. Therefore, these instruments of RTI or the Whistle Blowers or the Lokpal or the amended Prevention of Corruption Act are instruments which in that way strengthen the whole process. Sir, the specific question more on the law itself is that you have clause 4 and you have clause 8. Now I trust that you are coming with some amendments because in clause 4 anything can be disclosed. We are all for a very strong Whistle Blowers Act, we do not want it to be diluted, but I must caution you, Mr. Minister, it should not become an instrument of plaything against India's strategic interests in the hands of those who want to weaken it. Therefore, in our Constitution under article 19(2) there is a provision of security of India, integrity of India, there is a need to bring it here. ...(Interruptions)... I am grateful. Maybe, this incitement to violence, if some one wants to have some information with a view to incite people to violence, commit communal carnage, these are the issues which need to be addressed. I can also understand friendly relations with foreign countries. But there I have one caveat

and that is a very important caveat. I hope Tapanji recognises what I am going to say on that. Bofors came from Sweden. Hon. Minister, you will recognise that any genuine exposure of cases relating to India in a foreign country should not be blocked on the ground of friendly relations with foreign countries. That is the caution I would like to administer at the very outset here. Therefore, now I see clause 7...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I have a small submission to make. There is a Bill pending before the Parliament, that is, Prevention of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and International Organisations. The Bill is in the domain of the Parliament and that will take care of it.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Alright; I am grateful. Now, I see section 8. Here, you have completely reproduced Article 19(2) of the Fundamental Rights. Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, Article 19(2) deals with Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression, Freedom of Movement, Freedom of Residence, Freedom of Occupation. And this freedom is to the citizens of India. That is certainly subject to particular reasonable restrictions which the State must impose. But the right to disclose corruption and mismanagement through the instrument of Whistleblowers Protection Act should not be so much controlled, as is there in 19(2). Yes, I can understand the issues of security, integrity, safety of the country, incitement to violence or public disorder. I can understand all these things. In clause 8, you have said everything — friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency, morality, contempt of court, defamation. Why all this? I see a politician very much in the news for some wrong reasons. Now, he can say, "Don't expose me in this case of suicide because it is indecent to me." At least, let us not do like this. I have the highest respect for the institution of Judiciary, of which I have been a part, both as a lawyer and as a Law Minister, for some time. But can we deny the fact today that there is corruption in the Judiciary? I hear very disturbing reports about some High Court Judges and also some Supreme Court Judges. Former Chief Justices of India have an occasion to comment upon? I am saying this with full sense of responsibility. I know my protection under the law. I know the obligation to give respect to the Judges. I am only commenting as to what the former Chief Justice of India have been commenting. I am not saying anything new. Now, in contempt or in defamation, a truth is a defence. If a whistleblower is exposing some fact, is

it a defence? Therefore, let us not deny those rights which you are seeking to impose here. That is one request ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I agree with you on that.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I am so happy that finally, you are agreeing. Good.

Now, I come to the victimisation of the whistleblower and his protection. Hon. Minister, why have you not explained the meaning of 'Victimisation'? 'Victimisation' is a defined concept in law. Therefore, it would have been appropriate that the 'victimisation' must have been defined in the Bill itself. So, I would request you to kindly consider the non-definition of this vital clause. That is, indeed, very important. I am happy you have incorporated the recommendations of the Standing Committee that unless the whistleblower himself consents, his name shall not be disclosed. But when we are discussing such an important issue, I would like to put one question here. The ways of governance as they are you have eight years' experience of governance, hon. Minister, I hope I am right ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Four years.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Alright. I cannot wish you five years more. That will be wrong on my part. But good luck in future. ...*(Interruptions)*... Come on, let us be honest about ourselves. If an insider complains against his boss, तो क्या उसका नाम छुपा रहेगा? I expect an honest answer from you. The way of governance, as they are, is that you will send the complaint to the concerned person; his boss is a 'boss'; ultimately, his name would be known. I was going through this whole law. You have given certain protections. But this hidden hand of the process of our bureaucracy would compel the process to reveal the name of the complainant. There is no safeguard against that. How can we address that? That is an issue. I was just reading a write-up on one Abhijit Ghosh. He was a General Manager in a nationalised bank. He had complained against his CMD. And, ultimately, the CMD was found to be wrong; involved in corruption; he was taken to task. But, before that, he had to toil for five years, being suspended and suffering a proceeding. He wrote a very interesting thing. Is fighting corruption in India is a corrupt act in itself? "If not, then, why are the ones I raised a voice

against sitting comfortably and it is me who is running from pillar to post?" I am sure there are many ones like him. So, we will have to address this.

Sir, the last issue I would like to highlight is this. There are other speakers also. I never transcend my time; Sir, you know me. There are certain procedural issues. I think it is a question of not giving enough attention to the details and I would like you to reflect with me. Under clause 15 which is about offences and penalties, you can impose a fine of Rs.250/- or you can go to the extent of Rs.50,000/-. No problem. In clause 16, you say, if any person who negligently or *mala fide* reveals the identity of a complainant, he can be punished up to three years. Again, there is a fine of Rs.30,000/-. Clause 20 is the appellate forum -- appeal to the High Court. "Any person aggrieved by an order of the Competent Authority relating to imposition of penalty under section 14 or section 15 or section 16 may prefer an appeal to the High Court." Hon. Minister, you have been an experienced lawyer yourself. Under Cr. PC, any trial up to three years takes place before the Judicial Magistrate First Class or Metropolitan Magistrate in Delhi. An appeal lies to the Additional District Judge. Then, further appeal lies to the High Court. If the provision of punishment is more than seven years, then, there is conviction by the Session Judge, Additional Session Judge, then, appeal to the High Court. Here, against a fine of Rs.250/- you are sending it to the High Court. I fail to understand the logic of this whole scenario. Unless it is so special, it should not be sent to the High Court. High Courts are overworked. They are overloaded. Therefore, this is an issue which needs to be considered. Yes, make a fast track court. But make a fast track court at the lower level and subject to appeal before the High Court. That is how I would like to see, Sir. Sir, these are some of my concerns which I thought I must flag to the hon. Minister. Sir, I would like to make two or three more points. Why doesn't the benefit to a third party get covered within the scope of the Bill? If an officer is responsible, an executive is responsible, you will recommend action against him. But what happens to the windfall gains of the 2G recipients overnight? Why are they not covered within the mandate of this Bill?

The second issue is, I can understand, Army has been kept away. We have the highest regards for the Armed Forces, for the exemplary work they do to keep

India secure. They sacrifice their lives to keep India secure. But can we wish away from the fact that, of late, in the Armed Forces also, a lot of irregularities are reported? We see that even Lieutenant Generals are subjected to court martial. Yesterday, on a prime channel, we saw what is happening in the DRDO. Because of the respect we have for these institutions, we don't raise it. But if things go for a long time in this manner, then, surely, it has to be raised. Therefore, are you contemplating to have a separate arrangement for the Armed Forces or the like? I would like to know from you whether some *bona fide* officers who have got the courage within limitations should be given protection. You have counted anonymous complaints completely out; I can see that. Being a Minister of Personnel, you all know that when a promotion is due, a lot of anonymous complaints come. Therefore, you rightly ignored anonymous complaints. But when the issue concerns corruption, when the issue concerns maladministration, when the issue concerns abuse of power, when the issue concerns corrupt elements impeding the growth of India, then, keep a window for anonymous complaints as well. It may not be in the manner as you have done for a known complaint, so that if a complaint is there, at least, there must be an obligation to have a preliminary inquiry about the nature of allegations made if the offences are made out. Because the whistle blower only initiates the process. Rest is for the Government to consider, being accountable to the people and the Parliament. Sir, with these words, I support the Bill. I am sure the hon. Minister would address the concerns which I have expressed. Thank you.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I stand here to support the Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2010.

Let me, at the outset, appreciate the spirit with which Ravi Prasadji has...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: My name is Ravi Shankar Prasad.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: ... Ravi Shankar Prasadji has approached the Bill. I very much appreciate your spirit. The only thing that I would like to tell you and your colleagues is that you can't eradicate corruption by catching the *pallu of babas and sadhus* whose antecedents are not known. You can eradicate it by cooperating with the Government. You cooperate for the purpose of passing good legislations and make concrete suggestions that you have made now. But don't

resort to that process which does not suit you as a political party. This is my humble suggestion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

[The Vice-Chairman (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR) in the Chair]

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTUALLA (Madhya Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the standard of debate is so high that even the Minister responded. Let us keep it because it is a very serious Bill. It is not putting one ...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Madam, only when I point out something, the standard goes down! ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTUALLA: This is not proper, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are a very senior Member of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not expected of you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Please do not lay down the standards. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not authorized to lay down the standards. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not a person authorized to lay down the standards. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: She is a very senior Member.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: I know. I am equally senior. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Let us keep the debate to some standard. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Please don't go into controversy. Please address the Chair.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, the whistleblower concept has got international traditions. In fact, one of the examples has been pointed out by the hon. Deputy Leader of the Opposition. I was going through some papers and I found that that Mr. Daniel Ellsberg of US Department along with Anthony Russo leaked Pentagon papers and secret accounts of Vietnam War. This is one of the major cases where the whistle-blower concept came out.

The second was the Watergate scandal. It has already been pointed out, and then there was the famous Indian case of Satyendra Dubey. In fact, when Satyendra

Dubey case came out, it shocked the entire nation and that was the time when more and more cases of whistle-blowers came out, which also inspired us to have this legislation. In fact, we are very late in enacting this legislation; there is no doubt about it. But it is Satyendra Dubey's case which further inspired us.

Raviji, I would like to draw your attention to certain observations that you had made. One of your observations was that judicial intervention has not stopped the growth of this country. I would beg to differ with you on that because on various occasions we have seen that Bills have been struck down, legislations have been called off and courts have told, 'Please enact another legislation; please show us the legislation.' Courts decide where a factory is to be established; courts decide where dams are to be constructed, etc., etc. These things have hampered the growth process. One has to admit that many of these things have hampered the growth process of this country. But since we have given enormous powers to the court and we respect the judgment of the court, we follow them. But it is not that they have not hampered the process.

Secondly, Sir, this legislation, when enacted, will activate the corruption laws. It will activate the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 because unless some agencies are there, unless activists are there to activate this legislation, you can't do anything because there are two fundamental provisions in the Prevention of Corruption Act. One is, the way you trap an officer or somebody who demands bribes, etc., and another is, having disproportionate accounts. In both these cases, unless somebody comes forward to file a complaint to point out the facts, this Act cannot be implemented.

Secondly, I would like to point out incidentally that we are always being blamed that 'we are not doing anything with respect to reducing corruption in the country'. I would like to inform this House that it was late Shri Rajiv Gandhi who took the initiative and the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was enacted during his regime.

Today, every State, the Central Government, police machineries, CBI, everyone, is using the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. When the Lokpal will be constituted, it will use the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. Lokayuktas in the

States are also using the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, enacted during Rajiv Gandhi's regime. Lokpal legislation itself does not contain any provision regarding corruption; it is an authority. But the law dealing with corruption is the one which was enacted by Rajiv Gandhi. I would like to point out that RTI Act was also enacted during our regime. This Whistle Blowers Protection Bill is undergoing discussion. Citizens' Charter Bill will be coming before this House shortly. Money Laundering Act has to be revived because it lacks some rule-framing concepts. And then the Judicial Accountability Bill will come. A number of legislations have come before this House and before this country enacted by this UPA Government. Let everybody remember that. Steps taken by us against corruption are enormous. No party and no Government have ever taken these steps. This Act will help in unearthing, to some extent, the illegal wealth created by some officials. When somebody points out that, money will come out. To that extent, this Act will help us. Instances of harassment of officers and employees in various Government Departments will come to light with the help of this legislation. Today, lower-class employees are scared to point out certain follies of higher officers. If they are given proper protection, they will also come out. Higher ranking officers will also feel responsible when they will come to know that such a legislation is there. Therefore, this legislation is going to help the country in several aspects. I am also agreed, to some extent, with Ravi Shankar Prasadji that it is very difficult to keep the name secret. Law should be there. Law should mandate that one should keep the name of the complainant secret. But, as is pointed out, it is very difficult. I also feel that, in most of the cases, it will not remain a secret. The complainant himself has to realize and, perhaps, he will realize that although the law provides that his name should be kept secret, it may not be possible and that he may have to face some consequences. But daring people are there; they may come out. While doing the discreet inquiry under clause 5(2), the officer concerned has to take utmost caution because it is at this stage where the name is likely to be disclosed. So, it depends upon the officer concerned as to how things are to be done. There must be a special scheme, with substantial funds, prepared by the Government for the purpose of protecting the complainant and the witnesses. There should be a properly enacted scheme under which money should be allotted for this purpose. Unless this money is ensured, people may not come forward for making disclosures. Our Evidence Act also needs to be amended so that statements of complainants and witnesses can be recorded at the earliest. Voice recording, brain mapping, lie detection test, *etc.*, should be given some sort of value for the

purpose of evidence so that things can move faster. As far as frivolous complaints are concerned, a complainant perhaps may not be able to succeed in bringing all the material before an authority. And, his complaint may be dismissed or may not be considered. But, just because a complainant is not able to produce certain evidence, his complaint should not be branded as frivolous. A distinction has to be made between a purely frivolous complaint with no evidentiary value and a complaint having substantial value but for some reason, a complainant may or may not be able to prove and produce further evidence.

Secondly, the burden of producing evidence on the complainant should be limited. If he establishes a *prima facie* case, then the Government, or the authorities, should help him in digging out the evidence. Otherwise, it may not be possible for him to proceed further. His duty should be limited to the extent of producing *prima facie* evidence; the rest should be done by the Government authorities. If this is done, the complaints will reach their logical conclusion. There should be a mechanism for the purpose of digging out evidence with respect to complaints made by the complainants.

Then, Sir, the misuse of Central Government or State Government schemes happens on a large scale. If the complaints are made with respect to misuse of funds or frauds in these schemes, then that should be taken more seriously and the complainant should be given more protection because the total amount, which is likely to be unearthed or saved by such complaint, will be enormous. It will be an advantage to the nation. The nation will gain crores of rupees if proper protection is given to those complainants who try to unearth the money which is wasted by way of frauds in the Government schemes.

Then, one more question arises eventually, with which one may or may not agree. Should the information, which an employee comes to know during the course of his functions, be mandatorily passed on to the higher authorities or the competent authorities? For example, under section 176 of IPC, you are supposed to inform the commission of a crime. It is the duty of a citizen to inform regarding the commission of a crime. Should it not be the duty of any officer or any employee, who comes to know that a crime has been committed or any irregularity has been committed by some higher officer in his office, to inform the same to the competent authority? Will it be proper if a provision to this effect is provided in this Bill? It is for the Government to think over it.

Then, a question arises as to what should be the action to be taken against an authority if the complaint made by the complainant is not acted upon. There are various methods by which the complaint can be acted upon, for example, disciplinary action, criminal proceeding, etc. But, if a complaint is not acted upon by the concerned officer, what is to be done has to be thought of and the Government has to find out some provision for this purpose.

Lastly, Sir, I would like to mention that this is one of the legislations which can be called as anti-corruption legislations starting from Prevention of Corruption Act, the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, this Bill relating to the whistle-blowers and the Bill on judicial accountability. So, these are the five or six legislations which are in the pipeline. I hope, the Opposition will co-operate with the Government in the course of time to pass these legislations and strengthen the country's resolve. Thank you.

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): मान्यवर, आपने मुझे लोक हित प्रकटन और प्रकटन करने वाले व्यक्तियों को संरक्षण देने वाले इस विधेयक पर बोलने के लिए अवसर प्रदान किया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

मान्यवर, भ्रष्टाचार आज हमारे देश की बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। आज यह जो बिल आया है, यह बहुत अच्छी पहल है। भ्रष्टाचार उजागर करने वालों की सुरक्षा पर विधेयक में नए प्रावधानों का उल्लेख किया गया है तथा भ्रष्टाचार से निपटने के लिए केंद्र सरकार निकट भविष्य में और भी विधेयक लाने वाली है, जैसे लोकपाल विधेयक, न्यायिक जवाबदेही विधेयक, सी.वी.सी. विधेयक, पब्लिक सर्विस डिलिवरी विधेयक, भ्रष्टाचार निवारण कानून में संशोधन के लिए अलग से विधेयक।

मान्यवर, केंद्र सरकार ऐसे तमाम विधेयक ला रही है जिनसे देश में भ्रष्टाचार को रोका जा सके। आज देश की जनता भ्रष्टाचार तथा अन्य मामलों के बारे में इतनी जागरूक हो चुकी है कि वह समय-समय पर विभिन्न माध्यमों से सरकार को इनके बारे में अवगत कराती रहती है। आज हमारे देश में विभिन्न सामाजिक संगठन भ्रष्टाचार को रोकने के मामले में प्रदर्शन करते हैं, धरने देते हैं। वे हमारी सरकार और विभिन्न पार्टियों के जन-प्रतिनिधियों के लिए ऐसे शब्दों का प्रयोग करते हैं, जो उनको नहीं करने चाहिए। ऐसा लगता है कि किसी सामाजिक संगठन के एक या दो आदमी एक अरब बीस करोड़ की आबादी वाले देश में यदि दस हजार लोगों को इकट्ठा कर लें और कहें कि यह बात ऐसी है, तो क्या वह बात मानी जाएगी? लगता है कि प्रजातंत्र खत्म हो रहा है और भेड़तंत्र चल रहा है। पिछले दिनों ऐसी बहुत सी बातें देखने को मिलीं, इसलिए मेरा केंद्र सरकार से आग्रह है कि ऐसी नौबत न आए कि सामाजिक संगठन इस ओर कदम उठाएं। सरकार को इस भ्रष्टाचार को रोकने के लिए पहल करनी चाहिए और ठोस कदम उठाने चाहिए।

मान्यवर, भ्रष्टाचार को रोकने के लिए जो शिकायतकर्ता या भंडाफोड़ करने वाले होते हैं, वे शिकायत तो कर देते हैं, किंतु उनके संरक्षण के लिए इस बिल में जो प्रावधान किया गया है, उस पर हमें विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए। कभी-कभी होता क्या है कि किसी ने लोकहित में, जनहित में एक शिकायत की, जिससे देश को नुकसान हो रहा है और वह शिकायत सही पाई गई, किंतु जो गलत काम करने वाले होते हैं, अधिकारी हों या कोई भी हों, उनके खिलाफ कोई कार्रवाई नहीं होती और न कानून के द्वारा उनको कोई सज़ा दी जाती है। बेचारा शिकायतकर्ता अकेला पड़ जाता है और कहीं-कहीं उसको जान से हाथ भी धोना पड़ जाता है। तो ऐसे में जो भंडाफोड़ करने वाले या शिकायतकर्ता होते हैं, उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए हमें विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए। ऐसा नहीं होता है, इसलिए बड़े-बड़े घोटाले हो जाते हैं। वे डर की वजह से शिकायत नहीं कर पाते, जिससे देश को हानि होती है और जनता का भी नुकसान होता है, इसलिए हमें उस ओर भी कदम उठाने चाहिए।

मान्यवर, भ्रष्टाचार उजागर करने वालों की सुरक्षा के लिए विधेयक में नए प्रावधान भी किए गए हैं, जैसे भंडाफोड़ करने वालों को सुरक्षा प्रदान करने से संबंधित विधेयक के दायरे में अब मंत्री, खुफिया एजेंसियां और सशस्त्र बल भी आएंगे। सरकार ने भ्रष्टाचार को उजागर करने वालों के सुरक्षा संबंधी विधेयक, 2010 की जांच करने वाली संसद की स्थायी समिति की कुछ महत्वपूर्ण सिफारिशों को भी स्वीकार करते हुए इस विधेयक को नया स्वरूप प्रदान किया है। इसे हाल ही में मंत्रिमंडल ने हरी झंडी दिखाई है। मंत्रिमंडल ने जो एक प्रमुख बदलाव शामिल किया है, वह यह है कि इसके दायरे में मंत्रियों, सांसदों, रक्षा सेवाओं, खुफिया एजेंसियों, बैंक अधिकारियों और सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों को लिया गया है, हालांकि मंत्रिमंडल ने न्यायपालिका को इसके दायरे में लाने की सिफारिश नामंजूर कर दी है।

सूत्रों ने कहा है कि इसे अन्य कानूनों से हासिल किया जा सकता है। इस कानून में एक बड़ी ऐसी प्रणाली बनाने का प्रस्ताव है जिसके तहत सरकार को घाटा पहुंचाने से संबंधित जनसेवकों के भ्रष्टाचार और पदों के दुरुपयोग के बारे में खुलासा करने वालों का उत्साह बढ़ाने का प्रावधान है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमें इस ओर भी देखना चाहिए, जैसे कि राज्य सरकारें होती हैं और उधर कोई भ्रष्टाचार होता है, तो केन्द्र सरकार को उधर भी भ्रष्टाचार रोकने में मदद करनी चाहिए। कुछ एजेंसियां ऐसी हैं, जो केन्द्र सरकार के हाथ में होती हैं, जिनसे राज्य सरकारों को मदद नहीं मिल पाती है, इस कारण से भी बढ़ावा मिलता है। मेरा यही कहना है कि यह जो बिल आया है, यह बहुत अच्छा है, इसको सरकार गंभीरता से लागू करेगी, तो बहुत सी समस्याओं का समाधान हो सकेगा। धन्यवाद।

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. At the outset, I seek your indulgence while speaking on the Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011. I support the Bill along with some amendments on the area where I feel the Bill is inadequate to serve the purpose as defined in its Statement of Objects and Rea-

sons. That is precisely the purpose of my amendments. Now, the Statement of Objects and Reasons says, 'adequate protection to the complainants reporting corruption or wilful misuse of discretion which causes 'demonstrable loss to the Government'. 'Demonstrable loss to the Government' means illegitimate gains to somebody else who is seeking illegitimate gains from the public servant in lieu of illegitimate gratification being paid to the public servant. This is how demonstrable loss takes place in the Government. While dealing with this, most unfortunately, may be deliberately, the supply side of the whole process is totally being ignored. The demonstrable loss caused to the Government by causing loss to the public exchequer through illegal gratification by some private agency, if that is the thing, then the supply side of the whole process, who gives bribe, who supplies illegitimate gratification for making illegitimate gain and loss to the public exchequer, has to be taken care of. Unless that is taken care of, corruption cannot be contained, and this Bill is one of the instruments, along with the Lokpal and others, for containing corruption. If that is the purpose and if there is sincerity of purpose, this must address the supply side of corruption because they are the source of major big-ticket corruption of the day. The 2G, CWG, KG basin and so many other such big-ticket corruption cases are the examples of the supply side which corrupts the Government system, which corrupts the public system, causing demonstrable loss to the public exchequer, to the country's exchequer, making illegitimate grip over the natural and national resources of the country. This is how everything is going about. So, the supply side has to be addressed. But, this Whistle Blowers Bill has not taken care of that supply side at all. So, this thing has to be taken care of to remove the inadequacy there. This aspect has become all the more important, particularly at the present juncture when public-private partnership has become a very popular style in managing different public services and the economic governance of the country. This is being considered as a very ideal and model rule where big corporate, big business houses and private agencies are getting involved within the public domain, playing a role of providing public services and handling the public infrastructure.

The people involved in the PPP should also be brought within the domain of this Bill. They include, the person against whom a complaint can be made and also the person, the whistle-blower, whom you have to protect there. He may not be a public servant, but he may be a player or one of the players in the whole PPP structure. If the people who cause demonstrable loss to the public exchequer and are involved in the PPP process are not covered under it, I think the whole

purpose behind it stands defeated. This has become all the more necessary when you have declared it in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill. This is very important. This is very crucial.

The third point is regarding tax administration. That is also a very crucial area. Tax evasion has become inbuilt in the process of pursuing business and profit. It is reflected in huge tax default which as on date is around two lakh crore rupees in direct taxes and around one lakh crore rupees in indirect taxes. It is the current figure which is reflected in budgetary papers. Defaulters are mostly the big business traders and corporate class. And precisely for this class, the Government chooses to forgo revenue to the tune of five lakh crore rupees a year. This is happening even in the current year. How do you propose such public loss and private gain machination on the public exchequer causing demonstrable and irreparable loss and expanding our fiscal deficit? You may say that provisions to tackle tax default and tax evasion are there in our tax laws. But the thing is that the manner in which the tax default is expanding ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR): Just a minute.

INFORMATION TO THE HOUSE

Re. Passing away of Hon. Minister, Shri Vilasrao Dagadojirao Deshmukh

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, it is a very sad news. Our colleague, Shri Vilasrao Deshmukhji is no more. He has just passed away. Sir, we may adjourn the House.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तारिक अनवर): श्री विलासराव देशमुख जी के निधन के समाचार के बाद सदन की कार्यवाही दिनांक 16 अगस्त, 2012 तक स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned at forty-eight minutes past three of the clock till eleven of the clock on Thursday, the 16th August 2012.
