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9 Bhadra, 1934 (Saka)

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RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT
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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, 31st August, 2012/9th Bhadra, 1934 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTION

Railway track between Udhampur and Qazigund

*281. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that successive Ministers of Railways had promised construction of railway track between Udhampur and Qazigund in Jammu and Kashmir long before 2012;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the progress of work on the track has been sluggish; and

(c) the time-frame within which the track would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Udhampur-Qazigund is a part of the ongoing Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project and successive Ministers of Railways have made various announcements about this line in their respective Budget Speeches as mentioned below:—

In 2009-10, it was announced that Qazigund-Anantnag will be completed by August 2009 and it was also mentioned that work on Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla project has got a setback as difficulties have been faced on Udhampur-Katra-Qazigund section. Based on the recommendation of the Expert Committee constituted to review the alignment of Katra-Qazigund section, decisions have to be taken very carefully keeping foremost, the concern of safety. In 2010-11, it was announced that after review by the Expert Committee, work on Katra-Qazigund section has re-started and priority is being given to complete Udhampur-Qazigund section.

In 2011-12, it was announced that 11 km. long, longest transportation tunnel would be completed during 2011-12. In 2012-13 Budget Speech, it was informed that the 11 km long tunnel through Pir Panjal Range has been completed. It was also announced that Udhampur-Katra and Qazigund-Banihal sections are targeted for completion during 2012-13.

(b) Work on Udhampur-Katra section (25 km) has been delayed due to problem of squeezing and swelling faced in tunnel T-1 and problem of excessive seepage faced in tunnel T-3. Remedial solution has been found and work on this section is now 95% complete. Work on Katra-Qazigund section (148 km) remained suspended for more than a year after geological problems were faced during construction. An Expert Committee was appointed to examine various issues involved including alternative alignment. As per the Committee's recommendations, work on this section has recommenced in September, 2009.

(c) Udhampur-Katra (25 km) and Qazigund-Banihal (19 km) sections are targeted to be completed in 2012-13. Katra-Banihal (129 km) section is targeted to be completed by 2017-18.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 281. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...(*Interruptions*)... Question 281. Supplementaries please ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Soz. ...(*Interruptions*)...

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Sir, my question is on the development of railways in Jammu and Kashmir. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, Mr. Nitish Kumar, who was the then Railway Minister, had said that the railway line between Udhampur and Qazigund would be constructed by 2010. I would like to know why the work on the railway line between Udhampur and Qazigund has been sluggish. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... आप वापस जाइए।...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Sir, in reply to the...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members, please don't come into the well. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Due to the difficult terrain and some other uncertainties as well as problems of law and order, the work has been delayed. ...(*Interruptions*)... The work on the railway line between Udhampur and Jammu is tentatively scheduled to be completed in 2012-13. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

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

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,
MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Value based education**

*282. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has felt the need to inculcate values among our children to build a healthy society;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) whether Government is taking steps to emphasize more on value based education; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The National Curriculum Framework, 2005 brought out by National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) recommended an integrated and holistic approach for nurturing universal human values and constitutional values at all stages of education to ensure all round development of students and building of a healthy society. The new syllabi and textbooks for all subjects at all stages have been developed in consonance with the above principles of National Curriculum Framework, 2005.

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has taken following measures to ensure effective value based education at school level:

- Introduction of School based Assessment scheme in the year 2009 which, *inter-alia*, comprises assessment of values.
- Introduction of value based questions in the Summative Assessment-II in classes IX-X and year end examination of classes XI-XII from the year 2012-13
- Bringing out a handbook for teachers on Value Education in the years 1997 and again in the year 2003
- Publication of Teachers' Manual on Environmental Education and Adolescence Education

A resource book for teachers on 'Ways to Peace' has been published by NCERT during 2010 for promotion and wider dissemination of values of peace. NCERT has also finalized a framework on 'Education for Values in Schools'.

Radiation from mobile phone towers causing diseases

*283. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that mobile phone towers emit radiation causing harmful effects and other ailments to people and even fauna in the country;
- (b) whether apart from WHO, a number of experts/doctors and other specialists have also confirmed that radiation causes diseases like cancer;
- (c) whether such tests/studies/surveys have been conducted in other countries also and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether a number of people across the country have complained of such diseases; and
- (e) the preventive measures Government proposes to take in view of such tests/studies, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) World Health Organization (WHO) in its Fact Sheet No. 304, May 2006 on Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health (Base Stations and Wireless Technologies) has concluded that considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak RF Signals from base stations and wireless networks caused adverse health effects. From all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long term health effects have been shown to occur from the PF Signals produced by base stations (mobile phone towers).

International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines of April, 1998 States that, epidemiological studies on exposed workers and the general public have shown no major health effects associated with typical exposure environments. The studies have yielded no convincing evidence that typical exposure levels lead to adverse reproductive outcomes or an increased cancer risk in exposed individuals. ICNIRP, in its report of April, 1998, has prescribed the following levels limiting EMF emission from Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) as safe for general public:

Frequency Range	E-Field Strength [Volt/Meter (V/m)]	H-Field Strength [Amp/Meter (A/m)]	Power Density [Watt/Sq.Meter (W/Sq.m)]
400 MHz to 2000 MHz	$1.375^{1/2}$	$0.0037^{1/2}$	$f/200$
2 GHz to 300 GHz	61	0.16	10

(f is the frequency of operation in MHz)

In their Statement released in 2009, ICNIRP has stated that the scientific literature published since the 1998 guidelines has provided no evidence of any adverse effects below the basic restrictions and does not necessitate an immediate revision of its guidance on limiting exposure to high frequency electromagnetic fields. Therefore,

ICNIRP reconfirms the 1998 basic restrictions in the frequency range 100 kHz-300 GHz until further notice.

Further, in its Fact sheet No. 193 of 2011, WHO has stated that they will conduct a formal risk assessment of all studied health outcomes from radio frequency fields exposure by 2012.

(b) and (c) In its Fact Sheet No. 193 of 2011, WHO has stated that "Several large multinational epidemiological studies have been completed or are ongoing, including case-control studies and prospective cohort studies examining a number of health endpoints in adults. The largest retrospective case-control study to date on adults, Interphone, coordinated by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), was designed to determine whether there are links between use of mobile phones and head and neck cancers in adults. The international pooled analysis of data gathered from 13 participating countries found no increased risk of glioma or meningioma with mobile phone use of more than 10 years. There are some indications of an increased risk of glioma for those who reported the highest 10% of cumulative hours of cell phone use, although there was no consistent trend of increasing risk with greater duration of use. The researchers concluded that biases and errors limit the strength of these conclusions and prevent a causal interpretation. Based largely on these data, IARC has classified radio frequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B), a category used when a causal association is considered credible, but when chance, bias or confounding cannot be ruled out with reasonable confidence".

The above mentioned finding of WHO is with respect to use of mobile phones and not to the Electromagnetic Fields from mobile phone towers.

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has examined the issue and stated that there are no conclusive data available so far on this issue. The review of literature does not establish conclusive evidence on the safety or risk of Radio Frequency Radiation (RFR) emitted from cell phone and cell phone towers but growing body of scientific evidences indicates some bio-effects and possible adverse health effects of RFR which merit further investigations.

An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) consisting of officers from Department of Telecommunications, Indian Council of Medical Research (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare), Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of Environment and Forest was constituted on 24.08.2010 to examine the effect of Electromagnetic Field (EMF) Radiation from base stations and mobile phones.

IMC in its report, has examined the 90 international and national studies/reference papers, related with the EMF radiation and has indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio frequency radiation and health; and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause and effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health. The effect of emission from cell phone towers is not known yet with certainty.

Department of Science and Technology has also convened a meeting on 03.07.2012 of an Expert Group on EMF radiation and recognized that the available scientific literature on the subject of health hazard from mobile tower radiation is not yet conclusive enough to derive norms based on credible scientific evidence.

(d) and (e) Complaints regarding alleged fear of health hazards from mobile tower radiation are being received and petitions have also been filed by individuals and NGOs in various Courts in this regard. Various media reports are also indicating health hazards due to radiation from mobile tower and mobile phones.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has adopted the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) norms in the year 2008 regarding Electro-magnetic Fields (EMF) emanating from mobile towers. Accordingly, all the Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS)/Unified Access Service (UAS) licensees are submitting the compliance to the existing reference limits/levels by way of submission of self certification of their Base Transmitting Stations (BTS) to the respective Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) Cells of DoT. Further, TERM Cells have carried out the testing of radiation levels for 28,862 BTSs upto 30.06.2012, and found that the radiations levels are in compliance of the prescribed limits for all the tested BTSs.

Further, the Inter Ministerial Committee, constituted by DoT, has as a precautionary measure, *inter-alia* recommended for lowering of the Base Transmitting Station (BTS) Radio Frequency (RF) exposure limits to 1/10th of the existing ICNIRP prescribed limit and reduction of Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) level for mobile handsets from 2 Watt/Kg. to 1.6 Watt/Kg. These recommendations of IMC have been accepted by DoT and the following directions for implementation have been issued:

- (i) Directions for lowering of the mobile towers EMF radiation to 1/10th of the existing prescribed limits has been issued to the Mobile Operators *vide* DoT letter dated 30.12.2011. These directions are effective from 01.09.2012.
- (ii) Directions for reduction of SAR value from 2 Watt/Kg to 1.6 Watt/Kg for Mobile Handset have been issued to Mobile Handset Manufacturers *vide* DoT letter dated 25.01.2012 and 17.08.2012. These directions are effective from 01.09.2012.

Proposals for recognition of universities and colleges pending with UGC

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

(a) the details of the requests and proposals of various State Governments including Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat for granting recognition and providing financial assistance to various universities and colleges pending with the University Grants Commission (UGC);

(b) the present status of these proposals, State-wise, year-wise and proposal-wise; and

(c) the time by when each of these proposals is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Any university established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a Provincial Act or a State Act automatically falls under section 2(f) of UGC Act, 1956. As such, these universities do not require recognition from the University Grants Commission (UGC) separately. As soon as the information regarding establishment of a university is received in the office of the UGC, its name is included in the list of universities maintained by UGC and the same is posted on the UGC website after a preliminary examination. University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that it receives proposals for inclusion in the list of universities directly from the universities and not from the State Governments.

Universities/colleges require to be declared fit to receive grants by UGC under section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956 to become eligible for Central Assistance. The proposals of Universities, State-wise, pending in the UGC for recognition under section 12B, are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

Proposals for declaration of colleges under section 12B of UGC Act, 1956 are received in the UGC through respective affiliating universities. Details of pending proposals received in this regard including in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat as on 25.08.2012 are given in Statement-II (*See* below). All these proposals pertain to the current year only.

(c) Out of 42 pending proposals, only 7 universities have furnished requisite documents/information (regarding the proposals shown pending in Statement-I). These 7 proposals will be cleared by November, 2012. The 330 proposals shown in Statement-II are pending due to non-receipt of requisite documents/information. They would also be cleared within 3 months of the receipt of the requisite information.

Statement-I

Proposals of Universities, State-wise, pending in the UGC for recognition under section 12B, are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the University	Year of Establishment	Proposal Received in UGC on
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Dr. YSR Horticultural University, Venkataramannagudem, West Godavari Dist., Andhra Pradesh	2011	33.07.2012

1	2	3	4
2.	A.P. University of Law, Palace Layout, Pedawaltair, Visakhapatam - 530 017, Andhra Pradesh	2008	16.08.2011
3.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Etcherla, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh	2008	27.03.2010
4.	Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University, Mahaveer Marg, Masab Tank, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	2008	17.11.2008
5.	Krishna University Andhra Jateeya Kalasala Campus, Rajupeta, Machlilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh.	2008	20.01.2010
6.	Satavahana University Jyothinagar, Karimnagar, Andhra Pradesh	2008	19.02.2011
7.	Vikram Simhapuri University Nellore, Andhra Pradesh	2008	28.01.2010
8.*	Rayalseema University, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh	2008	12.10.2010
9.*	Palamuru University, Mahboobnagar, Andhra Pradesh	2008	03.03.2012
Assam			
10.	Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University, Last Gate, Dispur, Guwahati, Assam	2007	20.10.2009
Bihar			
11.	Maulana Mazharul Haque Arabic and Persian University, 3, Polo Road, Patna, Bihar	2004	12.10.2010
Chhattisgarh			
12.	Kushabhau Thakre Patrakarita Avam Jansanchar Vishwavidyalaya, Kathadih, Raipur, Chhattisgarh	2004	06.06.2012
13.	Sarguja University, Ambikapur, Chhattisgarh	2008	
14.	Bastar Vishwavidyalaya, Jagdalpur, Dt. Bastar, Chhattisgarh	2008	10.03.2010
Haryana			
15.	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hisar, Haryana	2010	12.01.2012

1	2	3	4
Jammu and Kashmir			
16.	Islamic University of Science and Technology University Avenue, Awantipora, Pulwama, J&K	2005	24.09.2007
Kerala			
17.	Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Ranangad, Kochi, Kerala	2011	29.03.2012
Karnataka			
18.	Karnataka State Open University, Mysore, Karnataka	1996	19.11.2010
19.	Visveswaraiiah Technological University Belgaum, Karnataka	1999	24.09.2011
Madhya Pradesh			
20.	Maharishi Panini Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh	2008	10.09.2010
21.	Madhya Pradesh Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya, Civil Lines, Jabalpur, MP	2009	09.05.2011
Maharashtra			
22.	Maharashtra University of Health Sciences Nashik, Maharashtra	2000	02.03.2009
23.	Solapur University, Solapur, Maharashtra.	2004	06.10.2004
24.*	Kavi Kulguru Kalidas Sanskrit, Vishwavidyalaya, Nagpur, Maharashtra	1997	09.06.2010
Odisha			
25.	National Law University, Cuttack, Odisha.	2008	29.05.2010
Rajasthan			
26.	Rajasthan University of Health Sciences, Setor-18, Kumbha Marg, Pratap Nagar, Tonk Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan	2005	21.02.2012
27.	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan	2000	30.06.2010
28.	Rajasthan Ayurveda University, Jodhpur, Rajasthan	2004	20.05.2004

1	2	3	4
29.*	University of Kota, Kota, Rajasthan	2003	28.03.2012
	Tamil Nadu		
30.	Thiruvalluvar University, Vellore, Tamil Nadu	2003	07.07.211
31.	Anna University of Technology, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	2006	01.06.2011
32.	Anna University of Technology, Madurai, Tamil Nadu	2010	22.03.2011
33.	Anna University of Technology, Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu	2006	19.02.2010
34.	Anna University of Technology, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.	2006	27.12.2008
35.	Tamil Nadu Physical Education and Sports University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	2005	04.11.2008
36.	Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.	2004	23.09.2004
	Uttar Pradesh		
37.*	U.P. Rajrishi Tandon Open University Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	2004	29.01.2010
	West Bengal		
38.	University of Gour Banga, Kolkata, West Bengal	2007	11.02.2009
39.	The West Bengal University of Health Sciences, Kolkata, West Bengal	2002	10.03.2005
40.	Netaji Subhash Open University, Kolkata, West Bengal	1997	13.01.2007
	NCT of Delhi		
41.	Delhi Technological University Shahbad Daulatpur, Bawana Road, Delhi	2009	04.02.2010
42.	Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology, Delhi	2008	02.03.2010

* - Information/documents have been received by UGC.

Statement-II

*Proposals pending with UGC for recognition of Colleges under
Section 12B of UGC Act, 1956*

Sl. No	State	No. of proposals pending with UGC
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30
2.	Assam	10
3.	Bihar	30
4.	Delhi	3
5.	Gujarat	9
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	7
7.	Jharkhand	5
8.	Karnataka	37
9.	Kerala	9
10.	Madhya Pradesh	7
11.	Maharashtra	33
12.	Nagaland	1
13.	Odisha	11
14.	Punjab	5
15.	Rajasthan	8
16.	Sikkim	1
17.	Tamil Nadu	42
18.	Uttar Pradesh	76
19.	Uttarakhand	5
20.	West Bengal	1
TOTAL:		330

Production of oilseeds, pulses, vegetables and wheat

†*285. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the details of areas in the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh, where oilseeds, pulses, vegetables and wheat have been grown during the last two years;
- (b) whether production of these crops has decreased during the last two years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, crop-wise and the effect of the drought on the production of these crops; and
- (d) the details of the steps being taken by Government with a view to increase the production capacity of these crops?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The details of States in which oilseeds, pulses, vegetables and wheat have mainly been grown during the last two years *i.e.* 2010-11 and 2011-12 are as under:—

Crops	Major Producing States	%age share in the total area under the crop in the country during 2011-12
Oilseeds	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.	94.2%
Pulses	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh	96.4%
Vegetables	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal	87.3%
Wheat	Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh	93.5%

(b) and (c) No, Sir. As indicated in the table below, production of oilseeds, pulses, vegetables and wheat in the country during the last two years *i.e.* 2010-11 and 2011-12 has been higher than their production during 2009-10:-

Crop	Production (Million tonnes)		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4
Oilseeds	24.88	32.48	30.01

1	2	3	4
Pulses	14.66	18.24	17.21
Vegetables	133.74	146.55	150.59
Wheat	80.80	86.87	93.90

Note: Production data for oilseeds, pulses and wheat are as per 4th Advance Estimates and that for Vegetables are as per 2nd Advance Estimates for 2011-12.

Drought/deficient rainfall during monsoon season adversely affects production of crops on account of lower area coverage and loss of yield/productivity due to moisture stress, affecting vegetative growth and crop health. It is too early to assess impact of deficiency in rainfall on production of crops during the current year.

(d) In order to increase production of major agricultural crops including wheat, pulses and oilseeds, Government has been implementing several Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), etc. National Food Security Mission has been strengthened from 1.4.2010 with the merger of pulses component of ISOPOM. In addition, a new programme "Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P)" has been started under NFSM since 2010-11 to take up active propagation of key technologies in the form of block demonstrations for improving productivity of pulses.

To increase production of major horticultural crops including vegetables, Government is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.* (i) Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and (ii) National Horticulture Mission (NHM). For promotion/development of vegetables, assistance is being provided for various interventions such as seeds production, protected cultivation, organic farming, Integrated Nutrient Management/Integrated Pest Management (INM/IPM) measures and creation of infrastructure for Post Harvest Management (PHM) and marketing. Besides, Government has launched a new programme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) during 2011-12 under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). In this scheme, assistance is provided for taking up cultivation of vegetables under open field conditions and protective cover, organic farming, INM/IPM, PHM and marketing upto retail level besides facilitating formation of Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs) and Farmer Producers Organization (FPOs) and their tie-up with market aggregators and financial institutions.

Deficiencies in elementary education

*286. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that teacher absenteeism is a chronic problem in educational expansion;
- (b) whether indiscriminate recruitment of teachers on low emoluments is in vogue these days;
- (c) whether Government is aware that there are around 7.72 lakh untrained teachers besides over 12 lakh posts of teachers are lying vacant in the country;
- (d) if so, whether there is any proposal to overcome these deficiencies in elementary education in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) As per a study conducted in 20 States in 2007, the average attendance rate of teachers was 81.7% at primary and 80.5% at the upper primary level.

(b) Some State Governments have recruited teachers on contract basis with relatively lower emoluments, as recruitment of teachers and decisions on their salary and service conditions, are decided by the State Governments themselves. As per the District Information System for Education (DISE) 2010-11, the contract teachers are only 12.59% of the total elementary school teachers.

(c) There are 8.11 lakh elementary school teachers in the country who do not possess the minimum qualifications laid down for recruitment as teacher by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE). As reported by the States, 12.59 lakh teacher posts in elementary schools were vacant as of 31st March, 2012.

(d) and (e) Section 24 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 prescribes maintaining regularity and punctuality in attending school, as one of the duties of the teachers, and disciplinary action against the teachers committing default in performance of this duty. The RTE Act also prescribes the time frame for the untrained teachers to acquire the minimum qualifications laid down by the NCTE. Arrangements have been made by the States for the training of untrained teachers by the deadline prescribed by the RTE Act. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) provides financial assistance for the training of untrained teachers @ ₹ 6,000/- per teacher per year for two years.

Further, the RTE Act lays down the Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) to be maintained at the school level and mandates that vacancy of teachers in a government school shall not exceed ten percent of the total sanctioned strength. States have initiated steps for filling up the vacant teacher posts by conducting Teacher Eligibility Test (TET). 23 States have already conducted the TET.

Relief to drought affected States

*287. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of monsoon during the months of June and July all over the country in general and Maharashtra in particular;

(b) whether there is drought like situation in many States including Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details of States facing drought situation including Maharashtra, Sub-Division-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to provide relief to the drought affected people of these States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Cumulative deficiency in rainfall in the country at the end of June and July, 2012 was 29% and 20% below Long Period Average (LPA) respectively. During June, 2012, rainfall deficiencies in the four meteorological sub-divisions of Maharashtra viz. Konkan and Goa, Vidarbha, Madhya Maharashtra and Marathwada were 13%, 30%, 54% and 51% and by the end of July, 2012, these stood at 16%, 2%, 36% and 32% below LPA respectively.

As per India Meteorological Department (IMD), as on 28th August, 2012, overall rainfall in the country was 12% below LPA. Out of the 36 meteorological sub-divisions in the country, 23 received normal rainfall (-19% to +19%), 12 received deficient rainfall [(-) 20% to (-) 59%] and 1 received scanty rainfall [(-) 60% to (-) 99%]. Meteorological sub-divisions wise rainfall status is given in Statement (See below).

States of Karnataka (142 out of 176 talukas), Rajasthan (5 out of 33 districts), Gujarat (132 talukas in 17 out of 26 districts) and Maharashtra (122 out of 355 talukas) have so far declared drought. Central Teams have been constituted to visit these States for assessing the situation.

Ministry of Agriculture is closely monitoring monsoon situation alongwith India Meteorological Department (IMD) and State Governments. Decisions have been taken for introduction of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of seed subsidy, up-scaling the central sector scheme on feed and fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release of funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme etc. as measures to mitigate the effects of deficiency in rainfall.

Statement*Meteorological sub-division-wise rainfall status*

Sl. No.	Meteorological Subdivisions	Period 01.06.2012 To 28.08.2012			
		Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	East and North East India	960.9	1112.4	-14%	
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1286.0	1364.5	-6%	N
2.	Assam and Meghalaya	1343.2	1432.9	-6%	N
3.	NMMT	795.1	1175.7	-32%	D
4.	SHWB and Sikkim	1566.4	1553.4	1%	N
5.	Gangetic West Bengal	696.2	862.6	-19%	N
6.	Jharkhand	721.2	824.7	-13%	N
7.	Bihar	589.5	781.1	-25%	D
	North West India	417.1	489.2	-15%	
1.	East U.P.	552.2	679.0	-19%	N
2.	West U.P.	425.0	603.0	-30%	D
3.	Uttarakhand	878.8	994.3	-12%	N
4.	Haryana Chandigarh and Delhi	214.2	376.5	-43%	D
5.	Punjab	175.1	393.1	-55%	D
6.	Himachal Pradesh	531.2	668.5	-21%	D
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	411.3	431.1	-5%	N
8.	West Rajasthan	188.0	216.2	-13%	N
9.	East Rajasthan	532.4	499.7	7%	N
	Central India	694.5	766.0	-9%	
1.	Odisha	874.8	882.5	-1%	N
2.	West Madhya Pradesh	779.8	676.4	15%	N
3.	East Madhya Pradesh	836.1	820.5	2%	N

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Gujarat Region	386.7	715.9	-46%	D
5.	Saurashtra and Kutch	79.5	384.0	-79%	S
6.	Konkan and Goa	2197.5	2518.3	-13%	N
7.	Madhya Maharashtra	394.5	560.9	-30%	D
8.	Marathwada	303.0	499.0	-39%	D
9.	Vidarbha	763.7	758.7	1%	N
10.	Chhattisgarh	947.2	900.7	5%	N
	South Peninsula	470.4	543.9	-14%	
1.	A and N Island	1068.8	1208.7	-12%	N
2.	Coastal Andhra Pradesh	423.9	406.7	4%	N
3.	Telangana	575.3	572.1	1%	N
4.	Rayalaseema	271.7	255.8	6%	N
5.	Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	158.4	191.7	-17%	N
6.	Coastal Karnataka	2537.4	2740.6	-7%	N
7.	N.I. Karnataka	239.7	348.0	-31%	D
8.	S.I. Karnataka	391.0	508.6	-23%	D
9.	Kerala	1213.4	1770.0	-31%	D
10.	Lakshadweep	866.3	816.2	6%	N
	Country as a whole	607.6	692.5	-12%	

Filling up of faculty posts in University of Hyderabad

*288. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether University of Hyderabad had issued notifications dated 17 December, 2011 and 14 March, 2012 for filling up the posts of Group-A category of Professors, Associate Professors/Readers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that OBC reservation has not been prescribed for the posts of Professors and Readers;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the Roster Points Register being implemented in the University for Group-A category of Professors, Associate Professors, Readers, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the notification issued on 17.12.2011 and 14.03.2012 for filling up of the posts of Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors are given below:—

Date of Advertisement	Professor		Associate Professor		Assistant Professor	
	Total Posts	Posts reserved for OBC	Total Posts	Posts reserved for OBC	Total Posts	Posts reserved for OBC
17.12.2011	14	Nil	44	Nil	19	9
14.03.2012	7	Nil	14	Nil	36	9

(c) and (d) The University of Hyderabad is implementing reservation for Other Backward Classes at the level of Assistant Professor/Lecturer as per the direction issued by the University Grants Commission *vide* its letter No. F. 1-4/1994 (SCT) dated 24.01.2007.

(e) As per information furnished by University of Hyderabad, it follows the cadre wise reservation on 200 point roster for Assistant Professors.

Capacity of IRCTC website

*289. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has changed its earlier decision to facilitate Indian Railways website, instead of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) website, for booking train tickets;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the average number of users of IRCTC website per day at present;

(d) whether Government is planning to boost the capacity of IRCTC website;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) and (b) In order

to augment the transaction handling ability of the existing IRCTC (Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation) website through technological upgradation, both in hardware and software, it has been decided to provide enhanced technical support through CRIS (Centre for Railway Information Systems), an IT organisation under Ministry of Railways. This is being done to avoid duplication of effort and to synergise the professional competence of both IRCTC and CRIS to deliver a faster and more user-friendly service to the customer.

(c) The average number of users of IRCTC (Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation) website per day is approximately 25.6 lakhs with 5.16 lakhs e-ticketing transactions, which include both bookings and cancellations.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In the first stage:

(i) Bandwidth increased from 350 mbps to 450 mbps.

(ii) Installation of high capacity Web Servers is planned (23 servers with 54 cores being replaced by 25 servers with 300 cores).

(iii) Installation of high capacity Application servers is planned (present capacity is 50 servers with 216 cores and replacement of 18 servers with 56 additional cores is planned making a total of 50 servers with 272 cores).

In the final stage further enhancements are planned to cater to a load of 7 lakh tickets per day.

(f) Does not arise.

Drought condition in Tamil Nadu

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

(a) whether Government has considered providing a relief package to farmers facing drought in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any packages have been provided to farmers in other States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) As per India Meteorological Department (IMD), till 27th August, 2012, cumulative rainfall in Tamil Nadu was normal *i.e.* within + 19% of Long Period Average. Government of Tamil Nadu has not declared drought in any talukas/districts.

Ministry of Agriculture is closely monitoring monsoon situation alongwith India Meteorological Department (IMD) and State Governments. Decisions have been taken for introduction of diesel subsidy scheme, enhancement of seed subsidy, up-scaling the central sector scheme on feed and fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release of funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme etc. as measures to mitigate the effects of rainfall deficiency.

Schemes for increasing production of rice, maize, pulses and oilseeds in Assam

*291. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes implemented for increasing production of rice, maize, pulses and oilseeds in Assam during the last three years;
- (b) the number of villages in the State selected for implementation of the schemes, year-wise and the criteria of selection thereof;
- (c) the targeted production and actual production as a result of the schemes during the last three years; and
- (d) the further steps proposed to be taken to increase their production?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) For enhancing the production of rice, maize, pulses and oilseeds, several crop development programmes such as National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice), Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice) and Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) for Pulses and Oilseeds under Macro Management of Agriculture scheme have been implemented in Assam during the last three years. In addition, Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)-a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses) have also been implemented in the State from 2010-11 onwards. Besides, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has also been implemented in Assam during the last three years.

(b) The details of districts covered under each of the above crop development programmes are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Schemes	Crop(s) Covered	Number and Name of Districts covered	Year from which districts are covered
1	2	3	4	5
1.	National Food Security Mission-Rice	Rice	13 districts namely Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Darrang,	2007-08

1	2	3	4	5
			Dhemaji, Goalpara, Karbi-Anglong, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur, Morigaon, Nalbari, Sonitpur, Nagaon and Tinsukia.	
2.	National Food Security Mission-Pulses	Pulses	10 districts namely Baksa, Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Dhubri, Jorhat, Kamrup, Kokrajhar, Sonitpur, Nagaon and Udalgiri	2010-11
3.	Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India-a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	Rice Based Cropping Systems.	Districts which are not covered under NFSM-Rice	2010-11
4.	Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice) under Macro Management of Agriculture	Rice	Districts which are not covered under NFSM-Rice	2008-09
5.	Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) for Pulses and Oilseeds under Macro Management of Agriculture	Oilseeds, Pulses and Maize	All Districts. All districts for Oilseeds and Maize. However, for Pulses all districts except those covered under NFSM-Pulses.	2008-09 2010-11
6.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	All Crops	All Districts	2007-08

Districts for implementation of National Food Security Mission-Rice (NFSM-Rice) were identified based on their potential for productivity enhancement. These districts have more than 50,000 ha area under rice cultivation but their productivity is less than the average productivity in the State. Districts for implementation of NFSM-Pulses were selected based on area under pulses cultivation, potential for expansion through inter-cropping and utilization of rice fallow land. All districts not covered under NFSM-Rice were covered under BGREI and ICDP-Rice. All the villages in

the identified districts for the specified crops are included under the programme(s) and scheme(s) stated above.

(c) The target fixed for production for rice, maize, pulses and oilseeds in Assam during last three years (2009-10 to 2011-12) *vis-a-vis* actual production is as under:

(Lakh Tonnes)

Crop	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Rice	36.40	43.36	39.00	47.37	41.00	40.09
Maize	0.15	0.14	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.13
Pulses	0.66	0.65	0.41	0.70	0.63	1.08
Oilseeds*	0.00	1.45	0.00	1.54	0.00	1.48

*Since area under oilseeds is very meager in Assam, no specific targets were fixed.

(d) On-going schemes and programmes for enhancement of crop production would continue to be implemented through financial support and close monitoring. Emphasis is given on taking up site specific and innovative promotional work under these programmes to meet the requirement of the farmers for increasing their crop production.

Damage to soil health due to use of chemical fertilizers

*292. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of isolated studies have confirmed that continuous use of chemical fertilizers has severely damaged soil health in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating any comprehensive soil survey to ascertain the present status of soil health; and

(c) whether Government would make appropriate investments to support a holistic ecological fertilising programme and work out a master plan to move away from the dependence on chemical fertilizers to ensure food security in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Studies have indicated that indiscriminate and imbalanced use of fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over the years has resulted in nutrient deficiencies and deterioration of soil health in some parts of the country, particularly in the intensively cultivated areas of the Indo-Gangetic plains.

(b) and (c) Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal has initiated preparation of geo-referenced district soil fertility maps in 19 major States (171 districts). Government is implementing a National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSH&F) with the objective of promoting Integrated Nutrient Management, which includes soil test based balanced and judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjunction with bio-fertilizers and organic manures like Farm Yard Manure (FYM), compost, vermin-compost and green manure etc. to maintain soil health and productivity. Under this project, assistance is provided for setting up and strengthening of Soil Testing Labs (STLs) and Mobile Soil Testing Labs (MSTLs) to assess soil health.

Government provides support to States to make appropriate investments to encourage organic farming and ecological fertilizers such as compost, mulching, green manuring, bio-fertilizers etc. through various schemes like National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North-East and Himalayan States (HMNEHS). In addition, Indian Council of Agricultural Research disseminates technology for preparation of compost/vermin compost from various rural and urban wastes. Improved and efficient strains of microbial species specific to different crops and soil types are being developed under Network Project on bio-fertilizers. Ecological fertilizers can supplement use of chemical fertilizers. However, balanced and judicious use of fertilizers is being promoted through NPMSH&F scheme.

Direct compensation to drought hit Farmers

*293. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to provide subsidy/compensation directly to farmers of Punjab facing drought;
- (b) the modalities/criteria/procedure laid down in this regard;
- (c) how many farmers have been benefited so far; and
- (d) the amount of compensation fixed?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Government has introduced Diesel Subsidy Scheme to offset the cost of diesel used for pumping water for providing supplementary and protective irrigation to standing crops in drought affected areas. Government has also enhanced ceiling on subsidies on seeds of cereals, pulses and oilseeds and coarse cereals to partially recompense the farmers for the additional expenditure incurred by them in resowing and/or purchasing drought tolerant variety of seeds. The modalities of implementing these schemes are given in Statement. (*See below*)

These schemes are to be implemented through the concerned State Governments including Punjab.

Statement*Modalities and admissible financial assistance:***A. Diesel Subsidy Scheme:**

Under this scheme, 50% of the cost of diesel for supplementary and protective irrigation will be provided as financial assistance to farmers, limited to 2 ha per farmer, which will be equally shared by Government of India (GOI) and respective State Government/Union Territory. GOI's contribution will be capped at Rs. 750 per ha. The scheme would operate till 30th September, 2012 in the following areas:

- (i) Districts where rainfall deficit was more than 50% as on 15th July, 2012, as per India Meteorological Department (IMD) data, or
- (ii) Talukas and districts declared as drought affected areas by the respective State Governments; or
- (iii) Areas with prolonged dry spell with rainfall deficit of 60% or more, for any continuous 15 days period, beginning from 15th July, 2012.

B. Enhanced Seed Subsidy Scheme:

Under this scheme, ceiling on seeds subsidy is enhanced from the rate of Rs.500 per quintal to Rs.700 per quintal in respect of cereals, from Rs. 1200 per quintal to Rs.2000 per quintal in respect of pulses and oilseeds, and from Rs.800 per quintal to Rs.1000 per quintal in respect of coarse cereals. This enhancement will be available under various ongoing schemes of DAC namely Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Programme (INSIMP) and Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India Programme (BGREI) etc.

R&D Funding Scheme

*294. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds released by Government under R&D Funding Scheme during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the details of amount spent/unspent by State Governments during the last three years;
- (c) the details of results/objectives achieved by Government during the last three years; and
- (d) whether Government is satisfied with the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) There is no State-based R&D Funding Scheme in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

The Ministry has supported R&D at various academic and R&D institutions directly without the involvement of the State Governments in the areas of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology.

The Working Groups (set up by the Ministry, consisting of experts) in various relevant domains review the respective project proposals. Based on the recommendations of the Working Groups, projects are initiated. The projects initiated are reviewed and monitored at regular intervals by Project Review and Steering Groups set up for this purpose. Based on review, the next installment of the R&D grant is released. Any unspent balance is deducted from the next installment of the grant due.

Contents in NCERT textbooks

*295. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently decided to set up an institutional mechanism along the lines of the Academic Councils established in Universities, that will have the final word on contents in NCERT textbooks;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments which are trying to remove parts from the NCERT textbooks would also be checked;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) to what extent the mechanism adopted by Government on the vetting of NCERT textbooks would be honoured by the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The mechanism for approval of content in school textbooks is different from the mechanism established in Universities. As regards National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks, Government of India has constituted a National Monitoring Committee (NMC) in 2005 to oversee the process of syllabus formation and textbooks writing, publication and distribution. Terms of reference of the Committee are:

(i) To ensure that syllabi and textbooks finalized by the NCERT reflect the values enshrined in the Constitution in the organization of knowledge in all subjects;

(ii) To ensure that the main thrust of the NCF 2005, *i.e.* to reduce curricular burden is fully reflected and carried out in the syllabi and textbooks;

- (iii) To ensure that textbooks encourage classroom pedagogy which enables both teachers and children to explore and use other resources of learning;
- (iv) To ensure that all textbooks reflect sensitivity to gender, caste and class parity and the needs in all subjects of children with disability;
- (v) To ensure that environmental education, peace, health issues and work related attitudes and values are infused in all subjects;
- (vi) To ensure that textbooks are free of errors and distortions; and
- (vii) To review the schedule of textbook publication.

The NMC is still continuing and performing the role assigned to it.

(b) to (d) Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India. It is for the States' School Education Boards to finalise their own Curricula and Syllabi. However, some of the School Education Boards have adopted the NCERT text books.

Passenger train from Gujarat to Shirdi

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

- (a) by when Railways are going to start passenger train from Gujarat to Shirdi, as there is a sharp rise in pilgrim tourist traffic to Shirdi from Gujarat;
- (b) whether Railways have conducted or are going to conduct any survey in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the specific details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) Trains are not introduced State-wise, but on pattern of traffic demand, operational feasibility and availability of resources. However, introduction of trains from stations like Gandhidham/Okha/Dwarka/Rajkot/Bhavnagar/Ahmedabad/Vadodara/Surat etc. to Sainagar Shirdi station is not feasible at present due to operational and resource constraints including non-availability of maintenance facilities at Sainagar Shirdi for primary maintenance of the train and line capacity constraints on Ahmedabad-Vadodara-Surat-Jalgaon-Nandgaon-Manmad sections.

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

Sale of sub-standard Urea

*297. SHRI RANBIR SINGH PARJAPATI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sub-standard urea is being provided to farmers thereby damaging their agricultural produce;
- (b) whether fertilizer quality testing infrastructure in the country is grossly inadequate;
- (c) the number of samples of Urea tested during the last three years and how many of them were found sub-standard; and
- (d) the steps taken to check sale of substandard Urea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No large scale cases of sale of sub-standard urea has been reported and the Fertilizer Quality Testing Infrastructure in the country is not grossly inadequate. Presently, there are 74 Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories (FQCL) in the country (including 4 under the control of Central Government) with a total annual analyzing capacity of 1,30,450 samples. During Eleventh Plan, 14 new FQCL have been established in various States, with the financial assistance from Government of India, which are expected to start functioning shortly. It will help in increasing the fertilizer testing capacity in the country.

The details regarding number of Urea samples tested during last three years and found non standard are as follows:

Year	Urea samples analyzed	Found Non-Standard	% Non-Standard (urea)
2009-10	18747	83	0.44
2010-11	18215	132	0.72
2011-12	20313	117	0.58

(d) Clause 19 of Fertilizer Control Order strictly prohibits the sale of fertilizer which is not of prescribed standard. The State Governments are primarily enforcement agencies and are adequately empowered to take appropriate action in case of violation of the provisions of FCO. The penal provision includes prosecution of offender with an imprisonment upto 7 years under the EC Act besides cancellation of authorization certificate/certificate of producer/dealer and other administrative action.

Standardisation of question papers and marking in board exams

*298. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether school education system, especially Board exams, have come under scrutiny over the last few years, with the cut off marks for admission in premier colleges being as high as 100 per cent, creating huge pressure for students;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Boards of school education have agreed to introduce a common design for question papers to remove disparity;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the move is aimed at helping students with standardisation of question papers as well as marking; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (f) It is a fact that the cut off marks based on performance in class XII Board Examination for admission in some premier institutions/universities have been rising in certain courses.

The Senior Secondary Examinations are conducted by various National and State Boards of School Education. The State Boards are responsible to the respective State Governments.

As far as Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is concerned it has taken the following measures to standardise question papers and marking of board examinations:

- Publication of sample papers, blueprint and design of each question paper
- Supply of multiple sets of question papers having equal difficulty level during examination
- Feed-back from Principals and teachers on question papers
- Details of marking scheme are made available before evaluation
- Instructions are given to the examiners to evaluate answer books strictly as per Marking Scheme of CBSE. 10% of answer books selected randomly are evaluated by the Head Examiners.

Council of Boards of School Education in India (COBSE), with the aim of standardisation for helping students, has initiated the exercise for developing a common design of the question papers in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology for all the School Education Boards.

Setting up of new abattoirs

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

- (a) the targets fixed for setting up of new abattoirs during the Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether slaughtering is being done on hygienic and scientific basis, keeping in view less painful slaughtering;

(c) the guidelines for chilling, cold chain maintenance facilities, efficient treatment plants, drainage, by-product utilization, water and power with required sanitary conditions, etc.; and

(d) whether any cost-benefit analysis has ever been done about the anticipated profits through export of meat products and if animals are not slaughtered the funds likely to be generated by sale of organic manure, which can be produced from animal dung, urine, etc. for our crops?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) No target has been fixed for setting up of new abattoirs during the Twelfth Five Year Plan at present. The objective of establishing new abattoirs is to improve hygienic conditions and also to make the slaughtering less painful. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has also notified Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Slaughter Houses) Rules, 2001 to regulate the functioning of slaughter houses. The components like chilling, cold chain facilities, effluent treatment plant, drainage, by-product utilization, water and power with sanitary conditions etc. are included as part of the projects under the abattoir scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. Further, the guidelines by Central Pollution Control Board on Sanitation of slaughter houses have provision for ensuring hygienic operation of slaughter houses.

No specific study has been undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Food Processing Industries on cost-benefit analysis about the anticipated profit through export of meat products and funds generated if animals are not slaughtered.

Deemed-to-be-Universities

*300. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether few years ago the University Grants Commission (UGC) had laid down stringent guidelines for granting Deemed-to-be-University status to educational institutions across the country;

(b) if so, whether Government has now constituted a Committee to review the UGC (Institutions Deemed-to-be-Universities) Regulations, 2010;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government now intends to make provisions for foreign universities, ranked among the best in the academia and intending to open campuses in the country, to be recognized as Deemed-to-be-Universities; and

(e) if so, the present stand of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. University Grants Commission has notified the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 on 21.5.2010 to regulate, in an orderly manner, the process of declaration of institutions as deemed to be universities; preventing institutions of dubious quality from being so declared; and, further to maintain quality of higher education imparted by institutions deemed to be universities consistent with the ideals of the concept of a university. These regulations are available at the UGC website *www.ugc.ac.in*.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* its notification No.F.8-3/2012-U.3(A) dated 17th April, 2012 constituted an Expert Committee to review the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 to harmonize these Regulations with other UGC Regulations.

(c) Reasons for constitution of the Committee are to examine the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 with reference to the objectives with which these Regulations were notified; to examine whether there are any anomalies or infirmities in the Regulations vis-a-vis any other Policy/Rules/Regulations applicable to the higher education sector and suggest suitable amendments; to examine the provisions of the Regulations vis-a-vis the need to regulate institutions as deemed to be universities so that while institutions deemed to be universities maintaining high academic standards are encouraged to expand and exercise autonomy, whereas those maintaining average academic standards are regulated and motivated to enhance academic standards to protect academic interests of students; to examine and suggest measures to ensure independent quality assurances of institutions-deemed to be universities thereby reducing the need for inspection-based approval regimes; to examine the difficulties encountered by niche institutions established by the Central Government in the implementation of UGC (Institutions deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 and suggest suitable modifications; to examine the difficulties, if any, encountered in the implementation of the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 and suggest suitable modifications to remove the difficulties; to examine and make provision for foreign universities ranked amongst the best in academia and intending to open campuses in India to be recognized as institutions deemed to be universities.

(d) and (e) The Government feels that closer interaction of Indian students, academics and institutions with foreign institutions of outstanding quality and international repute would facilitate quality improvement and promote greater research synergies. Therefore, the Expert Committee was requested to examine this issue as well.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Notification of agricultural land under special category

2171. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue directions to State Governments to notify agriculture land under "special category" that cannot be put to any other use; and

(b) if so, the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Netting of foodgrains

2172. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the formula of netting of foodgrains for Feed, Seed and Wastage (FSW) of 12.5 per cent devised in early 50s of the last century is still being followed by Government;

(b) if so, whether the old netting formula shows a distorted picture regarding grains available for human consumption because of tremendous progress in livestock industry, more than fourfold increase in foodgrain production and widespread use of foodgrains for industrial use; and

(c) whether Government would undertake a nation-wide statistical survey to ascertain the real netting factor with present situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Government undertakes nationwide statistical surveys from time to time to estimate various parameters including the seed, feed and wastage ratios. Based on these studies the feed, seed and wastage ratio of 12.5 percent has been adopted to arrive at net availability of foodgrains.

Suicide by farmers

2173. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI:
SHRI RANBIR SINGH PARJAPATI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nearly three lakh farmers committed suicide between 1995-2012 till date;

- (b) whether Government has ascertained the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to stop committing suicides by farmers;
- (d) the details of measures taken to redress the grievances of farmers;
- (e) the steps taken to improve the living condition of farmers and to provide them easy loan;
- (f) whether the number of farmers is declining significantly and as per 2001 census, over seven million population of cultivators dropped in comparison to 1991 census; and
- (g) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) National Crime Records Bureau compiles and publishes information on suicides reported in the country in its annual report entitled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India (ADSI).' ADSI-2011 is the latest in the series. As per ADSI reports for relevant years, 290740 self employed persons in farming/agriculture committed suicide during 1995-2011. Causes of suicides across professional categories mentioned in ADSI include family problems, illness, drug abuse/addiction, unemployment, property dispute, bankruptcy or sudden change in economic status, poverty, professional/career problem, love affair, barrenness/impotency, cancellation/non-settlement of marriage, dowry dispute, fall in social reputation, causes not known, etc.

(c) to (e) Measures taken by Government to prevent suicides by farmers due to agrarian distress, redress their grievances, improve their living conditions and provide them easy loans include following:—

- (i) Implementation of Rehabilitation Package covering 31 districts in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra, under which an amount of Rs. 19,998.85 crore has been released till September 30, 2011.
- (ii) Implementation of Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008, which benefitted about 3.69 crore farmers, involving debt waiver/relief of Rs. 65,318.33 crore, as per provisional figures.
- (iii) Increasing credit flow to agriculture sector to Rs.5,09,039 crore as of March, 2012, and setting target of Rs. 5,75,000 crore for 2012-13.
- (iv) Providing Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to all eligible and willing farmers in time bound manner to facilitate flow of credit to farmers and increase financial inclusion. Upto March 2012, 11.34 crore KCC have been issued.
- (v) Providing interest rate subvention for timely repayment of crop loan upto

Rs.3 lakh, whereby effective rate of interest for such farmers has come down to 4% per annum.

- (vi) Announcement of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for identified agricultural commodities every year to ensure remunerative price and increase farmers' income.

Other measures taken by the Government, *inter-alia*, include significant increase in public investment in agriculture sector through implementation of various schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, National Food Security Mission, National Horticulture Mission, National Mission on Micro Irrigation, Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize, Macro Management of Agriculture, Technology Mission on Cotton, National Bamboo Mission, Integrated development of 60,000 pulses villages in rain-fed areas, extending Green Revolution to Eastern India, National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility, Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms etc.

(f) and (g) As per Census of India 1991, number of agricultural workers was 185.3 million, comprising 110.7 million cultivators and 74.6 million agricultural labourers. As per Census of India 2001, number of agricultural workers was 234.1 million, comprising 127.3 million cultivators and 106.8 million agricultural labourers.

Drought in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

2174. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various State Governments have sent proposals for drought relief package including the States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of drought package announced and released by Government, so far, State-wise with particular reference to Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh; and
- (d) the details of other steps Government would take as relief measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Governments of Karnataka (142 out of 176 talukas), Rajasthan (5 out of 33 districts), Gujarat (132 talukas in 17 out of 26 districts) and Maharashtra (122 out of 355 talukas) have declared drought. These States have submitted memoranda seeking assistance of Rs. 11488.96 crore, Rs.7424.13 crore, Rs.18673.37 crore and Rs.3011.61 crore respectively. Inter-Ministerial Central

Teams have been constituted to visit these States to assess the situation. Government of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have not declared drought so far.

(d) With a view to provide relief to farmers, decisions have been taken for implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme, enhancement of subsidy on seeds, channelising funds available under various flagship schemes for drought relief activities, up-scaling Central Sector Scheme on feed and fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release of funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), allocation of additional power from central pool to States etc.

Affects of drought on coarse-grains cultivation

‡2175. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the deficient rainfall during monsoon has created drought like situation in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that cultivation of coarse cereals is likely to be the worst affected by drought;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the scheme contemplated by Government to address the shortage of coarse cereals in such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) reports that as on 27th August, 2012, the rainfall departure for the country as a whole is (-)13%. Out of the 36 Met Sub-Divisions in the country, 23 received normal rainfall (+19% to -19%), 12 received Deficient rainfall (-20% to -59%) and 1 received Scanty rainfall (-60% to -99%). State-wise details of south west monsoon, 2012 is given in Statement (*See* below). Governments of Karnataka (142 out of 176 talukas), Rajasthan (5 out of 33 districts), Gujarat (132 talukas in 17 out of 26 districts) and Maharashtra (122 out of 355 talukas) have declared drought so far.

(c) to (e) As on 24th August, 2012, coverage of 165.34 lakh ha has been reported against 194.24 lakh ha normal sown area (during the corresponding period) under coarse cereals leading to a deficit of 28.9 lakh ha. Less area is reported in the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government is implementing following programmes/schemes for increasing the production of coarse grains in the country.

- Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals based Cropping System Areas through Macro Management in Agriculture (MMA).
- Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM) for increasing the production and productivity of maize.
- Initiatives for Nutritional security through Intensive Millets Promotion - a sub-scheme of RKVY has been launched from 2011-12.

Besides, in view of deficient rainfall situation in different parts of the country, decisions have also been taken for implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme, enhancement of subsidy on seeds, fast tracking of releases under various flagship schemes, allocation of additional power from central pool to States etc. to reduce the impact of deficit rainfall on crop production.

Statement

Subdivision-wise Rainfall Distribution

Sl. No.	Meteorological Sub-divisions	Period 01.06.2012 To 27.08.2012			
		Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	East and North East India	955.6	1102.6	-13%	
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1276.8	1356.5	-6%	N
2.	Assam and Meghalaya	1336.4	1422.0	-6%	N
3.	NMMT	789.5	1164.7	-32%	D
4.	SHWB and Sikkim	1552.5	1538.9	1%	N
5.	Gangetic West Bengal	693.7	852.7	-19%	N
6.	Jharkhand	717.5	815.0	-12%	N
7.	Bihar	588.8	773.4	-24%	D
	North West India	407.8	483.1	-16%	
1.	East U.P.	548.8	672.0	-18%	N
2.	West U.P.	414.0	594.8	-30%	D
3.	Uttarakhand	870.7	984.8	-12%	N

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi	198.7	369.9	-46%	D
5.	Punjab	167.5	389.2	-57%	D
6.	Himachal Pradesh	525.5	661.5	-21%	D
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	402.5	424.4	-5%	N
8.	West Rajasthan	182.3	213.3	-15%	N
9.	East Rajasthan	512.3	493.8	4%	N
	Central India	682.7	757.3	-10%	
1.	Odisha	870.1	869.0	0%	N
2.	West Madhya Pradesh	768.0	668.8	15%	N
3.	East Madhya Pradesh	819.1	811.8	1%	N
4.	Gujarat Region	368.9	707.9	-48%	D
5.	Saurashtra and Kutch	76.3	379.1	-80%	S
6.	Konkan and Goa	2108.7	2499.6	-16%	N
7.	Madhya Maharashtra	381.7	556.4	-31%	D
8.	Marathwada	299.3	492.6	-39%	D
9.	Vidarbha	756.3	750.7	1%	N
10.	Chhattisgarh	942.9	889.9	-6%	
	South Peninsula	463.4	538.7	-14%	
1.	A & N Island	1043.0	1194.3	-13%	N
2.	Coastal Andhra Pradesh	418.5	401.9	4%	N
3.	Telangana	564.9	565.7	0%	N
4.	Rayalaseema	270.0	252.0	7%	N
5.	Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	158.1	187.7	-16%	N
6.	Coastal Karnataka	2491.9	2726.3	-9%	N
7.	N.I. Karnataka	237.8	344.8	-31%	D
8.	S.I. Karnataka	385.5	504.4	-24%	D

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Kerala	1189.0	1760.6	-32%	D
10.	Lakshadweep	864.4	810.9	7%	N
	Country as a Whole	598.6	685.1	-13%	

Category-wise No. of Subdivisions and % Area of the Country

Category	Period: 01.06.2012 To 27.08.2012	
	No. of Subdivisions	% area of Country
Excess	0	0%
Normal	23	70%
Deficient	12	27%
Scanty	1	3%
No Rain	0	0%

Assistance to drought affected States

†2176. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that there is a drought like situation in the country due to scanty rainfall during current year;
- if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction in this regard;
- whether Government has identified the drought affected States;
- if so, the names of those States;
- the amount of economic assistance sought by each State Government to tackle with drought so far; and
- the amount of economic relief provided to each State by the Central Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) India Meteorological Department (IMD) reports that as on 27th August, 2012, the rainfall departure for the country as a whole

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

is (-)13%. Out of the 36 Met Sub-Divisions in the country, 23 received normal rainfall (+ 19% to -19%), 12 received Deficient rainfall (-20% to - 59%) and 1 received Scanty rainfall (-60% to :99%). State-wise details of south west monsoon, 2012 is given in Statement-I. (*See* below).

(d) and (e) Governments of Karnataka (142 out of 176 talukas), Rajasthan (5 out of 33 districts), Gujarat (132 talukas in 17 out of 26 districts) and Maharashtra (122 out of 355 talukas) have declared drought. These States have submitted memoranda seeking assistance of Rs.1 1488.96 crore, Rs. 7424.13 crore, Rs. 18673.37 crore and Rs. 3011.61 crore respectively. Inter- Ministerial Central Teams have been constituted to visit these States to assess the situation.

(f) State Governments initiate necessary relief measures in wake of natural calamities including drought from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. State-wise allocation of funds under SDRF for the year 2012-13 is given in Statement-II. (*See* below). Government of India supplements efforts of State Government by providing requisite financial and logistic support. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature.

Besides, in view of deficient rainfall situation in different parts of the country, decisions have also been taken for implementation of Diesel-Subsidy Scheme, enhancement of subsidy on seed channelizing funds available under various flagship schemes for drought relief activities, up-scaling Central Sector Scheme on feed and fodder, allocation of additional power from central pool to States etc.

Statement-I

Subdivision-wise Rainfall Distribution

Sl. No.	Meteorological Subdivisions	Day: 27.08.2012 to 27.08.2012				Period: 01.06.2012 to 27.08.2012			
		Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.	Actual	Normal	% Dep.	Cat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	East and North East India	8	10.8	-25%		955.6	1102.6	-13%	
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	98	10.6	-8%	N	1276.8	1356.5	-6%	N
2.	Assam and Meghalaya	10.3	12.9	-20%	D	1336.4	1422	-6%	N
3.	NMMT	13.5	10.2	32%	E	789.5	1164.7	-32%	D

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	SHWB and Sikkim	13.5	13.7	-1%	N	1552.5	1538.9	1%	N
5.	Gangetic West Bengal	4.9	12.4	-60%	S	693.7	852.7	-19%	N
6.	Jharkhand	5.1	9.3	-45%	D	717.5	815	-12%	N
7.	Bihar	2.9	8.2	-65%	S	588.8	773.4	-24%	D
North West India		6.5	6.6	-2%		407.8	483.1	-16%	
1.	East U.P.	4.5	8.6	-48%	D	548.8	672	-18%	N
2.	West U.P.	11	10.3	7%	N	414	594.8	-30%	D
3.	Uttarakhand	10.8	12.9	-16%	N	870.7	984.8	-12%	N
4.	Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi	11.8	6.1	93%	E	198.7	369.9	-46%	D
5.	Punjab	2.5	5.3	-53%	D	167.5	389.2	-57%	D
6.	Himachal Pradesh	7.3	8	-9%	N	525.5	661.5	-21%	D
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.1	6	-65%	S	402.5	424.4	-5%	N
8.	West Rajasthan	3	2.9	3%	N	182.3	213.3	-15%	N
9.	East Rajasthan	14.7	6.2	137%	E	512.3	493.8	4%	N
Central India		15.1	8.3	81%		682.7	757.3	-10%	
1.	Odisha	13.8	13.3	4%	N	870.1	869	0%	N
2.	West MP	11.8	73	62%	E	768	668.8	15%	N
3.	East MP	14.4	8.4	71%	E	819.1	811.8	1%	N
4.	Gujarat Region	1.9	7.8	-76%	S	368.9	707.9	-48%	D
5.	Saurashtra and Kutch	4.5	3.6	25%	E	76.3	379.1	-80%	S
6.	Konkan and Goa	83.3	20.1	314%	E	2108.7	2499.6	-16%	N
7.	Madhya Maharashtra	5.2	5.1	2%	N	381.7	556.4	-31%	D

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Marathwada	10.4	5.7	82%	E	299.3	492.6	-39%	0
9.	Vidarbha	35.4	7.9	348%	E	756.3	750.7	1%	N
10.	Chhattisgarh	17.4	9.4	85%	E	942.9	889.9	6%	N
South Peninsula		10.5	5.3	97%		463.4	538.7	-14%	
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	35.4	15.7	125%	E	1043	1194.3	-13%	N
2.	Coastal Andhra Pradesh	3.2	6.1	-48%	D	418.5	401.9	4%	N
3.	Telangana	13.2	6	120%	E	564.9	565.7	0%	N
4.	Rayalaseema	8.9	4.1	117%	E	270	252	7%	N
5.	Tamil Nadu and Puducherry	0.9	3.7	-76%	S	158.1	187.7	-16%	N
6.	Coastal Karnataka	56.2	14.5	288%	E	2491.9	2726.3	-9%	N
7.	N.I. Karnataka	12.1	3.4	256%	E	237.8	344.8	-31%	0
8.	S.I. Karnataka	16.1	3.8	324%	E	385.5	504.4	-24%	D
9.	Kerala	10.2	10	2%	N	1189	1760.6	-32%	0
10.	Lakshadweep	12.7	5.3	140%	E	864.4	810.9	7%	N
Country as a whole		10.4	7.6	37%		598.6	685.1	-13%	

Category-wise No. of Subdivisions and % area of the country

Category	Day: 27.08.2012 to 27.08.2012		Period: 01.06.2012 to 27.08.2012	
	No. of Subdivisions	% Area of Country	No. of Subdivisions	% Area of Country
Excess	17	43%	0	0%
Normal	9	25%	23	70%
Scanty	5.	14%	12	27%
No Rain	5	18%	1	3%

Statement-II*State Disaster Response Fund allocation for 2012-13*

Sl.No.	State	Amount (₹ in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	560.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40.51
3.	Assam	290.81
4.	Bihar	368.77
5.	Chhattisgarh	166.83
6.	Goa	3.27
7.	Gujarat	553.59
8.	Haryana	212.68
9.	Himachal Pradesh	144.17
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	190.13
11.	Jharkhand	286.04
12.	Karnataka	177.46
13.	Kerala	144.51
14.	Madhya Pradesh	433.01
15.	Maharashtra	488.06
16.	Manipur	7.96
17.	Meghalaya	16.15
18.	Mizoram	9.43
19.	Nagaland	5.48
20.	Odisha	431.72
21.	Punjab	245.77
22.	Rajasthan	662.22
23.	Sikkim	25.08
24.	Tamil Nadu	323.61

1	2	3
25.	Tripura	21.29
26.	Uttar Pradesh	424.89
27.	Uttarakhand	129.72
28.	West Bengal	336.07
TOTAL:		6700.22

Drought in Maharashtra

‡2177. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has extended any assistance to the State Government of Maharashtra for the drought that hit the State this year;
- (b) if so, when and the quantum of amount provided;
- (c) whether State Government had demanded more than that amount;
- (d) if so, the reasons for providing less than the demanded amount; and
- (e) whether Government do not feel that the drought in Maharashtra this year was quite grave alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (e) Government of Maharashtra has declared 122 taluks in 25 Districts as drought affected during 2012-13 and submitted memorandum to Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India seeking Central assistance of Rs. 3011.61 crore. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team has been constituted for visiting drought affected areas of the State to assess the damage/loss and recommend Central assistance.

There is ready availability of fund under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for taking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought with State Government. Under SDRF, Rs. 488.06 crore has been allocated to Government of Maharashtra for the year 2012-13. Government of India supplements efforts of the State Government by providing requisite financial and logistic support. Additional assistance, over and above SDRF, is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature in accordance with the established procedure and extant norms.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Adverse effect of drought

2178. DR. BARUN MUKHERJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is apprehending drought this year;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the States which may be affected; and
- (c) the measures being taken to combat adverse effects of drought on PDS and others?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) reports that as on 27th August, 2012, the rainfall departure for the country as a whole is (-) 13%. Out of the 36 Met Sub-Divisions in the country, 23 received Normal rainfall (+ 19% to -19%), 12 received Deficient rainfall (-20% to -59%) and I received, Scanty rainfall (-60% to -99%) State-wise details of south west monsoon, 2012 is given in Statement. (*See* below). Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to USQ. No. 2175 Part (a) and (b). Government of Karnataka (142 out of 176 talukas), Rajasthan (5 out of 33 districts), Gujarat (132 talukas in 17 out of 26 districts) and Maharashtra (122 out of 355 talukas) have declared drought so far.

(c) Government of India makes additional allocation of foodgrains, over and above normal allocation under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), in case of natural calamities including drought on the requests of State Governments/ Union Territories (UTs)/assessment by Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT). During the current year, Government of India has, so far, made additional allocation of foodgrains to Karnataka (Rice: 3 lakh tonnes and wheat: 0.57 lakh tonnes) and Maharashtra (Rice: 0.3 lakh tonnes and wheat: 0.3 lakh tonnes) for drought relief.

Besides, in view of deficient rainfall situation in different parts of the country, decisions have also been taken for implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme, enhancement of subsidy on seeds, channelizing funds available under various flagship schemes for drought relief activities, up-scaling Central Sector Scheme on feed and fodder, allocation of additional power from central pool to States, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) etc.

Subsidy on diesel and fertilizers

†2179. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government has any plan to provide subsidy on diesel and fertilizers to the farmers of the country, keeping in view the low rainfall throughout the country; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In view of deficit rainfall in various parts of the country, it has been decided to provide diesel subsidy to the farmers to provide supplementary/protective irrigation through diesel pumpsets for saving standing crops. The scheme is applicable in (i) the districts with rainfall deficit more than 50% as on 15th July, 2012; (ii) talukas/districts which have been declared as drought affected areas by the respective State Governments/UTs and (iii) areas with prolonged dry spell continuously for 15 days, *i.e.* scanty rainfall (deficit more than 60% of normal) for any continuous 15 days period as per reports of IMD. Under this scheme, 50% of the cost of diesel for supplementary and protective irrigation will be provided as financial assistance to farmers, limited to 2 ha per farmer, which will be equally shared by Government of India (GOI) and respective State Government/Union Territory. GOI's contribution will be capped at Rs.750 per ha.

Government has been providing subsidy on urea and 23 grades of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers to the farmers.

Contingency plan to tackle drought like situation

2180. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared a contingency plan to tackle drought-like situation in the country;

(b) whether Government is taking steps to provide subsidised seeds and free power to farmers, restructure their farm loans and waiver of interest on them, besides roll back the hike in fertilizer prices and compensate financial losses of States due to drought;

(c) whether Government has evolved/found a permanent solution to farmers' woes through farm insurance scheme, river linking and reviving water bodies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has prepared Contingency plans for 353 districts across the country for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production.

{b) Subsidy on seeds has been enhanced to partially recompense the farmers for the expenditure in re-sowing and/or purchasing drought tolerant variety of seeds. In view of deficient rainfall, States such as Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh have been allocated with additional power from Central Pool.

Reserve Bank of India issued standing guidelines to banks for providing relief to the farmers in areas affected by natural calamities including drought. These guidelines have been issued to enable the banks to take uniform and concerted action expeditiously, particularly to provide the financial assistance to the farmers affected by natural calamities. These guidelines *inter-alia* envisage the following:

- Conversion/re-scheduling of loans in the event of natural calamity for periods ranging from 3 to 9 years depending upon the successive crop failure/intensity of damage of crops.
- Grant of fresh crop loans to affected farmers
- Conversion of principal as well as interest due on the existing loans
- Grant of consumption loans
- Not to compound interest of loans converted/rescheduled etc.
- Not to charge penal interest in respect of current dues in default.

In so far as fertilizer prices is concerned, Urea is provided at a fixed Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of Rs. 5310 per metric ton since 01.04.2010. Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy is being implemented on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers under which a fixed subsidy is provided based on its nutrient content. MRP is fixed by fertilizer companies. The prices of P&K fertilizers have increased mainly due to increase in international prices of fertilizers and due to depreciation of Indian rupee. However, Government provides subsidy to the extent of 50% to 67% of the delivered cost on these fertilizers.

(c) and (d) To protect the yield losses to standing crops of the farmers due to non-preventable causes including natural calamities and adverse weather conditions, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has been implementing 4 schemes namely (1) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS); (2) Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS); (3) Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and (4) Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS). The details of these Schemes are given in Statement-I. (*See* below).

National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 river linking projects for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Status of Water Transfer Links identified for preparation of FRs by NWDA is given in Statement-II. (*See* below).

Ministry of Water Resources under its schemes "Project for Repair, Renovation

and Restoration (RRR) of Water Bodies" has taken up 14228 water bodies for restoration.

Statement-I

Schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS):

With a view to provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop in the notified areas as a result of natural calamities, pests and diseases; to encourage the farmers to adopt progressive farming practices, high value in-puts and higher technology in agriculture and to stabilize farm incomes, particularly in disaster years, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) was introduced in the country from Rabi 1999-2000 season-in place of erstwhile Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS). The scheme is available to all the farmers - loanee and non-loanee - irrespective of their size of holding. Loanee farmers are covered on compulsory basis in a notified area for notified crops whereas for non-loanee farmers scheme is voluntary.

The Scheme envisages coverage of all the food crops (cereals, millets and pulses), oilseeds and annual commercial/horticultural crops, in respect of which past yield data is available for adequate number of years. The premium rates are ranging between 1.5% and 3.5% per cent (of sum insured) for food and oilseed crops (for normal sum insured and indemnity level). In the case of commercial/horticultural crops and higher sum insured and indemnity than that of normal, actuarial rates are being charged. Under the scheme, at present, 10% subsidy in premium is available to small and marginal farmers.

It is a yield guarantee scheme operating on "Area approach" basis. The implementing States/UTs can notify any unit area of insurance *i.e.* block, mandal, tehsil, circle, phirka, gram panchayat etc. keeping in view the availability of past yield data and capacity of the State to undertake requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs). The State Government/UT Administration is required to notify areas/crops well in advance of the each crop season and issue the necessary notification/instructions to all financial institutions provide past yield data and also conduct the required number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) in each notified areas for assessment of crop loss.

If the actual average yield per hectare of the insured crop for the defined area (on the basis of requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments) in the insured season, falls short of specified Threshold yield, all the insured farmers growing that crop in the defined area are deemed to have suffered shortfall in their yield and the scheme provides coverage against such contingency.

2. Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS):

To improve further and make the scheme easier and more farmer friendly, a Joint Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to study the improvements required in the existing crop insurance schemes. Based on the recommendations of the Joint Group and views/comments of various stake-holders, Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) was approved by Government of India for implementation on pilot basis in 50 districts during the remaining period of Eleventh five year plan from Rabi 2010-11 season. The salient features of MNAIS are - actuarial premium with subsidy in premium ranging- upto 75% to all farmers, only upfront premium subsidy is shared by the Central and State Governments on 50 : 50 basis and all claims liability would be on the insurance companies, unit area of insurance reduced to Village/village panchayat level for major crops, indemnity for prevented sowing/planting risk and for post harvest losses due to cyclone (coastal areas), on account payment upto 25% advance of likely claims as immediate relief, more proficient basis for calculation of threshold yield, minimum indemnity level of 70% instead of 60%, scheme is available to all the farmers - loanee and non-loanee - irrespective of their size of holding, loanee farmers are covered on compulsory basis in a notified area for notified crops whereas for non-loanee farmers scheme is voluntary as in NAIS, uniform seasonality disciplines both for loanee and non-loanee farmers, participation of private sector insurers for creation of competitive environment for crop insurance.

3. Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS):

The efforts have been made to bring more farmers under the fold of Crop Insurance by introducing a Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) as announced in the Union Budget 2007, in selected areas from kharif 2007 season. WBCIS is intended to provide insurance protection to the farmers against adverse weather incidence, such as deficit and excess rainfall, high or low temperature, humidity etc. which are deemed to impact adversely the crop production. It has the advantage to settle the claims within shortest possible time. The WBCIS is based on actuarial rates of premium but to make the scheme attractive, premium actually charged from farmers have been restricted to at par with NAIS. Under the scheme of WBCIS subsidy ranging upto 50% is available to all farmers.

4. Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS):

The Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) has also been approved for implementation on pilot basis from years 2009-10 in the selected areas of Andhra

Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. The Sum Insured (SI) is based on the average input cost of the plantation and the age of the specific plant. The SI varies from Rs. 600 per palm (in the age group of 4-15 years) to Rs. 1150 per palm (in the age group of 16-60 years). The premium rate per palm ranges from Rs. 4.25 (in the age group of 4 to 15 years) to Rs. 5.75 (in the age group of 16 to 60 years). Fifty per cent of premium is contributed by GOI; 25% by the concerned State Government and the remaining 25% by the farmer

For carrying out implementation of the above schemes excluding CPIS, funds are provided by the Central and the concerned State Governments on equal basis and 50:25 for CPIS.

Statement-II

Status of water transfer links identified for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FR) by NWDA

Peninsular Rivers Development Component

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Mahanadi (Manibhadra) - Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link | -FR completed |
| 2. Godavari (Polavaram) - Krishana (Vijayawada) link* | -FR completed
(Taken up by the State as per their own proposal) |
| 3. Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Pulichintala) link | -FR completed |
| 4. Godavari (Inchampalli) - Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link | -FR completed |
| 5. Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) - Pennar (Somasila) link | -FR completed |
| 6. Krishna (Srisailam) - Pennar link | -FR completed |
| 7. Krishna (Almatti) - Pennar link | -FR completed |
| 8. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link | -FR completed |
| 9. Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai - Gundar link | -FR completed |
| 10. Parbati - Kalisindh - Chambal link* | -FR completed |
| 11. Damanganga - Pinjal link* | -FR completed and DPR started |
| 12. Par - Tapi - Narmada link* | -FR completed and DPR started |
| 13. Ken - Betwa link* | -DPR (Phase-I) completed |

14. Pamba - Achankovil - Vaippar link	-FR completed
15. Netravati - Hemavati link	-PFR completed
16. Bedti - Varda link	-FR taken up
Himalayan Rivers Development Component	
1. Kosi - Mechi link	-Entirely lies in Nepal
2. Kosi - Ghaghra link	-S&I works taken up
3. Gandak - Ganga link	-S&I works taken up
4. Ghaghra - Yamuna link	-FR completed (for Indian portion)
5. Sarda - Yamuna link	-FR completed (for Indian portion)
6. Yamuna - Rajasthan link	-S&I works completed
7. Rajasthan - Sabarmati link	-S&I works completed
8. Chunar (at Ganga) - Sone Barrage link	-S&I works completed
9. Sone Dam - Southern Tributaries of Ganga link	-S&I works taken up
10. Manas - Sankosh - Tista - Ganga (M-S-T-G) link	-S&I works taken up
11. Jogighopa (at Brahmaputra) - Tista - Ganga at Farakka (Alternate to M-S-T-G) link	-S&I works taken up
12. Ganga (Farakka) - Sunderbans link	-S&I works completed
13. Ganga - Damodar - Subernarekha link	-S&I works completed
14. Subernarekha - Mahanadi link	-S&I works completed

* Priority links

PFR - Pre-Feasibility Report; FR - Feasibility Report; DPR - Detailed Project Report

S&I - Survey and Investigation in Indian portion.

Incentive to increase production of pulses

2181. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the existing gap between demand and supply of pulses;
- (b) the acres of land under cultivation for pulses in the country and whether there has been no increase in the area of land under cultivation of pulses; and

(c) whether any incentive has been offered to farmers to increase production of pulses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The production of pulses during 2011-12 is 17.21 million tonnes. The domestic demand for pulses is higher than the domestic supply and the gap is met through import of pulses. During 2011-12 the net import of pulses was 3.13 million tonnes.

(b) During the last five years, land under cultivation for pulses in the country is given as under:-

Year	Area (in 000 Hectares)
2007-08	23633.0
2008-09	22094.2
2009-10	23282.3
2010-11	26407.5
2011-12	24782.8

(c) The following programmes/schemes are implemented to increase production of pulses:-

Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P) has been launched as part of National Food Security Mission (NFSM) from 2010-11 where under one million hectare of potential pulses areas for the major pulses crops namely Tur, Urad, Moong, Gram and Lentil have been taken up for large scale demonstration of technology in compact blocks.

Integrated Development of 60,000 Pulses Village in Rainfed Areas is implemented from 2011-12 under the ongoing scheme of 'Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKYY)' through in situ moisture conservation activities such as new farm ponds, seed minikits and pest surveillance etc. Research projects on pulses such as (i) Enhancing Lentil Production for enhanced livelihood in Rice Fallow Areas in Eastern India; (ii) Enhancing Grass pea Production for safe human food, animal feed and sustainable rice based production system are implemented.

Special Plan to achieve 19+ Million Tonnes of Pulses production during kharif 2012-13 envisages utilization of new areas through intercropping, improving planting techniques and irrigation use efficiency for inclusive water management and use of important critical but low cost input like sulphur and weedicides and productivity boosters. Interventions like additional pipes for water carrying and Drip/Sprinklers are implemented through Micro Irrigation Scheme.

Moreover, with a view to incentivise the farmers to increase the production and productivity of pulses, the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of pulses have been raised substantially during the last three years as indicated in the following table:—

Pulses	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Arhar (Tur)	2300	3000*	3200*
Moong	2760	3170*	3500*
Urad	2520	2900*	3300*
Gram	1760	2100	2800
Masur (Lentil)	1870	2250	2800

*Additional incentive at the rate of Rs.500/- per quintal of tur, urad and moong sold to procurement agencies payable during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

Registration of Kendriya Bhandar under MSCS Act

2182. SHRI RANBIR SINGH PARJAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee which formulated Multi-State Co-operative Society Act, 2002 took into consideration the decisions taken by the Cabinet in 1963;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Kendriya Bhandar did not have even a single member at the time of its registration under MSCS Act, 2002 and if so, the reasons for registering it under that Act; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to immediately cancel its registration from the purview of MSCS Act, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government had not constituted any committee to formulate the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002. However, the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 was formulated considering the relevant material and recommendations of Mirdha Committee.

(c) The Kendriya Bhandar was registered as a multi-state co-operative society under the provisions of Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984 on receipt of such proposal from the society which was found to be compliant with the requisite provisions stipulated in this regard in the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984. Consequent to the enactment of Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002, the society is deemed to be registered under the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002.

(d) No, Sir.

Agricultural and dairy development during Twelfth Five Year Plan

‡2183. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds proposed to be provided for agricultural and dairy development activities in the country during Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of funds proposed under the said plan, State-wise including Madhya Pradesh;

(c) the provision proposed to be made for improving the condition of Cooperative Milk Federations and National Dairy Scheme;

(d) whether other States including Madhya Pradesh have submitted any suggestions and proposals to Government regarding above mentioned schemes; and

(e) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The allocation of funds for Agriculture and Dairy Development for Twelfth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalized by the Planning Commission.

(b) In view of above, question does not arise.

(c) An amount of Rs. 10 crore has been earmarked for rehabilitation of sick cooperative milk unions under the scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' during the current financial year 2012-13. Budgetary Provision of Rs.130 crore has been made for National Dairy Plan Phase-I during 2012-13.

(d) and (e) Thirteen sub project proposals have been received by the Project Management Unit (PMU) located at National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), Anand from End Implementing Agencies (EIAs) that belong to the States of Gujarat, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. Of this five sub-project proposals from the States of Gujarat, Karnataka and Punjab have been approved by the Project Steering Committee (PSC) during 2012-13 and remaining eight sub project proposals are under consideration by the PMU. No proposal for rehabilitation has been received from any State under the scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' during 2012-13.

Rise in demand of milk

2184. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is aware that demand of milk is likely to be about 155 million tonnes by 2016-17;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure supply of that much quantity of milk; and

(c) whether Government proposes to bring amendment to the Milk and Milk Product Order (MMPO), 1992 so that adulterated milk do not reach market taking advantage of the fact that there is huge demand of milk in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The demand of milk is likely to be around 150 million tonnes by 2016-17.

(b) Government has launched National Dairy Plan - Phase I (NDP-I) (2011-12 to 2016-17) in March 2012 with an outlay of Rs. 2,242 crore. The objectives of the NDP-I are:

- (i) To help increase the productivity of milch animals and thereby increase milk production to meet the rapidly growing demand for milk.
- (ii) To help provide rural milk producers with greater access to the organised milk-processing sector.

Till end of June, 2012, total amount of about ₹ 35.33 crore has been approved for 5 sub-projects in the areas of Animal Breeding, Animal Nutrition and Milk Procurement System.

(c) The Milk and Milk Product Order (MMPO), 1992 has been repealed with effect from 5th August, 2011 and subsumed in Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which is being implemented by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), which is a statutory body for laying down science based standards for food articles and to regulate their manufacture, storage, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption.

The Rules and Regulations under the new Act are being enforced by FSSAI with effect from 05.08.2011 throughout the country.

Relief package for drought affected States

†2185. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced a relief package for drought affected States;

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that some States have demanded more money expressing their discontent; and

(d) if so, the details of the action being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) There is ready availability of fund under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) with every State for taking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. Government of India supplements efforts of State Governments with financial assistance and logistic support. Government of India contributes 75% under SDRF for 17 General Category States and 90% for 11 Special Category States comprising all the 8 North-Eastern States including Sikkim and 3 hill States of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh. Allocation under SDRF for 2012-13 for States is given in Statement (*See below*). Additional assistance, over and above SDRF, is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature in accordance with the established procedure and extant norms.

Besides, in view of deficient rainfall situation in different parts of the country, decisions have also been taken for implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme, enhancement of subsidy on seeds, channelizing funds available under various flagship schemes for drought relief activities, up-scaling Central Sector Scheme on feed and fodder, waiver of import duty on oil cakes, release of interim assistance under calamity component of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), release of funds under NRDWP and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), allocation of additional power from central pool to States etc.

(c) and (d) Government of Karnataka (142 of 176 talukas), Rajasthan (5 out of 33 districts), Gujarat (132 talukas in 17 out of 26 districts) and Maharashtra (122 out of 355 talukas) have declared drought. These States have submitted memoranda seeking assistance of Rs. 11488.96 crore, Rs. 7424.13 crore, Rs. 18673.37 crore and Rs. 3011.61 Crore respectively. Inter-Ministerial Central Teams have been constituted to visit these States to assess the situation.

Statement-II

State Disaster Response Fund allocation for 2012-13

Sl.No.	State	Amount (₹ in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	560.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	40.51
3.	Assam	290.81

1	2	3
4.	Bihar	368.77
5.	Chhattisgarh	166.83
6.	Goa	3.27
7.	Gujarat	553.59
8.	Haryana	212.68
9.	Himachal Pradesh	144.17
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	190.13
11.	Jharkhand	286.04
12.	Karnataka	177.46
13.	Kerala	144.51
14.	Madhya Pradesh	433.01
15.	Maharashtra	488.06
16.	Manipur	7.96
17.	Meghalaya	16.15
18.	Mizoram	9.43
19.	Nagaland	5.48
20.	Odisha	431.72
21.	Punjab	245.77
22.	Rajasthan	662.22
23.	Sikkim	25.08
24.	Tamil Nadu	323.61
25.	Tripura	21.29
26.	Uttar Pradesh	424.89
27.	Uttarakhand	129.72
28.	West Bengal	336.07
TOTAL:		6700.22

Decline in production of rapeseed mustard

2186. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that rapeseed mustard output would decline more than 12 per cent this year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to stop such decline immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Rapeseed and mustard is a rabi crop and assessment of its production for 2012-13 is scheduled only in the Second Advance Estimates to be released in February, 2013. However, to increase production and productivity of various oilseeds including rapeseed and mustard in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) is being implemented in 14 major oilseeds growing States.

Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, plant protection chemicals/equipments, weedicides, supply of micro-nutrients and improved agriculture implements, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, sprinkler sets and water carrying pipes, training and publicity, etc. to encourage farmers to grow these crops. The subsidy is provided to all farmers as per the norms of the scheme through the State Governments.

Further, in order to enhance productivity of rapeseed-mustard, Indian Council of Agricultural Research is undertaking research programmes in rapeseed-mustard at Directorate of Rapeseed and Mustard Research, Bharatpur. The research programme includes basic and strategic research related to crop improvement, production and protection technologies in rapeseed-mustard. The information so generated is being used by the All India Coordinated Research Projects on Rapeseed-Mustard to develop location specific varieties/hybrids and technologies for different agro-ecologies. A number of high yielding varieties/hybrids of rapeseed-mustard have been released during last six years (2007-2012). The new varieties/technologies are demonstrated by the State Agricultural Universities and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) through Front Line Demonstrations.

Private sector participation in construction of godowns and cold storages

2187. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to promote private sector participation in construction of godowns and cold storages in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the incentives being given or proposed to be given to private sector in this regard;
- (d) whether interest has been shown by private sector in Maharashtra for construction of godowns and cold storages in the State; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has been providing assistance to the private entrepreneurs for construction of godowns and cold storages in the country. Assistance is provided to entrepreneurs for construction of scientific storages and cold storages under the scheme 'Construction/Renovation of Rural Godowns' and Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization, National Horticulture Mission and National Horticulture Board in the Ministry of Agriculture. Assistance is also provided by Agricultural and Processed Food Development Authority (APEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce for cold storages under the scheme of Infrastructure Development. Similar assistance is also provided by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for construction of cold storages under the scheme of Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The details of the projects sanctioned under above schemes in Maharashtra are given below:

- (i) Under the Scheme of Construction/Renovation of Rural Godowns, a total of 2612 projects with a storage capacity of 35.09 Lakh MTs have been sanctioned so far with a subsidy release of Rs. 110.16 crore.
- (ii) Under the scheme of Development/Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading and Standardization (AMIGS), 4 projects for godown and 45 projects for cold storage have been sanctioned so far with subsidy release of Rs 55.91 lakhs and 1524.09 lakhs, respectively.
- (iii) Under the scheme of National Horticulture Mission, 19 projects have been sanctioned so far with assistance of Rs. 583.89 lakhs.
- (iv) Under the scheme of National Horticulture Board, 200 cold storage projects for creating capacity of 342762 MT have sanctioned so far with assistance of Rs. 2612.77 lakhs.
- (v) Under the scheme of Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, 11 projects with total project cost of Rs. 32432.08 lakhs have been approved so far.

- (vi) APEDA has sanctioned 3150 projects with assistance of Rs. 1142.61 lakhs during Eleventh Plan.

Production of oil seeds in Maharashtra

2188. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the production of edible oilseeds in Maharashtra during last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra has the potential of growing edible oilseeds particularly of Palmolive, Sunflower and Soyabeans;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the incentives being given by Government or proposed to be given to farmers to tap the potential and promote cultivation of these oilseeds in the State in a big way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The production of edible oilseeds in the State of Maharashtra during last three years is:-

(Production in '000 tonnes)

Crops	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12*
Groundnut	359.00	460.00	359.00
Sesame	15.00	20.00	15.00
Niger-seed	7.00	8.00	12.00
Rapeseed and Mustard	2.00	3.00	4.00
Safflower	109.00	94.00	67.00
Sunflower	114.00	125.00	51.00
Soybean	2197.00	4316.00	4025.00

(*Fourth Advance Estimates)

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The agro-climatic conditions of Maharashtra are suitable for cultivation of oilseeds including soybean, sunflower and oil palm. The normal area (average from 2006-07 to 2010-11) under soybean and sunflower is 27.99 lakh hectares and 2.69 lakh hectares, respectively. Agro-climatic conditions of Maharashtra also favours cultivation of oil palm.

- (d) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing oilseeds

development programme under Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds growing States including Maharashtra since 1.4.2004.

Under ISOPOM, assistance is provided for production and purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation and certified seed, distribution of certified seed, development of seed infrastructure, seed minikits, block demonstration, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and frontline demonstration, plant protection chemicals, weedicides, Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus (NPV), rhyzobium/phosphate solubilising bacteria culture, gypsum/pyrite/lime, sprinkler sets, micro-nutrients, farm implements, irrigation pipes, trainings, publicity, staff and contingency etc. For oil palm, assistance is provided for cost of planting material, maintenance of plantation for 4 years, cultivation inputs, installation of drip irrigation system, diesel pump sets, training, development of wasteland, etc. under ISOPOM.

In order to encourage farmers to grow oil palm, Government of India has launched a special scheme on Oil Palm Area Expansion (OPAE) under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in 2011-12, under which assistance is provided for planting material, cost of cultivation supply of drip systems, supply of pump sets, inter-cropping, INM/PM etc., vermin-compost etc., water harvesting/bore well, processing units and Research and Development (R&D) on Oil Palm. OPAE is being implemented with an allocation of Rs. 100.00 crores under RKVY during 2012-13.

Besides ISOPOM, Government of India also provides assistance for oilseeds under Macro-Management of Agriculture (MMA) scheme for States not covered under ISOPOM and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) on approval by the State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC).

Productivity of agriculture in tribal areas

2189. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether productivity of agriculture in tribal areas is very low;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of factors responsible for it; and
- (d) the steps taken to increase productivity of agriculture in tribal areas especially in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Ministry of Agriculture does not maintain separate data on productivity of agriculture in tribal areas. State-wise increases in productivity of agriculture for major categories are given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) The Government of India has launched several schemes to boost the agriculture sector and to increase productivity of agriculture in various States which includes tribal areas also, such as, the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM), Gramin Bhandaran Yojana etc.

Statement

State-wise increases in productivity of agriculture for major categories

State/UT	Cereals		Pulses		Oilseeds	
	2000-01	2010-11	2000-01	2010-11	2000-01	2010-11
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	2595	3200	554	675	927	861
Arunachal Pradesh	1149	1690	1115	1055	1036	921
Assam	1494	1821	559	555	515	576
Bihar	1787	1544	865	878	847	1048
Chhattisgarh	619	1592	400	624	329	686
Goa	2454	3178	889	1057	1778	2862
Gujarat	964	2096	300	812	603	1692
Haryana	3153	3628	622	899	1363	1855
Himachal Pradesh	1395	1813	629	1213	552	514
Jammu and Kashmir	1247	1673	471	584	382	821
Jharkhand	1114	1450	825	773	625	625
Karnataka	1749	2260	467	561	804	782
Kerala	2143	2428	794	778	614	1032
Madhya Pradesh	1095	1502	640	656	741	1143
Maharashtra	865	1370	460	768	820	1394
Manipur	2428	2397	525	897	464	774
Meghalaya	1628	1836	745	849	670	704
Mizoram	2053	1223	1625	1534	750	1203

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nagaland	1478	2012	827	1058	981	1040
Odisha	1028	1620	352	486	425	619
Punjab	4064	4291	740	910	1010	1336
Rajasthan	1035	1510	308	685	768	1203
Sikkim	1400	1563	852	899	690	832
Tamil Nadu	2952	2897	455	386	1716	2077
Tripura	2121	2639	584	704	723	722
Uttar Pradesh	2304	2605	803	832	803	832
Uttarakhand	1740	1906	765	851	502	1012
West Bengal	2297	2664	800	898	964	1047
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2954	2836	571	442	N.R.	N.R.
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1454	1867	877	898	1000	750
Delhi	2367	3937	571	1611	1769	1300
Daman and Diu	1600	1609	1000	846	N.R.	N.R.
Puducherry	2436	2599	600	499	171	1684
ALL INDIA	1844	2258	544	691	810	1193

N.R.: Not Reported

Cereals: includes Rice, Wheat, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Small Millets and Barley

Pulses: includes Arhar/Tur, Gram and other Pulses

Oilseeds: includes Groundnut, Castor Seed, Niger Seed, Sesamum, Rapeseed and Mustard, Linseed, Safflower, Sunflower and Soyabean

Source: DES, Ministry of Agriculture

Barren land in the country

2190. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any survey to identify the quantum of barren land in the country;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal to distribute such barren land to landless peasants and farm labourers;

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

(e) the other steps taken to ensure food security in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) As per available estimates, total barren and unculturable land is about 16.79 million ha. across the country. State-wise details of barren and unculturable land is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) As per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, land falls under purview of State Governments and, therefore, it is for State Governments to distribute such barren land.

(e) Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various major schemes, namely, Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to enhance productivity and sustaining food security in the country.

Statement

State-wise barren and unculturable land

Sl. No.	Name of States	State-wise extent of Barren and Unculturable land as on 2009-10
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2043
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	38
3.	Assam	1408
4.	Bihar	432
5.	Chhattisgarh	309
6.	Goa	0
7.	Gujarat	2519
8.	Haryana	104
9.	Himachal Pradesh	656
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	274

1	2	3
11.	Jharkhand	569
12.	Karnataka	788
13.	Kerala	22
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1341
15.	Maharashtra	1729
16.	Manipur	1
17.	Meghalaya	133
18.	Mizoram	8
19.	Nagaland	2
20.	Odisha	840
21.	Punjab	25
22.	Rajasthan	2292
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	490
25.	Tripura	3
26.	Uttarakhand	225
27.	Uttar Pradesh	494
28.	West Bengal	22
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2
30.	Chandigarh	0
31.	Delhi	16
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0
33.	Lakshadweep	0
34.	Puducherry	0
TOTAL:		16785
Say 16.79 Million Ha.		

Source: Land Use Statistics at a Glance, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi.

Compensation to the kin of farmers committing suicide

2191. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government pays compensation to the kin of farmers who commit suicide due to crop failure or indebtedness;

(b) if so, the details thereof during last three years, State-wise, including Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The Rehabilitation Package announced in 2006 for suicide prone districts in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala included provision of *ex-gratia* assistance from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF) for alleviating hardship faced by debt stressed families of farmers. As per status of implementation of Rehabilitation Package, as on September 30, 2011, amount released under PMNRF was Rs.3 crore each to Maharashtra and Karnataka, Rs.1.50 crore to Kerala and Rs.8.00 crore to Andhra Pradesh. Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that funds provided under this package were utilized for the purpose of health and education of children of debt stressed farmers and families of farmers who committed suicide. Government of Andhra Pradesh has also informed that in terms of relevant orders issued by it, financial assistance of Rs. 1.00 lakh is extended to the family/next kith and kin of the deceased farmer as economic support besides loan settlement of upto a ceiling of Rs. 50,000/- as one time settlement.

Encouragement to cotton growers

2192. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total area under cotton cultivation is expected to be more in 2012-13;

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

(c) the encouragement given by Government to the cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The area sown under cotton, State-wise, as on 23.8.2012 and corresponding period of previous year, is as under:-

Sl.No.	States	Area (Lakh ha)	
		23.08.2012	23.08.2011
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20.61	17.47

1	2	3	4
2.	Gujarat	22.78	29.057
3.	Haryana	6.03	5.98
4.	Karnataka	3.62	4.45
5.	Madhya Pradesh	6.08	7.06
6.	Maharashtra	41.23	40.95
7.	Odisha	1.13	1.10
8.	Punjab	5.16	5.75
9.	Rajasthan	4.49	5.25
10.	Tamil Nadu	0.10	0.15
11.	Uttar Pradesh	0.30	0.30
TOTAL:		111.53	117.52

(c) The Government of India is implementing Mini-Mission-II of Technology Mission on Cotton in important cotton growing States to increase production and productivity of cotton. Under the scheme assistance is provided for various inputs like seeds, agriculture implements, water saving devises, bio-agents/bio pesticides, integrated pest management, extension of crop production and plant protection technologies through demonstrations and training of farmers and extension workers etc.

Schemes to disseminate latest techniques in farming

2193. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of schemes to disseminate latest available technology and agricultural know-how through different mediums to make the farmers aware of the latest techniques in farming are being implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to undertake current measures to provide technical know-how to the small and marginal farmers of the State of Madhya Pradesh more effectively; and

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

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

(b) Brief details of the Schemes to disseminate latest available technology and agricultural know-how through different mediums are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Efforts are currently on to provide information and appropriate techniques to small and marginal farmers in the country including those belonging to the State of Madhya Pradesh.

The Guidelines under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "**Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms**" stipulate that at least 50% beneficiaries enrolled under the Scheme must be small and marginal farmers. Consequently, a total of 20,24,887 farmers benefitted under the Scheme including those belonging to small and marginal farmer families since the beginning of the scheme upto June 30, 2012.

The '**Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension**' (MMAE), as described in point no. (b) of Annexure-I has undergone a positive change recently. The transmission timings of Krishi Darshan programme telecast from DDK-Indore and Gwalior Narrowcasting Kendras have been staggered, so that the farmers can view both the programmes telecast by the Regional Broadcasting Centre (Bhopal) as well as by Narrow Casting Kendras. This has benefitted farmers located in the range of Narrow Casting Kendras referred to above.

Under the **Macro Management Scheme** at least 33% of the funds are earmarked for small, marginal and women farmers.

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 630 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country including 47 KVKs in Madhya Pradesh. Major activities and programmes of KVKs include testing and demonstration of agricultural technologies in farmer's field; training of farmers and extension personnel; and creation of awareness on improved technologies through various extension programmes.

Statement

Brief of Schemes implemented to disseminate latest technology to the farmers

- a. **Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms:** An ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme "**Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms**" popularly known as ATMA Scheme is under implementation in 614 districts of 28 States and 3 UTs of the country including Madhya Pradesh. The activities taken up under the scheme includes capacity building of farmers through front line demonstrations, exposure visits, kisan melas, farmers group mobilization, farm schools and farmers-scientists interaction. Over 209 lakh farmers have been benefitted through these activities throughout the country from 2005-06 to June, 2012.

- b. **Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension:** The objective of the Scheme launched in January, 2004 is to disseminate information and knowledge to the farming community in local language/dialect for strengthening the agricultural extension system.
- Under this Scheme, existing infrastructure of Doordarshan and All India Radio is being utilized to make the farmers aware about modern technologies and researches related to agriculture and allied areas. A 30 minute programme is being telecast 5-6 days a week through National, 18 Regional Kendras and 180 High Power/Low Power Transmitters of Doordarshan. Similarly, 96 Rural FM Radio Stations of All India Radio are being utilized to broadcast 30 minutes of programme for farmers 6 days a week.
 - With a view to create awareness about the assistances available under various schemes, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture has launched a "Focused Publicity Campaign" on Doordarshan, Private TV channels and Radio.
- c. **Kisan Call Centers** - The Scheme launched in January, 2004 to provide agricultural information to the farming community through toll free telephone lines. A country wide common-eleven digit number '**1800-180-1551**' has been allocated for KCC. Replies to the queries of the farming community are being given in 22 local languages between 6.00 am to 10.00 pm on all 7 days of the week. Since inception of the scheme, over **76.37** lakh calls have been received till January, 2012. The scheme has been recently strengthened by having State of the art infrastructure, Internet Protocol based exchange, Voice Mail, Call Recording, etc. The State Governments have been involved more closely.
- d. **Exhibitions and Fairs:** Directorate of Extension has been organizing/participating in National, State, Regional Level and other Ad hoc Exhibitions/Fairs by way of setting up exhibition stall for the benefit of farmers (big, small and marginal) and other stake holders for transfer of information on agricultural technologies and to create awareness about the programme and scheme of the Department.
- e. Under the **Integrated Nutrients Management Scheme (INM)**, National Project on Management of Soil health Fertility, awareness on balanced use of fertilizers is created through farmer training and field demonstration. Financial assistance is provided @ Rs. 10,000/- per farmer training, Rs. 10,000/- per ha for field demonstration and Rs. 20,000/- per front line field demonstration.
- f. In order to assess, refine, and demonstrate agricultural technologies generated by National Agricultural Research System, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 630 Krishi Vigyan Kendras

(KVKs) in the country including 47 KVKs in Madhya Pradesh. The major activities and programmes of KVKs include testing and demonstration of agricultural technologies in farmers field; training of farmers and extension personnel; and creation of awareness on improved technologies through various extension programmes. In addition, the Subject Matter Specialists of KVKs disseminate latest agricultural technologies to farmers through print and electronic media including farm magazines, radio, television, and mobile phones.

- g. A Central Sector Scheme "**Promotion and Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanization through Training Testing and Demonstration**" is being implemented by the Mechanization and Technology Division with the following components.
- (i) Demonstration of New Equipments identified by the State Governments.
 - (ii) Outsourcing of training of farmers.
 - (iii) Human Resource Development in field of farm mechanization through existing FMT&TIs.
 - (iv) Testing of agricultural machines and equipments for their performance evaluation and quality up-gradation.

Setting up of cold storages in Madhya Pradesh

2194. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of cold storages functioning in the country, as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether farmers are being excessively charged for utilizing the services of these cold storages in Madhya Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/being taken by Government in this regard;
- (d) the details of financial assistance provided by Government for setting up of cold storages; and
- (e) whether Government has recently received requests for setting up cold storages in Madhya Pradesh, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The total number of cold storages established in the country upto 31.03.2012 was 6359 with capacity of 29.71 lakh MT. The State-wise details of cold storages in the country are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) No complaints have been received from farmers on excessive charging by cold storages.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Ministry of Agriculture is implementing National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB) and Horticulture Mission in North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) schemes, which provides assistance for a number of components related to horticulture development including cold storages. Assistance under these schemes is available as credit linked back ended subsidy @ 40% of capital cost in general areas and @ 55% in hilly and scheduled areas w.e.f. 01.04.2010. Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) are also implementing schemes for establishment of cold storages/cold chain in the country.

(e) Requests for setting up of cold storage projects including Madhya Pradesh (Districts of Khurda, Tikamgarh, Guna and Chatarpur) have been received. Empowered Committee of National Horticulture Mission, which meets periodically is the competent authority to approve these projects.

Statement

State-wise distribution of cold storages as on 31/03/2012

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total No. No.	Total Capacity in MTs Capacity
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	2	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	357	1305993
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	5000
4.	Assam	28	108402
5.	Bihar	296	1380183
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	6	12216
7.	Chhattisgarh	79	383441
8.	Delhi	95	126158
9.	Gujarat	508	1808100
10.	Goa	29	7705

1	2	3	4
11.	Haryana	255	427245
12.	Himachal Pradesh	18	19858
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	22	59769
14.	Jharkhand	52	207874
15.	Kerala	194	63105
16.	Karnataka	180	487262
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	1	15
18.	Maharashtra	486	599040
19.	Madhya Pradesh	237	1006274
20.	Manipur	0	0
21.	Meghalaya	3	3200
22.	Mizoram	1	3471
23.	Nagaland	2	6150
24.	Odisha	105	306139
25.	Puducherry (UT)	3	85
26.	Punjab	538	1801404
27.	Rajasthan	135	420025
28.	Sikkim	1	2000
29.	Tamil Nadu	157	273857
30.	Tripura	12	33581
31.	Uttar Pradesh	2051	12953197
32.	Uttarakhand	16	70899
33.	West Bengal	489	5833106
TOTAL:		6359	29714964

Source: DMI, NHM and NHB

Diversion of agricultural labour

2195. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would enact a rigid law to enforce rural employment guarantee scheme exclusively during agriculture cultivation seasons, in every State to put an end to diversion of agricultural labour to various other activities and whether wages could be paid to agricultural labour, exclusively through banks; and

(b) if not, the detailed reasons therefor, consistent with constant agricultural growth in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The primary objective of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing upto 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. The Act extends to all rural areas in the country.

There have been no definite findings indicating shortage of farm labourers due to MGNREGA. Since MGNREGA is a demand driven scheme, backed by legislation, State Governments are obliged to provide upto 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household for doing unskilled manual work, if demanded, at any time of the year, as mandated in the Act. Guidelines for Convergence of MGNREGA with Programmes of Ministry of Agriculture are already issued. Government has notified 30 new works under MGNREGA, majority of which are related to agricultural and allied activities.

With a view to ensuring timely payment, infusing transparency and enhancing the integrity of wage payment, Schedule II of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), has been amended to provide for wage disbursement to MGNREGA workers through accounts in Banks or Post Offices. To strengthen the institutional outreach for wage disbursement, it has been decided that State Governments should roll out the Business Correspondent (BC) Model to make wage payment through Banks with Bio-metric authentication at village level and has permitted a payment of remuneration to BCs upto Rs.80/- per active account per year.

Black marketing of seeds by companies

2196. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture seed companies have been accused of black marketing of seeds;

(b) if so, the details of such companies identified during each of the last three years so far, State-wise;

(c) the details of officials of each of such companies found responsible for such activities in various parts of the country;

- (d) the details of action taken by Government against such officials; and
- (e) the details of remedial measures taken by Government to check recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) No such report of black marketing of seeds has received from the State Governments.

(e) To check black marketing of seeds by the seed companies, the Seed Inspectors notified under the relevant provisions of Seeds (Control) Order, 1983 have powers to verify seed stocks and prices of seeds, seize the stock and issue 'Stop Sale' order and file prosecution in the court if seeds under reference contravenes the provisions of law.

Irrigation facilities to farmers

‡2197. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched any mission to provide relief to farmers in irrigation of crops;
- (b) if so, the details of the financial support provided to each State under this mission during last two years;
- (c) the achievements made under this mission, State-wise;
- (d) whether Government is considering to increase the facilities given to farmers for irrigation in order to increase agriculture production; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation (MI) was launched by the Government in 2005-06. It was upgraded to Mission Mode in June, 2010. Under this scheme, cost of drip/Sprinkler irrigation system is shared in the ratio of 50: 10:40 between Central Government, State Government and the beneficiary in case of Small and Marginal farmers whereas in the case of general category farmers, the said ratio is 40: 10:50.

- (b) Details are given in Statement-I (*See* below).
- (c) Details are given in Statement-I (*See* below).
- (d) and (e) National Mission on Micro Irrigation Scheme is being continued in the Twelfth Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 1500.00 crore for 2012-13.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I*Financial Assistance under National Mission on Micro Irrigation*

(₹ in crore)

S.No.	States	2010-11	2011-12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	240.00	287.20
2.	Bihar	0.00	4.50
3.	Chhattisgarh	10.19	35.00
4.	Goa	0.24	0.25
5.	Gujarat	120.00	166.64
6.	Haryana	13.61	19.93
7.	Jharkhand	1.50	9.91
8.	Karnataka	92.54	109.65
9.	Kerala	0.00	2.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	79.61	109.64
11.	Maharashtra	222.37	249.80
12.	Odisha	8.10	8.23
13.	Punjab	12.61	16.00
14.	Rajasthan	120.00	130.95
15.	Tamil Nadu	65.91	66.25
16.	Uttar Pradesh	8.12	0.00
17.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00
18.	NE and Himalayan States*	2.25	10.00

*Scheme introduced in 2010-11.

Statement-II*Area covered under National Mission on Micro Irrigation
(2005-06 to July, 2012)*

Sl.No.	State	Area Covered (000'ha)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	718

1	2	3
2.	Bihar	41
3.	Chhattisgarh	112
4.	Goa	0.50
5.	Gujarat	361
6.	Haryana	51
7.	Jharkhand	8
8.	Karnataka	448
9.	Kerala	12
10.	Madhya Pradesh	159
11.	Maharashtra	619
12.	Odisha	46
13.	Punjab	24
14.	Rajasthan	589
15.	Tamil Nadu	103
16.	Uttar Pradesh	17
17.	West Bengal	0.77
18.	NE and Himalayan States*	0.78
TOTAL:		3310.05

*Scheme introduced in 2010-11

Setting up of Rice Research Centre in Assam for enhancement of rice productivity

2198. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Directorate of Rice Research located in Hyderabad, is aimed at enhancement of rice productivity and welfare of farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the State of Assam is low in rice production; and

(c) if so, whether Government feels the need to open a Rice Research Centre on the lines of Hyderabad in Assam to benefit the farmers of that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The Directorate of Rice Research (DRR) located in Hyderabad is aiming to coordinate rice research in the country and conduct in-depth research on all aspects of irrigated rice aimed at enhancement of rice productivity and welfare of rice farmers.

(b) Yes, Sir. Rice productivity in the State of Assam is below the national average.

(c) Assam Agricultural University is already one of the centers of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Rice Improvement being coordinated by DRR, Hyderabad. Further, in order to strengthen Assam State's efforts for increasing rice productivity by developing production technologies specially suited for flood-prone rainfed lowlands of Assam, Regional Rainfed Lowland Rice Research Station (RRLRRS) was established at Gerua (Kamrup) under Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack on September 15, 1997. Since its establishment, RRLRRS, Gerua is catering to the research needs and requirements of rice farmers of flood-prone lowlands by generating and popularizing appropriate technologies.

Use of chemicals in agro products

‡2199. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether use of chemicals in agro products is very harmful for human life and environment;

(b) if so, whether Government has chalked out any comprehensive plan for preventing the use of chemicals in agro products and starting the use of organic substances as an alternative;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Pesticides are approved by the Registration Committee (RC) constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 after evaluation of their efficacy and safety. Human life and environment are not affected by pesticides if they are used as per label and leaflet claims.

Label/leaflets contain information on equipment to be used, dosage and directions for use and safety precautions for spraying of pesticides.

(b) to (d) In order to minimize the use of chemical pesticides for managing insect pests/diseases attack, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, Department

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is implementing a scheme "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" since 1991-92 by adopting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as main plank of plant protection strategy in overall crop production programme. Under the ambit of IPM programme the Government of India has established 31 Central IPM Centres in 28 States and one UT.

Under IPM use of substances of organic origin like botanical and microbial Biopesticides are being advocated as alternatives to the chemical pesticides.

Cymbidium species of orchids in Uttarakhand

‡2200. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the orchid of Cymbidium flowers species are being produced commercially in Darjeeling and Sikkim region of the country;

(b) whether climate of Uttarakhand is also suitable for growing orchids of Cymbidium species;

(c) if so, whether a team of experts would be sent to Uttarakhand to explore the possibility of production of Cymbidium species of orchids in that State;

(d) whether cooperation of horticulture department of the State Government is also likely to be taken; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (e) The orchid of Cymbidium flowers species are produced commercially in Darjeeling and Sikkim region of the country. The climate of some hilly districts of Uttarakhand is suitable for growing orchids of Cymbidium species. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) is under implementation in the State of Uttarakhand. Under this mission, assistance is provided for establishment of nurseries, tissue culture units, model floriculture centre, cultivation of cut, bulbous and loose flowers, protected cultivation of high value flowers, Human Resource Development, etc. for promotion of floriculture in the State of Uttarakhand.

Government of Uttarakhand is promoting floriculture in the State. The training of the officials and farmers on orchid cultivation is organized and imparted by the State Government. A batch of 15 officials and farmers from the State was sent to National Research Centre (NRC) for Orchids, Sikkim, for training on Orchid cultivation during July, 2012. Further, the Government of Uttarakhand has planned training for officials and farmers at NRC Sikkim slated for November/December, 2012.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Invention of new gram variety

2201. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government and agricultural scientists encourage rural farmer innovators;

(b) if so, how many farmer innovators have been encouraged in the last two years;

(c) whether a farmer from Kolhapur district of Maharashtra has developed a new dual poded gram variety called 'Sushil Laxmi' that yields nearly 1.8 tonnes per acre under irrigated and 0.8 to 0.9 tonnes per acre under rain-fed condition; and

(d) if so, the steps Government is taking to propagate his invention to benefit farmers across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) To encourage rural farmer innovators, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Right Authority (PPVFRA) and the Indian Council of Agricultural (ICAR) have instituted awards for the farmers. "Plant Genome Community Award" of PPVFRA supports and rewards farmers in the tribal area, rural communities engaged in conservation, improvement and preservation of genetic resources. Varieties developed by farmers are also entitled for registration subject to fulfillment of criteria thereof. ICAR has also instituted Jagjivan Ram Innovative Farmer Award to recognize the contribution of innovative farmer for initiatives in development, adoption, modification and dissemination of improved technologies and practices for increased income and sustainability. Each year one national and eight zonal awards can be given. Also to recognize outstanding contribution of innovative farmer for diversified agriculture, N.G. Ranga Farmer Award is given annually by ICAR. In addition, ICAR/ Agricultural Scientists also encourage the farmers' innovations by testing and verifying the product/technologies developed by them.

(b) During the last two years, 7 farmers and 6 farming communities were given Plant Genome Community Award whereas 15 farmers at zonal level and 2 at National level were bestowed with Jagjivan Ram Innovative Farmer Award. Also, 2 farmers at National Level received N.G. Ranga Farmer Award for diversified Agriculture.

(c) and (d) Chickpea variety "Sushil Laxmi" developed by a farmer from Kolhapur district of Maharashtra was tested in All India Coordinated trials of chickpea in rabi 1995-96. The yield performance of variety "Sushil Laxmi" was found inferior to checks. On the basis of mean yield, this variety was not promoted further for second year testing.

During the year 2009-10, the variety "Sushil Laxmi" was tested again for DUS (Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability) testing at Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur and Mahatma Phule Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Rahuri as per the directives and guidelines of PPV&FRA. This variety was grown with other reference varieties of chickpea (BGD 75, BG 256, ICCV 37, Avrodhi, K 850, Vishal, Vaibhal and RSG 807). All the reference varieties performed well but plan population of "Sushil Laxmi" was not as per specification of DUS test because of mortality of plants due to wilt and other root diseases under field condition. It was susceptible to wilt and other root diseases and inferior in yield in comparison to other popular varieties of chickpea.

Dwindling population of goats and sheep

2202. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of States where goat and sheep population is recorded as dwindling during last two animal censuses;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to stop the export of goat and sheep meat;
- (c) whether Government has considered the revised export meat policy in reference to the said census results; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The last two animal censuses are 17th Livestock Census of 2003 and 18th Livestock Census of 2007. The names of the States where goat and sheep population has declined during the intercensal period *i.e.* 2003 to 2007 are as under:

States	
Goat	Goa, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Sikkim, West Bengal, Chandigarh and Daman and Diu
Sheep	Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

However, during the same period the total number of goats at all India level has increased from 124358 thousand to 140537 thousand and that of sheep from 61469 thousand to 71558 thousand.

(b) to (d) As, per the current Foreign Trade Policy, the export of meat of sheep and goat is free. There is no proposal under consideration to amend the Policy.

Funds for development of agriculture

2203. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds earmarked for incentives/research for development of agriculture during the last three years;
- (b) the details of funds allocated during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the details of results achieved so far; and
- (d) whether Government is satisfied with the results achieved till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) DARE/ICAR does not allocate funds State-wise. However the details of Plan and Non-Plan funds earmarked and allocated during last three years *viz.* 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) Some of the major research accomplishments in the recent years have been decoding of pigeon pea and tomato genomes; Buffalo cloning and breeding of marine fish species; GIS based soil fertility mapping for macro, secondary and micronutrients at district level; Liquid biofertilizer formulation; Resource conservation technologies of zero-tillage, raised bed planting and laser land leveling; formulation of protocols for nutrient based subsidy; Farming systems modules for small farmers in drylands and intercropping models; Resilient varieties of rice, wheat, maize, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane, jute, fruits and vegetables for abiotic stresses such as temperature, salinity, drought and submergence and pests and diseases; Integrated Nutrient Management, Integrated Farming and Integrated Pest Management strategies; Diagnostics and vaccines for a number of plant and animal diseases; design and fabrication of farm implements such as laser land leveler, self-propelled sprayers, precision seeders and planters, transplanters for rice and vegetable seedlings, multi-crop threshers, harvesters for cereals and sugarcane, bullock drawn manure spreader to uniformly spread manure in fields, pedal-operated sugarcane bud chipping equipment, groundnut-cum-castor decorticators, maize sheller and related equipment.

(d) Yes, Sir. The research institutes under ICAR have regular interactions with different research and development agencies, through the Regional Committees, eight of them across the country on a biennial basis, where the Research Institutes, State Agricultural Universities, State Departments, banks and other related agencies. There are specific farmer and industry interactions organized at the institute level across the country. Similar meets are held with the CGIAR institutes, other S&T Departments of Government of India for inter-departmental collaboration, as also meets of Innovative Farmers. These enable dissemination of technologies and also provide feedbacks for research prioritization.

The adoption of technologies by farmers in the country has resulted in manifold increase in the farm productivity and production. While the annual food grain production has increased from 50 mmt in 1950-51 to about 257 mmt presently from the stagnant cultivable area of 140 mha \pm 2 mha, the horticultural production has increased to 240 mmt over the same period. While the present milk production of over 127 mmt has resulted in *per capita* availability of milk of 283 grams/day, the annual egg and fish production are of the order of 65 billion and 8.3 mmt respectively.

Statement

Department of Agricultural Research and Education/Indian Council of Agricultural Research
A. Plan Funds earmarked and allocated during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12

Name of the Scheme	2009-10		2009-10		2010-11		2010-11		2011-12	
	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Crop Science	304.00	304.00	359.00	366.00	392.77	392.77				
Horticulture	90.00	98.00	121.00	124.00	184.20	191.20				
Natural Resource Management	102.00	102.00	120.03	123.03	200.10	234.09				
Agricultural Engineering	43.00	43.00	52.00	52.63	67.40	69.40				
Animal Science	92.00	92.00	108.00	112.68	201.53	201.53				
Fisheries	45.00	45.00	55.00	65.00	90.00	94.00				
Agri. Eco. and Statistics	4.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00				
Agricultural Extension	307.00	328.00	400.00	636.76	432.00	537.64				
Agricultural Education	370.00	372.00	458.00	462.00	507.00	558.00				
Central Agricultural University+DARE	91.00	70.50	91.00	80.65	109.00	101.01				
MIS (ICAR Hq. + IPTM)	30.00	17.00	16.00	17.90	187.00	121.33				

(Rs. in Lakh)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
National Agricultural Innovative Project and GEF	257.00	277.23	293.97	270.00	176.00	176.00
Indo US Knowledge Initiative/Agricultural Cooperation	5.00	4.00	0.80	0.00	0.00	
National Fund for Basic and Strategic Research (likely to be reorganised as National Agricultural Science Foundation in Twelfth Plan)	20.00	4.27	22.00	8.11	30.00	38.00
National Initiative on Climate Resilient in Agriculture (under NRM)			200.00	200.00	150.00	132.00
TOTAL:	1760.00	1760.00	2299.80	2521.76	2730.00	2849.97
New Initiatives						
National Institute for Biotic Stress Management			0.1		20	0.01
Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology			0.1		30	0.01
CAU Bundelkhand					20	0.01
GRAND TOTAL:	1760.00	1760.00	2300.00	2521.76	2800.00	2850.00
Note: Rs. 2521.76 crore include RE Rs.2300 crore + KVK Arrear 221.30 crore + Reappropriation from Non-Plan to KVK Arrear 0.45 crore)						
MPKV	73.37	61.32	7.5	7.5	8.54	8.54

(b) Details of allocation of funds under Non-Plan in respect of Demand No. 2 - DARE for the last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	BE 2009-10	RE 2009-10	BE 2010-11	RE 2010-11	BE 2011-12	RE 2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
DARE							
1.	Secretariat - Economic Services	374.00	324.00	305.00	298.00	337.00	353.00
2.	Contributions to Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau, CGIAR and Association of APARI	432.00	417.00	437.00	430.00	447.00	429.00
TOTAL DARE (A)		806.00	741.00	742.00	728.00	784.00	782.00
ICAR							
1.	AP Cess Fund	1000.00	245.00	300.00	150.00	100.00	100.00
2.	Crop Science	35230.00	37226.00	36300.00	51947.00	56300.00	58916.00
3.	Horticulture	15760.00	16180.00	16200.00	21103.00	23300.00	24065.00
4.	Agricultural Extension	143.00	143.00	150.00	236.00	450.00	296.00
5.	Agricultural Education	1180.00	1180.00	1200.00	110225.00	25500.00	19209.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Agricultural Economics and Statistics Management	1860.00	1860.00	1900.00	2941.00	3900.00	3146.00
7.	Agricultural Engineering	4650.00	4650.00	4800.00	6754.00	8000.00	7230.00
8.	ICAR Hqrs. Administration including ASRB, DIPA and IPR management	33255.00	33255.00	34600.00	11062.00	12176.00	13503.00
9.	Soil and Water conservation Research Institute	2267.00	2267.00	2013.00	3100.00	3100.00	3125.00
10.	Other Natural Resource Management Institutes	16674.00	16674.00	17200.00	22005.00	22750.00	25739.00
11.	Animal Science	24215.00	24215.00	25000.00	37018.00	38800.00	39007.00
12.	Fisheries	11100.00	11500.00	11400.00	19231.00	20600.00	20642.00
TOTAL ICAR (B)		147334.00	149395.00	151063.00	285772.00	214976.00	214978.00
GRAND TOTAL (A+B)		148140.00	150136.00	151805.00	286500.00	215760.00	215760.00

Installation of REAPs

2204. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would launch pilot projects for commissioning of Renewal Energy Assisted Pumps (REAPs) in States where agricultural operations are badly hit due to shortage of power;

(b) if so, whether such pumps could be installed in six districts like Yavatmal of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra where farmers are committing suicides due to very low crop production on account of acute scarcity of water; and

(c) whether the technology developed by BSES Yamuna Power Ltd., in collaboration with IIT Delhi, would be studied by ICAR to identify areas for installation of such pumps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is currently providing financial assistance for installation of solar photo voltaic water pumps under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission. Solar pumping system upto 5 kWp for agricultural, horticultural, irrigation and drinking water supply are eligible for 30% subsidy limited to Rs.57,000/- per kWp under this scheme. The above scheme is operational in all districts of the country including six districts like Yavatmal of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra.

(c) ICAR has found the technology developed by BSES Yamuna Power Ltd. found suitable for pumping groundwater for irrigation or drinking purposes especially in areas with adequate duration of sunshine.

Hike in fertilizer prices

2205. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current price of D.A.P. is nearly ₹ 1300/- per bag compared to about ₹ 500 last year;

(b) whether the price of 12/32/16 N.P.K. has risen from about ₹ 460/- per bag last year to about ₹ 1200/- per bag this year; of 10/26/26 N.P.K. from about ₹ 430/- to about ₹ 1200/- and of N.P.K. 20/20/23 from about ₹ 380/- to over ₹ 1000/- per bag;

(c) whether the price of Potash has increased from about ₹ 270/- to nearly ₹ 900/- per bag; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to ensure balance in fertilizer prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) The current highest price of DAP is nearly Rs.1300 per bag as compared to Rs.900 per bag last year.

(b) The present and last year's highest Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of the NPK fertilizers mentioned in the question are as under:-

(In Rupees)

Sl. No.	Grades of fertilizers	*Highest MRP per bag during 2012-13	*Highest MRP per bag during 2011-12
1	12-32-16	820	1115
2	10-26-26	819	1110
3	20-20-0-13	790	950

*The MRPs indicated in the table are exclusive of local taxes.

(c) The current price of MOP is around Rs.900 per bag as compared to around Rs.600 per bag last year.

(d) Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy is being implemented on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers under which a fixed subsidy decided on annual basis, is provided based on its nutrient content. The MRP is fixed by fertilizer companies. The prices of fertilizers in the year 2012-13 have increased mainly due to depreciation of Indian Rupee. In addition the international prices of fertilizers keep on fluctuating, which is not under the control of the Government. The Government is providing subsidy on P&K fertilizers to the extent of 50 to 67% of the delivered cost to make them affordable to the farmers.

Urea is provided at a fixed MRP of Rs.5310 per MT since 1.4.2010.

Viability of funding projects of NIPER

2206. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sanctioned/disbursed Government fundings, project-wise, alongwith the project objectives to various National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPERs);

(b) whether Government makes periodical assessment, project-wise, regarding continuity of the viability of these projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Setting up of Fertilizer Fund

2207. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Working Group of the Planning Commission has recommended for setting up of a Fertilizer Fund with an amount of ' 25,000 crores;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the aims and objectives of the proposed Fund; and
- (d) the other recommendations made by the Working Group with regard to import of fertilizers and to overcome the shortage of fertilizers domestically?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) No 'Fertilizer Fund' as such has been visualized.

(d) Regarding import of fertilizers, the Working Group has indicated that since India is dependent on imported raw materials and intermediates for phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilizers and is devoid of any substantial economically exploitable reserves of P&K raw materials, sufficient supplies of raw materials and intermediates for P&K sector over a sustained period has to be ensured.

The Indian companies need to invest outside in the resources rich countries by way of joint ventures in new mining capacities, production of phosphoric acid, production of finished fertilizers, long term buy back arrangement with present suppliers etc. This will not only provide some control over the world resources but will also help in stabilising the international prices. In parallel, intensive Research and Development (R&D) to explore the possibility of extraction of inputs from other natural resources in the country like marine, land could be initiated specially for potash.

To overcome shortages of fertilizers, the Working Group has recommended that new investments need to be attracted to the special economic zones where fiscal benefits are provided to attract investments. Besides fiscal benefits, the fertilizer industry could be provided incentives as under:

- (i) Exemptions from various taxes, such as income tax, custom duties, central excise duties and service tax.
- (ii) Viability gap funding for investments in new projects in India and abroad.

- (iii) Facilitating long term contracts for gas.
- (iv) Securitization of subsidy receivables to ensure regular cash flow.

Import of phosphatic and potash fertilizer

2208. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether our country depends heavily on imports for its phosphatic and potash fertilizer requirements;
- (b) if so, the magnitude of this import and percentage of share of these two fertilizers in total consumption of fertilizers in the country;
- (c) the reasons for increased dependency on import of fertilizers; and
- (d) the steps taken to increase production of these two fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The country has no known reserve of potash and very little reserves of phosphates that too of low quality suitable only for the production of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) and therefore, the country is fully dependent on imports in case of Potassic fertilizers and to the extent of 90% in case of Phosphatic fertilizers either in the form of finished fertilizers or raw materials.

The country being dependent on imports to meet the requirements of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers including its raw material, the Government is encouraging the acquisition of fertilizer assets/resources by Indian Public Sector Undertakings/Companies and setting up of joint ventures fertilizer projects abroad in resource rich countries. The Government also encourages long term off-take agreements for supply of fertilizers/fertilizer inputs at preferential prices to increase production of P&K fertilizers.

Timely supply of DAP and Urea to Madhya Pradesh

‡2209. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of demand of DAP and Urea in Madhya Pradesh and the allocation of these being made by Government to the State for last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the reasons for very late allocation of imported Urea and DAP to Madhya Pradesh each month; and

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government has taken concrete steps to supply DAP and Urea to Madhya Pradesh as per its demand and on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (b) The demand and allocation (Availability) of Urea and DAP in Madhya Pradesh during last three years *i.e.* 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 are as under:—

(Figures in LMT)

Year	Urea		DAP	
	Demand	Allocation (Availability)	Demand	Allocation (Availability)
2009-10	15.25	16.00	8.50	9.52
2010-11	16.75	17.05	10.00	10.94
2011-12	17.50	18.16	10.95	11.89

(c) It is observed from the table above that the allocation/availability is over and above the requirement of last three years.

Selling of common drugs at higher prices

2210. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that leading pharmaceutical companies sell commonly used drugs at 10 times the cost of production;

(b) whether Government intends to take stringent action against such companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The prices of 74 scheduled bulk drugs and the formulations containing any of those 74 scheduled drugs are controlled by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95). The prices of formulations are fixed as per the formula given in paragraph 7 of DPCO, 1995 and a 'MAPE' (Maximum Allowable Post-manufacturing Expenses) not exceeding 100% of the ex-factory cost is allowed in the price of indigenously manufactured scheduled formulations to take care of the post-manufacturing expenses; including profit margins of the manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. In case of an imported formulation, a margin not exceeding 50% of the landed cost is allowed to cover selling and distribution expenses including interest and importers profit.

In respect of drugs not covered under the DPCO, 95 *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, manufactures fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of the Government/NPPA. NPPA has no control on the launch price of the non-scheduled formulations. NPPA regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of IMS Health and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 95 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest.

Based on monitoring of prices of non-scheduled formulations, NPPA has fixed prices in case of 30 formulation packs under para 10(b) and companies have reduced price voluntarily in case of 65 formulation packs. Thus in all, prices of 95 packs of non-scheduled drugs have got reduced as a result of the intervention of NPPA.

A number of drug companies have been found to be selling scheduled medicines at a higher price to the consumers. In such cases NPPA initiates action for overcharging based on the report from State Drug Controllers (SDCs), complaints from individuals, verification of price list submitted by companies and *suo-moto* purchase of samples of scheduled packs. In case, a company is found selling the scheduled drugs/formulations at a price higher than the prices fixed by NPPA/Government, appropriate action is initiated against them by NPPA under para 13 of the DPCO, 95 read with Essential Commodities Act, 1955 for recovery of the overcharged amount.

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

On the basis of the complaints registered by individuals/NGOs, reports received from the State Drug Controllers and the samples purchased by NPPA from different parts of the country, compliance of the prices fixed/notified by the NPPA is regularly monitored and ensured. Price list submitted by the company in Form V is scrutinized for the purpose. In case a company is found selling any scheduled formulation at a price higher than that notified/approved by the NPPA/Government, action is taken against such company as per the provision of DPCO, 95 for recovery of the overcharged amount.

Rise in the price of fertilizers

2211. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers in the country are unable to secure fertilizers an account of prohibitive cost which results in low agricultural yield;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the reasons for rise in price of fertilizers during last three years; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to check the rise in prices of fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) It is seen that there has been lesser sales of P&K fertilizers during April to July, 2012 as compared to the corresponding period in the last two years. Reduced sales of P&K fertilizers may be due to various factors including deficient monsoon and prevailing prices of fertilizers. However, the sale of Urea has remained more or less the same during this period.

(c) and (d) Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) policy is being implemented on Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers under which a fixed amount of subsidy decided on annual basis, is provided on all grades of subsidized P&K fertilizers depending upon its nutrient contents. The range of MRP of P&K fertilizers during the Kharif season (Feb. to July, 2012) given in Statement (*See below*).

Since the country is dependent on imports of P&K fertilizers either in the form of finished fertilizers or its raw materials, the delivered prices of P&K fertilizers are also dependent on international prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials and exchange rate of India Rupees against US\$.

During the year 2010-11, the international prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials increased marginally and exchange rate remained stable, therefore, the prices of P&K fertilizers in the country increased marginally.

During the year 2011-12, in spite of increase in the rates of subsidy, the prices of P&K fertilizers rose due to increase in international prices of P&K fertilizers and increase in exchange rate.

During the year 2012-13, the prices of P&K fertilizers have increased mainly due to depreciation of Indian Rupees from around Rs. 50 per US\$ in March, 2012 to more than Rs.56 per US\$ in June, 2012.

It is seen that the prices of P&K fertilizers have increased mainly due to increase in international prices of P&K fertilizers on which the Government has no control and also the depreciation of Indian Rupee.

The price of urea however, has remained unchanged at Rs. 5310/- per tonne since April, 2010.

Statement

Fertilizers are available to the following range of MRPs during Kharif season 2012

Sl. No.	Fertilizer Grade	MRP of fertilizers dispatched during Feb to July, 2012	
		Minimum	Maximum
1	2	3	4
1.	DAP: 18-46-0-0	13819	25316
2.	DAP lite (16-44-0-0)	13820	23729
3.	DAP Lite Group II	18300	24800
4.	MAP: 11-52-0-0	11900	24200
5.	MAP Lite	15140	18000
6.	TSP: 0-46-0-0	17000	17000
7.	MOP:0-0-60-0	11000	23100
8.	23-23-0-0	NA	NA
9.	20-20-0-0	10100	18700
10.	28-28-0-0	14346	24720
11.	24-24-0-0	14297	16223
12.	10-26-26-0	14100	22209
13.	12-32-16	16000	22300
14.	14-28-14-0	NA	NA
15.	14-35-14	17429	23300
16.	15-15-15	11500	15600
17.	17-17-17	19470	20427
18.	19-19-19	13826	19470
19.	16-16-16-0	15200	15200
20.	AS: 20.6-0-0-23	7577	11013

1	2	3	4
21.	SSP	6000	10420
22.	16-20-0-13	14100	15300
23.	20-20-0-13	14135	19000
24.	NPK 13:33:0:6	13729	17400
25.	15-15-15-09	14851	15000
26.	Urea	5310	5310

Broadband connectivity for villages

2212. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government is contemplating to provide broadband connectivity to villages for establishing e-governance in village panchayats;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the number of villages covered under the scheme as on date and the time by when all the villages are likely to be covered with broadband connectivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The Government has approved the scheme for creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) on 25th October, 2011, for providing Broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats through Optical Fibre Cable. The connectivity to Gram panchayats will be provided through this network for establishing e-governance.

NOFN project will be executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) *i.e.* Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), a company incorporated under Indian Companies Act 1956 fully owned by Central Government, with equity participation from Government, BSNL, Railtel and Powergrid. The Company has been incorporated on 25.2.2012 for this purpose. Presently, the pilots are being conducted in Paravada block of Vishakhapatnam district in Andhra Pradesh. Arian block of Ajmer district in Rajasthan and Panisagar block of North Tripura district in Tripura.

(c) All the Gram Panchayats in the country will be covered under the scheme. The project is to be completed in two years' time.

Sambalpur Postal Division in Odisha

2213. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Sambalpur Postal Division in Odisha was downgraded into Class-II division without any valid reasons; and
- (b) by when Sambalpur Postal Division is going to be upgraded into Class-I division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Sir, Sambalpur Postal Division in Odisha Circle was downgraded in 1996 from Group 'A' to Group 'B' (Class II) on account of the fourth Cadre Review of Indian Postal-Service.

(b) At present, there is no proposal for upgradation of Sambalpur Postal Division into a Group 'A' Division.

Shortage of telephone instruments for MTNL and BSNL

†2214. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that MTNL and BSNL are facing acute shortage of telephone instruments across the country for the last two-three years;
- (b) whether manufacturing of instruments is not in proportion to the number of consumers and the Department is denying new connections to consumers on account of non-availability of instruments; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken to compete with private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are not facing shortage of telephone instruments in the country and they are not denying new connections on account of non-availability of telephone instruments.

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

Radiation emission levels in mobile handsets

2215. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up any laboratory in the country to test the SAR value of mobile handsets, imported and manufactured in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the mobile handsets identified with radiation emission levels higher than the prescribed norms, company-wise; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to ban the use of such handsets in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) under Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is in the process of setting up Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) laboratory in the country to test the SAR value of mobile handsets.

- (c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.
- (d) DoT *vide* Office Memorandum No.18-10/2008-IP dated 25th January, 2012 as amended *vide* Office Memorandum No. 18-10/2008-IP dated 17th August, 2012, has notified the following revised SAR limit for compliance.
 - (i) SAR level for mobile handset shall be limited to 1.6 Watt/Kg. averaged over a mass of 1 gram of human tissue.
 - (ii) All the new design of mobile handsets shall comply with the SAR value of 1.6 W/Kg averaged over 1 gram tissue w.e.f. 1st September, 2012. However, the mobile handsets with existing designs which are compliant with 2.0 W/Kg averaged over 10 gram tissue, may continue to co-exist upto 31st August, 2013.
 - (iii) From 1st September, 2013, only the mobile handsets with revised SAR value of 1.6 W/Kg would permitted to be manufactured or imported in India for domestic market.

Social security measures for casual workers in BSNL

2216. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any complaints have been received by Government that the rules regarding minimum wages and social security measures like EPF, ESI, etc. are not being implemented for the casual and contract workers in BSNL; and
- (b) if so, the action taken to ensure that the minimum wages and social security measures, etc. are implemented by BSNL Management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Some complaints have been received in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) regarding non-implementation of minimum wages and Social Security measures like EPF, ESI

etc. in few circle offices of BSNL in respect of contract workers. The complaints received are investigated and, BSNL as a Principal Employer, is ensuring that the rules regarding Minimum Wages Act, Social Security measures etc. are enforced. BSNL is also regularly sensitising its circle offices/field units from time to time for compliance of various labour laws for protecting the rights of workers.

Funds for SCSP and TSP

2217. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds earmarked for Schedule Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) during last three financial years as per the guidelines issued by Planning Commission *vide* its letter dated 26 December, 2006;

(b) if no such funds were earmarked during the last three years, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether separate Budget Head has been opened for SCSP and TSP for financial year 2011-12 as mandated by the Department of Expenditure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT):

A. Department of Posts

(a) Nil.

(b) No funds are provided under SCSP and TSP since the Department of Posts provides services that can be accessed by all citizens in all parts of the country and it is not possible to identify/demark any of Plan Schemes to specifically target scheduled castes/tribes segment of the population only. However, norms for opening of Post Offices in respect of population, distance and income are relaxed in tribal, hilly, desert and remote areas to ensure provision of postal facilities to people living in these areas.

(c) Nil.

(d) Nil.

B. Department of Telecommunications

(a) There is no Scheduled Caste Special Plan (SCSP) in the Department of Telecommunications.

Earmarking of allocation in respect of TSP for DOT started from 2011-12 onwards in accordance with Planning Commission letter No. N-11016/12/(I)/2009-PC dated 15-12-2010. Prior to 2011-12 no allocation was made for TSP. Accordingly, the amount allocated for TSP for DOT is as below:—

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Amount Allocated under TSP
2009-10	NA
2010-11	NA
2011-12	8.57

(b) Since the Department of Telecommunications is no longer directly involved with provisioning of telecom facilities in the Country and also It does not administer any centrally sponsored schemes unlike other Ministries/Departments there has been no earmarking of funds for SCSP in DOT.

(c) Yes, separate Budget Head has been opened for TSP in financial year 2011-12.

(d) Head of Account opened under TSP for the following:—

- (1) 3451-00-796-01-0031-Tribal Sub Plan- C-DoT-Grants-in-aid General.
- (2) 3275-00-796-01-0052-Monitoring Services- Machinery and Equipment's.
- (3) 3275-00-796-02-0050-Compensation to Services Provided for Universal Service Obligation Fund- Other Charges.

C. Department of Electronics and Information Technology

(a) The guidelines issued by Planning Commission *vide* its letter dated 26th December, 2006 for earmarking funds for SCSP and TSP were considered by the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY). Planning Commission was informed that DeitY is as Scientific Department and major programmes are in the areas of Research and Development, Export Promotion, Technology and Infrastructure Development. The Department allocates its resources to various projects/programmes for infrastructure Development or Sponsored Projects for Specific Technology or Manpower Development. However, DeitY has identified some Schemes and earmarked funds under such schemes for the benefit of SC/ST. The details of such Schemes identified and funds earmarked are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

Further in pursuance to the recommendations of the Task Force set up by Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Member, Planning Commission on 04.06.2010, DeitY was required to earmark 2% of the approved GBS under SCSP and 6.7% of the approved GBS under TSP beginning 2011-12. Accordingly DeitY earmarked Rs. 60.00 crore under SCSP and Rs. 201.00 crore under TSP for the Annual Plan 2011-12. The details of allocation are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

- (b) Not applicable in view of reply to part (a) above.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The Budget Heads upto Sub Head level are as under:

SCSP

2852-Industries (Major Head)

07-Telecommunication and Electronics Industries (Sub-Major Head)

07-789-Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes (Minor Head)

Sub-Heads

01-Electronic Governance

02-National Knowledge Network

03-Manpower Development

04-IT for Masses

05-National Informatics Centre

TSP

2852-Industries (Major Head)

07-Telecommunication and Electronics Industries (Sub-Major Head)

07.796-Tribal Area Sub Plan (Minor Head)

Sub-Heads

01-Electronic Governance

02-National Knowledge Network

03-Manpower Development

04-IT for Masses

05-National Informatics Centre

Statement-I

*List of Schemes where atleast 20% of allocation is earmarked for the
Development of SCs and STs*

(Rupees in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2009-10 (BE)	2010-11 (BE)
1	2	3	4
1.	E-Governance	18.00	20.60

1	2	3	4
2.	IT for Masses	0.40	0.40
3.	TDC	0.60	1.60
4.	Convergence Communication and Strategic Electronics	0.40	0.60
5.	C-DAC	1.80	4.00
6.	TDIL	0.20	0.80
7.	Media Lab Asia	0.20	0.20
8.	STQC	1.40	1.80
9.	Cyber Security Inc. CERT-In, IT Act	0.80	0.80
10..	Manpower Development	2.00	5.00
11.	NIC	12.20	14.40
12.	Electronics in Health	0.20	0.40
13.	National Knowledge Network	12.00	2.00
14.	NIELIT erstwhile DOEACC	0.40	0.60
TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHEMES		14	14
TOTAL ALLOCATION		50.60	53.20

Source: Statement 21 of Expenditure Budget of Ministry of Finance for years 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Statement-II

Department of Electronics and Information Technology for 2011-12

(1) Scheme-wise allocation under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP)

(Rupees in crore)	
Name of the Scheme	2011-12 (BE)
1	2
Electronic Governance	21.75
Manpower Development	2.55

1	2
National Informatics Centre	22.62
National Knowledge Network	7.50
IT for Masses	5.58
TOTAL:	60.00

(2) Scheme-wise allocation under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)

(Rupees in crore)

Name of the Scheme	2011-12 (BE)
Electronic Governance	92.42
Manpower Development	10.85
National Informatics Centre	67.86
National Knowledge Network	22.50
IT for Masses	7.37
TOTAL:	201.00

Incentives to registered IT companies

2218. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing any incentives to the registered Information Technology (IT) companies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the norms and criteria prescribed for the same;

(c) the funds allocated and released for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, company-wise; and

(d) the total income by way of excise duty and other charges remitted by the registered IT companies during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government extends several incentives for Information Technology Sector in the country : (i) Under Software Technology Parks (STP) scheme, as per the Foreign

Trade Policy (FTP) approved units are allowed to import goods required by them for carrying on software export activities without payment of custom duty. Apart from this, the approved STP units can avail CST reimbursement, excise duty exemption on procurement of indigenously available capital goods, components and other specified goods (as per Foreign Trade Policy), (ii) Besides, software is also exempted from basic customs duty, (iii) 235 IT-ITES specific Special Economic Zones (SEZs) have been notified across the country, which are contributing to IT-ITES exports. Section 10AA of the Income Tax Act provides for a deduction from the total income of hundred percent of profits and gains derived by a unit located in a SEZ from the export of articles or things or from services for the first 5 consecutive assessment years, of fifty percent for further 5 assessment years and thereafter, of fifty percent of the ploughed back export profit for next 5 years, (iv) The Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme assists exporters for export promotion activities abroad.

(c) and (d) The incentives are in the form of exemptions and reimbursements. However, company-wise information is not maintained.

Disbursement of USO funds by BSNL

2219. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Universal Service Obligation Funds due to BSNL were disbursed to the appropriate zones as per norms; and

(b) if so, the detail of amounts which were disbursed and those yet to be given in various parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) Subsidy is being paid to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) as per agreement under various Activities/Schemes of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) implemented in the country.

(b) The year-wise details of amount of subsidy disbursed by USOF to BSNL under various agreements upto 31.7.2012 are as follows:-

Year	Amount (in Rs Crore)
1	2
2002-03	297.23
2003-04	197.30

1	2
2004-05	1311.42
2005-06	1744.41
2006-07	1042.03
2007-08	814.84
2008-09	1221.62
2009-10	2009.06
2010-11	3001.70
2011-12	1634.62
2012-13 (upto 31.7.2012)	48.16

The details of amount of subsidy yet to be paid by USOF to BSNL for various Activities/Schemes as on 22.8.2012, is as follows:—

Activities/Schemes	Amount (in Rs Crore)
New VPT-II (Village Public Telephones)	0.128
Wireline-Broadband	0.504

Research for faster internet

2220. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- whether the dream of having faster internet within a few years may come true if pure science research by physicists in Hyderabad succeeds; and
- if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Hyderabad is implementing a project on high speed long distance data transfers. The research efforts are for usage of next generation high speed protocols like User Datagram Protocol based application level data Transport (UDT) for bulk data transfer applications relevant to Grid or Cloud environments over Internet.

Electronic and software industries

2221. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of electronic industries and software industries and software and electronic training industries located in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise along with their detailed locational address; and

(b) the details of electronics and hardware policy as announced by Andhra Pradesh Government recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that there are 932 operating software units in Andhra Pradesh, out of which 780 are Software Technology Park (STP) units and 152 are Special Economic Zone (SEZ) units. The district-wise location of these units is as follows:—

Sl.No.	District	STPI units	SEZ units
1.	Hyderabad	738	136
2.	Visakhapatnam	16	13
3.	Kakinada	10	-
4.	Tirupati	6	-
5.	Vijayawada	10	3
6.	Warangal	-	-
TOTAL:		780	152

The addresses of STP units are available on website <http://www.hyd.stpi.in>. The information on addresses of SEZ units in Andhra Pradesh is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Further, there are 206 electronic hardware manufacturing units in Andhra Pradesh. The district-wise location of these units is as follows:

S.No.	District	No. of units
1.	Chittoor	1
2.	East Godavari	1
3.	Hyderabad	73
4.	Ranga Reddy	128
5.	Krishna	3
TOTAL:		206

The addresses of above units are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

There are five operational Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) units in Andhra Pradesh and the addresses of these units are:-

1. Biogenex Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd. Plot No.7, Gunrock Enclave, Secunderabad;
2. Danlaw Technologies India Limited, 2nd Floor, Plot No. 1271 Road No.63, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad;
3. Keerthi Industries Limited, Plot No. 40 IDA, Balanagar, Hyderabad;
4. Mackel Components, Plot No. 63, C.I.E., Gandhinagar, Balanagar Hyderabad;
5. Quad Electronic Solutions Private Limited, 12-50/4/A, next to Industrial Estate, Medchal, R.R. District, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, Rangareddy District.

The details of software and electronic training industries located in Andhra Pradesh are not available with the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY).

(b) Electronic Hardware Policy 2012-2017 of Government of Andhra Pradesh was issued *vide* G.O.Ms. No.27 dated 24.07.2012. A copy of the said G.O. is available on website <http://www.apit.gov.in>.

CAG report on Telecom Licences

2222. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CAG in its report of the year 2000 on Telecom Licences had severely criticised the migration package offered to the operators in 1999 which caused a loss of about ₹ 50,000 crore to Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Action Taken Report (ATR) has been submitted by Government to the CAG, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not submitting the ATR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) A copy of

the Highlights of Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) Audit Para No. 14 on "Package of concessions to existing Cellular and Basic telephone service operators" of C&AG Report No.6 of 2000 is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Action Taken Notes (ATNs) on all the sub-paras of Audit Para No. 14 of the aforesaid C&AG Report No.6 of 2000 have been furnished to and vetted by C&AG and the paras closed except for 14.6.3 and 14.6.5 which are under modification for submission of reply in accordance with the vetting remarks of Audit.

Statement

Report No.6 of 2000 (Post and Telecommunications)

14.4 Highlights

- Licensees of cellular mobile and basic telephone services did not honour their contractual obligations and DoT also showed laxity towards them in taking action as per licence conditions resulting in mounting of licence fee dues to the extent of Rs 3779.45 crore against the licensees as of 31 May 1999.
- Licensees did not submit full financial bank guarantees as required under the agreement. DoT was in possession of financial bank guarantees of only Rs 1581.56 crore as against the outstanding dues of Rs 3779.45 crore as of May 1999.
- DoT did not ensure opening of mandatory escrow accounts by the licensees. None of the licensees opened escrow accounts even after 1-5 years of commissioning/signing of the licence agreements against the admissible time limit of only one month. This helped the licensees to flout licence conditions as DoT had no other effective mechanism for recovery of dues.
- DoT granted a comprehensive package of concessions and offer of migration from fixed licence fee regime to revenue sharing regime under NTP-99 to the existing licensees of cellular mobile and basic services by accepting their pleas that their projections of market size had gone wrong. The above presumption was not correct to the extent that subscriber base of cellular licensees in metros was several times higher than their projections; in telecom circles, incorrect comparisons were used to show that actual demand for cellular services was very low vis-a-vis expectations of the licensees. Further, no detailed study about the financial viability of the projects of basic service licensees was made.

- ICICI and BICP reports did not cover projects of basic service licensees. These licensees are in first or second year of licence and have not commissioned services in the circles except for starting services in a few cities. Thus, grant of concessions and offer of migration to revenue sharing regime to the licensees of basic telephone services is grossly unjustified and premature.
- Government had already taken action and granted concessions on the basis of ICICI and BICP reports on the financial viability of cellular projects. Thus, using these reports again as basis for granting concessions and justifying migration to revenue sharing regime without any fresh studies by any independent agency amounts to undue favour to licensees and grant of double concessions.
- As a part of package of concessions, government granted across the board extension of six months in effective date to all the existing licensees of basic and cellular mobile services in telecom circles without individual examination of cases on merit. This resulted in irregular waiver of outstanding licence fee of Rs 1153 crore and resultant loss of revenue to the Government.
- DoT did not charge any one-time entry fee from the existing licensees for migration to NTP-99. Outstanding licence fee has been treated as one time entry fee though NTP-99 provides for charging of one time entry fee in addition to licence fee. This led to huge revenue loss to the government. It is difficult to assess the loss at this stage in the absence of TRAI's guidelines.
- Cellular licensees did not pay Wireless Planning and Co-ordination (WPC) licence fee and royalty as per Government of India orders and an amount of Rs 162 crore was outstanding against them as on 31 May 1999. No separate WPC licence has been obtained by any cellular licensees which is a serious violation of Indian Telegraph Act.
- Government issued offers of migration to NTP-99 in a prematurely manner without i) finally deciding the quantum of revenue share chargeable as licence fee, ii) defining the gross revenue and iii) finalising modalities of verification of gross revenue of licensees and prescribing records to be maintained by each licensee for assessment of government share. The undue haste shown in issuing offers of migration without finalising necessary modalities is fraught with the serious risk of frauds and may also lead to demand for more concessions to licensees in future on similar grounds.

- Government granted across the board extension in the licence period by 5-10 years to the existing licensees of cellular and basic services without linking such extension with their performance. Thus, government lost the option of not granting extension to defaulting licensees after initial period of licence, for not properly discharging their contractual obligations or failing to provide services/coverage as required.
- The decision for migration of existing licensees from fixed licence fee regime to revenue sharing regime has been taken on the basis of the advice of Attorney General that continuance of these licensees under the existing regime though legally possible, would create serious financial problems. No such apprehensions were expressed by expert Group on Telecommunications (GoT) headed by Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, who was in a better position to make such assessment. GoT did not recommend switchover by existing licensees to NTP-99 after study of financial conditions of the projects of the existing licensees prepared by BICP.

Allocation for Information Technology for Twelfth Five Year Plan

2223. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has sought an allocation of ₹ 81.378 crore in the Twelfth Plan to boost Electronics Systems and Designs Manufacturing;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether the target is part of the draft National Policy of Electronics, 2011 which calls for investment of 100 billion US dollars in this sector and create 28 million jobs by 2020;
- (d) if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether the move is important as Indian electronic hardware production constitutes only around 1.31 per cent of the global production and the country's imports are expected to raise from 50 per cent to 75 per cent; and
- (f) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Sir. The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) has sought an allocation of Rs.33,400 crore in the Twelfth Five Year (2012-17) Plan for the programme "Promotion of Electronics Hardware Manufacturing".

- (b) The break-up of the proposed allocation for the programme is as under:

Sl. No.	Programme	Outlay (Rs. in crore)
1.	National Electronics Mission (NEM) (including Marketing and Brand development)	100
2.	Infrastructure and Ecosystem (Special Incentive Package Scheme (SIPS), Modified SIPS, Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC), etc.)	20,000
3.	Semiconductor Fabs	10,000
4.	Electronics Development Fund (EDF)	3,000
5.	Standards/Test Certification (Strengthening testing infrastructure, Administrative setup, Trainings and Publicity, etc.)	275
6.	Other Programmes	25
TOTAL:		33,400

(c) and (d) The proposed allocation in the Twelfth Plan for the Programme, "Promotion of Electronics Hardware Manufacturing" has been sought keeping in view the objectives of the draft National Policy on Electronics 2011.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The allocation is required to fund various strategies outlined in the draft National Policy on Electronics 2011.

Effect of mobile towers on wildlife

2224. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Environment and Forests has opined that radiation from mobile towers may have varying effect on wildlife especially the birds and bees;

(b) if so, whether that Ministry has issued some advisory to the Ministry of Communications regarding installation of mobile towers;

(c) if so, the details of the advisory and the reaction of the Ministry; and

(d) the efforts made to ensure that radiation from mobile towers does not harm the wildlife in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests had constituted an "Expert Committee to study the possible

impacts of communication towers on wildlife including Birds and Bees". The report of the expert committee has been submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. The committee reviewed the available scientific information and opined that there have not been enough scientific studies on the impact of mobile phone towers on human health or its environmental impacts. The Electro-Magnetic Radiation from the mobile towers/handsets may have varying negative impacts on wildlife.

(b) Yes Sir. In pursuance to the report submitted by the Expert Committee and subsequent consultations held with the stakeholders, the Ministry of Environment and Forests has issued an advisory containing the actions to be undertaken by various agencies involved in providing, regulating and dealing in any other manner with the EMR based services.

(c) The advisory issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests is given in Statement (*See* below).

DOT had set up committee to examine the effect of Electro-Magnetic Field Radiation from mobile towers/installation of Base Terminal Station (BTS) towers and has taken the best possible steps to ensure quality Telecom Services across the country, without compromising on public safety/human health.

(d) An Inter-Ministerial Committee was constituted in Department of Telecommunications to examine the health hazards posed by mobile phones and towers. Inter-Ministerial Committee in its report has indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio frequency radiation from mobile phones/towers and health and Environment and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause-and-effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health and Environment. The effect of emission from cell phone is not known yet with certainty.

As a precautionary principle, the Inter-Ministerial Committee has recommended for revision of Radiation exposure limit for mobile towers (Base Terminal Stations) to 1/10th of the existing limits and adoption of SAR level for mobile handsets limited to 1.6 Watt/Kg, averaged over a mass of 1 gram of human tissue. The Government directives have been issued for revision of Radiation exposure limit for Mobile towers/ Mobile handsets effective from 1st September, 2012.

Statement

Advisory on use of Mobile Towers in a way to minimize their impacts on Wildlife including Birds and Bees

An "*Expert committee to Study the possible Impacts of Communication Towers on Wildlife including Birds and Bees*" was constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India on 30th August, 2010. The report of the expert committee has been submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The review of the available scientific information by the Expert Committee in the report indicates that the Electro-Magnetic Radiations (EMR) interfere with the biological systems. On the basis of the report of the Expert Committee and subsequent deliberations with the stakeholders, a list of actions to be undertaken by various agencies involved in providing, regulating, and dealing in any other manner with, the EMR based services, has been prepared. Main objective of the listed actions is to avoid and mitigate the impacts of EMR. The Ministry of Environment and Forests accordingly requests the concerned Departments, State Governments, user agencies, and the public at large to take following actions:

I. Ministry of Environment and Forests:

1. The Electro Magnetic Radiations from the communication towers may have varying negative impacts on wildlife especially birds and bees. Accordingly, the information on the impacts related to different forms of wildlife as well as humans, should be provided to the concerned agencies for regulating the norms for notification of standards for safe limits of EMR taking into consideration the impacts on living beings.

II. State/Local Bodies:

1. Regular auditing and monitoring of EMR should be conducted in urban localities/educational/hospital/industrial/residential/recreational premises and especially around the Protected Areas (PAs) and ecologically sensitive areas w.r.t. notified norms of Department of Telecommunications. Problematic towers from EMR point of view should be got suitably relocated/removed.
2. Bold signs and messages on the dangers of cell phone towers and associated radiations are displayed in and around the structures of the towers. In addition to these signs, use of visual daytime markers in areas of high diurnal raptor or waterfowl movements, should also be promoted.
3. Before according permission for construction of towers, ecological impact assessment and review of installation sites will be essential in wildlife and/or ecologically important areas. The Forest Department should be consulted before installation of cell phone towers in and around PAs and zoos.

III. State Environment and Forest Departments:

1. Regular awareness drive with high level of visibility through all forms of media, and in regional languages should be undertaken by the State Governments and concerned Departments to make people aware about various norms and standards with regard to cell phone towers and dangers of EMR from the same. Such notices should also be placed in all wildlife protected areas and zoos by the Forest Department.

IV. Department of Telecommunications:

1. To prevent overlapping of high radiation fields, new towers should not be permitted within a radius of one kilometre of the existing towers. Sharing of passive infrastructure if made mandatory for Telecom Service Providers can minimize need of having additional towers. If new towers must be built, these should be constructed with utmost care and precautions so as not to obstruct flight path of birds, and also not to increase the combined radiations from all towers in the area.
2. The location and frequencies of cell phone towers and other towers emitting EMR, should be made available in public domain. This can be at city/district/village level. Location-wise GIS mapping of all cell phone towers should be maintained which would, *inter-alia*, help in monitoring the population of birds and bees in and around the mobile towers and also in and/or around wildlife protected areas.
3. There is an urgent need to refine the Indian standard on safe limits of exposure to EMR, keeping in view the available literature on impacts on various life forms. Till such time the Indian standards are reformed, a precautionary approach shall be preferred to minimize the exposure levels and adopt stricter norms possible, without compromising on optimum performance of the networks.

V. All concerned agencies:

1. Security lighting for on-ground facilities should be minimized, and as far as possible, point downwards or be down-shielded to avoid bird hits.
2. Any study conducted on impact of EMF radiation on wildlife needs to be shared with Forest Department and Department of Telecommunications to facilitate appropriate policy formulations.

Loss of landline and mobile connections of BSNL and MTNL

2225. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the port in position of BSNL and MTNL;
- (b) whether BSNL lost its share in landline and mobile connections; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): The number of mobile subscribers who have ported in till 30.06.2012 to BSNL and MTNL is 15,52,436 and 37,882 respectively.

(b) and (c) The market share of BSNL has decreased in the last few years. The details of market share of BSNL in landline and mobile connections for the last three years are as follows:

As on	% age market share	
	Landline	Wireless
31.03.2011	72.64	11.32
31.03.2012	69.88	10.71
30.06.2012	69.14	10.55

Scheme for providing internet connections in Panchayats

‡2226. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to implement a scheme at national level for providing internet connection to Panchayats;
- if so, the number of Panchayats targeted to be provided with internet connections in the first phase of the scheme;
- by when the target of the first phase would be achieved; and
- the time-frame fixed for bringing the rest of the Panchayats of the country under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) The Government has approved the scheme for creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) on 25th October, 2011, for providing Broadband connectivity to 2.5 lakh village Panchayats through Optical Fibre Cable.

(b) to (d) All the Gram Panchayats in the country will be connected through the OFC cable in single phase and in two years time.

Auction of 2G spectrum

‡2227. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that Government has been unable to make provisions for auction of 2G spectrum on scheduled time as per Supreme Court's direction;
- if so, the facts in this regard;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that such operators whose licences have been cancelled are being given undue benefits due to this inability of Government; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction in this regard?

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

(b) The Government has announced Guidelines for Auction and Allotment of Spectrum in 1800 MHz and 800 MHz bands on 3rd July, 2012 in respect of certain issues, which include, among others, objective of auction, eligibility criteria, amount of spectrum, number of blocks and size of the blocks and validity period of auctioned spectrum, Government has also released on 27.8.2012 the Information Memorandum for auction of spectrum in 1800 MHz and 800 MHz bands.

(c) No, Sir.

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

Delay in allocation of spectrum and licences

‡2228. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 122 licences were cancelled in February, 2012 by the Supreme Court after finding the irregularities in spectrum allocation;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that now new licences will be allocated by 30 January, 2013 as per the scheduled programme of Government; and

(d) whether certain sectors have been benefited by this delay of Government and if so, the nature of such benefits, area-wise alongwith the names of beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) Sir, In Writ Petition (Civil) Nos. 423 of 2010 & 10 of 2011, Supreme Court judgment dated 02.02.2012 mentions, among other things, that *"The licences granted to the private respondents on or after 10.1.2008 pursuant to two press releases issued on 10.1.2008 and subsequent allocation of spectrum to the licensees are declared illegal and are quashed. The above direction shall become operative after four months."*

Certain important observations of Supreme Court are:

(i) There is a fundamental flaw in the first-come-first-served policy inasmuch as it involves an element of pure chance or accident.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (ii) While transferring or alienating the natural resources, the State is duty bound to adopt the method of auction by giving wide publicity so that all eligible persons can participate in the process.
- (iii) The exercise undertaken by the officers of the DoT between September, 2007 and March, 2008, under the leadership of the then Minister of C&IT was wholly arbitrary, capricious and contrary to public interest apart from being violative of the doctrine of equality.

The Government had filed an Interlocutory Application (IA) No. 5 of 2012 in the Supreme Court on 1st March, 2012 seeking clarifications from the Hon'ble Court in order to implement its order dated 02.02.2012, placing on record the proposed auction schedule which may take at least 400 days and indicating that there will be a time gap between cessation of licences as per Supreme Court order and completion of auction. *vide* order dated 24.04.2012, Supreme Court had directed that:

"(1) The time specified in judgment dated 2.2.2012 in Writ Petition No. 423 of 2010 and Writ Petition No. 10 of 2011 for conducting the auction for grant of fresh licenses and allocation of spectrum is extended upto 31.08.2012. This would necessarily mean that the applicant shall have to finalise the auction on or before 31.08.2012.

(2) The existing licenses shall be entitled to continue to operate till 07.09.2012."

(c) An IA No. 8 of 2012 has been filed by the Government before Supreme Court on 09.08.2012 for extension of time for conducting auction of 2G spectrum and with prayer "*(a) pass appropriate orders that the Applicant may conduct the auction process in accordance with the time line set forth in Annexure A-4 hereto to facilitate the commencement of actual auction of spectrum on or before 12.11.2012; (b) Pass appropriate orders that following the completion of the auction, the applicant may complete the further process of allocation of spectrum and grant of licences in a further period of 40 days"*. However, after hearing IA No.8 on 27.08.2012, Supreme Court has accepted the prayer to the extent of allowing time till 11.01.2013 for conducting and completing the auction in terms of the direction given by Supreme Court on 02.02.2012.

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

Mobile phones for BPL families

‡2229. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to provide a mobile set to each BPL family in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this class has no economic capability for its usage;
- (d) if so, Government's reaction in this regard; and
- (e) whether Government would make provisions in the scheme to keep the use of these mobile phones free from economic burden and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Comparative price of spectrum

†2230. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the proposed price of spectrum is more than that in countries like Germany, Singapore, Sweden, France, Spain and United States of America;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard;
- (c) the price of spectrum in the above said countries; and
- (d) the price of spectrum in the country as compared to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Except in Germany and Singapore for 1800 MHz band.

(c) The final auction price (per MHz per population) in auctions held in Germany, Singapore, Sweden, France, Spain and United States of America in recent years is given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) Government has decided the Reserve Price for 1800 MHz band at Rs. 14,000 crores for 5 MHz pan India and Reserve Price for 800 MHz band at 1.3 times that of 1800 MHz band. The reserve price per MHz for 1800 MHz band Pan India works out to be Rs.2800 crore. Taking into account the Indian population as 120 crores, the price per MHz per population is approx. Rs.1 1.66 in 1800 MHz band and in 800 MHz band the price per MHz per population is approx. Rs.15.15.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

The final auction price in auctions held in Germany, Singapore, Sweden, Spain and USA

Sl. No.	Country	Year	Spectrum Band (in MHz)	Amount of Spectrum Auctioned (in MHz)	Auction Price per MHz per population (in INR)
1.	Germany	2010	800	60	47.50
2.	Germany	2010	1800	50	1.66
3.	Sweden	2011	800	60	27.84
4.	Sweden	2011	1800	70	15.69
5.	Singapore	2011	1800	20	8.62
6.	France	2011	800	60	44.08
7.	Spain	2011	800	60	30.25
8.	Spain	2011	900	10	23.49
9.	USA	2008	700	62	64.00

Assumption 1 USS = Rs.50/- 1 € = Rs.65/-

Expansion of telecommunication services

‡2231. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has come across any irregularities in the expansion of telecommunication services during last three years;

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

(c) the details of telecom contracts awarded to contractors during the said period, State-wise; and

(d) the details of total amount spent on laying of telephone cables/wires during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) The following cases of irregularities have been noticed in the expansion of telecommunication services during the last three years:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed a Chargesheet on 2.4.2011 in case no. RC DAI 2009A 0045 relating to irregularities in the allotment of Unified Access Service Licenses (UASL) by Department of Telecommunications (DoT). Two supplementary Chargesheets have also been filed by CBI on 25.04.2011 and on 12.12.2011 based on the further investigation.
- In addition, two cases namely RC-DAI-2011-A-0022 and RC-DAI-2011-A-0024 have been registered by CBI on 09.10.2011 and 17.11.2011 in connection with allocation of licenses.
- A case no: RC-069(A)/2011/AC-111/DLI has been registered by CBI on 06.06.2011 relating to irregularities by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) in award of work of providing telecommunication services for Common-Wealth Games (CWG) 2010.
- Case no: RC AC 1 2012 A 0003 has been registered by CBI on 23.02.2012 relating to irregularities in award of franchise of WIMAX by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).
- Complaints were received during 2011-12 regarding irregularities in disbursement of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) subsidy for provision of Rural Direct Exchange Lines (RDELS). After investigation in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh (E), Uttar Pradesh (W), Rajasthan and Maharashtra Circles for the period 2005-06 to 2009-10, the matter was referred to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) by the Department. CVC has further advised the CBI to investigate the case.

(c) The details of the telecom contracts awarded to contractors by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during the above period, Telecom Circle-wise are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) The Telecom Circle-wise details of the total amount of expenditure incurred on laying of telephone cables/wires during the said period are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

Statement-I

*Telecom Contracts Awarded by BSNL for Expansion of Telecom Services
Circle-wise during the last three years*

Sl. No.	BSNL Telecom Circle	No. of contracts awarded for expansion of telecom services		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	204	84	64
3.	Assam	57	32	47
4.	Bihar	92	48	24
5.	Chhattisgarh	98	33	25
6.	Gujarat	200	173	159
7.	Haryana	55	47	47
8.	Himachal Pradesh	21	28	17
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	18	25	22
10.	Jharkhand	25	51	53
11.	Karnataka	260	218	173
12.	Kerala	156	106	89
13.	Madhya Pradesh	405	297	130
14.	Maharashtra	208	142	86
15.	North East-1	7	6	4
16.	North East-2	9	4	1
17.	Odisha	156	136	133
18.	Punjab	83	77	66
19.	Rajasthan	202	94	93
20.	Tamil Nadu	190	147	132
21.	Uttarakhand	60	75	28
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	331	330	302
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	97	112	105
24.	West Bengal	62	45	38
25.	Kolkata	175	170	115
26.	Chennai	21	29	25
27.	Southern Telecom Project	1585	1027	203
28.	Eastern Telecom Project	250	245	131

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Northern Telecom Project	735	499	173
30.	Western Telecom Project	1036	800	186
31.	North East Task Force	129	110	113

Statement-II

Telecom Circle-wise details of the total amount of expenditure incurred on laying of telephone cables/wires during the last three years

Sl. No.	BSNL Telecom Circle	Expenditure incurred in laying of telephone cable/wires (in Rs Crores)		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	88.29	39.68	22.54
3.	Assam	10.89	0.62	0.68
4.	Bihar	5.82	4.00	1.74
5.	Chhattisgarh	52.93	31.87	5.28
6.	Gujarat	36.00	27.47	26.06
7.	Haryana	23.00	15.75	12.26
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.76	2.25	0.82
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.20	0.67	1.28
10.	Jharkhand	2.62	4.03	4.19
11.	Karnataka	26.02	16.85	9.29
12.	Kerala	56.44	51.29	30.31
13.	Madhya Pradesh	49.64	45.53	21.03
14.	Maharashtra	48.17	39.91	19.71
15.	North East-1	9.33	3.16	0.37
16.	North East-2	3.75	5.60	5.93
17.	Odisha	26.90	27.09	19.98

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Punjab	9.69	9.46	4.04
19.	Rajasthan	28.78	10.15	11.10
20.	Tamil Nadu	64.19	62.72	23.61
21.	Uttarakhand	5.65	4.86	3.22
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	127.48	106.57	53.51
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	14.71	20.38	12.83
24.	West Bengal	6.79	3.85	2.16
25.	Kolkata	5.26	4.58	1.54
26.	Chennai	28.19	21.93	9.93
27.	Southern Telecom Project	114.33	76.87	17.65
28.	Eastern Telecom Project	19.04	14.69	9.84
29.	Northern Telecom Project	161.33	158.58	97.99
30.	Western Telecom Project	207.14	201.57	49.98
31.	North East Task Force	46.83	44.12	56.40

Base price for auction of spectrums

†2232. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the base price for auctioning of spectrums has been fixed by Government;

(b) if so, the price thereof;

(c) the basis for fixing this price; and

(d) the estimated additional increase in Government revenue in the current year by this decision of Government?

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

(b) and (c) Government has decided the reserve price for 1800 MHz band at Rs. 14,000 cores for 5 MHz Pan India and Reserve Price for 800 MHz band at 1.3 times that of 1800 MHz considering the following aspects:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- The recommendations of the TRAI in the matter;
 - The difficulties that have been expressed by the banks/Financial Institutions (FIs) in advancing large quantum of funds to the sector at one go;
 - The fact that the reserve price is only the floor price, and that the final applicable one time charges for spectrum will be discovered through auction;
 - The desirability of keeping the reserve price at a level so as to encourage the participation of more players in the auction;
 - The fact that the total Government revenues from auction will depend both on the one time charges for the spectrum and the Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC);
- (d) The estimated additional increase in Government revenue in the current year for the above decision may be known after completion of the auction process.

Opening of new cold storages

‡2233. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cold storages operating in the country as in July, 2012;
- (b) the process prescribed for the use of cold storages by farmers;
- (c) the number of applications received for opening new cold storages till date;
- (d) whether applications for opening new cold storages have also been received from Jharkhand; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) As per Department of Agriculture and Co-operation under the Ministry of Agriculture a total number of 6359 cold storages were there till 31.03.2012 in the country.

(b) Operation of the cold storages is a State subject and regulated by the State Governments.

(c) to (e) During the current year, till 03.08.2012, Department of Agriculture and Co-operation has received 32 cold storage project proposals from various States including one project from District Hajaribagh, Jharkhand for a cold storage capacity of 4775 MT. Out of these, 23 cold storage projects have been sanctioned assistance excluding the project received from Jharkhand.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Projects/schemes in Mizoram

2234. SHRI LALHMING LIANA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects/schemes implemented or under implementation by the Ministry in Mizoram from 2009-10 to 2011-12; and
- (b) the details of funds allocated for each project and the status of implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) The details of projects/schemes approved by the Ministry of Food processing Industries in Mizoram from 2009-10 to 2011-12 are as under:-

1. Integrated cold chain projects - 1
2. Number of units under Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries - 1
3. Number of programmes under the scheme of Promotional Activities (through National/International Exhibitions/Fairs and Studies/Surveys, Workshops, Seminars) - 7
4. Number of Entrepreneurship Development Programmes under the scheme of Human Resource Development - 10

(b) The details of the funds sanctioned for each project and the status of implementation is given in Statement (*See below*).

Statement

The details of funds sanctioned for each project and status of Implementation

Sl. No.	Details of projects implemented or under implementation	Funds allocated/ released (in Rs.)	Status of implementation of project
1	2	3	4

Financial Year 2009-10

- | | | | |
|----|--|------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Seminar-cum-Capacity Building Programme for North-Eastern Region on "How to Manage Food Business Enterprises for Better Market Access" | 1,90,000/- | Event organized |
|----|--|------------|-----------------|

1	2	3	4
2.	One unit under Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries	11,00,000/-	Project Completed
Financial Year 2010-11			
1.	Seminar-cum-Product Specific Capacity Building Programme on Pineapple and Ginger on 14/02/2011 at MIFCO's Food Processing/Training Hall, Sairang, Mizoram	2,20,000/-	Event organized
2.	Training-cum-Demonstration programme on "Packaging of Fresh and Processed Fruits and Vegetables"	6,00,000/-	Event organized
3.	Workshop on "Awareness of Food Processing" at Aizwal, Mizoram	1,49,381/-	Event organized
4.	Seven Entrepreneurship Development Programmes under Human Resource Development	7,00,000/-	Project Completed
Financial Year 2011-12			
1.	Workshop on "Linking Budding Entrepreneurs with Govt. Schemes and Markets in North East" at Aizwal.	6,16,000/-	Event organized
2.	Workshop on "Betterment of skills in food processing in North-Eastern Region" at Vairangte, Mizoram	2,06,500/-	Event organized
3.	"Mizoram Food Pro: Investors Meet - An Investment Conclave focusing on the potential of the Mizoram as Agri Food processing Hub" Aizwal.	6,59,100/-	Event organized
4.	Integrated cold chain Mizofa Fish Seeds Farm Zotlang, Aizawl	3,03,01,000/-	Under Implementation
5.	Three Entrepreneurship Development Programmes under Human Resource Development	4,50,000/-	Project Completed

Study regarding need for FPU's and cold chain storages

2235. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has carried out a study regarding need of Food Processing Units (FPUs) and cold chain storages for multi nodal transporting system for food products, especially fruits, vegetables, fishes and animal products; and

(b) if so, the details of blue print laid for every State, under PPP mode, State and private sector-wise?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Food processing technology at farm level

2236. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are assisted towards promoting food processing amongst them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the specific steps taken to provide food processing technology at farm level; and

(d) to what extent the farmers are being benefited in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been implementing various plan schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector in the country for the benefit of various stakeholders including farmers. These are: (i) Scheme for Infrastructure Development with components of Mega Food Park, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation infrastructure and Modernization of Abattoirs, (ii) Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries (FPIs), (iii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and Research and Development (iv) Scheme for Human Resources Development, (v) Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions.

(c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends the financial assistance under its Eleventh Plan Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries in the country including for setting up food processing industries at farm level. The Scheme envisages the grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to maximum

of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas such as Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, and North-Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. All implementing agencies engaged in Setting Up/Expansion/Modernisation of Food Processing Industries covering all segments are eligible for financial assistance. The implementing agencies include Central/State Government Organization/PSUs/NGOs/Cooperative Societies and Private Sector Units and individuals including farmers.

(d) Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries, during Eleventh Plan 3229 food processing units have been assisted with an amount of Rs.560.209 crores and in the current year towards Eleventh Plan spillover liabilities 614 food processing units have been assisted with an amount of Rs.91.53 crores (as on 31.07.2012) which has benefitted applicants of all categories including farmers.

Government has approved the launching of National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) for implementation through the State/Union Territory Governments during 2012-13. The basic objective of NMFP is decentralization of implementation of Ministry's schemes (including Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPIs) which will lead to substantial participation by the State Governments/UTs. The NMFP is likely to add significantly to the Ministry's outreach in terms of planning, supervision and monitoring of assistance through this scheme. The NMFP would also provide flexibility to States/UTs in the selection of beneficiaries, location of projects etc. for the development of food processing sector including farmers.

National Mission on Food Processing

2237. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Working Group constituted on food processing sector for the Ministry for Twelfth Five Year Plan has recommended for launch of a new centrally sponsored scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP); and

(b) whether the scheme has been finalised; if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Government has approved the launching of National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) main scheme through States/UTs during 2012-13. The basic objective of NMFP is decentralization of implementation of Ministry's schemes, which will lead to substantial participation by State Governments/UTs. The NMFP is likely to add significantly to the Ministry's outreach in terms of planning, supervision and

monitoring of assistance through this scheme. The Major Programmes/Schemes to be covered under NMFP during 2012-13 are:-

- (i) Scheme for Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernisation of Food Processing Industries.
- (ii) Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non Horticultural Products.
- (iii) Scheme for Modernisation of Abattoirs (no targets for 2012-13 and 2013-14)
- (iv) Scheme for Human Resource Development (HRD)
 - (a) Creation of Infrastructure Facilities for Running Degree/Diploma/Certificate Courses in Food Processing Technology.
 - (b) Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP)
 - (c) Food Processing Training Centre (FPTC)
- (v) Scheme for Promotional Activities
 - (a) Organizing Seminars/Workshops
 - (b) Conducting Studies/Surveys
 - (c) Support to Exhibitions/Fairs
 - (d) Advertisement and Publicity

Report on MDMS

2238. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the adverse report on the working of Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a Central Team has visited various States to supervise the functioning of the scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to ensure quality meals to children in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) 86 complaints (misappropriation of funds 30, poor quality of

food 25, and other irregularities 31) on the working of the Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) were received during the last 3 years. These reports were referred to the concerned States/UTs for taking corrective measures and to submit the Action Taken Note to this Department.

(c) and (d) During 2011-12, Central teams were deputed for review of the Scheme in Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh. In addition to this, Joint Review Missions also visited Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Uttarakhand. The observations of these teams such as low coverage of students against enrolment, delay in payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers, improper storage of foodgrains, disruption of MDM in schools due to non-availability of foodgrains and funds, delay in lifting of foodgrains, non-maintenance of buffer stock etc. were shared with the State Governments for necessary corrective action.

(e) To ensure the quantity and quality of mid day meal supplied, the Scheme guidelines provide for lifting of good quality foodgrains from FCI godowns, storage of food items in dry and safe places, cooking food in hygienic environment through properly trained cooks. The cooked food has to be tasted by 2-3 adults including teachers. In addition, community involvement is promoted in the implementation and supervision of the Scheme. Some States like Delhi, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu etc. have also collected samples for testing of the nutritional and calorific content of the meal.

Opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas in all districts

2239. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Vidyalayas have not been established in all the districts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the total number of Kendriya Vidyalayas existing at present in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open Kendriya Vidyalayas in all the districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are 155 districts in the country where there is no Kendriya Vidyalaya. Presently, there are 1087 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the country. The State-wise number of KVs functioning in the country is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Kendriya Vidyalayas are not opened on the criteria of Districts

and State-wise. KVs are opened to cater to the educational needs of the wards of transferable Central Government Employees including Defence personnel on receipt of the proposal in prescribed proforma from the various Ministries of Government of India and State Governments/Union Territories thereby committing the availability of requisite resources for setting up a new KV as well as necessary approval of competent authority.

Statement

*State-wise number of Kendriya Vidyalayas functioning in the country
(as on 27.08.2012)*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Number of Kendriya Vidyalayas
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	02
2.	Andhra Pradesh	53
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	14
4.	Assam	55
5.	Bihar	45
6.	Chandigarh	05
7.	Chhattisgarh	26
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	01
9.	Daman and Diu	01
10.	Delhi	43
11.	Goa	05
12.	Gujarat	44
13.	Haryana	28
14.	Himachal Pradesh	23
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	38
16.	Jharkhand	32
17.	Karnataka	39
18.	Kerala	35

1	2	3
19.	Lakshadweep	01
20.	Madhya Pradesh	92
21.	Maharashtra	56
22.	Manipur	07
23.	Meghalaya	07
24.	Mizoram	04
25.	Nagaland	05
26.	Odisha	53
27.	Puducherry	04
28.	Punjab	48
29.	Rajasthan	64
30.	Sikkim	02
31.	Tamil Nadu	40
32.	Tripura	09
33.	Uttar Pradesh	105
34.	Uttarakhand	43
35.	West Bengal	58
TOTAL:		1087

Facilities under RTE Act

2240. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether RTE Act *inter-alia* provides for playground for each school, part-time instructor for health and physical education in upper primary schools where admission of children is above one hundred, supply of play material, games and sports equipment to each class, as required;

(b) if so, the follow-up action taken thereon; and

(c) the statistics thereof, school-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act,

2009 lays down norms and standards for a school which include a playground, part-time instructors for art education, health and physical education and work education in upper primary schools where admission of children is above one hundred, and also for supply of play material, games and sports equipment to each class as required.

(b) and (c) States have been advised to earmark community lands for use as playgrounds in case the school does not possess a playground of its own. State-wise availability of playgrounds is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

Part time instructors sanctioned for upper primary schools since coming into force of RTE Act is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

Play material games and sports equipment has been sanctioned as per States' plan under Innovation and Learning Enhancement Components, separate data for which is not maintained.

Statement-I

Government Schools with facilities (DISE 2010-11)

State/UT	Schools with Playground		
	Primary	Upper Primary	Total
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	80	92	172
Andhra Pradesh	24175	12486	36661
Arunachal Pradesh	542	540	1082
Assam	17354	5918	23272
Bihar	9063	12093	21156
Chandigarh	11	95	106
Chhattisgarh	10539	6086	16625
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	31	53	84
Daman and Diu	24	23	47
Delhi	1231	851	2082
Goa	334	92	426
Gujarat	6180	17127	23307
Haryana	5966	3681	9647
Himachal Pradesh	6296	3070	9366

1	2	3	4
Jammu and Kashmir	2184	3826	6010
Jharkhand	6590	4879	11469
Karnataka	10581	14824	25405
Kerala	1291	1410	2701
Lakshadweep	0	12	12
Madhya Pradesh	39118	14968	54086
Maharashtra	21215	15798	37013
Manipur	897	347	1244
Meghalaya	1919	763	2682
Mizoram	366	391	757
Nagaland	613	265	878
Odisha	5850	8083	13933
Puducherry	92	124	216
Punjab	9796	5715	15511
Rajasthan	13374	16247	29621
Sikkim	289	266	555
Tamil Nadu	15487	9961	25448
Tripura	1158	1459	2617
Uttar Pradesh	77378	32568	109946
Uttarakhand	6583	2442	9025
West Bengal	19961	6802	26763
TOTAL:	316568	203357	519925

Statement-II

Part time instructor for Art, Health and Physical and work education sanctioned for Upper Primary Schools under SSA

Sl.No.	State/UTs	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2927	9344	0

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	822	0	0
3.	Assam	0	6081	0
4.	Bihar	0	18228	18496
5.	Chhattisgarh	12648	1335	0
6.	Goa	47	0	78
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0
8.	Haryana	2754	0	19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	10999
12.	Karnataka	7183	0	0
13.	Kerala	5835	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11630	14414	13022
15.	Maharashtra	8577	0	10068
16.	Manipur	318	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	723	0	0
18.	Mizoram	814	0	0
19.	Nagaland	633	0	0
20.	Odisha	13299	0	0
21.	Punjab	3654	.0	0
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	0
23.	Sikkim	324	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	16549	0	0
25.	Tripura	2223	0	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	41307	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	1221	793	0
28.	West Bengal	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
30..	Chandigarh	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100	74	6
32.	Daman and Diu	47	1	1
33.	Delhi	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	23	0	0
35.	Puducherry	121	0	0
TOTAL:		133779	50270	52689

Financial support to States under RTE Act

2241. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether criteria for financial support to States for implementing the RTE Act are prejudicial to States who are already ahead in implementation of universal primary education *vis-a-vis* those which are far behind; and

(b) whether Central Government would look into the matter and make the criteria more flexible to help State Governments to achieve the objective of imparting good quality universal education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), funds to State Governments are allocated on the basis of their Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B), which is considered and approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB). The approval and releases are based on uniform norms of implementation applicable to all States.

(b) The SSA framework allows for flexibility for implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE) and to address on priority the gaps in achieving the standards and objectives of the RTE Act for imparting universal elementary education.

Criteria for opening Kendriya Vidyalayas

2242. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the action, so far, taken by the Ministry to relax the criteria and norms of providing rent free temporary accommodation for setting up of Kendriya Vidyalayas

in various districts, as no one is coming forward to provide temporary rent free accommodation and particularly in tribal districts where it is not possible alongwith the details thereof; and

(b) the action taken by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, so far, to set up Kendriya Vidyalayas in various districts of Gujarat alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) either to revise or to relax the criteria and norms for setting up of new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs).

(b) 44 KVs have been set up so far in various districts in Gujarat. Details are given in Statement (*See* below).

Statement

Districts-wise details of 44 KVS in State of Gujarat

Sl.No.	District	Detail of Kendriya Vidyalaya
1	2	3
1.	Ahmedabad	1. Ahmedabad No. 1 (MR Campus)
2.		2. Ahmedabad Cantt.
3.		3. Sabarmati
4.		4. Viramgaon
5.		5. Ahmedabad (SAC)
6.		6. Chandkheda (ONGC)
7.	Vadodara	1. Baroda No. 1 Harni Road
8.		2. Baroda No. 2 (EME Campus)
9.		3. Baroda No. 3 Makarpura (AFS)
10.		4. AFS Darjeepur
11.		5. Baroda No. 4 (ONGC)
12.	Bhavnagar	1. Bhavnagar Para
13.	Banasakanta	1. Dantiwada (BSF)
14.	Jamnagar	1. Dwarka
15.		2. Jamnagar No. 1 (AFS)

1	2	3
16.		3. Jamnagar No. 2 (INF-Lines)
17.		4. Jamnagar No. 3 (AF-II)
18.		5. Okha
19.		6. Samana (AFS)
20.		7. Valsura (INS)
21.	Kutch	1. Gandhidham Rly. Colony
22.		2. Bhuj No. 1 (AFS)
23.		3. Bhuj No. 2 (Cantt.)
24.		4. Naliya (AFS)
25.		5. Gandhidham (IFFCO)
26.	Gandhinagar	1. Gandhinagar (CRPF)
27.		2. Gandhinagar No. 1, Sec. 30
28.		3. Gandhinagar Cantt.
29.		4. Wadsar (AFS)
30.		5. Cambey (ONGC)
31.	Sabarkanta	1. Himmat Nagar
32.	Rajkot	1. Jetpur
33.		2. Rajkot
34.	Junagarh	1. Junagarh
35.	Porbander	1. Porbander
36.	Surat	1. Surat No. 1 (Ichchnath)
37.		2. Surat No. 2 Hajira (KRIBHCO)
38.		3. Surat No. 3 Hajira (ONGC)
39.	Dahod	1. Freeland Ganj, Railway Colony
40.	Anand	1. V.V. Nagar
41.	Mehsana	1. Mehsana (ONGC)
42.	Bharuch	1. Ankleshwar (ONGC)
43.	Panchmahal	1. Godhra
44.	Surenra	1. Dharangandhra

Teaching of value education in schools

2243. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that teaching of value-education at schools is not taken effectively;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is taking steps to ensure effective value-based education in school curriculum; and
- (d) if so, the response of Government in this regard alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) No such incidence has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) and (d) The following steps have been taken by the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to ensure effective value based education at school level:-

NCERT

The National Curriculum Framework, 2005 brought out by NCERT recommended an integrated and holistic approach for nurturing universal human values and constitutional values at all stages of education to ensure all round development of students and building of a healthy society. The new syllabi and textbooks for all subjects at all stages have been developed in consonance with the above principles of National Curriculum Framework, 2005.

A resource book for teachers on 'Ways to Peace' has been published by NCERT during 2010 for promotion and wider dissemination of values of peace. NCERT has also finalized a framework on 'Education for Values in Schools'.

CBSE

- Introduction of School based Assessment scheme in the year 2009 which, *inter-alia*, comprises assessment of values.
- Introduction of value based questions in the Summative Assessment-II in classes IX-X and year end examination of classes XI-XII from the year 2012-13
- Bringing out a handbook for teachers on Value Education in the years 1997 and again in the year 2003
- Publication of Teachers' Manual on Environmental Education and Adolescence Education.

Availability of funds for schools under MDMS

2244. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in majority of the schools under the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme funds do not reach on time and procuring food and fuel has become a challenge in Assam's schools;

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

(c) the details of measures taken for improving the functioning of the said scheme in Assam?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The Government of Assam has informed that on account of procedural formalities, there is a delay of 2 to 3 months in delivering the funds to the schools. In order to cut delay, the State Government is in the process of allocating funds directly from State Headquarters to the School Management Committees through electronic bank transfer. To improve the functioning of the scheme, the State Government has decided to engage retired teachers with good reputation to supervise and monitor the scheme. Besides, food grains are also allocated regularly to the schools.

Status of universities in the country

2245. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of universities as on 31 March, 2012 alongwith the details thereof, category-wise;

(b) the reasons for allowing foreign universities to function in the country; and

(c) the reasons for not improving the standard of our own university education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The number of Universities as on 31.03.2012 was 568. Out of these, 42 are Central Universities, 286 are State Universities, 111 are Private Universities and 129 are Deemed to be Universities.

(b) Neither Central Government, nor the University Grants Commission (UGC) has given any permission to establish any foreign university in the country. However All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued Regulations for collaboration of technical/professional institutions of India and foreign universities. So far AICTE has permitted only seven such collaborations. UGC has also approved Regulations for academic collaborations between Indian and foreign universities.

(c) Improvement of quality, restructuring, rationalisation and development of higher education is a continuous process and the Central Government has taken several steps in this direction. Quality of higher education in the country is sought to be improved through various legislative initiatives including making accreditation mandatory for all higher educational institutions, setting up an overarching body to regulate higher education holistically and establishing Universities for Research and Innovation.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) is implementing various schemes for improving quality of higher education, such as Universities with Potential for Excellence, Colleges with Potential for Excellence, Special Assistance Programme, Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure for Science and Technology, Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure for Humanities and Social Sciences, Fellowship Programmes for Research students as well as orientation and refresher programmes for newly appointed and in-service teachers through its Academic Staff Colleges. Educational reforms initiated by UGC include introduction of semester system, regular updating of curricula and credit transfer. Improved pay package for teachers in universities and colleges has been announced by the Central Government in order to attract and retain talent in the teaching profession. National Eligibility Test (NET)/ State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) have been made compulsory for appointment as teachers at entry level in the universities and colleges, except for those who have obtained Ph.D. degree from universities following the norms prescribed by the UGC in its regulations. UGC has also issued the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010 and UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 to maintain standards of education in Deemed to be Universities and Private Universities respectively.

Foreign educational institutions/universities

2246. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Central Government to allow foreign educational institutions/universities to set-up their campuses in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 permits setting up of campuses by foreign universities in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of Government thereto including the details of Common Entrance Test required for entry into such colleges and recognition of the degrees awarded by them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A legislative proposal, namely, the Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation for Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 3.5.2010. The Bill seeks to put in place a mechanism to regulate the entry and operations of Foreign Educational Institutions (FEIs), while preventing the entry of FEIs of dubious quality. The FEIs, once they are notified as Foreign Educational Providers (FEPs) under the proposed legislation, can set up campuses in India.

(c) and (d) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has powers under the UGC Act, 1956 to coordinate and determine standards of university education in the country. Any institution issuing degrees in India has to abide by regulations issued by UGC.

(e) No such Common Entrance Test is prescribed by Central Government. Only such degrees as are notified by UGC under Section 22 of UGC Act are recognised.

Proposal for five day week in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2247. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has come before Government to make five day week for Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The matter of introduction of five day week in Kendriya Vidyalayas was taken up in the Academic Advisory Committee of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan on 19.05.2011. The proposal was not approved. No such proposal has come before the Government.

Establishment of new schools in Andhra Pradesh

2248. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds sanctioned for establishment of new schools under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Model School Scheme and Eklavya Model Residential Schools Scheme in the last three years in the country, year-wise, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the manner in which the Ministry is coordinating with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs with regard to setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the plans of the Ministry with regard to (a) above in Andhra Pradesh during 2012-13?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) provides financial assistance for establishment of new Government secondary schools (Classes IX-X) and strengthening of existing government secondary schools. Funds released under RMSA, Model School and Eklavya Model Residential Schools during the last three years to the States/UTs with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh are as under:—

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Fund released to States/UTs			Fund released to Andhra Pradesh		
	RMSA	Model School	Eklavya Model Residential Schools	RMSA	Model School	Eklavya Model Residential Schools
2009-10	547.83	251.71	-	15.05	-	-
2010-11	1480.10	480.12	137.34	311.57	-	12.00
2011-12	2495.90	1088.39	140.97	328.32	412.09	12.00

(b) and (c) At present. Schools supported under RMSA and Model Schools Schemes do not have provision for residential facilities and are meant for children of all groups. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs administers a special area programme viz. Grant Under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India. Under this programme, grant is released to 26 States including Andhra Pradesh, having ST population for raising the level of Administration in Scheduled Areas and for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes. A part of grant *inter-alia* is used for setting up Eklavya Model Residential Schools in States.

In 2012-13 under RMSA, funds are being provided for setting up of new secondary schools including Andhra Pradesh. Till date, 9636 new secondary schools have been approved. Under Model School scheme, release of funds to the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh for sanctioning new Model Schools is subject to receipt of viable proposals from the concerned States.

British visa conditions for aspiring Indian students

2249. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of United Kingdom has started imposing tough visa conditions on the Indian students recently restricting Indian students aspiring to take education there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether Government had taken up the issue with the British Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The Government of the U.K. has introduced new measures on students' work visa. Some of the restrictions are:-

- (i) The ratio of study to work for International students is now 66:33.
- (ii) Post-Study work visa is closed from 6 April, 2012.
- (iii) Students who intend to work after their studies now need to apply for a job with a licensed Tier 2 sponsor if they do so before their student visa expires.
- (iv) They can work only in areas commensurate to their field of study subject to a minimum salary threshold of £35,000 per annum.

This matter has been suitably taken up with the U.K. authorities.

Opening of Women Universities

2250. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to open 20 Women Universities in the country including Gujarat to provide higher education to girls of urban and rural areas;
- (b) whether Government also proposes to open women hostels in these universities and to provide scholarships to girls; and
- (c) by when these universities are likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. However there is one proposal to set up a Central University for women in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

- (b) The existing schemes of University Grants Commission (UGC) for setting up women hostels and providing scholarships are applicable to all universities.
- (c) Does not arise.

Review of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education in Gujarat

2251. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the existing facilities of Secondary and Higher Secondary level education in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof with demographic features, quantity and quality of school education facilities, teacher-student ratio and number of Government and Non-Governmental educational institutions;

(c) the funds provided to States during the last three years for implementing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day-Meal Scheme; and

(d) the tangible impact thereof in attracting greater number of children to schools and reducing the drop-out rate?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Review of the existing facilities of secondary and higher secondary level of the States including Gujarat is made in meetings of Project Approval Boards (PABs) of schemes relating to secondary education. In addition, review is made during meetings of State Education Secretaries. Further, review is also made based on Secondary Education Management Information System (SEMIS) for facilities available in the secondary and higher secondary schools to assess the requirement of interventions under various schemes. Details of demographic features, basic infrastructure facilities available in the government schools etc. in the State of Gujarat are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Funds provided to the States during the last three years under SSA and MDM are given in Statement-II and III (*See* below). The enrollment in classes I-VIII has increased from 14.46 crore (8.36 crore boys and 6.10 crore girls) in the year 1995-96 to 19.51 crore (10.27 crore boys and 9.24 crore girls) during the year 2009-10. Similarly, the dropout rate which was 58.8% (56.6% boys and 61.7% girls) during 1995-96 has come down to 42.39% (40.59% boys and 44.39% girls) during 2009-10. However, the enrollment and retention of children in schools depend on several factors such as Government interventions in the field of education including Mid Day Meal Scheme, health and nutrition, as well as demographic changes, level of economic development and expansion of private sector in Elementary Education.

Statement-I

Demographic features, secondary and higher secondary enrolment status and availability of infrastructure in the State of Gujarat

(a) Demographic Features

- No. of Revenue Districts - 26
- No. of Educational Blocks - 229
- No. of Revenue Villages - 4895
- Total Population (as per 20011 census) - 60383628 of which 31482282 are male and 28901346 are female

- Literacy Rate: 79.31
Male - 87.23
Female - 70.73

(b) Secondary Schools-Enrolment

- Dept. of Education - 79799
- Local Bodies - 46393
- Government Aided - 1052263
- Unaided - 313771
- Total - 1492226

(c) Number of Classrooms (Government) - 3947

(d) Basic Infrastructure Facilities (Government)

- Common Toilet - 72%
- Girls Toilet - 79.32%
- Electricity - 86.74%
- Playground - 82.72%
- Library - 68.29%
- Compound -76.98%
- Drinking Water - 97.64%

(e) Secondary schools

- Dept. of Education - 658
- Local Bodies - 222
- Government Total - 880
- Government Aided - 5009
- Unaided - 2771
- Others - 95

(f) Number of Teachers

- Dept. of Education- 2141 (In addition 634 Contract Teachers are there)
- Local Bodies - 938 (In addition 411 Contract Teachers are there)

- Government Aided- 20927 (In addition 6545 Contract Teachers are there)
- Unaided- 10393 (In addition 4123 Contract Teachers are there)

Statement-II*Funds released to States/UTs under SSA during 2009-10 to 2011-12*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	38569.90	81000.00	183551.72
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11427.95	20401.77	23880.10
3.	Assam	47480.00	76854.35	106921.15
4.	Bihar	121739.06	204789.63	185108.20
5.	Chhattisgarh	55592.82	87863.00	69870.22
6.	Goa	550.58	671.27	1079.14
7.	Gujarat	20031.73	44065.01	88027.79
8.	Haryana	27600.00	32786.11	40461.41
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8608.00	13786.66	14192.78
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	37363.27	40348.79	30070.50
11.	Jharkhand	70940.22	89562.26	57903.46
12.	Karnataka	44220.60	66903.00	62788.35
13.	Kerala	11989.50	19660.73	17021.85
14.	Madhya Pradesh	113249.00	176783.00	190427.12
15.	Maharashtra	56432.00	85537.00	117962.58
16.	Manipur	1500.00	13253.77	3940.55
17.	Meghalaya	9383.00	18540.90	14410.60
18.	Mizoram	6617.75	10115.31	10814.05
19.	Nagaland	4913.00	8636.83	9798.33
20.	Odisha	63061.60	73177.85	92719.98
21.	Punjab	20044.00	39612.74	48112.44

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Rajasthan	127124.00	146182.29	148580.86
23.	Sikkim	1736.00	4469.19	4022.84
24.	Tamil Nadu	48366.00	69068.57	68141.96
25.	Tripura	7473.00	17121.48	17493.76
26.	Uttar Pradesh	196011.90	310462.88	263682.61
27.	Uttarakhand	16006.29	25793.94	20892.49
28.	West Bengal	104142.00	174703.17	177652.74
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	412.44	357.78	907.36
30.	Chandigarh	1100.72	2155.89	1611.21
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	350.18	413.78	564.35
32.	Daman and Diu	169.00	162.99	257.06
33.	Delhi	3088.62	3552.71	3783.29
34.	Lakshadweep	143.80	127.39	127.86
35.	Puducherry	669.96	485.38	757.62
TOTAL:		1278107.89	1959407.42	2077538.33

Statement-III*Fund released to States/UTs under MDM during 2009-10 to 2011-12*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32714.33	48302.38	85191.45
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1787.79	2043.18	2091.75
3.	Assam	19274.46	34408.21	53220.90
4.	Bihar	31763.62	80506.41	81820.31
5.	Chhattisgarh	18289.34	36187.74	47462.95

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Goa	636.45	1168.28	825.41
7.	Gujarat	29532.80	28851.62	35301.58
8.	Haryana	18516.23	15325.13	16713.43
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5352.15	6487.67	7351.60
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3834.54	7990.60	13430.59
11.	Jharkhand	25456.19	32595.49	52252.17
12.	Karnataka	33538.61	45368.30	56525.78
13.	Kerala	14349.88	18511.34	14277.09
14.	Madhya Pradesh	61040.79	65781.84	76704.43
15.	Maharashtra	73289.23	107492.09	69255.77
16.	Manipur	1131.26	5658.11	1894.19
17.	Meghalaya	6045.46	13831.77	3528.12
18.	Mizoram	1078.43	1902.29	3306.57
19.	Nagaland	1236.18	4026.97	2464.37
20.	Odisha	38715.63	38959.13	37124.38
21.	Punjab	10824.15	16605.10	17561.54
22.	Rajasthan	39405.50	46225.76	52901.22
23.	Sikkim	553.40	899.60	1035.65
24.	Tamil Nadu	45757.19	44250.57	40333.68
25.	Tripura	3480.89	4856.76	8408.41
26.	Uttarakhand	5753.22	10963.29	14255.51
27.	Uttar Pradesh	98506.31	102715.36	107638.85
28.	West Bengal	67197.73	79480.03531	77251.02
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	272.71	247.06715	509.14
30.	Chandigarh	397.67	525.54409	680.77
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	195.55	290.45398	342.71

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Daman and Diu	112.90	147.78904	136.58
33.	Delhi	3066.09	9072.32	6562.19
34.	Lakshadweep	58.72	80.54	76.32
35.	Puducherry	561.03	693.24	635.99
TOTAL:		693726.40	912452.00	989072.42

Open book exam in CBSE

2252. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBSE has decided to introduce open book exam concept for its Board Examination from academic session 2013-14;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a formal announcement with details of the new system is expected to be made in December, 2012; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has not taken a decision to introduce open book exam for its Board examination from academic session 2013-14 so far.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Reforms for science stream at 10+2 level

2253. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to constitute a Committee to look into the possible reforms at the 10+2 level for the science stream;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the idea was to provide students with an option of studying an advanced level of subject, so that they do not have to rely on coaching for competitive examinations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The Government is engaged in the process of reforms in admission

to engineering institutions by providing weightage to performance in Class XII Board examinations and reducing the impact of coaching for such admissions. During this process, issues of reforms at the schooling level leading to the class XII Board examination have also arisen. In order to approach the issue holistically, Government is contemplating the constitution of a Committee for the purpose.

ICT in schools

2254. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a National Mission for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in school education is under implementation;
- (b) if so, the objectives of the scheme; and
- (c) of the private networks and internet connections provided, how many have been provided to universities and colleges/polytechnics in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Scheme, which is implemented by Department of Higher Education for linking Universities and Colleges in the country, 1 GBps optical fiber connectivity to 9 universities and Virtual Private Network over Broadband internet connection to 211 colleges/polytechnic have been provided so far, in the State of Jharkhand.

Cooks-cum-helpers under MDMS

2255. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of schools brought under Mid-Day-Meal Scheme (MDMS) so far, State-wise;
- (b) the number of cooks-cum-helpers appointed in those schools, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government is aware that in many cases the mid-day-meal cooks-cum-helpers are being retrenched; and
- (d) if so, the action being taken to stop such retrenchments?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) State-wise detail of schools covered and cooks-cum-helpers engaged under the MDM Scheme are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Earlier there was no criterion for engagement of cooks and helpers and payment of remuneration to them differed from school to school. The scheme was revised with effect from 01.12.2009, to provide separate honorarium to each cook-cum-helper @ Rs. 1000/- per month and prescribed one cook-cum-helper for a school having upto 25 students, two cook-cum-helpers for schools with 26 to 100 students and one additional cook-cum-helper for every addition of upto 100 students. Cook-cum-helpers are engaged every year by States/UTs on honorarium for this part time work. Their service conditions are regulated by the State Governments.

Statement

Number of institutions covered and cooks-cum-helpers engaged under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme during 2011-12

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011-12	
		Institutions	No. of cook-cum-helpers
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	80943	165227
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4358	8422
3.	Assam	67402	113770
4.	Bihar	70773	183583
5.	Chhattisgarh	47868	131935
6.	Goa	1559	2383
7.	Gujarat	36798	88931
8.	Haryana	15783	32384
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15096	24738
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	22812	25016
11.	Jharkhand	42041	81013
12.	Karnataka	56083	103873
13.	Kerala	17387	13032
14.	Madhya Pradesh	115132	228703
15.	Maharashtra	121344	230184
16.	Manipur	2966	4232

1	2	3	4
17.	Meghalaya	10074	15720
18.	Mizoram	2506	5044
19.	Nagaland	2261	4789
20.	Odisha	86177	70670
21.	Punjab	22035	34643
22.	Rajasthan	79845	121030
23.	Sikkim	1000	1891
24.	Tamil Nadu	36807	107333
25.	Tripura	6531	11042
26.	Uttarakhand	17953	30150
27.	Uttar Pradesh	158107	381964
28.	West Bengal	84522	248019
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	345	0
30.	Chandigarh	115	639
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	368	570
32.	Daman and Diu	97	295
33.	Delhi	3496	0
34.	Lakshadweep	43	106
35.	Puducherry	465	1031
TOTAL:		1231092	2472362

Source: State Quarterly Reports.

English as an optional medium of education

†2256. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the desire to get educated through English medium is getting stronger with the objective of getting employment,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

but high fees at the private English medium schools is not allowing children belonging to ordinary income groups to study in them;

(b) whether Government would consider making English language as a medium of education, as an optional language, in addition to local language at Government schools in each State; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) National Curriculum Framework for School Education, 2005 advocates a multi-lingual approach at school level. However, several students show preference towards learning English in School.

In compliance to section 12 (1) (c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, schools are legally bound to provide admission to children from economically weaker section and children belonging to disadvantaged group without charging fee in the same manner and medium of instruction as it is provided to other children.

(b) and (c) Education, being a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution, and the majority of schools and colleges being under the jurisdiction of the State Governments, it is for the respective State Governments to take appropriate decision in the matter. However, as per the scheme/syllabus in Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) affiliated schools, a student has to study English upto VIIIth class. In classes IX and X, a student has to study two languages out of which one is compulsorily either Hindi or English. In classes XI and XII, a student can opt either English or Hindi as one of the Languages. Both Hindi and English can also be offered simultaneously by students.

Admission of HIV infected students in schools

2257. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of denial of admission to HIV infected students in schools are on the rise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such incidents reported during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) the action taken by Government to protect the Right to Education of these children; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to stop recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) There have been isolated media reports about denial of admission to HIV infected students in schools. As per information available with National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO), 61 children infected by HIV were denied admission in schools in various instances, between 2008-09 and 2011-12 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. State-wise details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) and (e) In view of the Right to Education Act, Central Board of Secondary Education conducts advocacy programme to sensitize Principals and teachers to ensure that students with HIV/AIDS are treated with dignity and respect. Further, National AIDS control Organisation (NACO) and State AIDS Control Societies alongwith their State/District level network also conduct advocacy programmes with various stake holders including school principals and teachers.

Statement

State-wise details of HIV infected children denied admission in schools

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of children infected by HIV who were removed from the schools during 2008-09 to 2011-12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27
2.	Gujarat	4
3.	Haryana	9
4.	Kerala	4
5.	Maharashtra	1
6.	Uttar Pradesh	3
7.	West Bengal	13
TOTAL:		61

Opening of Deemed Universities

†2258. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has imposed a ban on the opening of Deemed Universities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to give relaxation to foreign Universities and FDI in higher education in order to promote participation of the private sector in the field of education;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government is contemplating to announce lifting of ban on Deemed Universities in order to raise the level of education; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in education is permitted under automatic route as per the extant guidelines of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). A Bill to regulate the entry and operation of Foreign Educational Institutions (FEIs) has already been introduced in Parliament.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply to part (d) of the question.

Framing of Rules under RTE Act

2259. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has framed any Rules under the provisions of Right to Education Act in the State;

(b) if so, when did these come into force; and

(c) whether due to the delay in notifying these rules Central grant of ₹ 88 crores depriving thereby 44.17 lakh students from classes I to VIII second set of uniforms got elapsed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka has framed Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2012-13 which were effective from date of notification, 28 April, 2012, under the Right to Education (RTE) Act.

(c) As per norms for implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, all girls and boys belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) categories at the Primary and Upper Primary stages of education are entitled to two sets of uniforms upto Rs. 400 per year. The State Government, during the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) for 2012-13 approval process, reported that the State is already providing one set of uniform to the students of these categories from its own resources in the Government elementary

schools. Therefore, an outlay of Rs. 75.12 crore was approved by the Ministry only for the second set of uniform for the financial year 2012-13.

Buddhist places of Odisha in NCERT textbooks

2260. SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Buddhist places of Odisha have not found place in NCERT textbooks; and

(b) since when the Buddhists place of other States have been displayed sufficiently?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The present History textbooks of National Council of Educational Research (NCERT) have been prepared by a team of experts. These textbooks focus on a study of some selected themes, which are picked in such a way that they cover developments in different spheres: economic, social, political and cultural from different parts of the country. Thus only a representative selection of Buddhist places and monuments find place in NCERT's text books.

Franchisee study centres of universities

2261. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various universities in the country are allowed to open/run their franchisee study centres and sub-study centres beyond their territorial jurisdiction;

(b) if not, the names of the universities, State/private/Deemed-to-be-Universities, guilty of contravening the norms of the apex bodies UGC/Directorate of Distance Education/AICTE, etc. in this regard, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken thereon and the results achieved against such universities alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) According to information furnished by Distance Education Council (DEC), it considers recognition only to universities/institutes awarding qualifications through distance mode. It does not recognise study centres of universities/institutions. Study centres are opened by universities/institutions as per provisions of their Act and Statutes within the territorial jurisdiction defined by DEC. The DEC guidelines also prescribe the procedure for inspection of study centres by the parent institutions and closing down the centres found unfit. DEC prohibits franchising of study centres by universities/institutions.

(b) and (c) As per the information furnished by DEC, as and when any such

complaints are received, these are forwarded to the University concerned for taking corrective measures and it does not maintain such information centrally. It regularly issues notifications requesting all Institutions to follow the norms of DEC and other Apex bodies on territorial jurisdiction, opening of study centres and non-franchising of study centres for offering programmes through distance mode.

Franchisee study centres of universities

2262. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of franchisee study centres or sub-study centres being run by each State/private/Deemed to be/Central University in and outside its territorial jurisdiction;

(b) the details regarding location, year of establishment and the agency running each centre; and

(c) the details of the fee being charged by the universities for allowing franchisees?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Distance Education Council (DEC) has reported that no University/Institution is allowed to franchise the Study centres/sub-study centres. The Universities/Institutions have to operate the study centres themselves. Study centres are opened by universities/institutions as per provisions of their Act and Statutes within the territorial jurisdiction defined by DEC.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Mushrooming of foreign universities

2263. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether with mushrooming of foreign universities there are surplus seats in various universities;

(b) whether due to less number of candidates these universities are unable to maintain their infrastructure costs and thus are on the verge of closure;

(c) if so, the reasons for Government allowing foreign universities to operate from residential areas and small houses without infrastructural buildings; etc.;

(d) whether Government is initiating enquiry to find out nexus between Government officials and foreign universities in allowing them to operate without proper infrastructure; and

(e) if not, the reasons for not initiating any enquiry on the mushrooming of foreign universities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Neither Central Government nor the University Grants Commission (UGC) has given any permission to establish any foreign university in the country. All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued Regulations for collaboration of technical/professional institutions of India and foreign universities. So far AICTE has permitted only seven such collaborations. UGC has also approved Regulations for academic collaborations between Indian and foreign universities.

(b) to (e) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Opening of IIIT in Assam

2264. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for establishment of an Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) in Assam;

(b) if so, whether site for the IIIT in Assam has been selected;

(c) whether Government would consider the city of Dibrugarh for the said purpose, as the historic township of Dibrugarh has the unique atmosphere for higher education and is well connected with air, rail and road transport and is also situated in lush green environment; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has approved the proposal for establishment of an Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) in Assam at Village Bongora (under Chayani Mouza), P.O. Mirza, Distt. Kamrup, Assam.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The concerned State Government as per the approved Scheme provides 50-100 acres of land, free of cost, for establishment of an IIIT in their respective States. In the case of Assam, the State Government of Assam has identified 106 acres of land at Village - Bongora (Under Chayani Mouza), P.O.- Mirza, Distt.- Kamrup, Assam for establishment of the IIIT under the Scheme in the State.

National Teachers' Mission

†2265. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of 12,60,000 teachers at present and 40 per cent posts of teachers are vacant in higher education;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) the steps being taken by Government to fill up these posts;
- (c) whether Government proposes to constitute a National Teachers' Mission during the Twelfth Five Year Plan with a cost of six thousand crore rupees to bring improvement in the field of education; and
- (d) if so, the time by when National Teachers' Mission would be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. A total of 12,59,478 numbers of posts of teacher positions under State sector were vacant in 2011. Further, Central Universities are estimated to face a shortage in faculty of around 39% whereas State Universities are estimated to have shortages of 40 to 50% in faculty positions.

(b) Under the Right to Education (RTE)- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), several steps are being taken to address the issue of teacher shortages. These include rationalizing the deployment of existing teachers, and completing the recruitment of teachers against vacant State sector posts as well as teacher posts sanctioned under SSA by conducting Teacher Eligibility Test (TET). At the Higher Education level, several steps have been taken to meet the shortage of faculty. Age of superannuation of faculty has been increased to 65 years in Central Educational Institutions with a further provision of reemployment upto 70 years. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has allowed recruitment of teachers with B.Tech qualification as pro- term Lecturer for a limited period of three years with the condition that they would secure Masters qualification within the same period. AICTE has also permitted second shift in the existing institutions and intake (number of seats) in Masters Programmes has been increased, so that faculty shortages could be minimized. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has launched a scheme called Operation Faculty Recharge for augmenting the research and teaching resources of universities to tackle the shortage of faculty in university system.

(c) and (d) The President of India in her Address to both Houses of Parliament on 12th March, 2012 had announced: "The teacher is at the core of the education system. My Government intends to launch a National Mission for Teachers aimed at improving teacher education and faculty development". Accordingly, a National Mission on Teachers and Teaching has been conceived in the Twelfth Plan to address comprehensively all issues related to teachers, teaching, teacher preparation and professional development with a view to improve the quality of education at all levels.

Corporal punishment to students for refusing to eat mid-day-meal

2266. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two students were beaten to unconsciousness for refusing to eat the mid-day-meal infested with insects in Bihar recently; and

(b) the details in this regard and the action taken against the accused playing with the lives of children?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) A news report captioned "Kids thrashed for refusing insect-infested school meal" was published in a news paper dated 16.07.2012. The Government of Bihar was directed to get the matter enquired into and has reported that the matter was investigated by District Education Officer, Vaishali and it was found that the report of serving insect infested Mid Day Meal was not true. Two students of Class VI, who were beating a junior student, were punished by the Head Master and the incident was not related to the Mid Day Meal programme.

Punishment to students for protesting against quality of Mid-Day-Meal

2267. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of students were censored for protesting against quality of food served as Mid-Day-Meal in Vadodara, Gujarat recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such incidents happened earlier also but went un-noticed; and

(c) the details in this regard and the action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) It was reported in the local news paper 'Divya Bhaskar Network', Vadodara that 47 children were locked in the room by the class teacher for complaining against the mid day meal, and were beaten badly. The Government of Gujarat have reported that some students complained to class teacher against the mismanagement in serving of mid day meal on 13.7.2012 in Primary School of village Brahmanvashi, District Vadodara. The complaint was against the class teacher's behavior and not due to quality or quantity of mid day meal served. No such incident has happened earlier. The State Government has suspended the class teacher and transferred the Principal and Vice Principal to other places.

East Asia Summit of Education Ministers

2268. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the First East Asia Summit of Education Ministers was held in the recent past in Indonesia;

(b) if so, the details of the issues raised and discussed during the said Summit;

(c) the details of the decisions taken by the representatives of various countries during the said Summit;

(d) whether there has been a greater scope for promotion of educational cooperation among East Asia Summit countries;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of the steps taken, so far, in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The first East Asia Summit (EAS) Education Ministers Meeting was held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia on 5th July, 2012.

(b) and (c) The Ministers exchanged views on ways of fostering collaboration in the education sector among the EAS participating countries. They adopted the Terms of Reference for the EAS Education Ministers Meeting, which would hence forth be held once in two year. The Ministers also endorsed the EAS Education Plan of Action (2011-15); and issued a Joint Statement on "Strengthening Global Partnership for Education and Humanity". Various EAS participating countries registered their interest to take the lead/participate in 12 different collaborative projects identified in the EAS Education Plan of Action (2011-15).

(d) and (f) The Ministers agreed that there was significant potential for cooperation in a wide range of areas in the education sector among the EAS participating countries. The EAS Education Plan of Action (2011-15) reflects the areas where the participating countries see common benefit from such collaboration. Countries that have evinced interest in specific projects would formulate concept notes and organize workshops to evolve action plan to achieve concrete objectives. India has taken a lead in the following four projects:—

- Harmonization of national qualification frameworks to assure their interoperability and facilitate student and people mobility in the region (Collaboration with Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand and Vietnam);
- An EAS regional leadership development program (Collaboration with Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam);
- Support to Nalanda University as a centre for study of Asian heritage, and for the promotion of regional peace and vision;
- Facilitating TVET teacher and student mobility (Collaboration with Indonesia).

The concept notes have been developed for the above projects and were presented in the First East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting.

Education in backward regions and for poor children

†2269. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking any corrective measures in the educationally backward regions;
- (b) the amount of funds allocated by Government for improvement of educational standards;
- (c) whether Government has been effective in providing free education to poor children; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 has become operative with effect from 01.04.2010. The Act provides that every child in 6 -14 age group shall have the right to free and compulsory education. It has provision to provide at least 25% reservation in admission specifically from poor children in private, aided and unaided schools from the neighbourhood.

The scheme for setting up of 6,000 model schools at block level, at the rate of one school per block as benchmark of excellence was launched in November, 2008. Of this, 3500 schools will be in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) through State/UT Governments. Till date, 1954 model schools have been approved in as many EBBs of 22 States and funds amounting to Rs. 1850.23 crore have been released for setting up of 1,603 model schools in 21 States. Further, 438 model schools have also become functional in 07 States and an amount of Rs.29.46 crore has been released for running these schools.

The Centrally Sponsored "Scheme for Construction and Running of Girls' Hostel for Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools" is being implemented from 2009-10. The Scheme envisages construction of one hostel with the capacity of 100 girls in each of the 3479 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) of the country. The main objective of the scheme is to improve access to and retain the girl child in secondary and higher secondary classes (IX-XII) so that the girl students are not denied the opportunity to continue their study due; to distance to school, parents' financial affordability and other connected societal factors.

A Scheme to provide central assistance for setting up of a model degree college in each of the identified 374 Educationally Backward Districts where Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education is less than the national GER, is also under implementation. Under the Scheme the Central Government provides assistance to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the extent of one third of the capital cost for establishment of each college, limited to Rs.2.67 crore. For Special Category States, the Central share shall be 50% of the capital cost limited to Rs.4 crore for each college.

The Government has also initiated a scheme of Sub-Mission on Polytechnics under coordinated action for Skill Development under which, Government of India provides financial assistance to the State/UT Governments, limited to Rs. 12.30 crores per polytechnic to meet the costs of establishing a Polytechnic in 300 Districts identified as per following criteria in order of preference:-

- (i) the unserved Districts *i.e.* Districts which do not have any Government Polytechnic
- (ii) and also in underserved districts *i.e.* Districts in which the availability of diploma seats per lakh population is less than 10 seats per lakh of population.

Opening of engineering colleges/universities in Delhi

‡2270. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to open engineering colleges/universities in Delhi in the coming years is under consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Women's education in Minority areas

‡2271. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Government's policy on minority women education; and

(b) the details of steps taken by Government for the same during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) In order to enhance participation of minority women in the national education system, various initiatives have been taken and 88 districts with concentration of minority population are specifically targeted for maximising school access and eliminating infrastructure gaps through opening of 16,391 new Primary Schools and 9,345 Upper Primary Schools; construction of 1,70,925 additional

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

classrooms and sanctioning of 1,34,203 teachers. Under the scheme of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), which *inter-alia* provides coverage of special focus groups viz. girls', children belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC) and educationally backward Minorities, 9636 secondary schools have been approved, out of which 906 have been approved in Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs); Out of 3609 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) sanctioned, 490 KGBVs have been sanctioned in blocks having over 20% Muslim population, of which 475 are operational. Besides, a Sub-Committee on Girls' Education of the National Monitoring Committee for Minorities' Education has also been constituted to identify the factors impeding Girl Education in Minority communities and suggest measures to counter them, ways and means to enhance quality teachers for girls in Minority Concentrated Areas and to develop infrastructure for enhancing participation of girls belonging to Minority Communities in educational institutions.

Implementation of SSA in Karnataka

2272. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the cumulative number of school buildings sanctioned till 2011-12 under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in the State of Karnataka and the cumulative achievements thereof in the State;

(b) the number of new school buildings proposed to be constructed in the State under SSA during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period;

(c) whether Government has reviewed the success of implementation of SSA in Karnataka, particularly in the rural parts of the State;

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

(e) the action Government has taken to plug the loopholes in the implementation of SSA in the State?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The States/UTs every year work out their requirement for school infrastructure and submit their Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) to Government of India for funding under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Till 2011-12 cumulatively 3,736 school buildings have been sanctioned to State Government of Karnataka under SSA out of which 3,733 school buildings have already been constructed.

(c) to (e) SSA has a robust system of continuous review through regular meetings with Education Secretaries, review meetings and workshops, six monthly Joint Review Missions (JRM), and concurrent financial reviews. Field level monitoring is also undertaken by Monitoring Institutes comprising reputed institutes of social sciences

and Universities/Department of Education. Any loopholes, observed in the progress of the State is pointed out for the rectification during these reviews.

Affordable and reliable internet access

2273. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has increased cost of internet access for consumers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the manner in which Government proposes to address the problems of low speed, high cost and unpredictability of internet and broadband connectivity; and
- (d) whether such a decision would be against the key objectives of providing affordable and reliable broadband on demand for citizens as outlined in the National Telecom Policy 2012 (NTP-2012)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI MILIND DEORA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The cost of accessing Internet is not fixed by the Government. The tariff for internet services are governed by the Telecom Tariff Order(s) issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India from time to time.

However, in order to implement the Unified Licence Fee regime, the Government has decided to levy a uniform licence fee as 8% of "Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR)" on all Internet Service Providers in phased manner, in two steps starting from 01.07.2012.

(c) and (d) The vision of National Telecom Policy (NTP) 2012 is to provide secure, reliable, affordable and high quality converged telecommunication services, including internet and broadband services. NTP 2012 addresses various issues related to internet and broadband including issues related to speed, affordability and reliability.

One of the key objectives of NTP 2012 includes providing affordable and reliable broadband- on- demand by the year 2015.

NTP 2012 lays out different broad strategies for addressing such issues in order to meet the above mentioned objective including development of an ecosystem for broadband, laying Optical Fiber network initially up to the village panchayat level by funding from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), providing proper incentives for rural roll-out encouraging Fiber To The Home (FTTH) with enabling policies and guidelines, establishing institutional framework to coordinate with different government departments/agencies for laying and upkeep of telecom cables including optical fiber cable for rapid expansion of Broadband.

The decision to implement the Uniform Licence Fee regime for various Telecom Service Providers was taken in the interest of ending arbitrage in the licence fee, ensuring simplicity and transparency, expanding licence fee base and ensuring a level playing field between different services, with due consideration of the revenue receipts of the Government and the growth of Telecom services in the country.

Admission of children from weaker sections under RTE Act

†2274. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unaided private schools have not admitted 25 per cent children belonging to families of weaker sections during the current year as per provisions of section 12 (1) (c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009;

(b) if so, the details therefor and the number of children from weaker sections admitted during current year;

(c) whether any action has been taken against any school for non-compliance of the provisions of the Act;

(d) if so, the number of such schools against whom action has been taken; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Unaided private schools are implementing the provisions of Section 12(1)(c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act. Information regarding the number of children admitted in the various unaided schools of the country in pursuance of section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act is not centrally maintained.

(c) to (e) It is the responsibility of the State Governments to monitor the implementation of the provisions of section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act by schools. Section 31 of the RTE Act provides that the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and the State Commissions for the Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) shall examine and review the safeguards for rights of the child, inquire into complaints and take necessary steps relating to child rights to free and compulsory education. Section 32 of the RTE Act provides for redressal of grievances by the local authorities.

Upgradation of Aakash tablets

2275. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that Aakash tablet is facing teething problems;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that students are not satisfied with it; and
- (c) if so, the steps the Ministry is taking to upgrade it and test its viability in the market?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) Under the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) scheme, in a project sanctioned to IIT, Rajasthan 1,00,000 Aakash tablets were envisaged for being procured targeted to students in Higher Technical Education institutions so as to further ascertain technical feedback on its operation and usability. After the launch, initial feedback showed the areas where improvements were required. These were (i) heating of the device (ii) need for longer battery life (iii) need for capacitive instead of resistive touch screen (iv) need for better processor etc. The matter was taken up with the vendor and he agreed to make changes including upgrading the processor from 366 MHz Arm 11 based processor to 700 MHz Arm Cortex A8 processor, improving firmware, replacing the battery of 2100 mAH with a battery of 3200 mAH capacity and replacement of resistive touch screen with capacitive one with no enhancement in cost.

Setting up of Beta Colleges and Meta Universities

2276. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to set up Beta Colleges and Meta Universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has issued any directions to the State Universities to launch this kind of model; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Meta University has been established in a collaborative framework at Delhi by Jamia Milia Islamia and Delhi University. The main purpose of Meta University is to share learning resources by different universities using latest technologies available in order to enable students to benefit from resources available in different institutions. While the Government has no plan to set up Beta Colleges, Delhi University has started a Meta College, which provides opportunities for students to study different courses/programmes offered by different departments/colleges under Delhi University.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Such Meta Universities cannot be set up through Government directions. They need to be set up after the participating institutions/Universities voluntarily decide to share their learning resources to provide students with a holistic learning experience.

Foreign students coming to Indian universities

2277. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that foreign students are flocking to Indian universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is wooing them with certain incentives;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether India ranks at the 14th position for US students reaching the country; and
- (f) the action plan of Government to attract other students from the international universities to secure a better place for education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) University Grants Commission (UGC) has reported that the enrolment of foreign students in Indian Universities/Institutions of higher education and colleges, is consistently increasing. The number of foreign students studying in various Indian Institutions has reportedly crossed 21,000 in the year 2009-10.

(c) and (d) The bilateral and multilateral exchange programmes entered into by the Ministry as well as higher educational institutions in India with their foreign counterparts facilitate flow of students from foreign countries to India. The UGC has advised all universities to create 15% supernumerary seats in all University departments/courses, whether technical/professional or other-wise, for foreign students. UGC also provides 20 Junior Research Fellowships and 7 Research Associateships every year for foreign nationals.

(e) There is no such authentic, universally acceptable ranking and various non-official ranking bodies employ different methods to bring out such reports.

(f) Many programmes have been launched to attract foreign students to Indian institutions which include Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) by Ministry of Human Resource Development; Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children and Know India Programme by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs; Fellowships and Visitors Programmes by Indian Council for Cultural Relations; Fellowships by Indian Institute of Advanced studies, Indian Council of Social Science Research and Ministry of Science and Technology. UGC and All India Council for Technical Education

(AICTE) have undertaken several initiatives to improve quality of education, research and infrastructure including framing fresh regulations for maintenance of standards in higher educational institutions.

Admission to Kendriya Vidyalayas under M.P. quota

2278. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that quota of MPs for admission in various Kendriya Vidyalayas has been increased from two to six;
- (b) if so, the details of requests received from Members of Parliament in this regard;
- (c) the details of requests accepted and the action taken in each case;
- (d) the details of the requests not accepted alongwith the reasons for the same; and
- (e) the details of those cases which were within the limit of six but have not been granted admission?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 212 recommendations were received till 24th August, 2012. Out of these 199 recommendations have already been processed and admission orders have been issued in 195 cases.

(d) and (e) 4 recommendations, as per details given in the Statement (*See below*). Have not been accepted in the light of norms/conditions for special dispensation admissions. 13 recommendations are still under process.

Statement

Details of cases that have not been accepted for granting admission

Sl. No.	Name of MP with Constituency	Name of the child	Name of Kendriya Vidyalaya for which admission recommended	Reasons
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Smt. Yashodhara Raje Scindia (Gwalior) Lok Sabha	Isha Rawat, D/o Shri Jogeshwar Singh Rawat	Dwarka, Sector-V, New Delhi	Recommendation made by Hon'ble MP was for the KV located out of Constituency

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Shukla (Vadodara) Lok Sabha	Akshita Rajesh Navtiyal, D/o Shri Rajesh Navtiyal	Air Force Tuglakabad, New Delhi	Recommendation made by Hon'ble MP was for the KV located out of Constituency
3.	Shri Premdas Katheria (Etawah) Lok Sabha	Ayodhya S/o Shri Narender Kumar Sharma	No. 1 Faridabad	-do-
4.	Dr. V. Maitreyan (Tamil Nadu) Rajya Sabha	K. Sanjit S/o Shri R. Kumaran	CLRI Chennai	Recommendation for admission to class LKG.

Financial assistance to NGOs under NLM

‡2279. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial aid given to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) under National Literacy Mission (NLM) schemes during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of results achieved during the said period;

(c) whether Government has evaluated the work performance of NGOs engaged in this mission;

(d) if so, the details and results achieved thereof;

(e) whether Government proposes to take action against NGOs whose work performance is unsatisfactory; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Saakshar Bharat and Scheme for Support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education and Skill Development are the two schemes implemented by the National Literacy Mission Authority. The State-wise/year-wise details of the financial assistance provided during the last three years is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) State Resource Centre and Jan Shikshan Sansthan are the two major components of the Scheme of Support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education and Skill Development. Besides continuing their mandated role of providing academic

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

support to the States for literacy programmes through preparation of teaching learning/training material, training of literacy functionaries etc., the State Resource Centres undertook various other activities including orientation and capacity building of Saakshar Bharat functionaries and facilitating implementation of Saakshar Bharat. Jan Shikshan Sansthan provided vocational training to 19,45,479 persons. Saakshar Bharat Yatra organized by Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti covered over 15000 Gram Panchayats in 187 Districts in 22 States of the country.

(c) Evaluation of the NGOs involved in the scheme is undertaken periodically by the National Literacy Mission Authority, internally as well as through external agencies.

(d) The reviews have shown that the system of monitoring of performances requires further strengthening; financial norms need to be adhered to scrupulously; there is a need to develop capacity building of staff; adequate infrastructure needs to be available to carry out assigned roles; and their activities need to be demand led and relevant to the core beneficiaries of the scheme. Important remedial measures aimed at further improving the implementation of the Scheme include (i) Development of a web-based Monitoring and Information System; (ii) On line submission of Annual Action Plan (iii) Standardization of curriculum of vocational courses and certification; (iv) Conduct of market surveys to identify the vocations relevant to their clientele; (v) Introduction of an institutionalized mechanism of standardized accounting system and regular performance audit; and (vi) Inclusion of vocations which are relevant to the Scheme's clientele.

(e) and (f) Whenever instances of omission or commission come to the notice of the National Literacy Mission Authority, it resorts to appropriate action including stoppage of grant or even cancellation of allotment of concerned institutions.

Statement

*Details of funds released to NGOs during the last three years
(2009-10 to 2011-12)*

Sl.No.	State	(Rs. in lakhs)		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	446.28	534.04	608.55
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	29.48	85.00	124.93
3.	Assam	165.92	248.21	271.69
4.	Bihar	486.00	462.72	576.58

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Chhattisgarh	174.08	270.86	270.92
6.	Goa	25.79	29.59	26.50
7.	Gujarat	303.76	336.97	364.79
8.	Haryana	214.32	239.20	226.76
9.	Himachal Pradesh	79.36	98.60	101.56
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	63.92	133.02	120.03
11.	Jharkhand	224.47	208.42	268.42
12.	Karnataka	321.59	380.70	367.01
13.	Kerala	332.15	347.26	335.95
14.	Madhya Pradesh	959.96	1150.55	1130.75
15.	Maharashtra	660.20	759.21	759.83
16.	Manipur	66.61	90.00	89.39
17.	Meghalaya	69.59	51.37	67.50
18.	Mizoram	25.65	15.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	28.95	30.00	29.99
20.	Odisha	493.24	587.11	604.01
21.	Punjab	56.98	59.59	59.78
22.	Rajasthan	344.00	322.76	376.37
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	342.54	398.52	332.74
25.	Tripura	71.20	49.81	51.72
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1438.21	1639.48	1611.00
27.	Uttarakhand	238.82	215.17	252.74
28.	West Bengal	324.30	339.62	343.23
29.	Chandigarh	101.42	34.94	34.91
30.	Delhi	126.09	137.01	146.31
31.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13.41	29.55	27.63
35.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL:		8228.29	9284.28	9581.59

Besides an assistance of Rs. 157.00 lakhs was provided to Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS) during 2011-12 for organizing Saakshar Bharat Yatra in 22 States.

Funding pattern for SSA

‡2280. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria of division of funds between Centre and States for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(b) whether Government is aware that primary schools in most of the States do not have proper facilities of drinking water and toilets due to which students, mostly girls, have to face problems;

(c) if so, whether Central Government has given any instruction to States for solution of this problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme States/UTs are provided funds based on the approved Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) for the relevant year, and in accordance with the approved norms and fund sharing pattern applicable to the State. The funds are presently shared in the 65:35 ratio between the Central and State Governments. In the case of States in the North East Region (NER), the funds are shared in the 90:10 ratio between the Centre and the NER States.

(b) to (d) As per data reported by the States under the District Information System for Education (DISE) 2010-11, 91.12% primary schools have drinking water facilities and 72.56% schools have functional common toilets. States have been advised to ensure complete provision of drinking water and toilets in elementary schools through funds under SSA and in convergence with other programmes for sanitation and drinking water supply.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Professional development of teachers

2281. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to set up new institutions to produce quality teachers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the locations of these institutions State-wise; and
- (d) the action plan under this project for professional development of teachers?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Teacher Education for the Twelfth plan envisages establishment of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) in all districts created upto March, 2011, up-gradation of government secondary teacher education institutions and Department of Education as Colleges of Teacher Education (CTEs) and Institutes of Advanced Studies in Education (IASEs) respectively, and establishment of Block Institutes of Teacher Education (BITEs) in SC/ST/Minority concentration districts, the State-wise distribution of which is given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) The Scheme envisages in-service training of elementary and secondary school teachers by the DIETs and CTEs, for which financial assistance is provided to the States.

Statement*State-wise details for establishment of BITEs*

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of Districts
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	11
2.	Assam	14
3.	Bihar	8
4.	Chhattisgarh	6
5.	Gujarat	4
6.	Haryana	4
7.	Himachal Pradesh	8
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	2

1	2	3
9.	Jharkhand	8
10.	Karnataka	3
11	Kerala	1
12	Madhya Pradesh	6
13	Maharashtra	5
14	Manipur	6
15	Meghalaya	7
16	Mizoram	8
17	Nagaland	8
18	Odisha	7
19	Punjab	12
20	Rajasthan	4
21	Sikkim	1
22	Tamil Nadu	7
23	Tripura	1
24	Uttar Pradesh	36
25	Uttarakhand	3
26	West Bengal	14
27	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
28	Delhi	1

Indo-Israel MoU on Research Programmes

2282. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has signed an MoU with Government of Israel for launching a programme that promotes collaborative research across a wide range of disciplines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between University Grants Commission (UGC) and Israel Science Foundation (ISF) on India-

Israel Joint Research Programme (IIRP) was signed on 2.8.2012 to promote collaborative research across a wide range of disciplines. The initial cooperation for this programme is for a period of five years (2013-2018). The main characteristics of the programme are:-

- It has a broad disciplinary scope and includes Life Sciences, Medicine, Exact Sciences and Technologies, Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts;
- It include funding of workshops and joint research projects;
- Funding is based on the peer review of joint projects;
- It is aimed to support basic research, conducted primarily in academic research institutions;
- Joint management of the evaluation will be under taken by University Grants Commission and All India Council for Technical Education of India and the Israel Science Foundation of Israel; and
- It is governed by a joint steering committee.

Permission for railway crossings for development projects

2283. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a specific time-frame within which permission for railway crossings for various development projects should be given;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that several proposals for permission for railway crossings for various water supply projects in Gujarat are pending with the railway authorities; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Railways receive requests from various agencies/individuals for crossings of railway tracks for various purposes. Such proposals are examined and permission is granted expeditiously if the proposal is complete, feasible, does not affect safety of trains, and after the party has deposited the required fees and met with all the procedural requirements. As the sponsoring parties take time in complying with the procedural requirements, no target can be set by railways for granting approval to the proposals.

(b) and (c) As at present 126 proposals for permission of railway crossings in Gujarat for water supply projects are under different stages/examination and approvals.

Compensation for train accidents

2284. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who died in train accidents, during the last three years, year-wise and zone-wise;

(b) the number of dependents of victims of train accidents who were provided jobs during the last three years, year-wise and zone-wise;

(c) whether Railways' rules provide for compensation to dependents of train accident victims but employment has been provided only in cases where announcement has been made by the Minister of Railways; and

(d) if so, the reasons for injustice with other kin of persons who lost their lives in train mishaps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Year-wise and zone-wise number of persons who lost their lives in consequential train accidents excluding incidents of trespassing at unmanned level crossings during the last three years and the current year from April to July, 2012, is given below:—

Railways	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (From April to July, 2012)
1	2	3	4	5
Central	2	0	0	1
Eastern	1	67	5	0
East Central	6	0	11	0
Northern	4	3	0	3
North Eastern	0	1	1	0
Northeast Frontier	1	1	1	0
North Western	7	0	0	0
Southern	4	0	11	0
South Central	0	0	0	30

1	2	3	4	5
South Eastern	2	152	0	0
Western	1	0	0	0
East Coast	1	1	10	0
South Western	0	0	0	25
West Central	0	24	4	0
North Central	39	2	71	0
South East Central	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	68	251	114	59

(b) Year-wise and zone-wise number of employment provided to the dependents of victims of train accidents on railways in 2009, 2010, 2011 and the current year from January to July, 2012, is given below:-

Railways	January to December, 2009	January to December, 2010	January to December, 2011	January to July, 2012
1	2	3	4	5
Central	0	0	0	0
Eastern	0	13	22	6
East Central	8	0	1	0
Northern	0	0	0	0
North Eastern	0	0	0	0
Northeast Frontier	0	0	0	0
North Western	0	0	0	0
Southern	0	0	0	0
South Central	0	0	0	0
South Eastern	0	5	9	11
Western	0	0	0	0
East Coast	0	0	0	0
South Western	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
West Central	0	17	0	0
North Central	0	0	41	0
South East Central	0	0	1	0
TOTAL:	8	35	74	17

(c) and (d) Extant rules provide for compensation to accident victims on the basis of claims filed by them in the Railway Claims Tribunal and decrees to be awarded by the Tribunal. There is no general policy for providing employment to dependents of those who lost their lives in train accidents. However, considering the human sufferings in major consequential train accidents, employment has been provided purely as a humanitarian gesture wherever announcement to this effect has been made by Hon'ble Minister of Railways.

H.O. quota for Nalanda, Bihar

2285. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that previously there used to be H.O. quota for Nalanda, Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said quota has since been done away with;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government would consider to restore the H.O. quota for Nalanda and ply good quality and good condition coaches on New Delhi-Rajgir route in view of it being an internationally renowned historical place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. There was no H.O. Quota at Nalanda.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) All the coaches of trains plying on New Delhi-Rajgir route are within prescribed codal life. Maintenance and upkeep of coaches is a continual requirement and this is carried out periodically during laid down maintenance schedules. Besides, coaches are also being given mid-life rehabilitation after attaining 12-15 years of life and complete interior furnishing is replaced.

Concessions in freight

2286. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways grant concession in freight in respect of ordinary iodized salt;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Railways propose to grant similar concession in freight in respect of refined salt so that salt manufacturers of Gujarat, who are meeting country's major requirement, can survive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As compared to other essential commodities such as foodgrains (class-130), salt is classified at a lower rate (at class-110). In order to further cushion the impact of railway freight on the price of salt as applicable to the common man, a distance-based, graded freight concession scheme exists in the case of booking of ordinary non refined salt meant for human consumption (both iodized as well as salt meant for iodization) as under:-

Distance (Km)	Concession on normal freight rates.	Minimum freight
1-1000	Nil	As applicable.
1001-1600	10%	Not less than the freight for distance 1000 Kms.
1601-2200	15%	Not less than the concessional freight for distance 1600 Kms.
2201-3000	20%	Not less than the concessional freight for distance 2200 Kms.
3001 and above	25%	Not less than the concessional freight for distance 3000 Kms.

There is no proposal to extend this concession scheme to refined salt, free flow salt, branded vacuum salt etc. at present.

Railway safety devices and systems

2287. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the recent report of CAG Government has failed to equip Railways with Anti-Collision Device (ACD), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), European Train Control System (ETCS) and Train Protection and warning System (TPWS);

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the details of trains and railway lines equipped with ACD, AWS, ETCS and TPWS, so far, zone-wise;
- (d) the details of trains and railway lines still awaiting these devices to check accidents; and
- (e) the time-frame within which all trains and routes would be equipped with aforesaid devices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. CAG in its report has generally commented upon the performance of pilot projects of ACD & TPWS.

Development of safety systems involves verification, validation and certification of performance against stringent safety parameters.

ACD being a Research and Development project, through constant review of its performance, operational and technical improvements for improving its working to meet stringent safety parameters is necessary.

Anti-Collision Device (ACD) developed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) has been deployed as a pilot project on 1736 route kilometers and 548 Locomotives on Katihar -Kumedpur - New Jalpaiguri - Guwahati - Lumding - Tinsukia - Dibrugarh -Ledo and Kumedpur - Malda sections and it has been in service trials since 2006.

Based on the experience of the North East Frontier Railway (NFR), to improve reliability and dependability of ACDs and to test its functioning on multiple lines as well as electrified routes, the specifications and design configuration were revised and the system as evolved was tried on the electrified multiple lines, automatic signalling section of the Southern Railway in 2010-2011. Complex operational and technical issues observed during both the trials are being attended to by KRCL in an improved version of ACD.

Pilot project of Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS) on suburban section of Southern Railway, *i.e.* between Chennai Central and Gummidipundi (50 Route Kms) has been commissioned and is in operation since May'2008. For Pilot project of TPWS on Delhi-Agra section (200 Route Kms) of North and Northern Central Railways, commercial trials are in progress on nominated trains.

In the pilot projects of TPWS (ETCS) on Southern and North Central Railways, software and hardware modifications as required have been carried out for customization of the system and for interfacing with train control, brake and signaling system for Indian Railways conditions.

Auxiliary Warning System (AWS) has been provided on Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) Suburban trains plying on Mumbai suburban sections of Western and Central Railways and is working satisfactorily.

As an improvement over ACD, action has also been taken by Indian Railways to develop Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) through multiple vendors for which Expression of Interest (EoI) was floated and six indigenous firms have been shortlisted.

(d) and (e) Various technologies for provision of Automatic Train Protection Systems are under evaluation for their suitability on Indian Railways. Based upon results of evaluation, the remaining sections of Indian Railways shall be considered for provision of Automatic Train Protection Systems with sanctioning of works and availability of funds.

Issues related to Surat railway station

2288. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not diverting passenger traffic from Surat railway station to Udhna railway station by diverting stoppage of some trains from Surat to Udhna in view of inability of Surat railway station in handling increasing passenger traffic;

(b) by when Railways would start diverting passenger traffic load from Surat to Udhna station;

(c) the action taken by Railways to set up Divisional Railway Manager office at Surat; and

(d) whether Railways are going to increase Railway Protection Force personnel at Surat railway station keeping in view security threats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) In view of the fact that Surat station is able to handle the present level of passenger traffic with its existing infrastructure, there is no proposal to divert passenger traffic from Surat to Udhna by giving additional stoppage of trains there.

(c) A large number of requests have been received from various State Government, Union Ministers, Members of Parliament/MLAs etc. for the creation of new zones and divisions including Division at Surat. A committee of Officers has been set up by the Ministry of Railways to analyze these requests from the various aspects of railway working and examine the feasibility of creation of the proposed new zones and divisions.

(d) Railway Protection Force (RPF) Post is available at Surat Railway station with strength of 87 personnel of various ranks. Moreover, the strength of RPF is complemented by reserve force as and when required.

Performance of ACDs

2289. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is contemplating alternative system in place of Anti-Collision Devices (ACDs);

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

(c) the details of each of the problems that the Ministry is encountering with ACDs;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Sam Pitroda and Kakodkar Committees have opined that ACDs are a failure;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether ACDs in operation in Konkan Railway are working properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes Sir, it is considered necessary to provide a proven technical aid to Loco Pilot to prevent accidents. ACD is one such technical aid.

(b) and (c) Development and deployment of indigenous Global Positioning System (GPS) based Anti-Collision Device (ACD) was taken up by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) as a pilot project on 1736 route kilometers on single/double line non electrified Broad Gauge section of Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) and it has been in service trials since 2006.

Based on the experience of the NFR, to improve reliability and dependability of ACDs and to test its functioning on multiple lines as well as electrified routes, the specifications and design configuration were revised and the system as evolved was tried on the electrified multiple lines, automatic signalling section of the Southern Railway in 2010-2011. Complex operational and technical issues observed during both the trials such as spurious braking due to failure of detection of track ID, blank zones of GPS signals and failure on account of theft of Solar panels, are being examined by KRCL for taking remedial measures.

As an improvement over ACD, action has also been taken by Indian Railways to develop Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) through multiple vendors for which Expression of Interest (EoI) was floated and six indigenous firms have been shortlisted.

Pilot project of Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS) has been commissioned on suburban section (50 Route Kilometers) of Southern Railway. The commercial trials of pilot project on Delhi-Agra section (200 Route Kilometers) on North Central Railway is in progress. Based on the experience gained, low cost TPWS version has been sanctioned for deployment on High Density Network (HDN)/ Automatic Signaling Sections covering 3397 route kilometers over 8 zonal railways *i.e.* Central, Eastern, Northern, South Central, North Central, Southern, South Eastern and Western.

(d) and (e) Sam Pitroda Committee has recommended to deploy On-Board Train Protection System with Cab Signalling on 'A' and 'B' Routes.

Kakodkar Committee has opined that ACD in its current form is not a safety system and so is not yet fully engineered for ATP (Automatic Train Protection) equivalence in stand alone form.

(f) ACD system on Konkan Railway having less than 10% ACD fitted Locos is working properly. Issues related to reliability of the system with improved ACD coverage, are required to be evaluated.

New projects announced in Railway Budgets

2290. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the new projects announced during last three Railway Budgets;
- (b) whether any projects have been completed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) how many projects are yet to be started;
- (e) how many of the new projects announced got clearance from the Planning Commission; and
- (f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) During the last three years *i.e.* 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12, 121 New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects were included the Railway Budgets. All these projects are in various stages of execution. No project sanctioned during last 3 years has been completed.

(d) Work on all the sanctioned projects has been taken up.

(e) and (f) 39 projects are included in the Railway Budget after getting 'in principle' approval from the Planning Commission. Details of these projects are given in Statement.

Statement

Details of new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects included in Railway Budgets during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 after getting 'in principle' approval from the Planning Commission:-

Sl. No.	Year of inclusion in Budget	Name of the project	Length (in Km)
1	2	3	4
New Line			
1.	2011-12	Hansdiha-Godda (30 km)	30
2.	2011-12	Murkongselek-Pasighat (30.617 km)	30.617
3.	2011-12	Qadian-Beas NL	39.68
4.	2011-12	Ratlam -Dungarpur via Banswara	176.47
5.	2011-12	Gudur-Durgarajatnam	41.55
6.	2011-12	Nadikude-Srikalahasti	309
7.	2011-12	Wadsa-Gadchiroli (49.5 km)	49.5
8.	2011-12	Bhadutola-Jhargram via Lalgarh (54 km)	54
9.	2011-12	Madurai-Tuticorin via Aruppukkottai	143.5
10.	2011-12	Marikuppam-Kuppam NL	23.7
11.	2011-12	Shimoga-Harihar (78.66 km)	78.66
12.	2011-12	Turnkur-Chitradurg-Davangere	199.7
13.	2011-12	Whitefield-Kolar (52.9 km)	52.9
14.	2010-11	Hasnabad-Hinalganj (14 km)	14
15.	2010-11	Tarakeshwar-Magra (51.95 km) and Tarakeshwar-Furfurasharif (21.75 km)	73.7
16.	2010-11	Balurghat-Hilli (29 km)	29
17.	2010-11	Byrnihat-Shillong (108.40 km)	108.4
18.	2010-11	Kaliyaganj-Buniadpur (33.13 km)	33.13
19.	2010-11	Rishikesh-Karanprayag (125.09 km)	125.09

1	2	3	4
20.	2010-11	Bhadrachalam Road-Sattupalli	56.25
21.	2010-11	Bowaichandi-Arambagh (31 km)	31
22.	2010-11	Digha-Jaleswar (41 km) with new MM for Digha-Egra (31 km)	72
23.	2010-11	Bagalkot-Kudachi (142 km)	142
24.	2009-10	Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63.1 km)	63.1
Gauge Conversion			
1.	2011-12	Lucknow-Pilibhit via Sitapur, Lakhimpur (262.76 km)	262.76
2.	2011-12	Miyagam-Karjan-Dabhoi-Samalaya GC with electrification	96.46
3.	2010-11	Dholpur-Sirmuttra with extension to Gangapur City (144.6 km)	144.6
4.	2010-11	Gwalior-Sheopurkalan with extension to Kota (284 km)	284
5.	2010-11	Chhindwara-Mandla Fort (l 82.25 km)	182.25
Doubling			
1.	2011-12	Kirandul-Jadgalpur (150 km)	150
2.	2010-11	Sambalpur-Talcher (174.11 km)	174.11
3.	2011-12	Mudkhed-Parbhani	81.43
4.	2011-12	Vijaywada-Gudivada-Bhimavaram-Narsapur, Gudivada-Machlipatnam and Bhimavaram-Nidadavolu DL with Electrification (221 km)	221
5.	2009-10	Daund-Gulbarga Doubling (224.90 km) and Pune-Guntakal Electrification (641.37 km)	224.9
6.	2010-11	Dangoaposi- Rajkharswan 3rd line	65
7.	2010-11	Hospet-Hubli-Londa-Tinaighat-Vasco-de-Gama (352.28 km)	352.28
8.	2011-12	Bina-Kota (282.66 km)	282.66
9.	2011-12	Viramgam-Samakhiali	182.23
10.	2010-11	Viramgam- Surendranagar	65.26

Construction of new electric railway line

†2291. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the work of new electric railway line being constructed between Bhusawal and Surat *via* Jalgaon, Amalner, Shindkheda, Dondaicha and Nandurbar in Maharashtra under Central Railway would be completed;

(b) the length of railway line, already constructed and yet to be constructed, in kilometres;

(c) the amount of money spent on construction of the said line, till date;

(d) whether more employees can be appointed in stations and at railway lines once the said railway line is ready; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) There is already an existing electrified double line between Bhusawal-Jalgaon and Surat-Udhna. Doubling of Udhna-Jalgaon sections (306.93 km) with electrification has been taken up. Doubling and electrification of Vyara-Ukaisongarh (20 km) and Amolner-Dharangaon (25 km) sections have been completed. Ukaisongarh-Chinchpada (40 km) Dharangaon-Jalgaon (25 km) sections are targeted for doubling and electrification during 2012-13. An expenditure of ₹ 364.97 crores has been incurred upto July, 2012 and an outlay of ₹ 130.00 crores has been provided for this project for the year 2012-13.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. More employees may be appointed as per maintenance and operational requirement once doubling and electrification is completed and commissioned for passenger traffic.

Railway connectivity

†2292. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways will consider extending stretch of EMU trains running between Saharanpur and Ambala Cantt. by 4 kilometre upto Tapri station;

(b) if so, by when and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether Railways have received demand of extending Sangam Express running between Meerut city and Allahabad upto Saharanpur;

(d) if so, by when this demand will be accepted;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) whether Ministry has conducted any survey for extending operation of Sangam Express upto Saharanpur or whether any departmental report has been submitted;

(f) if so, details thereof; and

(g) the details of doubling of railway line between Bayanheli, Muzaffarnagar and Tapri, Saharanpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Electrification work on Saharanpur-Tapri is in progress and planned for completion by March, 2013. However there is no EMU (Electrical Multiple Unit) service between Ambala and Saharanpur. MEMU (Mainline EMU) services are running on this section. Extension of MEMU trains running between Ambala Cantt. and Saharanpur upto Tapri is not feasible at present due to Saharanpur and Tapri being a non-electrified section.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. Representation for extension of 14163/14164 Allahabad-Meerut City Sangam Express upto Saharanpur has been received. At present extension of 14163/14164 Allahabad-Meerut City Express upto Saharanpur is not feasible due to operational constraints.

(g) Doubling of Muzaffarnagar-Baman Heri-Tapri rail line is presently not under consideration.

Unmanned railway crossings

2293. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned railway crossings in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any immediate plan to provide attendants at all unmanned crossings in order to check further accidents and loss of human lives etc.; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) As on 01.04.2012, there are 13,530 unmanned level crossings (excluding cattle and canal crossings) in the country. The State-wise details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) It has emerged from a study of pattern of accidents that manning of unmanned level crossings is not an ideal solution. Therefore, the policy of manning of unmanned level crossings has been reviewed. Accordingly Railway have decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by:

(i) Closure - Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/negligible Train Vehicle Units (TVUs)

- (ii) Merger - Merger of unmanned level crossing gate to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridge (RUBs) or Road Over Bridges (ROBs) by construction of diversion road.
- (iii) Provision of Subways/RUBs
- (iv) Manning - Railway has also decided to progressively man those unmanned level crossings which cannot be eliminated by above methods on the basis of rail-road traffic volume and visibility conditions.

Statement*State-wise details of unmanned crossings in the country*

Sl. No.	States	Number of Unmanned Level Crossings (excluding cattle and canal crossings) in the States (As on 01.04.2012)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	875
2.	Assam	290
3.	Bihar	973
4.	Chhattisgarh	140
5.	Chandigarh	0
6.	Delhi	1
7.	Gujarat	2258
8.	Goa	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6
10.	Haryana	259
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	3
12.	Jharkhand	310
13.	Karnataka	585
14.	Kerala	60
15.	Madhya Pradesh	729
16.	Maharashtra	651

1	2	3
17.	Manipur	0
18.	Mizoram	0
19.	Nagaland	0
20.	Odisha	621
21.	Puducherry	7
22.	Punjab	606
23.	Rajasthan	1203
24.	Tamil Nadu	952
25.	Tripura	8
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1917
27.	Uttarakhand	70
28.	West Bengal	1006
TOTAL:		13530

Catering policy

2294. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had earlier framed a catering policy *vide* their letter No. 2003 TG-III/600/5 dated 16th March, 2005; and

(b) if so, the item-wise details of catering, vending services, shifting of stalls and procedure for allotment of stall contracts etc. contained therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) A New Catering Policy, 2010 has been issued *vide* Commercial Circular No.35/2010 and letter No. 2009/TG-III/600/25 dated 21.07.2010 which supersedes the catering policy issued *vide* letter No. 2003/TG-III/600/5 dated 16.03.2005.

(b) Does not arise.

World class stations in Odisha

2295. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by when the Ministry would implement the proposal of establishment of world class stations at the existing Cuttack, Puri and Bhubaneswar railway stations in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): No time frame has been set for implementation of proposal of redevelopment of Puri and Bhubaneswar Railway Stations as world class stations.

Cuttack Railway Station has not been identified for development as world class station. However, Cuttack Station is identified for development of a Multi Functional Complex (MFC) which shall have facilities like shopping, food stalls, restaurants, book stalls, medicine and variety stores, etc.

Incident of throwing out passengers from railway coach

‡2296. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a few months back two students from Bihar, who were on their return journey after appearing in railway examination, were thrown out of a railway coach by some anti-social elements in Ahmedabad, Gujarat causing death of one of them;

(b) if so, the action taken so far in this regard;

(c) whether Government would provide a compensation of ₹ 15 lakh and a job in Railways to the family of the deceased; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) On 13.05.2012 at about 16.10 hrs., two students from Bihar who were travelling in the general compartment of train no. 16209 Ajmer - Mysore Express were pushed out of the train by 3 anti-social elements between Kanij and Mehmdabad Railway stations. As a result one of them died at the spot and other sustained injury. Government Railway Police/Nadiad has registered a case *vide* crime no. 09/2012 dated 14.05.2012 under section 302, 307, 392, 394 Indian Penal Code against three unknown persons. No arrest has yet been made.

(c) and (d) Compensation is paid after a compensation claim case is filed by claimant or dependent of victim in Railway Claims Tribunal and a decree is awarded. The amount decreed by Railway Claims Tribunal is paid by Railway to claimants. No case has been initiated for providing job to family of the deceased as there is no provision in the rules.

Railway electrification projects

2297. DR. DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by when the Ministry would take up the electrification work of Vizianagaram-Rayagada-Damanjodi, Angul-Sambalpur-Jharsuguda B.G. Rail Link, and Haridaspur-Paradeep B.G. Rail Link to bring train operation of single track system?

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): Vizianagaram-Rayagada-Singapur Road is part of Vizianagaram-Rayagada-Raipur sanctioned electrification project. Preparatory works have been taken up. At present, there is no proposal to electrify Singapur Road-Damanjodi section as the electrification of railway tracks is decided based on financial viability, traffic volumes and operational flexibility.

Electrification of Angul-Sambalpur-Jharsuguda has been included in Rail Budget 2012-13 and preliminary works are being taken up.

Electrification work of Haridaspur-Paradeep rail line is in progress alongwith new rail line work.

Lanjigarh road- Junagarh railway line project

2298. DR. DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the targeted date of completion/commissioning of Lanjigarh road-Junagarh new B.G. Rail Link project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): Lanjigarh-Bhawanipatna (31.70 km) section has already been completed and is ready for commissioning. Bhawanipatna-Junagarh (24.30 km) section is targeted to be completed during 2012-13 subject to availability of forest land on the project alignment.

Platforms falling on different sides of Mumbai local trains

†2299. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one platform of Mumbai local trains comes on one side and other comes on other side leaving passengers confused many a time and causing inconvenience to them;

(b) whether Railways would consider to install a system for indicating the direction of the platform in all coaches so that passengers do not face any inconvenience;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Normally direction of platform in suburban sections of Mumbai local trains is fixed except during emergencies when traffic gets dislocated. In such events Guard of the train makes announcement for the information of the passengers regarding change of platforms.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) to (d) In all new Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) rakes, an audio-cum visual display arrangement has been provided for the automatic announcement of next station. It is not feasible to automatically announce the direction of the platform with certainty due to last minute diversions in case of emergencies.

Proposal for railway link

2300. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to have railway link between Kolhapur and Sawantwadi or Kudal on Konkan Railway in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey is in progress for connecting Kolhapur with Rajapur (120 km). Sawantwadi and Kudal will also get covered in this survey.

(c) Does not arise.

Increasing speed of trains

2301. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to increase the speed of certain trains upto maximum of 200 Kilometres per hour;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the trains and routes finalised for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make the tracks strong enough to absorb vibration that would emanate from trains running at a speed of 200 Kilometres per hour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The Indian Railway Vision 2020 envisages raising of speed of passenger trains to 160-200 kmph on the routes where freight traffic has been segregated by construction of Dedicated Freight Corridor. A Feasibility Study for increasing the speed on Delhi-Mumbai route is being carried out with assistance from Government of Japan. Raising of speed will involve strengthening of track and bridges, modification in signalling and overhead electric traction and other safety measures. Further action by the Ministry of Railways will be taken on completion of the study and its examination thereof.

Connecting border areas of Nepal with new railway lines

‡2302. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives being taken by Government to connect the border areas of Nepal with new railway line;

(b) whether survey related to these projects have been completed; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government towards construction of these projects in view of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) To provide rail connectivity to Nepal, five routes were surveyed as under: -

Sl. No.	Proposed rail links		Distance (in Km)	Estimated cost (in ₹ cr.)
	From	To		
1.	Jogbani (Bihar)	Biratnagar (Nepal)	18	241
2.	Jayanagar (Bihar)	Bijalpura (Nepal) and extension to Bardibas	69	470
3.	Nepalganj Road (Uttar Pradesh)	Nepalganj (Nepal)	12	149
4.	Nautanwa (Uttar Pradesh)	Bhairahawa (Nepal)	15	176
5.	New Jalpaiguri (West Bengal)	Kakarbhita <i>via</i> Panittanki (Nepal)	46	358

Survey for all the above routes has been completed. Out of these five routes, two projects namely Jogbani - Biratnagar new line and Jayanagar - Bijalpura Gauge Conversion with extension to Bardibas have been included the Railway Budget in the year 2010-11 and are in different stages of execution.

Train accidents

‡2303. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents occurred in the country this year, indicating the number of people who lost their lives and those got injured in these accidents;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) whether it is a fact that the main reason behind these accidents is the deplorable condition of railway system;
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check such accidents; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) During the current year from April to July, 2012, a total of 24 consequential train accidents excluding incidents of trespassing at unmanned level crossings, took place on Indian Railways. 59 persons lost their lives and 156 persons sustained injuries in these accidents.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Vigilance Control Device (VCD), Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Anti Collision Device (ACD)/Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), etc.

Target for constructing new railway lines

2304. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has fixed any target to lay new railway lines and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of new railway lines laid out of the target, so far;
- (c) whether there is a shortfall in laying of the new railway lines;
- (d) whether Government has analyzed the factors responsible for it and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of steps taken to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A target for construction of 700 Km of new line has been fixed during the year 2012-13. Against target of 700 Km, an achievement of 24 Km of new lines has been made till 31.07.2012.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) and (e) Do not arise.

Funds requirement for railway projects

2305. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of railway projects/activities shelved for want of funds;
- (b) the details of railway projects which have remained unfinished due to lack of funds and the quantum of finances required to complete those projects; and
- (c) the details of new investment projects of Railways for which private investment in PPP mode would be needed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No sanctioned project has been shelved for want of funds.

(b) There is huge shelf of ongoing projects and limited availability of resources. Funds have to be provided for all the ongoing projects. As on 01.04.2012, there are 347 ongoing new line, gauge conversion and doubling projects requiring about ₹ 1.47 lakh crores for their completion. The projects are progressing as per availability of resources.

(c) The following projects have been identified for execution through PPP:—

1. High Speed Corridor (Mumbai-Ahmedabad).
2. Elevated Rail corridor in Mumbai between Churchgate and Virar.
3. Redevelopment of stations.
4. Logistics Parks and Private Freight Terminals.
5. Wagon leasing and other freight schemes.
6. Port connectivity projects.
7. Dedicated freight corridor.
8. Loco and coach manufacturing units.
9. Captive power generation; Renewable energy and other energy saving projects.

Proposal to declare Lonavla-Pune-Daund-Jejuri section as suburban zone

2306. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in view of rapid increase in population and growing commuter's requirement on Lonavla-Pune-Daund-Jejuri section, the Ministry has any proposal of declaring it as suburban zone;

(b) if so, the status thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) While Pune-Lonavla Section is already a notified and suburban Section, the proposal for the remaining sections, received was not found to be justified.

Laying of second track on Daund-Manmad section

2307. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of heavy movement of passenger traffic and goods trains on Daund-Manmad section, the Ministry has any proposal for laying a second track with electrification work on it;

(b) if so, the status of progress in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Guidelines to provide basic amenities at railway stations

†2308. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no arrangements for drinking water, dustbins and basic amenities at many railway stations;

(b) if so, the action Government would take for providing basic amenities by issuing guidelines in this regard; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Provision, improvement and augmentation of amenities including drinking water, dustbins etc. at the stations is a continuous process.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Train coaches for general passengers

2309. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the number of coaches attached with trains for general passengers;
- (b) the number of passengers that travel in these coaches;
- (c) whether Government is planning to increase the number of these coaches and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the revenue being earned by Railways from these coaches;
- (e) whether these coaches carry more passengers than their capacity resulting in human rights violation of the passengers; and
- (f) the steps Government is planning to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (f) Indian Railways run certain Mail Express trains like Rajdhani Express, Shatabdi Express, Duronto Express, Garib Rath Express, Yuva Express etc. services with only reserved class coaches remaining Mail/Express trains run with at least 2 General Class coaches and 2 SLRs in its composition, which accommodate general class passenger. From year 2007-08, all Mail/Express trains have been introduced generally with 6 general class coaches + 2 SLRs meant for general class passengers.

However, Indian Railway also run Jan Sadharan Express, Janseva Express, Jannayak Express, Karmabhoomi Express and some Intercity trains which are composed of general services coaches only and exclusively cater to the unreserved general class passenger.

Further, almost all Passenger trains including MEMU/DEMU/EMU run with mainly General Class coaches in their composition and cater to both long distances and suburban passengers.

At present, Indian Railways have 19238 General Class coaches including SLRs as on 31.03.2012. Attachment of coaches including General Class coaches is done keeping in view the traffic pattern of different class of passengers, operational feasibility, commercial viability and availability of resources.

During the Financial Year 2010-11, 7178.06 million passengers travelled on unreserved segment. It is a fact that during peak rush hours/periods like office hours, festival seasons, these coaches carry more passenger than their capacity.

Efforts have been made to provide adequate number of general class coaches in all long distance Mail/Express trains.

During the Financial Year 2010-11, earnings from unreserved segment was approximately Rs. 11917.16 crores.

Mandatory I.D. proof for passengers

2310. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that railway passengers cannot travel without I.D. proof and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) if so, whether without I.D. a passenger is treated as without ticket;
- (c) if so, whether Railways charge ticket fare and fine;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that a large number of complaints are received regarding quarrel between TTEs and passengers in this regard;
- (e) whether Government can consider the proposal of imposing fine upto ₹ 500/- only in case a passenger is having ticket without I.D., instead of treating him as without ticket; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) With a view to avoid misuse of reservation system by unscrupulous elements, it has been prescribed that passengers have to produce original proof of identity during the journey in the following cases:-

- (i) For e-tickets, any one of the passengers booked on the ticket has to produce any one of the prescribed proofs of identity in original.
 - (ii) For Tatkal tickets, the original proof of identity as indicated on the ticket.
 - (iii) For journey in Air-conditioned classes (except 3E class), any one of the passengers booked on the ticket has to produce any one of the prescribed proofs of identity in original.
- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Yes, Sir. Fare and excess charges are realised from such passengers who fails to produce prescribed proof of identity, failing which the passenger(s) is/ are produced before Magistrate, for realisation of Railways dues and imposition of fine.
- (d) No, Sir. However, some cases of passengers being taken up under the rules for not carrying prescribed/original identity card have come to notice.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) The conditions mentioned in para (a) above have been prescribed in order to check the irregularities in the sale of reserved tickets and to curb cases of transferred tickets.

Improving safety of trains

2311. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent Tamil Nadu Express accident was waiting to happen as shortage of staff, scarcity of components and pressure to operate trains on time results in skipping mandatory overhauling to electrical components, especially wiring, inside coaches;

(b) if so, whether Railways have taken a note of these shortcomings and are considering to improve the safety of trains; and

(c) the new steps Railways contemplate to take in the near future in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir. Coaches are having three tier fuse protection against wiring failure and short circuit. All coaches are thoroughly checked for electrical safety during inspection schedule before permitting them on line.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. Only halogen free, fire retardant low smoke e-beam irradiated cable are being provided in new coaches. The other steps include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), Vigilance Control Device (VCD), Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Anti Collision Device (ACD)/Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), etc.

Periodic replacement of electrical items in train coaches

2312. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that components like switches, alternators and regulators are taken from sick coaches and installed in new ones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that electrical fixtures are given only a perfunctory check in Railways;

(d) whether as per rules all electrical items should be replaced periodically when midlife overhauling is done every 12 years, but in most of the cases wiring is not changed in coaches; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. All electrical items including switches alternator and regulators are maintained in good fettle as per prescribed schedule for reliable and safe operation.

(d) and (e) Replacement of electrical items including rewiring is done during midlife overhauling every 12 years on age cum condition basis.

Railway bridge over Chenab river

‡2313. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the railway bridge being constructed over the Chenab river in Kashmir is the highest in the world;

(b) the names of the districts of the Valley which would have a chance to connect with the railway following construction of this bridge;

(c) the details of important information related to this historical railway bridge; and

(d) the details of estimated cost of the bridge and the time-frame within which this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) The railway bridge being constructed over the Chenab river in Jammu and Kashmir is planned to have a height of 359 meters from river bed level which, as per available information, is the highest railway bridge in the world.

(b) The railway bridge over river Chenab is a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project which, on completion, is expected to connect Anantnag, Pulwama, Sopian, Badgam, Srinagar and Baramulla districts of Jammu and Kashmir State to the Railway network.

(c) Special quality structural steel is being used in the construction of the bridge involving very high degree of precision and latest welding technology. Special painting scheme is being used for arch portion which is designed considering a number of additional parameters such as fatigue, seismic effect, blast load, global stability and composite action. Various latest safety measures like measuring wind velocity, ground acceleration in case of earthquake, temperature monitor etc. are also being planned.

(d) The estimated cost of the bridge as per the contract agreement of 2004 is 512.74 crores. The bridge falls in the Katra-Banihal section of the project which is targeted to be completed by December, 2017.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Export of rice and wheat

2314. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of rice and wheat in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the volume of rice and wheat exports for the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange earned by exporting rice and wheat in the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Details of production of rice and wheat in the country during the last three years, *i.e.*, 2009-10 to 2011-12 are as under:—

Year	Production (Million Tonnes)	
	Rice	Wheat
2009-10	89.09	80.80
2010-11	95.98	86.87
2011-12*	104.32	93.90

*As per 4th Advance Estimates

(b) and (c) Details of quantity and value of exports of rice and wheat during the last three years are as under:—

Quantity: '000 Tonnes Value: Rupees in Crore

Year	Rice		Wheat	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
2009-10	2156.41	11254.90	0.03	0.05
2010-11	2471.37	11586.06	0.40	0.70
2011-12*	7310.80	24118.64	741.19	1023.80

*Provisional

Sabari Railway Project

2315. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Sabari Railway Project;

- (b) how much funds have been allocated to this project;
- (c) whether any funds have been disbursed; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) 23 hectare of land at a cost of ₹ 64.51 crores has been taken over for the first block section from Angamali to Kaladi. Earthwork, minor bridges and Periyar Bridge works are in progress. Balance land acquisition is also under process. However, land acquisition in Kottayam District is held up as the alignment is to be finalised in consultation with the State Government.

(b) to (d) An expenditure of ₹ 96.96 crores has been incurred on this project upto March, 2012 and an outlay of ₹ 15 crores has been provided for this project during 2012-13.

Travelling condition in general coaches of trains

2316. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the travelling condition of people in general coaches of trains is pathetic;
- (b) if so, the sitting capacity of general coaches and the average number of passengers travelling in it; and
- (c) the steps Government would take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) 3492.42 million passengers travelled in non-suburban unreserved segment during the year 2011-12. There are 19238 General (GS) Coaches on Indian Railways. The unreserved tickets sold are not train specific. Passengers holding unreserved tickets can travel in any train going in that direction on a specific calendar date for which the ticket is valid. The carrying capacity of unreserved general class coach is 90 in respect of Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coach, 100 in Hybrid design coach (SGS) and 99 in Linke Hoffman Bush (LHB) design General Coach.

(c) Condition of GS coaches has improved over the years. Now almost all the GS coaches have been fixed with cushioned seats. All newly manufactured coaches are fitted with upgraded furnishing materials. Stainless steel luggage rack has also been fitted in some of the coaches.

Efforts have been made to provide adequate number of general class coaches in all the long distance Mail/Express trains. From 2007-08 number of general class coaches has been increased from four to six in the newly introduced trains as part

of composition. In addition, six Jan Sadharan, two Janseva, one Jannayak, three Karmabhoomi Express and some Intercity trains are running with only General second class accommodation. However, attachment of coaches including general class coaches in train services on Indian Railways is done keeping in view the traffic pattern of different class of passengers, and operational feasibility.

Railway work on Chidambaram-Kattumannarkoil-Ariyalur railway line

2317. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of work on the railway line connecting Chidambaram-Kattumannarkoil-Ariyalur, as proposed in the Railway Budget 2008-09;
- (b) the reasons for delay in commencing the work;
- (c) whether all necessary approvals have been obtained;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when the work would commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Chidambaram-Kattumannarkoil (Kattumannarkudi)-Ariyalur is not a sanctioned project. Survey for this line was announced in Railway Budget 2008-09. Survey for Chidambaram-Attur *via* Ariyalur new line has been completed and its survey report is under consideration.

- (b) to (e) Project is yet to be sanctioned.

Vacancies in GRP and RPF at Egmore railway station, Chennai

2318. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of vacancies in Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel at Chennai's Egmore railway station;
- (b) by when the vacancies would be filled up;
- (c) whether any alternate interim security arrangements are being made; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) The total number of vacancies in Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel at Chennai's Egmore railway station are 41 and 12 respectively.

Recruitment of Constable/RPF is under process and will be filled up as and when recruitment is completed. As far as GRP is concerned, the GRP Chief of Tamil

Nadu has requested the Government of Tamil Nadu to fill up the vacancies in the GRP.

As an interim security arrangement GRP is utilizing 54 Tamil Nadu Special Police Personnel for bandobast arrangement at Chennai Egmore Railway Station.

Mandatory repairs of coaches

2319. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is mandatory to carry out repairs of coaches once in a year;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that this period has recently been increased to one and half year; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) All the passenger coaches are overhauled/repared on a regular basis as per laid down prescribed schedules which include trip, monthly, quarterly, 9-monthly and Periodical Overhauling (POH) in Zonal Railways.

(b) Instructions for increase in periodicity of overhauling of Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches from 12 months to 18 months were issued around 4 years back.

(c) Maintenance periodicity was increased for enhanced utilization of coaching stock after considering use of critical coach components with upgraded specifications.

Proposal of 'clone trains'

2320. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in order to address the sufferings of wait-listed passengers, Railway Board is planning to start a 'clone train' for passengers with wait-listed tickets, half-an-hour after the main train starts;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal; and
- (c) the tentative revenue that is going to be generated by Railways *via* such trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): No, Sir.

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

Land acquisition for Dankuni-Ludhiana Freight Corridor

2321. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have started acquisition of land for Dankuni-Ludhiana Freight Corridor project; and
- (b) if so, the terms and conditions for compensation?

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

(b) The land for the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) including Dankuni-Ludhiana section is being acquired under Railway Amendment Act, 2008 and the approved entitlement matrix for DFC. In addition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement assistance is paid in various forms as per the approved entitlement matrix.

Railway projects

‡2322. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a survey was announced in a Railway Budget to connect Sadri, Rajasthan with Neemuch station and Neemuch with Ramganj Mandi between 2009 and 2012;
- (b) if so, by when this work would be started;
- (c) if not, the details of the reasons of such pendency;
- (d) the distance which is likely to be reduced between Sadri and Neemuch and Neemuch to Ramganj Mandi due to these two proposed projects; and
- (e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Surveys for construction of new Broad Gauge line from Badi Sadri-Neemuch (48.35 km) and Neemuch to Ramganjmandi were included in the Budget 2011-12. Survey for Badi Sadri-Neemuch has been completed in December, 2011. As per survey report, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 303.46 crores. The proposal has been sent to Planning Commission for according their "in Principle" approval. A survey for construction of Neemuch-Ramganjmandi railway line has been taken up.

(d) and (e) As compared to the distance by existing railway line, the distance from Badi Sadri to Neemuch will be reduced by 153.67 km. and from Neemuch to Ramganjmandi by 144 km. after completion of the proposed projects.

Export of cows and her progenies

2323. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) how many cows and their progenies have been exported from India during last five years ended on November, 2011;
- (b) the name of the countries where cows and their progeny are being exported; and
- (c) the reasons and purpose for the export of live cows to foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) As per information received from Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, no cows and their progenies were exported during the last 5 years.

- (b) to (c) does not arise in view of (a) above.

Bangalore-Kanakapura-Chamarajanagar railway project

2324. DR. VIJAY MALLYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the work on the railway project connecting Bangalore-Kanakapura-Chamarajanagar, sanctioned by the Railway Board in 2007, has not yet started;
- (b) whether in view of the economic viability of the project connecting industrial area of Harohalli industrial area with Bengaluru, the project would be taken up for implementation at the earliest; and
- (c) if so, when and would a time-frame be drawn up for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) In compliance of the orders of Central Empowered Committee constituted under Hon'ble Supreme Court, work on Bangalore-Chamarajnagar-Satyamangalam new line project is held up.

- (b) and (c) Proposal for taking up work on non-forest area of Bangalore-Chamarajnagar section *via* Harohalli is under consideration.

Assistance to CSO by India Post to collect data

2325. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India Post is helping the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) to collect data for the Consumer Price Index in online portal system and it will help CSO improve response significantly;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CSO also aims at using India Post's online portal system to collect industrial output data; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Price data are collected from selected 1181 villages by the Department of Posts for compilation of the monthly Consumer Price Index (Rural) and data are received through the web portal. Monthly all India provisional indices are based on price data of more than 90 % of the total selected villages.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Short Notice Question No.3, Shri Parshottam Khodabhai Rupala ...(Interruptions)... Is he present? ...(Interruptions)... He is not present. ...(Interruptions)...

Does anybody want to ask supplementary on this?... (Interruptions)... Anybody wants to ask... (Interruptions)... Nobody (Interruptions)...

Uniformity in growth of Agriculture Sector among States

3. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken or going to be taken by Central Government for uniformity in growth of agriculture sector within States as there is huge imbalance in agriculture growth among States which need to be addressed urgently to enhance our total agricultural growth and for socio-economic development of our society?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Growth of agriculture sector depends on a number of factors including natural resource endowments of land, soil, water, climate and biodiversity; investment and infrastructural development; and effective and efficient use of various resources.

Agriculture recorded an average rate of growth of 3.4 per cent per year during the Eleventh Plan. During this period, the average rate of growth of agriculture and allied sector in Madhya Pradesh (7.6%), Chhattisgarh (7.6%), Rajasthan (7.4%),

Jharkhand (6%), Karnataka (5.6%), Andhra Pradesh (4.9%), Assam (4.9%), Gujarat (4.8%), Bihar (4.7%) and Odisha (3.9%) was higher than the national average of 3.4 per cent. Other States like Himachal Pradesh (1.1%), Punjab (1.6%), Maharashtra (2.0%), J and K (2.0%), Tamil Nadu (2.2%), Uttarakhand (2.7%), West Bengal (2.8%), Uttar Pradesh (3.3%) and Haryana (3.3%) recorded lower rates of growth than the national average.

The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing various programmes such as the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), etc. to address the issue of regional imbalances in growth and productivity of the agriculture sector. Initiatives like Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP) and Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI) have been launched as part of RKVY to address the specific issue of regional imbalance in development. Further, the Department of Land Resources is implementing the Integrated Water Management Programme (IWMP) on a watershed approach.

NFSM aims at reducing the yield gaps between high productivity and low productivity districts by focusing on the districts in which the productivity of wheat and rice is below the State average. Further, districts with potential for area expansion and productivity enhancement have been covered under NFSM Pulses. At present, NFSM is being implemented in 482 districts of 19 States, comprising 142 districts for rice in 15 States; 142 districts for wheat in 9 States and 468 districts for pulses in 16 States. Some of the districts are covered for two or more crops. The Mission interventions consist of a judicious mix of proven technological components covering seeds of improved varieties, soil ameliorants, plant nutrients, farm machines and implements and plant protection measures coupled with capacity building of farmers through use of innovative extension techniques such as Farmers' Field School and Field Demonstrations. Resource conservation technologies such as zero till, seed-cum-fertilizer drill, sprinkler sets and System of Rice Intensification receive special attention under the Mission. In addition, local initiatives are allowed to be undertaken to address location specific problems and implement need-based short and medium term applied and adaptive research projects.

RKVY incentivizes the States to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sectors by taking into account the agro climatic conditions, natural resource base and technology and integrating livestock, poultry and fisheries more fully while providing more flexibility and autonomy in planning and execution of schemes. RKVY now includes several specific sub-schemes namely 'Bringing Green Revolution to the Eastern Region of India', 'Special Initiative for Pulses and Oilseeds', 'Accelerating Fodder Production', 'Creating Vegetable Clusters', 'Nutri-Cereals', 'Oil Palm Development', Protein Supplements, Rainfed Area Development Programme and the Saffron Mission.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**Accounts (2010-11) of the NIPER, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali), for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7379/15/12]

- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

...(Interruptions)...

I. Notification of the Ministry of Human Resource Development**II. Report and Accounts (2009-10 & 2010-11) of various Institutes, University Mandal Abhiyans, Council and Societies and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati D. Purandeswari, I lay on the Table—

- I. (1) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) Notification F. No. 1-7/2007(CPP-1/C), dated the 26th March, 2012, publishing the University Grants Commission [Affiliation of Colleges by Universities] (1st Amendments) Regulations, 2012, under Section 28 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, alongwith delay statement.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7316/15/12]

- (2) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education), under Section 24 of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987:—

- (i) F. No. 37 – 3/Legal/2012, dated the 7th June, 2012, publishing the All India Council for Technical Education (Establishment of Mechanism for Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012.

[Shri Rajeev Shukla]

- (ii) F. No. S.O. 37 – 3/Legal/2012, dated the 25th June, 2012, publishing the All India Council for Technical Education (Information for Maintenance of Standards and Conduct of Inspection of Technical Entities of Universities) Regulations, 2012.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7300/15/12]

- II. (1) (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the Indian Institutes of Technology Act, 1961:—
 - (a) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM), Chennai, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of Indian Institute of Technology, Rajasthan, Jodhpur, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7292/13/12]

- (ii) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- (2) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers—
 - (i) (a) Annual Accounts of Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh, for the year 2010-11 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of under Section 34 of the Rajiv Gandhi University Act, 2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7311/15/12]

- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i)(a) above.
- (ii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal, Agra, for the year 2010-11, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the Audit Report of the Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7281/15/12]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management (ABV-IIIT & M), Gwalior, for the year 2010-11.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7276/15/12]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, UT of Puducherry, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7310/15/12]

- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Uttarakhand implementing Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Uttarakhand, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (v) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7282/15/12]

- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Karnataka implementing Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Karnataka, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7283/15/12]

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vi) (a) above.
- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Uttar Pradesh implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Shri Rajeev Shukla]

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7277/15/12]

- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) Authority, Punjab, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (viii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7464/15/12]

- (ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Gujarat implementing Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Gujarat, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7465/15/12]

- (x) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Madhya Pradesh Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan Samiti, Bhopal, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on working of the above Society.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (x) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7290/15/12]

- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Society of Orissa implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Orissa Madhyamik Shiksha Mission, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7285/15/12]

- (xii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Assam, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7284/15/12]

- (xiii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Indore, 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 (xiii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7287/15/12]

- (xiv) (a) Forty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, 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 (xiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7288/15/12]

- (xv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajasthan Council of Elementary Education, Jaipur, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7312/15/12]

[Shri Rajeev Shukla]

- (xvi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Chhattisgarh Mahila Samakhya Society, Raipur, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xvi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7275/15/12]

- (xvii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Kerala Mahila Samakhya Society, Trivandrum, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xvii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7279/15/12]

- (xviii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Samakhya Society, Lucknow, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xviii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7277/15/12]

- (xix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Gujarat Mahila Samakhya Society, Ahmedabad, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7278/15/12]

- (xx) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyana Samiti, Karnataka, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xx) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7306/15/12]

- (xxi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Mizoram Education Mission Society, Aizwal, implementing the Model Schools Scheme, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7303/15/12]

....(Interruptions)....

I. Notifications of Ministry of Agriculture

II. Report and Accounts (2010-11) of Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh and related papers

III. Report and Accounts (2011-12) of NCUI, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): Sir, I lay on the Table—

- I. (1) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) Notification No. G.S.R. 601 (E), dated the 31st July, 2012, publishing the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (Recognition and Reward from the Gene Fund) Rules, 2012, under sub-section (1) (iii) of Section 39 of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7196/15/12]

- (2) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation) Notification No. S.O. 1535 (E), dated the 9th July, 2012, notifying the specifications of certain customized fertilizers for manufacture by Nagarjuna Fertilisers and Chemicals Limited, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7197/15/12]

[Shri Harish Rawat]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of Section 619-A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (a) Forty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (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. 7195/15/12]

- III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
- (a) Annual Report of the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Co-operative Union.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7466/15/12]

...(Interruptions)...

Report and Accounts (2011-12) of SICLD, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Sachin Pilot, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Layout Design Registry (SICLD), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above SICLD Registry.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7369/15/12]

...(Interruptions)...

I. Notification of Ministry of Agriculture

II. Report and Accounts (2010-11) of IGPB, New Delhi and related papers

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, I lay on the Table—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries) Notification No. DEL:NDDDB-01/12, dated the 28th June, 2012, publishing the National Dairy Development Board Officers (Appointment, Pay and Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations, 2012, under Section 50 of the National Dairy Development Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7262/15/12]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Grape Processing Board (IGPB), New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of above Board.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7199/15/12]

...(Interruptions)...

Report of the CAG of India for the year ended March, 2012

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL): Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2012: No. 10 of 2012-13: Performance Audit on Capacity Expansion in Hydro Power Sector by CPSEs.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7244/15/12]

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

(I) The Chemical Weapons Convention (Amendment) Bill, 2012.

(II) The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2012.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of Lok Sabha:—

(I)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 30th August, 2012, agreed without any amendment

216 *Motion for Election to* [RAJYA SABHA] *of the Indian Council*
the Governing Body *of Medical Research*
[Secretary-General]

to the Chemical Weapons Convention (Amendment) Bill, 2012, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd May, 2012.”

(II)

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2012, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th August, 2012.”

Sir, I lay a copy of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2012, on the Table.

**MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF THE
REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE OF RAJYA SABHA ON THE
LOKPAL AND LOKAYUKTAS BILL, 2011**

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

That the time appointed for presentation of the Report of the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha on the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011, be extended upto the last day of the first week of the Winter Session, 2012 of the Rajya Sabha.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)...

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR MICRO,
SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Vayalar Ravi, I move the following Motion:—

That in pursuance of clause (d) of sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 (No. 27 of 2006), read with sub-rules (i) and (ii) of Rule 3 of the National Board for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Rules, 2006, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the National Board for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)...

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO GOVERNING BODY OF THE INDIAN
COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

“That in pursuance of sub-rule (17) of Rule 15 read with sub rule (2) of Rule 18 of the Rules and Regulations of the Indian Council of Medical Research, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Medical Research.”

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

**Status of Implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-second
and Thirty-Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Agriculture**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): Sir, I make the following Statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture pertaining to the Department of Agriculture Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture; and
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirty-fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2012-13) pertaining to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.

...(Interruptions)...

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Eighteenth
Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on
Chemicals and Fertilizers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Eighteenth Report of the

[Shri Srikant Jena]

Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Demands for Grants (2011-12) pertaining to the Department of Fertilizers.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Statement regarding Government Business. Shri Rajeev Shukla. ...(Interruptions)...

**STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2012**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House for the week commencing Monday, the 3rd September, 2012, will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order paper.
2. Further consideration and passing of the Architects (Amendment) Bill, 2010.
3. Consideration and passing of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Bill, 2012, as passed by Lok Sabha - To replace an Ordinance.
4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after they are passed by Lok Sabha:—
 - (a) The North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Amendment Bill, 2011;
 - (b) The Protection of Women Against Sexual Harassment at Workplace Bill, 2010;
 - (c) The National Highways Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2011;
 - (d) The Prevention of Money Laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2011; and
 - (e) The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2011.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special Mentions. ...(Interruptions)... Those Members who wish to lay their Special Mention may do so. ...(Interruptions)...

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

Demand to take effective measures for development and expansion of urdu language in the country

चौधरी मुनब्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं आज ऐसी भाषा से संबंधित मामला रखना चाहता हूँ, जिसका जन्म हिन्दुस्तान में हुआ, यहीं जवान हुई और यहीं सिसक-सिसक कर भारत माता के सपूतों से कह रही है- मैं उर्दू हूँ। मैंने "इन्कलाब जिन्दाबाद" का नारा देकर आज़ादी के मतवालों में जुनून पैदा किया था। मैंने ही कहा था - "सरफरोशी की तमन्ना अब हमारे दिल में है।" मैंने ही लिखा था- "गाजियों में बू रहेगी, जब तलक ईमान की, तख्ते लंदन तक चलेगी तेग हिन्दुस्तान की।" मैं ही वो उर्दू हूँ, जिसने अपनी तहरीरों से मौलाना आज़ाद के अखबार "अल-हिलाल" और नेहरू जी के "कोमी आवाज़" के ज़रिये भारतीय आज़ादी का महत्व देशवासियों को समझाया था। मैं आपकी वह जन-भाषा और भाईचारे की भावना हूँ, जिसने कहा था - "मजहब नहीं सिखाता आपस में बैर रखना" और जिसने यह भी कहा था कि "सारे जहां से अच्छा हिन्दोस्तां हमारा, हम बुलबुले हैं इसकी ये गुलसितां हमारा।"

मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि उर्दू किसी धर्म की भाषा नहीं, बल्कि उर्दू ब्रज नारायण चकबस्त, दया शंकर नसीम, नरेश कुमार शाद, मुंशी प्रेमचंद और रघुपति सहाय फिराक की जवान है, इसीलिए इस भाषा के विकास और विस्तार के लिए तथा उसके महत्व को समझते हुए मैं भारत सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि उर्दू को सरकारी कामकाज की भाषा का दर्जा दिया जाए, उर्दू के विकास के लिए एक केन्द्रीय आयोग या परिषद् का गठन किया जाए और उर्दू के प्रचार और प्रसार के लिए अलग से वित्तीय साधन उपलब्ध कराये जाएं। उर्दू अखबारात को सरकारी विज्ञापन इत्यादि देने में प्रोत्साहन दिया जाए तथा केन्द्रीय स्तर से उर्दू भाषा के स्कूलों में शिक्षा देने के लिए विशेष प्रबन्ध तथा प्रयास किए जाएं।

†]چودھری منور سلیم (اثر پردیش) : مہودے، میں آج ایسی بھاشا سے سمبندھت
معاملہ رکھنا چاہتا ہوں، جس کا جنم ہندوستان میں ہوا، یہیں جوان ہوئی اور یہیں
سسک سسک کر بھارت ماتا کے سپوتوں سے کہہ رہی ہے - میں اردو ہوں۔ میں
نے "انقلاب زندہ باد" کا نعرہ دے کر آزادی کے متوالوں میں جنون پیدا کیا تھا۔ میں
نے ہی کہا تھا - "سرفروشی کی تمنا اب ہمارے دل میں ہے"۔ میں نے ہی لکھا تھا
"غازیوں میں بو رہے گی جب تلک ایمان کی، تخت لندن تک چلے گی تیغ ہندوستان
کی"۔ میں ہی وہ اردو ہوں، جس نے تحریروں سے مولانا آزاد کے اخبار 'الہلال'
اور نہرو جی کے 'قومی آواز' کے ذریعے بھارتی آزادی کا مہتو دیش واسیوں کو
سمجھایا تھا۔ میں اب کی وہ جن-بھاشا اور بھائی چارے کی بھاونہ ہوں، جس نے کہا
تھا۔ "مذہب نہیں سکھاتا آپس میں بیز رکھنا" اور جس نے یہ بھی کہا تھا کہ --

*Laid on the Table of the House.

†[]Transliteration in Urdu Script.

[چودھری منور سلیم:]

سارے جہاں سے اچھا ہندوستان ہمارا،

ہم بلبلیں ہیں اس کی یہ گلستاں ہمارا

میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ اردو کسی دھرم کی بھاشا نہیں، بلکہ اردو برج نارائن چکیست، دیا شنکر نسیم، نریش کمار شاد، منشی پریم چند، رگھوپتی سہانے فراق کی زبان ہے، اسی لئے اس بھاشا کے وکاس اور وستار کے لئے اور اسکے مہتو کو سمجھتے ہوئے میں بھارت سرکار سے مانگ کرتا ہوں کہ اردو کو سرکاری کام کاج کی بھاشا کا راجہ دیا جائے، اردو کے وکاس کے لئے ایک کینڈریہ آیوگ یا پریشد کا گٹھن کیا جائے اور اردو کے پرچار اور پراسار کے لئے الگ سے وٹے سادھن اپلڈھہ کرائے جائیں۔ اردو اخبارات کو سرکاری وگیان وغیرہ دینے میں پروتساہن دیا جائے اور کینڈریہ اسٹر سے اردو بھاشا کے اسکولوں میں شکشا دینے کے لئے وٹیش پربندھہ اور پریاس کئے جائیں۔[[]

Concern over non-implementation of provisions of Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admissions) act, 2006 in Delhi University

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat): The University of Delhi, as per the provisions of the Central Educational Institutional Act (Reservation in Admissions) of 2006, is required to reserve seats @ 15 per cent for SC, 7.5 per cent for ST, and 27 per cent for Other Backward Classes. However, this is not implemented in the University of Delhi.

Attention of the Government is invited to the statistical information, given by the University, *vide* their reply dated 31.07.2012 (Application under RTI No. 1208 of 2012 by the Academic Forum for Social Justice):

Undergraduate Admissions, 2011-12

	General	SC	ST	OBC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sanctioned Seats	27462	8161	4082	14677	54382
Admitted	42320	8290	2420	10154	63184
Excess/deficit	+14858	+129	-1662	-4523	+8820

1	2	3	4	5	6
Excess/deficit in Per cent	54.1%	1.58%	-40.71%	-30.81%	NA
Percentage on sanctioned strength	NA	15.24%	4.4%	18.67%	NA
Percentage on total admission	NA	13.12%	3.83%	16.07%	NA

The Ministry of HRD, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs should obtain and verify the entire data of reservation, subsequent to the passing of 2006 Act, and also explain why the provisions of the Act were not implemented by the University of Delhi.

Demand to start special campaign to fill up the backlog vacancies of SCs/STs in various departments of Central and State Government in the country

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, भारतीय संविधान के निर्माता बाबा साहेब डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी ने भारतीय संविधान में भारत में रहने वाले अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों को सामाजिक, आर्थिक, शैक्षणिक तथा राजनीतिक क्षेत्र में बढ़ावा देने के लिए अनुच्छेद 15(4), 16(4) में आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की है। देश की आजादी के 64 वर्षों में अनेक राजनीतिक दलों को सत्ता में रहने का मौका मिला है, परन्तु किसी भी पार्टी की सरकार ने इन वर्गों के आरक्षण के कोटे को पूरा करने के संबंध में कोई व्यापक कदम नहीं उठाया, जिसके कारण आज भी इन वर्गों के लोग देश में आगे नहीं बढ़ पा रहे हैं।

मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार को यह भी अवगत कराना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश की सरकारों ने दलित वर्गों के बैकलॉग को भी पूरा नहीं किया है। केन्द्रीय व प्रान्तीय विभागों में आज भी लाखों नौकरियों की रिक्तियाँ शेष हैं, जिन्हें विशेष अभियान चलाकर ठोस नीति के आधार पर अविलम्ब भरा जाना चाहिए था। भारतीय लोकतंत्र को संसदीय परम्परा के अनुसार 60 वर्ष पूरे होने पर उत्सव के रूप में मनाया जाना तो खुशी की बात है, परन्तु अफसोस का विषय है कि हमारे देश में आज भी केन्द्रीय सरकारी विभागों में कोई भी अनुसूचित जाति या अनुसूचित जनजाति का सचिव अथवा प्रमुख सचिव नहीं है।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि सरकार विशेष अभियान चलाकर एक निश्चित समय-सीमा में केन्द्र व प्रान्तों के सभी विभागों में आरक्षण के आधार पर रिक्तियों को भरे जाने तथा केन्द्रीय सरकार के स्तर पर अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति के आधार पर आरक्षित पदों के बैकलॉग को शीघ्र भरने की कृपा करें।

Demand to Strengthen Panchayati Raj institutions through wider and effective implementation of MGNREGA scheme in the country

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Students of Gandhigram Rural Institute at Master level stayed in Karisalpatti Gram Panchayat in Reddiyarchatram

[Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

block, Dindigul, for a learning programme and conducted 29 case studies of the beneficiaries of MGNREGA. All of them were *dalit* women.

They are, in fact, path-breaking transformatory stories. According to them, such kind of a transformation never happened in the life of *dalit* women as it happened when MGNREGA was implemented in the villages. To understand the full implications of the scheme, the stories have to be seen through a transformative framework. *Dalit* women have got wage parity in the independent India only through this programme. They work with forward community women. Now, the *dalit* women are not untouchables. Forward-caste women and *dalit* women work together. They never dreamt of this scene ever before. They are rejoicing over this transformative process. They spend their wages for health and education of their children. They also spend for purchasing some household articles which give tremendous empowerment to them.

Students feel that at that time during economic depression, in the life of black Americans in the USA, “New Deal Programme” was implemented by F.D. Roosevelt as President. Several volume of stories had been produced by historians. Till date, they are considered as classics. In the same way, classics can be made by conducting case studies throughout India on MGNREGA.

Unfortunately, people talk about the negative side of it. There is yet another opportunity to strengthen Panchayati Raj through this programme. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to explore the possibilities of strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions through MGNREGA.

Demand to give adequate compensation to a train passenger victimized during journey by Kanchenjunga Express

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, on 26th April, 2012, Shri Tamir Hossain boarded Kolkata bound Kanchenjunga Express along with his elder sister and brother-in-law. They had reservations. On boarding the train, they found their seats occupied by students belonging to a political outfit. On being approached by Shri Hossain and his family to vacate the reserved seats, Shri Tamir Hossain was thrown out of train at Aluabari Station and his family members were forced to get down from the train. The local people took Shri Hossain to the nearest hospital, where he was admitted for treatment. Shri Sarafrah Ahmed, brother-in-law of Shri Hossain, lodged an F.I.R. with G.R.P. at Aluabari Station. The Station Manager assured the family to take all responsibilities towards treatment of Shri Hossain. On 27th August, the family members of Shri Hossain received a phone call from Railway authorities asking them to come to Aluabari Station to collect the contribution of Railways for treatment of Shri Hossain. On receiving the call, the family members

rushed to the office of the Station Manager. Unfortunately, they could not find any Railway official throughout the day. Being disgusted, they left the Station. I demand a statement from the Minister of Railways on the entire affairs and adequate compensation for treatment of Shri Tamir Hossain.

Demand to initiate urgent measures and to address problem of declining growth rate of exports from the country

SHRI N.K. SINGH (Bihar): Sir, India's exports during June, 2012, valued at US \$25,067.20 million, were 5.45 per cent lower in dollar terms than last year. In terms of cumulative value of exports, a negative growth rate of 1.70 per cent was registered in dollar terms. This was the second month, in a row, where exports have fallen, given that a decline in export growth rate of 4.16 per cent was registered in May, 2012. Although the trade deficit for April-June, 2012-13, estimated at US \$40,055.45 million, is lower than the deficit of US \$46,233.94 million last year, the slowdown of exports poses a serious concern. A slowdown in exports has multiple multiplier effects – first, it would make the financing of current account deficit increasingly more difficult; it would add to the pressure on the currency and necessitate measures for other financial flows to bridge the current account deficit; second, it leads to domestic unemployment and feeds into the already decelerating GDP growth estimates; third, it directly impacts small and medium enterprises which are labourintensive, like gem and jewelry and garments, to name a few. Measures for either product or destination diversification strategy have yielded limited results. The Government needs to take an innovative approach to create new incentives for garnering market share in countries where growth is still robust and adapt products to suit their market needs.

I urge the Government to initiate urgent steps and to come up with a new export strategy which addresses the present challenges.

Demand to make regulations for drug trials on poor People in the country

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, recent media reports from Kerala and other States suggest that in the last few years there has been a dramatic increase in the number of clinical trials of drugs in India. Around 1 lakh trials have been conducted during the last five years in Kerala itself. The number of deaths of patients participating in clinical trials is steadily increasing over the years in consonance with the increase in the number of clinical trials by MNCs in the country. About 10 people per week, or more than one person a day, is dying. Inadequate rules and poor governmental regulations within the sector of clinical drug trials have been the prime cause of prevalent unethical practices. There is a gross discrimination in payment of compensation to the victims by multinational pharma companies. The sponsors do not guarantee that new drugs tested in India will be made available there at affordable

[Dr. T.N. Seema]

prices. Hardly any new drug trials for endemic diseases prevalent in India take place here.

I would request the Government to pass the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules (4th Amendment), that is, Section 122-DD and Schedule Y-1 with utmost urgency for regulating the Ethics Committee and to ensure proper financial compensation to victims.

Trials should be conducted only by investigators trained in good clinical practices at designated research hospitals.

It is of paramount importance to protect the most vulnerable — women, children, the poor and the illiterate — by making sure that their enrolment in trials is truly voluntary and that their consent is genuinely informed.

Demand to make ‘arts’ an integral part of education in the country

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): The main objective of education is the development of human personality. Human beings have three latent faculties in them: the faculty of truth, the faculty of justice and the faculty of beauty. The beauty or sense of beauty manifests through different arts. Our education system today is devoid of arts. Art education is, unfortunately, ignored. Arts do not find space in the curricula. Painting, music, dance, dramatics, sculpture, instrumental music, etc., have been pushed into oblivion. Especially in schools, pupils should be taught drawing, painting, music or dance. Art kindles the imagination of children. It develops the aesthetic aspect of human life. Aesthetic sense makes man’s life fragrant and delightful. Education should develop both intellectual and emotional resources. Arts refine human emotions, sense and sensibility. Emotions play a very significant role in culture. ‘EQ’ is as important as ‘IQ’ for success in life. Institutions of technical and vocational education are important, but institutes of fine and performing arts are no less important. If games and sports find space in education, then why not arts be made part of education? The country needs Tansens, Ravi Verma and Balgandharvas.

An art creates a bond between man and nature. It sublimates the human soul lifting it to higher levels. It makes human life divine and creative. Without arts, our education system is inadequate. Rabindranath Tagore had this vision. Arts create things of beauty which are joy for ever. Education is the manifestation of the latent faculties in human beings.

I urge upon the hon. Minister for Human Resource Development to make ‘arts’ an integral part of education.

Demand to develop an effective mechanism for regulating the functioning of NGOs in the country

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the agitation against the Kudankulam Atomic Power Project brought fore the fact that the entire agitation was being funded by an NGO functioning in and around that area. It is pertinent to note that many NGOs in the garb of welfare of society engross in frivolous litigation in the name of Public Interest Litigation. Such incidents in recent times have raised doubts about the credibility of NGOs functioning in the country. The functioning of NGOs against Government with *mala fide* intention is not warranted in the healthy functioning of democracy.

The NGOs are allowed to function with a concept of coexistence of an organization which is independent of Government and are convention of non-profit organizations. The Government too entrusts implementation responsibility of its own various welfare schemes aimed at target groups to various NGOs. The NGOs receive funds from various sources including foreign contributions. Social Audit System, Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, 2010 and Foreign Exchange Management Act are there to monitor, regularize and control the contributions received from foreign countries. The area which deserves more attention regarding the functioning of the NGOs is their field of activities as also ensuring that the activities of NGOs are confined to the purpose for which they were registered.

Sir, as such, no effective mechanism exists to monitor the activities and functioning of the NGOs. It is my earnest appeal to the Government to evolve an effective mechanism to further strengthen the existing mechanism to monitor, regulate and control the activities of the non-Governmental Organizations.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 3rd September, 2012.

The House then adjourned at ten minutes past twelve of the clock till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 3rd September, 2012.