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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT
CONTENTS

Reference by the Chair—

Eleventh Anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Parliament Building on the 13th December, 2011 (pages 1-2)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 2-32)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 32-48)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 48-229)

Short Notice Question (pages 229-237)

Expression of faith and Respect in the Chair (pages 237-239)

Papers Laid on the Table (pages 239-256)

Report of the Committee on Petitions - *Presented* (page 257)

Reports of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development - *Presented* (page 257)

Evidence tendered before the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development - *Laid on the Table* (page 257)

Statement by Ministers—

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Sixty-second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs - *Laid on the Table* (pages 257-258)

[P.T.O.]

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Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Thirty-first Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry - *Laid on the Table* (pages 257-258)

Matters raised with permission—

Issue of notice of privilege (page 258)

Engagement of lobbying agency of Wal-Mart by the Indian Embassy at the time of Nuclear deal (pages 259-260)

Death of a dalit boy in Ambedkar Welfare Hostel in Bhojpur, Bihar (pages 260-262)

Declaring of digging soil on less than 5 acres of land as mining activity by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (pages 262-263)

Non-payment of salary to the workers and employees of Burn Standard Company Limited (page 263)

Alleged exploitation of precious mineral resources by corporate without approval of Parliament (pages 263-265)

Incidents of derailment of Kerala (pages 265-266)

Death of five patients in a Delhi hospital due to interrupted supply of oxygen (pages 267-268)

Poor condition of bogies in Kerala bound trains (page 268)

Difficulties faced by Hindus and Sikhs for cremation of dead bodies in Afghanistan and Pakistan (pages 268-269)

Special Mentions - *Laid on the Table*

Demand to protect small farmers involved in contract farming of Emu bird in Tamil Nadu from financial frauds (pages 269-271)

Demand to release a postal stamp to commemorate the birthday of Balasaheb Thackeray (page 272)

Demand to take steps to check the spread of dengue in Mumbai (pages 272-273)

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Demand to remove the cap imposed on the number of subsidized LPG cylinders in the country (page 273)

Demand to make a concrete policy to rehabilitate and grant compensation to innocent Muslims imprisoned on the charges of terrorism (pages 273-274)

Demand to take measures for providing safe drinking water in the country (page 274)

Demand to restore the services of Alliance Airlines in Meghalaya (pages 274-275)

Demand to give tax waiver on prize money to Sonali Mukherjee, a victim of acid attack on humanitarian ground (page 275)

Demand for early release of Tamil fishermen from jails in Sri Lanka (page 276)

Demand to take effective measures to reduce the child mortality rate in the country (pages 276-277)

Demand to take steps to increase the population of Ongole, Punganuru and Deoni breed cattle in Andhra Pradesh (pages 277-278)

Demand to confer classical language status to Malayalam (page 278)

Demand to rename the Tropical Diseases Institute in Patna as the Samrat Ashoka Tropical Diseases Institute (page 279)

Demand to allocate adequate power to the State of Tamil Nadu, specially from the Koondankulam Nuclear Power Plant (page 326)

Demand to Declare Hockey as the National Game of the country (page 327)

Demand to remove anomaly with regard to fixing eligibility criteria for IIT entrance exam (pages 327-328)

Government Bill—

Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Amendment Bill, 2012 - *Introduced* (pages 279-288)

The Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012 - *Under Consideration* (pages 288-326)

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RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, 13th December, 2012/22nd Agrahayana, 1934 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

Eleventh Anniversary of terrorist attack on the Parliament Building on the 13th December, 2001

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon'ble Members, 13th December, 2012, marks the Eleventh Anniversary of the dastardly attack on the Parliament House by terrorists.

On this occasion, we recall the supreme sacrifices made by our security personnel, including two of the Parliament Security Services Staff, who lost their lives along with five Delhi Police Personnel and a woman constable of the Central Reserve Police Force. One gardener of the C.P.W.D. and a cameraperson of A.N.I. had also lost their lives. Thus, while preventing the entry of terrorists inside the Parliament House Building, the deceased set an example of supreme sacrifice.

I am sure the whole House will join me in condemning this incident in unequivocal terms. We once again reiterate our firm resolve to fight terrorism with determination and re-dedicate ourselves to protect the sovereignty and integrity of our nation.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of those who lost their lives in that tragedy.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 281. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति महोदय, मैं केवल एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस बरसी पर अफज़ल गुरु का क्या हो रहा है?

श्री सभापति : आप प्रश्नकाल के बाद इस विषय को उठाइए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... कृपया बैठ जाइए।

श्री विनय कटियार : अफज़ल गुरु का मामला बहुत गंभीर मामला है। हर साल हम लोग शहीदों को श्रद्धांजलि देते हैं। अदालत ने निर्णय दिया हुआ है, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री सभापति : आपको जो कहना है, प्रश्नकाल के बाद कहिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद (बिहार) : सर, अभी आपने determination की बात कही ...(व्यवधान)... अभी आपने कहा कि determination against terrorism होना चाहिए। अगर सरकार लेट करेगी तो determination ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी, प्लीज़ बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... Please allow the question hour to proceed.

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु (कर्णाटक) : उसके बाद गृह मंत्री महोदय को बुलाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us have the Question Hour.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Please call the Home Minister after Question Hour, let him assure the House and tell what the decision of the Government is in this regard. That is all, nothing more.

श्री विनय कटियार : फाइल गृह मंत्रालय के पास है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़, बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take it up after Question Hour ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : After the Question Hour ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 281.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Cyber fraud in net banking/debit or credit cards

*281. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of cyber fraud are on the rise in the country, particularly in net banking/debit/credit card transactions including withdrawing money by cloning of credit and debit cards;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the amount involved therein along with the losses incurred to banks as a result thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, bank-wise, and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to check the fraudulent use of credit/debit cards and online transactions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) As per data submitted by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the incidents of frauds involving Net Banking/Debit/Credit Card transactions have increased during the three Calendar Years 2009-2011 and current year upto September 2012 as shown below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Calendar Year (CY)	Total cases reported	Amount involved
1.	2009	97	105.81
2.	2010	155	369.81
3.	2011	128	672.48
4.	2012 (upto Sept. 30th)	155	570.40

Bank-wise details in this regard is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) RBI, as part of its supervisory responsibilities, has taken various measures to prevent such frauds and has issued from time to time various guidelines as summarized below:

1. The RBI has issued a Master Circular on 'Credit Card Operations of Banks' dated July 2, 2012, advising banks to set up internal control systems to combat frauds and to take pro-active fraud control and enforcement measures. They were also advised to ensure that credit card operations were run on sound, prudent and profitable lines, fulfills 'Know Your Customer' requirements, assess credit risk of customers, specify terms and conditions in clear and simple language, maintain customer confidentiality, etc.
2. The RBI had issued two circulars namely, 'Security Arrangements for ATMs of Bank' dated 22.02.2006 and 'Skimming of ATM/Credit Cards' dated 26.06.2006. RBI has advised banks to take various

preventive measures to combat frauds relating to skimming or duplicating of credit cards. The measures include educating customers through hoardings, advertisements, handouts and also posting cautionary messages in the website of card issuing banks. The banks were advised to inform to customers no to reveal PIN I response to requests received through e-mail, to periodically verify the transaction history to ensure its correctness and if any unauthorized transaction observed or card is lost or stolen it should be immediately reported to the bank.

3. On the basis of suggestions of a Working Group set up by RBI in April, 2010 on “Information Security, Electronic Banking, Technology Risk Management and Tracking Cyber Frauds”, RBI has issued guidelines on 2ET.04.2011 which are fundamentally expected to enhance safety, security, efficiency in banking processes relating to benefits for banks and their customers. The implementation progress is required to be reviewed and report submitted to the Board on quarterly basis.
4. The RBI *vide* its circular dated September 22, 2011 on “Security Issues and Risk mitigation measures related to Card Present (CP) transactions” has advised the banks to move to secure Card Not Present (CNP) transactions, making it mandatory for banks to put in place additional authentication/validation for all on-line/ IVR/ MOTO/recurring transactions etc. based on information available on the credit/debit/prepaid cards.
5. The RBI had also issued a caution circular dated February 16, 2006 to all commercial banks on phishing attacks (*i.e.* creating fake website of banks and collecting customer details such as user ID, password etc. and thereby fraudulently withdrawing money from the customer’s account using fake credit card).
6. Besides above, public is advised through press releases/notifications not to reveal account details, do not fall prey to fictitious offers of fund transfer, remittances towards participation in lottery, money circulation schemes and other fictitious offers of cheap funds etc.

Statement-I**Banking Frauds- Debit/Credit card/ATM/Internet***(Amount in Rs. lakh)*

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Year 2009		Year 2010		Year 2011		Year 2012 (upto 30.09.12)	
		Total Frauds	Amount Involved	Total Frauds	Amount Involved	Total Frauds	Amount Involved	Total Frauds	Amount Involved
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A. PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS									
1.	SBI	1	0.8	-	-	2	14.62	-	-
2.	SBBJ	2	6.66	2	0.15	2	3.49	1	49.32
3.	SBH	-	-	-	-	4	63.33	3	24.64
4.	SBM	-	-	1	1.01	-	-	-	-
5.	SBoP	-	-	-	-	4	80.45	2	31.42
6.	SBT	-	-	-	-	6	10.3	3	3.20
7.	Allahabad Bank	-	-	-	-	1	3.3	-	-
8.	Andhra Bank	-	-	1	31.85	1	0.52	-	-
9.	Bank of Baroda	6	6.88	5	12.4	5	31.82	2	62.18
10.	Bank of India	5	5.21	2	14.61	2	54.49	3	3.90
11.	Bank of Maharashtra	4	3.55	4	4.69	2	2.9	2	0.26
12.	Canara Bank	6	1.39	-	-	1	0.6	1	10.24
13.	Central Bank of India	2	0.84	2	2.15	-	-	-	-
14.	Corporation Bank	2	0.72	2	6.21	5	6.44	35	16.92
15.	Dena Bank	-	-	1	2.07	1	0.53	-	-
16.	IDBI Ltd.	24	16.29	13	15.29	50	44.64	67	181.14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
17.	Indian Bank	2	0.39	1	1.41	1	0.41	3	1.73
18.	Indian Overseas Bank	-	-	3	1.44	10	176.03	-	-
19.	Oriental Bank of Commerce		-	1	4.75	-			-
20.	PNB	33	50.15	108	248.64	28	170.19	14	99.43
21.	Punjab & Sind Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22.	Syndicate Bank	2	0.53	1	2.32	1	0.56	1	0.27
23.	Union Bank of India	5	10.45	7	19.22	2	7.86	7	13.27
24.	United Bank of India	1	1.37	-	-	-	-	6	32.86
25.	UCO Bank	2	0.58	1	1.6	-	-	4	31.22
26.	Vijaya Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8.40
TOTAL PSBs		97	105.81	155	369.81	128	672.48	155	570.4

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to a report published in The Times of India of 19th October stating that when one Shrimati Samita Singh and her husband, Gautam Arora, visited their bank to deposit a cheque, they came to know that they have lost almost rupees fifty-five lakh in an on-line fraud believed to have been committed by a gang which has also cheated several other people in the capital. It is a very serious matter, Sir. I would like to know how many cases of this type have been detected during this year. Has any inquiry been conducted particularly with regard to what we saw in the newspapers? This couple had borrowed Rs. 55 lakh, kept it in their account and have lost it completely. It is a very, very serious position. What are the steps being taken to prevent such incidents in future? This is what I would like to know from the hon. Minister.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, as per the data submitted by the banks to the Reserve Bank of India, the incidence of frauds involving net-banking or debit-credit card transactions in the last three calendar years are as follows:

In 2009, there were 97 cases; in 2010, there were 155 cases; in 2011, there were 128 cases; in 2012, up to 30th September, there have been 135 cases. This is already given as a part of the answer. A number of steps have been taken in this regard. These are also listed in part 'c' of the answer. If the hon. Member wishes to know more about any of the circulars, I am willing to give that information. But, so far as the question which he has put is concerned, I have already given the answer to that.

In a country where millions of net-banking and credit card transactions take place, and where it is increasing because more and more people are resorting to net-banking and credit cards, there will be a small number of fraudulent cases because people are driven by greed. But the RBI is vigilant on the matter. The RBI has issued a circular and a master circular. The banks have been told to be vigilant in the matter. We will definitely take action in every case. In the particular case, which he mentioned, I am not aware of the status of the investigation, but it will be investigated and action will be taken.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that as on today there are millions of internet users in the country. If you see the reply given by the hon. Minister, though he has spoken about the number of cases, you will notice the amount of money involved in fraud cases. In 2009, it was Rs. 105.81 lakhs. In 2010, it was Rs. 369.81 lakhs. In 2011, it was Rs. 672.48 lakhs. It is increasing every year. Therefore, I would like to know whether there is any planning to discourage the system because this money belongs to very, very ordinary people. Is there any plan to encourage and improve the cheque transaction facility? What are the alternative proposals of fool-proof method of banking transactions through internet?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, there is certainly no proposal to discourage the net-banking or to discourage credit card transactions. On the contrary, we must encourage net-banking and the use of credit cards because that leaves a unerasable trail of the transaction. I don't think that we should exaggerate the size of the problem. The amount involved in the worst year, that is, 2011 was Rs. 6.72 crore, in 128 cases that were reported. The amount of Rs. 6.72 crore, in terms of the volume of banking transactions which take place, is an infinitesimal amount. I am not saying that an amount of Rs. 6.72 crore is good. I think, we should eliminate even Rs. 6.72 crore. But I don't think that we should exaggerate the number as 672 lakhs and, therefore, discourage net transactions, I think, hon. Members will agree with me that we must encourage net transactions and credit cards.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Sir, 'phishing' is an art of tricking someone into giving confidential information and wrongfully acquire the sensitive information, like, passwords and credit card details. The IT Act, however, does not specifically define 'phishing' as an offence. Consequently, it is difficult to deal with the cyber crimes involving net-banking, etc. So, will the hon. Finance Minister, in coordination with the IT Minister, take steps to amend the IT Act in order to define the word 'phishing' so that police can deal with such cases effectively?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I am not able to readily say whether 'phishing attack' is defined in the IT Act or not. But the 'phishing attack' is one where a person or an entity sends a misleading e-mail, ostensibly emanating from the bank's e-mail ID and, then, entices the account holder to disclose his password or his credit card number and, then, misuses that information. I am not sure whether it is defined in the manner the hon. Member wants. But I am sure the IT Act, in some section or the other, must be including a crime of this nature. But I am willing to apply my mind to the IT Act. If there is any deficiency, I will bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister to amend the IT Act.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA : Sir, I am anguished to say that the hon. Minister said that one should not exaggerate the losses or the cases. It may not be that, Mr. Finance Minister. But, what about a person who has lost his life savings in these frauds? What about them, Sir? So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister: What are the measures he is taking to stop the cyber crimes?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I didn't mean to say that we do not have sympathy for those who have lost their savings. Certainly, we sympathise with them. That is why, I said that each case will be investigated and the fraudsters will be brought to justice, and, if possible, the money will be recovered. All that I said was, in the context of encouraging or discouraging net banking, we should not discourage net banking. On the contrary, we should encourage net banking. We should encourage use of credit cards and debit cards. As regards the measures that are being taken, I have answered it in part (c) of the answer: The RBI has issued a Master Circular on 2nd July, 2012, advising banks about the internal control systems. Then, there are two circulars issued in 2006, regarding 'Security Arrangements for ATMs' and to prohibit or prevent skimming of ATM and credit cards. In April, 2010, we set up a Working Group on information security, electronic banking, technology risk management and tracking cyber frauds. Guidelines were issued based on the recommendations of this Working Group. Again, in September, 2011, we issued further guidelines, advising banks to move to secure Card Not Present (CNP) transactions making it mandatory for

banks to put in place additional authentication/validation for all on-line transactions. So, a number of steps are being taken. As technology develops, even the fraudsters acquire capability to misuse technology. We must try to remain one step ahead. But there are enough technically-qualified people who are looking into the matter and try to remain one step ahead of the fraudsters.

DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI : Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned about the steps that are being taken. But, like in all criminal matters where cases are registered and charge-sheets are filed, what is the rate of conviction in cyber crimes? The rate of conviction in normal criminal cases is almost close to one to two per cent. In the cyber crime, which is highly technical, what is the rate of conviction?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, this information is not maintained Centrally. These cases are prosecuted by the State Police. I would have to collect the information regarding convictions and fraud cases. Maybe, the Ministry of Home Affairs may have that information, but I do not have the information Centrally.

Package for development of NER

*282. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Centre has sanctioned a package for overall development of North-Eastern Region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action plan under this project to create employment opportunities in this region to improve the economy of the people of this area; and
- (d) the action plan to ensure fast mobility of the people of this region both by rail, road and air, to achieve the above end?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Central Government has not sanctioned any special package for overall development of North Eastern Region (NER). However, depending upon the requirements and state-specific needs, Central Government has taken up various schemes/projects from time to time in NER. Ministry of Development of North Eastern

Region also monitors effective utilization of 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) earmarked for North Eastern States by non-exempted Ministries. The unspent balance of 10% GBS accrues in Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), which is utilized for various developmental projects in NER.

Large number of projects encompassing various social and physical infrastructural sectors undertaken in North Eastern States generates direct and indirect employment opportunities leading to overall improvement of economy of the Region. In addition, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region under the plan scheme “Capacity Building & Technical Assistance” (CB&TA) supports skill-development projects in NER.

(d) North Eastern Region being strategically important, the Central Government has taken important initiatives for ensuring connectivity through road, rail and air etc. Apart from East West Corridor and several roads under Special Accelerated Road Development Programme-North East (SARDP-NE) in road sector, various railway projects *viz.* new railway lines, gauge conversion and doubling projects have been taken up in NER which include eleven National Projects as well. Similarly, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim - the only two States without air connectivity have been awarded Greenfield airports.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, I have received the answer from the hon. Minister. I express my thanks for the Government’s generous attitude towards the development of the North-Eastern part of India. In this connection, I would like to say that my State, Odisha, is one of the under-developed and backward States in the country. It is afflicted with the highest poverty and also afflicted by hunger. The nature is also unkind to the State, as many areas like Kalahandi and Bolangiri are drought prone. These areas remain drought affected consistently. More than 47 per cent of the people are below poverty line and the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe population is 39 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the question?

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, the State faces serious financial crisis in view of the unsustainable burden of debt and is not in a ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please don’t read. Ask the question. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : To tide over the financial crisis, the Chief Minister of Odisha has made a proposal to the Centre to grant special...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please ask the question?

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, the hon. Chief Minister of Odisha made an appeal. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Does this relate to the question you have asked? No or yes.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : it will not be answered.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, I want to know what is the position ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Parida, please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please sit down.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, I want to know the status of this proposal which was sent by my State Chief Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please read the question that you have submitted. This is not related to it. This is not related to it. Sorry. You ask another supplementary. If you don't have it, then I will ask another Member.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Sir, for the development of my State, I want to know about it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no; this has nothing to do with the development of your State. Your question is about North-East. Thank you. Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Sir, in July 2007, the Prime Minister released a North-East Region Vision 2020 Document, and I do not know whether the Action Plan that is now being referred to has been conceived within the framework of that long-term plan which was to look into the progress of the North-East Region from the Eleventh Plan onwards and right into the Thirteenth, and, possibly, tipping over into the Fourteenth Plan. Could the hon. Minister please confirm that the 'Vision 2020' document is still a valid document, and, if so, what are the measures that the Ministry are taking to monitor developments within the framework of that document?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, the distinguished Member was my distinguished predecessor in that Ministry, and the 'Vision 2020' was made at that time. In the Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region, we are working and taking the points from the Vision document. It is definitely a valid document and that document give us important input in formulating the Plan programme of our Ministry.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति जी, नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का जो पुरा क्षेत्र है, वह भारत का अभिन्न हिस्सा होने के बावजूद लगातार महसूस करता है कि उसके साथ न्याय नहीं हो रहा है। यह उसके विकास पर एक प्रश्न है। जो जवाब आया है, वह बहुत ही रटा-रटाया है, उसमें कुछ नया नहीं है। You are saying that connectivity and everything is important. My question is about the National Highway No. 39 and National Highway No. 57 in Manipur. I want to know what is the status of both these Highways. The answer was so crude, crude in the sense that it said that it is a continuous work which is going on and there are many difficulties. What steps is the Government taking to complete the projects on time? This is the real issue. There are 'n' number of projects sanctioned, but not completed — 'n' number of projects are sanctioned; but there are leakages and widespread corruption.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your question?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : So, my question is: is Government thinking of taking the North-East development seriously on a mission-mode basis and is it going to complete the on-going projects in a time-bound manner?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first part of the question is related to the MoRST because they deal with the National Highways. The hon. Member has mentioned about leakage and corruption. I don't know about the leakage and corruption part. I don't think that is based on the facts. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please let the answer be completed.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, the Government of India under the leadership of our hon. Prime Minister in UPA-I and UPA-II has increased the allocation for the different Ministries. Sir, our Ministry works with all the Ministries; the 52 Ministries have to spend the 10 per cent of their budget allocation for the development of North-Eastern Region.

We monitor all that in our Ministry. Also, the allocation made in the Tenth Plan to the North-Eastern Region was more than Rs. 81,000 crores, while the amount allocated in the Eleventh Plan was more than Rs. 1,84,000 crores. So, increased allocation was made and development work is going on. Also, the hon. Prime Minister has announced some packages, appreciating the difficulties in the North-Eastern Region. We have geographical disadvantage and the development work is not proceeding very fast. I must say that it is not as fast as it is in other parts of the country because we have geographical and logistical difficulties in that region, but the North-Eastern Region is on the path of growth.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सर, इन्होंने मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दिया। मैंने सीधा प्रश्न पूछा है कि सरकार नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के डेवलपमेंट के प्रोजेक्ट्स को time-bound mission mode में लेगी या नहीं? प्रधान मंत्री जी खुद वहीं से इस सभागृह में आते हैं। यह टाइम बाउंड मिशन मोड में जाए बगैर पूरा नहीं होगा। वे वही बात नहीं बता रहे हैं, जबकि उसे छोड़ कर वे सारी बात बता रहे हैं। आप किसी से भी पूछिए, जो नॉर्थ-ईस्ट से सम्बन्धित है। अगर आप mission mode में नहीं जाएँगे, तो वहाँ कुछ नहीं होगा, क्योंकि वहाँ कुछ नहीं हो रहा है।

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that as many as eleven national projects have been taken up for conversion and laying of new railway lines. My question is, since development should include preservation of the flora and fauna and protection of all wildlife, what action has been taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of elephant deaths due to the speeding trains running between North Bengal and the North-Eastern Region?

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Sir, surely, everybody is concerned about the harm and death caused to innocent wildlife in the North-Eastern Region. But this is looked after by the Forest Department of the respective State Governments and the Ministry of DoNER does not have any direct role to play in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 283.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, मैंने सबसे पहले हाथ उठाया था।

MR. CHAIRMAN : The questions have to be rotated around the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. आप डिबेट करवाइए, इसके लिए नोटिए दीजिए।

Whistleblower Protection Bill, 2011

*283. **SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to fast track passing of the Whistleblower Protection Bill, 2011, which in the long-run can dilute corruption in bureaucracy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011 was passed by the Lok Sabha on 27.12.2011 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha. The Bill was listed for consideration on 28th and 29th December, 2011 but could not be taken up for discussion and passing in Rajya Sabha. The Bill came up for consideration and passing in the Rajya Sabha on 14.08.2012, but the discussions remained inconclusive. Government also gave notices dated 14.08.2012 and 17.08.2012 for moving certain official amendments to the said Bill. Thereafter, the said Bill was listed in the List of Business of the Rajya Sabha on a number of days during the remaining part of the Monsoon Session, but, the said Bill could not be taken up for consideration and passing by the Rajya Sabha.

Government has already given a notice dated 22.11.2012 to the Rajya Sabha for consideration and passing of the Bill during the current Winter Session. A fresh notice for moving official amendments (in respect of the official amendments given notice of in August, 2012) was also sent to Rajya Sabha on 22nd November, 2012. Hence, the Government is keen to get the Bill passed at the earliest.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Sir, my question was a specific question about fast-tracking the consideration and passing of the Whistleblower Protection Bill, 2011. The Minister was kind enough to say that the Government was keen to fast-track it. Would the Minister kindly assure the House that the Bill would be introduced in this House for consideration and passing in this Session itself?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, I would like to give some background of the Whistleblower Protection Bill, 2011. It was passed in the Lok Sabha in December, 2011. It came to this august House on 29.11.2011, but the Bill could not be taken up at that time. Then, it was listed again on 29.03.2012, but was not taken up for discussion in this House. On 14.08.2012, we brought in some amendments and again, on 22.11.2012, requested the hon. Chairman to take up this Bill for discussion. The Government is committed to passing the Whistleblower Protection Bill, which is in the domain of the Rajya Sabha. It is a property of the House. At whatever time is allotted by the hon. Chairman, as far as the Government is concerned, we are prepared to discuss the issue and get the Bill passed as early as possible.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Sir, I would like to know whether this minority Government has proposed amendments to dilute the spirit of the Bill by revealing the

status of whistleblowers to the officials who write Government documents like Cabinet Note and policy-related papers to expose corruption. If so, does this not bar Government servants from acting like whistleblowers? If yes, what are the reasons behind proposing such amendments?

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is a full question. It's not a supplementary.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, as far as the amendments are concerned, as it is approved by the Cabinet, we have circulated the amendments to the hon. Members. It has been submitted to the Rajya Sabha. At the time of discussion, amendments will be considered by this august House.

Empowerment of differently abled persons

*284. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given any priority for employment and promotion of differently abled persons;

(b) whether Government has noticed that partially blind employees are unable to compete with others in departmental promotion tests: and

(c) whether Government would consider promoting such partially blind persons on the basis of their service and merit in their departmental work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

As per the extant policy, three per cent (3%) of the vacancies in case of direct recruitment to Group A, B and C; and three per cent (3%) of vacancies in case of promotion in Group C posts in which direct recruitment, if any, does not exceed 75%, is reserved for persons with disabilities of which one per cent (1%) each is reserved for persons suffering from (i) blindness or low vision, (ii) hearing impairment and (iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy, in the posts identified for each disability.

Promotions to the higher grades are made as per provision of the relevant Recruitment Rules. In some of the Recruitment Rules, provisions exist for promotion either on the basis of seniority in service or through Limited Departmental Competitive

Exams. The candidates, who do not qualify the Limited Departmental Competitive Examination are promoted on the basis of their inter-se-seniority in the feeder grade.

However, in cases where the departmental promotion test is the only mode of promotion, proposal to give promotion on the basis of the seniority or merit in service alone is not under consideration.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the Government consider introducing IT-enabled services and such similar new courses for the differently-abled people which will make them more employable and introduce new chances for improving their income?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : As far as the people with disability are concerned, three per cent reservation has been given. It is horizontal reservation. Two per cent reservation is for the other categories. One per cent is reserved for blindness or low vision, hearing impairment, locomotor disability and cerebral palsy. These are the areas where it has been identified. Now, Sir, every department has been mandated under the Act that has been passed by this august House - The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. Under Section 32 of the Act, it has been very clearly mentioned that the appropriate Government shall identify posts in the establishment which can be reserved for persons with disability. Every three years, it is reviewed by the Government and the implementation of the Act is with the Social Justice Ministry. As far as implementation of reservation is concerned, it is with the Department of Personnel. We have been monitoring them. In fact, Sir, relaxed standards have been given to the disabled people, and, if it is a clerical post, I would like to give you one example. If typing is must for a post, we give exemption for the people with disability so that they can also be absorbed. Ten-year relaxation has been given to them for appearing for the examination for the purpose of recruitment and also for the promotion. Apart from that, Sir, examination fee is exempted for the physically-challenged people. In 2009, we had a review. In 2011 also, for the purpose of finding out as to how to fill up the backlog of vacancies, the issues were taken up by our Ministry. Sir, we are taking all proactive measures. In fact, in 2012, recently, we issued a circular for the purpose the implementing the Act in the right spirit.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Sir, he has not answered my question. My question was whether the Government would introduce IT-enabled training which will equip differently-abled people for better employment opportunities. That is my specific question.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, I said very clearly and I quoted Section 32. Regarding the suggestion given by the hon. Member about the IT-enabled service,

even the people with blindness are also working in IT industry. We will also consider suggestion by the hon. Member. At the time of identifying the post, they will also be given preference.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : The 2002 Census figures and the latest NSS data show that about two crore is the number of differently-abled people. But experts in the field say that in our country, about five to six per cent of the people are differently abled, which will mean that it will be more than six crores. If that is the case, will the Government be prepared to increase substantially the amount allocated for the differentlyabled people in the Twelfth Plan?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, the Social Justice Ministry is the nodal ministry for the purpose of implementing this Act for the welfare and forming the State-level Committees and also the Central-level Committees and monitoring implementation of various schemes for the physically challenged people.

As far as our Ministry is concerned, we are only concerned with the limited question of the implementation of reservation in posts. Sir, I will convey the information given by the hon. Member to the hon. Minister of Social Justice and he will get a written reply from there.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very important issue. I hope the Prime Minister will also pay enough attention. I would like to know from the Government whether this three per cent reservation is fulfilled in various departments. Secondly, what is the backlog, what are the steps taken to fill up those vacancies, and, what is the time-bound programme? It is an important issue because people are complaining from different parts of the country that even the three per cent quota is not fulfilled, and, there is a huge backlog. What is the action plan of the Government to take care of this, and, with regard to this, what are the facilities provided to disabled people to work in their offices? Will the Minister enlighten the House as to what are the facilities regarding toilets, or, movement from one place to another?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : From time to time, our Ministry has been issuing instructions through various departments for the purpose of providing facilities and amenities for the physically challenged people, and, as far as the backlog is concerned, which the hon. Member has mentioned, I would like to submit that in the year 2009 and also in the year 2011, review meetings were conducted by our Ministry calling therein the various Secretaries of the Ministries. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Personnel and Training. Clear instructions were given to them that backlog vacancies have to be fulfilled, and, apart from that, even if the vacancies are there, these are not

being fulfilled from other categories, these are being carried forward. Sir, we have been regularly monitoring the question of filling up of vacancies. We had a review of a total of 72 ministries in the year 2011, and, in March, 2013, we will have another review meeting to ensure that the backlog vacancies are fulfilled. As far as the backlog, which the hon. Member has referred to, is concerned, I will send the details to him in writing.

DR. ASHOK S. GANGULY : May I, through you, Mr. Chairman, compliment the hon. Minister for saying that a very close watch is being kept on the employment opportunities for disabled people. Would he kindly enlighten the House by sharing with us as to whether the mobility, and other facilities—the previous hon. member also mentioned as far as toilets and other facilities are concerned—are now an integral part of all the building codes, transport codes etc. etc., which will permit the differently enabled easier access, I do not know whether there are 20 million or 60 million disabled people in this country, to take the fullest advantage of the facilities being provided and lead as normal a life as they would wish to.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, it is a very larger question combining the Department of Social Justice and also our Ministry. We will have to take care of the employees who are working in the Government offices in all categories. As far as others are concerned, for the common physically challenged people, the Ministry of Social Justice has to prepare a Code. A Code is already in existence. We will update the Code. I will sit with the hon. Minister for Social Justice for the purpose of making a Building Code, which has been referred to by the hon. Member. With regard to transport facilities, concessions have been given for transportation. It is being done but improvement can be made in this regard for further facilitating, for providing them infrastructure facilities and also facilities with regard to working in the offices, and, it will be taken care of by our Ministry.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU : Respected Chairman, ours is a nation among the global fraternity to adopt the United Nations Resolution for empowering the physically, mentally-challenged persons. It shows the concern of our UPA Government under the leadership of our visionary leader, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh with the provision that has enabled to put in place the required infrastructure and support mechanism for such persons who are already in the places of competition and in places of some position.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the Question?

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU : With my own observation across several States, at least, in the State capitals...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please ask the question.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU : Yes, Sir. Even in the State capitals, the support mechanism, the infrastructural support and particularly the support based on computers are yet to take place. We are yet to have an understanding about the mechanism that is being planned by the Government, the Union Government as well as the State Governments. Thus, I would like to seek the information about the infrastructural provisions and the support mechanism for the physically and mentally-challenged persons who are already in place of some position.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, as far as coordination with the State Governments for the purpose of providing amenities and facilities to the physically-challenged people is concerned, the general category has to be done by the Ministry of Social Justice. I would request the hon. Minister for Social Justice to inform about the coordination with the State Governments. As far as Central Government offices are concerned, it is our responsibility. We have been upgrading them. In most of the offices, we have the toilet facilities and also the infrastructure facilities. Separate lift facility has also been provided. That is being done. We will upgrade it even if it is required further.

Introduction of plastic currency

*285. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is contemplating to introduce plastic currency;
- (b) whether it would stop the counterfeiting of currency;
- (c) the number of trees that would be saved and whether it would affect the environment in comparison to paper currency; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) With a view to elongating the life of banknotes, particularly in lower denominations, the Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with the Government of India has been considering various options including printing of banknotes on polymer substrate. A decision had accordingly been taken to introduce one billion pieces of Rs. 10 banknotes on polymer substrate on a field trial basis in five cities. The primary objective of introduction of polymer/plastic notes is to increase its life and not to combat counterfeiting.

The polymer banknotes are made from a non-fibrous and non-porous polymer. The Indian Banknote paper is made from long fibers obtained from cotton comber and linter. There is thus no direct relation between paper based currency and cutting of trees.

The Reserve Bank of India has informed that The Energy and Resources Institute was commissioned by them to estimate the environmental impacts and carbon footprints of plastic currency vis-à-vis paper currency. Their study has found that polymer notes would be more environment friendly than paper based currency.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Thank you hon. Chairman. I compliment the hon. Finance Minister for the decision to introduce polymer/plastic currency notes in place of paper notes. But, Sir, in his reply, he says that the primary objective of the introduction of polymer/plastic notes is to increase its life and not to combat counterfeiting. Sir, counterfeiting of our currency notes is a matter of serious concern for the nation. The Home Ministry report says that it has a great role in funding the terror groups. There are extreme examples of fake currency notes being supplied to the terror groups to acquire illegal arms from our neighbouring countries. There is a report of the Home Ministry. Sir, even some of the banks are involved in it. There is a report of the Home Ministry that lakhs of fake currency notes have been recovered from a branch of bank in UP.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question please.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Sir, what action is the Government contemplating to stop or to reduce the entry of fake currency notes from the neighbouring country as well as from inside the country?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I will be quite happy to answer the question, but, with great respect, the question is not about fake Indian currency notes; the question is about plastic currency notes. Therefore, I don't think we can convert it into discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Answer it in your former capacity.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am willing to reply on that, if the Chairman wishes.

Sir, when we introduce polymer or plastic currency notes, there are many objectives. All that we have said in the answer is that the primary objective is to increase the life. If it helps in making it difficult to counterfeit, that is an added advantage. But, I cannot say with certainty that the plastic currency notes cannot be counterfeited. Counterfeiting means access to the same technology that we use and access to the same raw material that we use. If a counterfeiter has access to the same raw material and the same technology, surely he can counterfeit plastic currency as well as paper currency.

The reason why we think that we should experiment with plastic currency is that the life of a ten-rupee note, because of velocity of circulation, is one year and we have to print millions of pieces of ten-rupee notes every year. In 2010-11, for example, we printed 5,000 million pieces of ten-rupee notes. In 2011-12, for example, we printed 5,700 million pieces of ten-rupee notes. They go out of circulation in one year which is why we think we should experiment with plastic currency. This is a project that will not take off immediately. We have shortlisted the firms. We have to get security clearance and then do it on a pilot basis and then we will see it.

As far as fake Indian currency notes are concerned, it is a problem that we face because fake Indian currency is smuggled into India from across the border. There is a nodal agency, the NIA, which is being charged with investigating FICN cases. There is an Inter-Ministerial Group which keeps a close watch on FICN smuggling. We have good cooperation from Bangladesh. We have good cooperation especially from Nepal. We have successfully interdicted a number of cases where FICN were smuggled into the country. But, as I said, this is a problem that arises from across the border and until those who are across the border realise that good relations with India is a pre-requisite for being good neighbours, we have to fight this menace as and when we face this menace.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Sir, the currency notes are used by every citizen of this country. There is a concern whether it is environment friendly. I am happy that the Minister has replied that plastic/polymer notes will be environment friendly. By what time will the paper notes be phased out and when will they be replaced by plastic/polymer notes?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, we have not even started the pilot project. The pilot project will have to start. In the pilot project, the plan is to print one billion pieces of ten-rupee notes whose face value will be about Rs. 1,000 crore. But the face value of Rs. 1,000 crore must be measured against the total currency in circulation which is Rs. 11,00,000 crore. So, it is a drop in the ocean. The pilot project has to be done. The pilot project has to be proven, if the pilot project is successful, then we can extend it and more pieces can be printed. At this stage, we have not even started the pilot project.

श्री मोती लाल बोरा : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पॉलिमर नोट्स पहले किन पाँच राज्यों में प्रभावशील होंगे? महोदय, सबसे बड़ी बात तो यह है कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा कि ये जो पॉलिमर के करेंसी नोट्स हैं, ये जाली और नकली नोटों के प्रचलन को रोकने के लिए नहीं हैं। क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय इस बात की जानकारी देंगे कि जाली नोटों को रोकने की दिशा में अब तक सरकार ने कौन-से कदम उठाए हैं?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the pilot project is to introduce a billion pieces of ten-rupee banknotes. It is only after field trials, etc., that we can prove the pilot project and then we can extend it. At the moment, it is only intended to introduce a billion pieces of ten-rupee notes. Again, the question has strayed into another subject, which is FICN. As far as the FICN is concerned, there are two ways of dealing with the FICN. One is to improve the security features of our currency notes. Security features of our currency notes are constantly improved upon to make it difficult for the counterfeiter to produce a similar fake Indian currency note.

The last time we introduced security features was in 2005; and this is an ongoing exercise, as and when we have access to better technology, we will introduce new security features. This is one side of the story. The other side is how to take steps to prevent the entry and circulation of FICN. Now, Forged Notes Vigilance Cell has been formed in all the banks. Instructions have been issued to banks to disburse only sorted and genuine notes over the counter, or, through the ATMs. The Reserve Bank of India coordinates with investigating agencies, as well as, the State police authorities. A State level committee has been formed in each State under the DGP of that State to deal with counterfeit notes. RBI conducts training programmes for detection of counterfeit notes for employees and officers of banks. All issue officers, and there are 19 of them of the RBI and currency chest branches 4,402, are equipped with note sorting machines which have the capacity to detect counterfeit notes at the entry level. Steps are being taken to install note sorting machines by the RBI at bank branches.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has taken a number of steps to curb the menace of FICN. The BSF has been alerted to keep a vigil at the forward posts. MHA periodically

reviews the situation. MHA has initiated legislative measures for amendment of Section 292 of the Cr.P.C. to enable the notification of officers of bank note presses and State and Central Forensic Laboratories to give evidence in courts. A high level committee is under the Union Home Secretary to review the matter. NIA is the nodal agency.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has done any comparative analysis of experience of plastic currency in major countries. Regarding the fake notes and longevity of the notes whether it can be organically destroyed; otherwise it will become a pollution problem like plastic bags in the country.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the polymer banks are made from non-fibrous and non-porous polymer. The Indian bank paper note is also made from non-fibrous obtained from cotton comber and minter. We are actually not cutting any trees to make any currency note whether it is paper currency or polyester currency. No tree is being cut. Therefore, both are, in a sense, environment-friendly.

As regards the impact of plastic notes The Energy and Research Institute (TERI) was commissioned by the RBI to estimate the carbon foot print of the plastic currency versus paper currency. The study found that the polymer notes would be more environment-friendly than the paper currency notes. Therefore, I think, from an environment point of view it is, perhaps, wise to experiment with this. Let us see what the results are. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, about 20 countries are using plastic currency notes. In respect of three countries—Australia, New Zealand and Romania—all currency notes are plastic. But I must also say that Thailand introduced it and withdrew it. But there are 20 countries which use piastic currency.

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA : Sir, circulation of counterfeit notes in border areas is a serious problem. Our border areas with Nepal and Pakistan are full of circulation of fake currency notes. NIA has been assigned with the job to detect fake currency notes. But our border areas are so long it is very difficult to control it. May I know from the Minister whether the Government will put a check at the source of supply of raw material for the currency notes? There are not major ingredients only three items are there—paper, ink, Band and back intaglio printing. With the cooperation of international agencies why couldn't the Government check at the source point? Pakistan is procuring the same paper, same ink and same back intaglio printing from the same source.

Why shouldn't we have a check at that point itself so that these currency notes are not printed by them and dumped into our country to destabilize our economy?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I said rather guardedly, these fake Indian currency notes are smuggled into India from across the border. I think that Statement tells you more than what I should be saying publicly. This is, in my view and in my assessment, an organized activity with some kind of State support. Therefore, all that we can do is, stop the entry of currency notes into India and also stop the circulation of currency notes. How do I go to the source of this currency note when it is manufactured across the border with State support? I think there are serious issues there in answering the question of the hon. Member. I am aware of it; the Government is aware of it. But at the moment, speaking as the Minister of Finance, I am saying that we take steps to prevent the entry and the circulation. But the larger question is, of course, a question which has serious implications. ...(*Interruptions*)...

वन अधिकार अधिनियम के अंतर्गत जनजातीय परिवारों को दिए गए अधिकार पत्र

*286. श्री फगन सिंह कुलस्ते : क्या जनजातीय कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

- (क) वन अधिकार अधिनियम के अंतर्गत क्या जनजातीय परिवारों को अधिकार पत्र दिए गए हैं;
- (ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे परिवारों की राज्य-वार संख्या कितनी-कितनी है;
- (ग) क्या इस अधिनियम के अंतर्गत सामुदायिक दावों पर भी विचार किया गया है;
- (घ) यदि हां, तो देश में ग्रामवासियों से कितने सामुदायिक दावे प्राप्त हुए हैं और उनमें से कितने दावों को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है; और
- (ङ) इस संबंध में प्राप्त दावों का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

जनजातीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री वी. किशोर चन्द्र देव) : (क) से (ङ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 उन वन निवासी अनुसूचित जनजातियों तथा अन्य परंपरागत वन निवासियों को मान्यता प्रदान करता है और उन्हें वन अधिकार एवं वन भूमि के कब्जे का अधिकार देता है जो पीढ़ियों से ऐसे वनों में रह रहे हैं, परंतु जिनके अधिकारों को दर्ज नहीं किया जा सका है। राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र सरकारों से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार, 31 अक्टूबर, 2012 तक इस अधिनियम के तहत कुल 32,36,539 दावे दायर किये गये थे तथा 12,75,570 अधिकार पत्र संवितरित कर दिये गये थे। इसके अलावा, कुल 14,603 अधिकार पत्र संवितरण हेतु तैयार थे। 31 अक्टूबर, 2012 तक इस अधिनियम के तहत संवितरित अधिकार पत्रों के राज्य-वार ब्यौरे संलग्न विवरण-1 में दिये गये हैं (नीचे देखिए)। मंत्रालय इस अधिनियम के

तहत वन निवासी अनुसूचित जनजातियों तथा अन्य परंपरागत वन निवासियों को संवितरित अधिकार पत्रों की संख्या के संबंध में अलग-अलग ब्यौरे नहीं रखता है।

(ग) से (ङ) वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 के तहत दायर सामुदायिक अधिकारों के दावों तथा अधिनियम के तहत सामुदायिक अधिकारों हेतु संवितरित अधिकार पत्रों के राज्य-वार ब्यौरे संलग्न विवरण-1 में दिये गये हैं (नीचे देखिए)। उनसे यह पाया गया है कि 31 अक्टूबर, 2012 तक कुल 63,485 सामुदायिक अधिकारों के दावे दायर किये गये थे तथा सामुदायिक अधिकारों के लिए 8,348 अधिकार पत्र संवितरित किये गये थे।

विवरण-1

वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 के तहत संवितरित/वितरण हेतु तैयार अधिकार पत्रों के राज्य-वार ब्यौरे

क्र.सं.	राज्य	प्राप्त दावों की संख्या	संवितरित अधिकार पत्रों की संख्या
1	2	3	4
1.	आंध्र प्रदेश	3,30,479 (3,23,765 व्यक्तिगत और 6,714 सामुदायिक)	1,67,797 (1,65,691 व्यक्तिगत और 2,106 सामुदायिक)
2.	अरुणाचल प्रदेश	-	-
3.	असम	1,31,911 (1,26,718 व्यक्तिगत और 5,193 सामुदायिक)	36,267 (35,407 व्यक्तिगत और 860 सामुदायिक)
4.	बिहार*	2,930	28
5.	छत्तीसगढ़	4,92,068 (4,87,332 व्यक्तिगत और 4,736 सामुदायिक)	2,15,443 (2,14,668 व्यक्तिगत और 775 सामुदायिक)
6.	गोवा	-	-
7.	गुजरात	1,91,592 (1,82,869 व्यक्तिगत और 8,723 सामुदायिक)	40,029 (38,421 व्यक्तिगत और 1,608 सामुदायिक)
8.	हिमाचल प्रदेश*	5,688	7
9.	झारखंड*	42,003	15,296
10.	कर्नाटक	1,63,320 (1,60,403 व्यक्तिगत और 2,917 सामुदायिक)	6,288 (6,235 व्यक्तिगत और 53 सामुदायिक)
11.	केरल	37,509 (36,140 व्यक्तिगत और 1,369 सामुदायिक)	23,147 (23,143 व्यक्तिगत और 4 सामुदायिक)
12.	मध्य प्रदेश*	4,63,532 (4,50,987 व्यक्तिगत और 12,545 सामुदायिक)	1,70,910 संवितरित और 7,592 संवितरण हेतु तैयार अधिकार पत्र

1	2	3	4
13.	महाराष्ट्र	3,44,330 (3,39,289 व्यक्तिगत और 5,041 सामुदायिक)	99,368 (98,335 व्यक्तिगत और 1,033 सामुदायिक)
14.	मणिपुर	-	-
15.	मेघालय	-	-
16.	मिज़ोरम	-	-
17.	उड़ीसा	5,32,464 (5,29,160 व्यक्तिगत और 3,304 सामुदायिक)	3,01,200 संवितरित (3,00,31 व्यक्तिगत और 879 सामुदायिक)
18.	राजस्थान	64,422 (64,076 व्यक्तिगत और 346 सामुदायिक)	32,080 (32,027 व्यक्तिगत और 53 सामुदायिक)
19.	सिक्किम	-	-
20.	तमिलनाडु	21,781 (18,420 व्यक्तिगत और 3,361 सामुदायिक)	(3,723 अधिकार पत्र तैयार है)
21.	त्रिपुरा	1,82,617 (1,82,340 व्यक्तिगत और 277 सामुदायिक)	1,20,473 (1,20,418 व्यक्तिगत और 55 सामुदायिक)
22.	उत्तर प्रदेश	92,433 (91,298 व्यक्तिगत और 1,135 सामुदायिक)	17,705 (16,891 व्यक्तिगत और 814 सामुदायिक)
23.	उत्तराखंड	182	-
24.	पश्चिम बंगाल	1,37,278 (1,29,454 व्यक्तिगत और 7,824 सामुदायिक)	29,532 (29,424 व्यक्तिगत और 108 सामुदायिक) और 3,288 अधिकार पत्र तैयार है
26.	अंडमान निकोबार द्वीप समूह	-	-
26.	दमन और दीव	-	-
27.	दादर और नगर हवेली	-	-
	कुल	32,36,539 (31,73,054 व्यक्तिगत और 63,485 सामुदायिक)	12,75,570 (12,67,222 व्यक्तिगत और 8,348 सामुदायिक) संवितरित और 14,603 तैयार

* बिहार, हिमाचल प्रदेश, झारखंड तथा मध्य प्रदेश राज्य सरकारों ने व्यक्तिगत दावों तथा सामुदायिक दावों के लिए संवितरित अधिकार पत्रों के ब्यौरे नहीं दिए हैं।

Letter of right given to tribal families under the Forest Rights Act

†*286. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tribal families in the country have been given letter of right under the Forest Rights Act;
- (b) if so, the number of such families State-wise;
- (c) whether collective claims have also been considered under this Act;
- (d) if so, the number of collective claims which have been received from the villagers in the country and have been approved; and
- (e) the details of the claims received in this regard, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Forest Rights Act, 2006 seeks to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. According to the information received from the State/UT Governments, till 31st October, 2012, a total number of 32,36,539 claims were filed and 12,75,570 titles were distributed under the Act. Further, a total number of 14,603 titles were ready for distribution. The State-wise details of the titles distributed, as on 31st October, 2012 under the Act, are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The Ministry is not maintaining separate details regarding the number of titles distributed to the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and to the other traditional forest dwellers under the Act.

(c) to (e) The State-wise details of the community rights claims filed under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and the titles distributed for community rights under the Act are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). It would be observed therefrom that, till 31st October, 2012, a total number of 63,485 community rights claims were filed and 8,348 titles for community rights were distributed.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

State-wise details of the titles distributed/ready for distribution under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (as on 31.10.2012)

Sl. No.	States	No. of claims received	No. of titles distributed
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3,30,479 (3,23,765 individual and 6,714 community)	1,67,797 (1,65,691 individual and 2,106 community)
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
3.	Assam	1,31,911 (1,26,718 individual and 5,193 community)	36,267 (35,407 individual and 860 community)
4.	Bihar*	2,930	28
5.	Chhattisgarh	4,92,068 (4,87,332 individual and 4,736 community)	2,15,443 (2,14,668 individual and 775 community)
6.	Goa	-	-
7.	Gujarat	1,91,592 (1,82,869 individual and 8,723 community)	40,029 (38,421 individual and 1,608 community)
8.	Himachal Pradesh*	5,688	7
9.	Jharkhand*	42,003	15,296
10.	Karnataka	1,63,320 (1,60,403 individual and 2,917 community)	6,288 (6,235 individual and 53 community)
11.	Kerala	37,509 (36,140 individual and 1,369 community)	23,147 (23,143 individual and 4 community)
12.	Madhya Pradesh*	4,63,532 (4,50,987 individual and 12,545 community)	1,70,910 distributed and 7,592 title deeds are ready to be distribution
13.	Maharashtra	3,44,330 (3,39,289 individual and 5,041 community)	99,368 (98,335 individual and 1,033 community)

1	2	3	4
14.	Manipur	-	-
15.	Meghalaya	-	-
16.	Mizoram	-	-
17.	Orissa	5,32,464 (5,29,160 individual and 3,304 community)	3,01,200 distributed (3,00,321 individual and 879 community)
18.	Rajasthan	64,422 (64,076 individual and 346 community)	32,080 (32,027 individual and 53 community)
19.	Sikkim	-	-
20.	Tamil Nadu	21,781 (18,420 individual and 3,361 community)	(3,723 titles are ready)
21.	Tripura	1,82,617 (1,82,340 individual and 277 community)	1,20,473 (1,20,418 individual and 55 community)
22.	Uttar Pradesh	92,433 (91,298 Individual and 1,135 community)	17,705 (16,891 individual and 814 community)
23.	Uttarakhand	182	-
24.	West Bengal	1,37,278 (1,29,454 individual and 7,824 community)	29,532 (29,424 individual and 108 community) and 3,288 titles are ready
25.	A and N Islands	-	-
26.	Daman and Diu	-	-
27.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-
TOTAL		32,36,539 (31,73,054 individual and 63,485 community)	12,75,570 (12,67,222 individual and 8,348 community) distributed and 14,603 ready

* The State Governments of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh have not given break-up of the titles distributed for individual claims and community claims.

श्री फग्गन सिंह कुलस्ते : सर, यह जो कानून बनाया गया है, वन अधिकार कानून, देश में एक ऐसा वातावरण बना और इस वातावरण के चलते यह कानून बना। सम्पूर्ण देश के इस समय जो परिस्थितियां बनी हुई हैं और शायद मुझे लगता है कि हाऊस के सारे मित्र भी इससे सहमत होंगे कि जो आंकड़े हमारे पास हैं, मंत्री जी ने दिए हैं, इनको देखने के बाद ऐसा लगता है कि जिन परिवारों को या जिन व्यक्तियों को यह अधिकार पत्र दिया जाना था, उनकी संख्या आप देखें, मैं स्टेटवाइज नहीं पढ़ रहा हूं, परन्तु अगर आप संख्या देखें तो जो अभी तक वर्षों से काबिज थे, उन व्यक्तियों को अधिकार पत्र देने के लिए जो आवेदन पत्र लिए गए, उन आवेदन पत्रों की संख्या 32,36,539 बताई गई है और दूसरी तरफ कुल मिलाकर हमने 12,75,570 परिवारों को अभी तक अधिकार पत्र दिए। सर, यह एक विडम्बना हमारे सामने है। इस कारण ये जो समस्याएं पैदा हो रही हैं, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि आखिर में यह जो गैप है, इसका क्या कारण है? या तो, हमने इसका ठीक से सर्वे नहीं कराया। जिन लोगों को सामान्य तौर से आवेदन करना था, उनके अधिकार पत्र या उनके ऊपर किसी प्रकार के जुर्माने या उनके खिलाफ कोर्ट में केसेज चल रहे हैं, ये तीनों प्रकार के आवेदन या अभ्यावेदन आए हुए हैं।

श्री सभापति : प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री फग्गन सिंह कुलस्ते : इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से केवल यह जानना चाहता हूं कि इसके क्या कारण हैं और यह जो गैप है इसको कब तक पूरा कर दिया जाएगा?

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO : Mr. Chairman, Sir. I think the hon. Member is right when he says that a large number of applications of claims have been rejected. In fact, the number of claims that have been rejected in the last five years has been more than the number of claims that have been recognised and regularized. Actually, Sir, land is a State subject and implementation is done by the respective States. But having gone through what has happened during the last four or five years and from the experience that we have had, in the month of July, a set of new guidelines has been issued to all the State Governments. Then certain rules have also been amended. This was actually placed on the Table in Parliament on the last day of the Monsoon Session. This was, basically, done to clear those grey areas where certain clarifications were necessary. We have also issued directions so that all the cases which have been rejected could be reopened, if there is *prima facie* evidence that is available in respect of certain provisions that are already there in the Act. As far as the time limit is concerned, it is difficult for me to fix any timeframe because the implementing authorities are the State Governments. But, however, in the month of July end, we have again sent a circular to all the States saying that there should be no time limitation since it is difficult for us to conceive as to when this process will come to an end.

श्री फग्गन सिंह कुलस्ते : सर, मेरा दूसरा पूरक प्रश्न यह है कि जो सामुदायिक दावे और विशेषकर सामाजिक हित के सामुदायिक दावे के जितने भी प्रकरण देश में आए हैं, आपको ध्यान होगा कि इस समय देश में जो आंदोलन जनजातियों और आदिवासियों के विषय को लेकर चल रहा है, उसमें एन.जी.ओज. या देश में सामाजिक क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले लोग भी हैं, शायद इस कारण सरकार को भी झुकना पड़ता है। सर,

इसलिए यह एक महत्वपूर्ण मसला है। इस समय सदन में प्रधान मंत्री जी भी मौजूद हैं। चूंकि यह कानून इसी उद्देश्य को लेकर लाया गया था, इसलिए यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि सार्वजनिक निस्तार के लिए जितने भी इस प्रकार के सामुदायिक दावे आए हैं क्या इस बारे में सरकार आने वाले समय में स्पष्ट नीति बनाएगी ताकि सार्वजनिक निस्तार के लिए सामुदायिक दावों के पट्टे या अधिकार पत्र भविष्य में उन्हें दिए जा सकें? सर, और जो लोग रह रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : समय खत्म हो रहा है, इसलिए प्रश्न जल्दी पूछ लीजिए।

श्री फगन सिंह कुलस्ते : उनको बेदखल न किया जाए, ऐसा मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है।

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO : Sir, in fact, most of the claims, that were rejected, were claims that were made for community rights. In the area of community rights and community resources, there were certain clarifications which will have to be made. This is, probably, due to lack of proper understanding or interpretation that a majority of the claims that were rejected were those of community rights. So, we have clarified this to the extent possible. Certain States have asked us for clarifications. We have been sending replies to them the moment we hear from them. So, I agree with the hon. Member that this is a very, very important programme of the Government. This is one of the flagship programmes of the UPA Government. This Bill was enacted in the year 2006, and the implementation started in 2008 only, in this period of five years, the implementation process has begun. In the meantime, we have come across various hurdles and problems and complaints received from individuals. But what is necessary is that an awareness should be created among the people regarding these rules. We have also asked the State Governments to translate them into regional languages. I was also told by one of the State Governments that they are translating them into the dialects of the tribals. I think this will help people understand their rights after which they can make their claims and get their lands regularized.

SHRI D. RAJA : Sir, the answer says that the Ministry is not maintaining separate details regarding the number of titles distributed to the forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and to other traditional forest dwellers under the Act. My supplementary is whether there is any mechanism put in place to have a periodical review of the distribution of titles with the State Governments.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO : Sir, as far as the details are concerned, as I had mentioned earlier, since the State Governments implement this Act, the details are with them. But we have been getting details from State Governments. In fact, officials of my Ministry had held consultations with State Governments during the Regional Conferences which were conducted in five places, namely, Orissa, Nagpur, Hyderabad, Bhopal and the one at Delhi which I, myself, attended. So, we are

periodically updating them, and we are getting inputs from them. I think now my Ministry is also in the process of having a software by which we can get online the number of applications that have been received and the number of those which have been regularized.

श्री विनय कटियार : सभापति जी, वनों में रहने वाले ये लोग पीढ़ी-दर-पीढ़ी से वहां काबिज हैं और उन्हें ये अधिकार पत्र देने की बात चल रही है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि ये अधिकार पत्र देरी से देने के कारण क्या नक्सलवाद, आतंकवाद और अलगाववाद नहीं पनप रहा है? अगर इस कारण से भी इस में बढ़ोतरी हो रही है, तो आप कब तक इन लोगों को अधिकार पत्र सौंप देंगे? इस के लिए कोई अवधि आप बताएंगे?

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO : Sir, in fact, this will, actually, contain the terrorist activities or prevent people from getting into such acts. It is unfortunate that something, which should have been done about a hundred years ago, has not been done so far. In fact, in 1927, the Forest Act was legislated. Ultimately, we had the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and the Forest Conservation Act of 1980. But nobody spoke of forest dwellers or tribals living in the afforested areas. It is with this background in mind that the Government has brought in this Act. This is, actually, to undo a historic injustice which has been done to this class of people. Once we do that, Sir, we do hope that this will bring them away from the path of terrorism.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Fine under the Nuclear Liability Act, 2010

*287. **SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether at present, maximum fine that can be imposed by the regulator in case of nuclear accident on an offending nuclear plant is Rs. 500/- only;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the basis on which the maximum fine ceiling has been devised;
- (d) whether Government would revise the fine limit by amending the Nuclear Liability Act, 2010;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons for playing with the safety of common people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Section 30(3) of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 states that, "Rules made under this Act may provide that a contravention of the rules shall, save as otherwise expressly provided in the Act, be punishable with fine, which may extend up to five hundred rupees". However, as per Section 24 of the Act, contravention of any rules made under Section 17 (special provisions as to safety) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or both. Section 24 of the Act has expressly made provisions for just and reasonable punishment for serious violations while.

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) encounters issues of non-compliances to the specified safety requirements for which it is empowered to take enforcement measures which range from issuing written directives for compliance to the requirements, modifications in the design and operational practices and in serious cases curtailing the operation of the facility, including the suspension or withdrawal of licence for operation. A measure such as the suspension of licence or operation involves serious economic penalty to the concerned utility/operator with the potential of affecting its financial health.

(d) and (e) The Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage (CLND) Act, 2010 provides for civil liability for nuclear damage and prompt compensation to the victims of a nuclear incident through a no-fault liability regime channeling liability to the operator. The liability of an operator for each nuclear incident is: Rs. 1500 crores for reactors with 10 or more MW capacity; Rs. 300 crores for spent fuel reprocessing plants; Rs. 100 crores for reactors with less than 10 MW capacity and other fuel cycle facilities. Central Government may review the amount of operator's liability from time to time and specify, by notification, a higher amount.

Chapter VI of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010, deals with "Offences and Penalties". Section 39 of the Act states that "whoever - contravenes any rule made or any direction issued under this Act, or (b) fails to comply with the provisions of Section 8; or (c) fails to deposit the amount under Section 36, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years or with fine or with both". Section 42 of the Act states that "no court inferior to that of Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the first class shall try any offence under this Act." Thus, the penalties to be imposed on anyone who contravenes the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 as under Section 39 will be determined by the court.

Section 46 of the CLND Act states that the provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other law for the time being in force.

(f) Government wishes to reiterate that it attaches utmost importance to the safety of the people and reassure that a robust regulatory system is in place for ensuring the safety and periodic safety upgrades of our nuclear power plants. There has been a strong tradition of robust safety reviews right from the early days of our nuclear power programme and the safety record of nuclear power plants has been excellent as signified by the absence of any accidents involving radiological consequences in public domain. Immediately after the Fukushima incident, Hon'ble Prime Minister had underscored that safety of our nuclear plants was a matter of the highest priority and ordered safety audits of all Indian nuclear power plants. Specific task forces were constituted to review safety of various reactor designs by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India. Committees of specialists to review and recommend safety upgrades were constituted by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. India has submitted a detailed National Report on actions taken subsequent to the Fukushima nuclear accident to the Second Extraordinary meeting of the Convention on Nuclear Safety (CNS) held in August 2012 in Vienna, which was peer reviewed by the Contracting Parties of the CNS.

Regulatory inspections not done by AERB

*288. SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has not conducted 85 per cent of regulatory inspections for both industrial radiography and radiotherapy units;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the details of the measures taken by Government to ensure that timely inspections are conducted by AERB; and

(d) whether it is fact that AERB failed to enforce safety provisions and compliance with its own stipulations in the case of unit in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) The facilities and activities coming within the regulatory control of AERB range from large Nuclear Power Plants to small medical x-ray units. AERB has been following a graded approach in regulatory control of these facilities and activities, which is primarily based on the safety significance and technological complexity.

In the case of radiation applications in the public domain for medical and R&D, there have been limitations posed by the large number of units spread across the length and breadth of the country and the accelerated growth in the number of such facilities. Owing to their large number and varied degree of radiological hazard potential. AERB has been following a graded approach with respect to their regulatory control.

The basis for conducting regulatory inspections by AERB is as follows :

- Radiological risk associated with each category of Licencee.
- Reported incidents during the year.
- Issues related to individual Licencees.
- Recommendations arising from Inspections.

The basis for inspection by AERB is in line with international practices.

Regulatory Inspection is only one of the tools for checking compliance. The mechanism for monitoring of radiation facilities also include a system of safety status reports, which the facilities are required to furnish periodically, and their review in AERB. Inspections are carried out on a sample basis, for verifying that the ground realities are in line with the status reports and the license conditions.

With the recent augmentation in its manpower, AERB is enhancing the inspection coverage of the radiation facilities, in accordance with the frequency of inspections suggested in the draft manual.

For ensuring safety in use of diagnostic X-ray facilities, AERB follows an approach involving control during manufacture/sale of the equipment and random Inspections of facilities. Initiatives have been taken with regard to X-ray facilities, for formation of State-level Directorates of Radiation Safety (DRS), accreditation of Quality Assurance providers, etc.

Additional initiatives taken up by AERB recently, with regard to facilitating regulation of X-ray facilities are; (a) rationalization and simplification of the existing regulations for users in diagnostic X-ray practice, by way of amendments of AERB Safety Code; (b) enhancing regulatory control on Manufacturer/supplier, over the user, (c) development of an easy and approachable interface for the user to facilitate easy registration, using the new web based system and (d) public awareness programmes.

(d) Deficiencies with respect to some of the X-ray units, reported by the Directorate of Radiation Safety (DRS) Kerala were operational discrepancies that could

readily be rectified. The violations observed were practice-specific, such as TLD badge not been issued and not related to built in safety, which enabled the institution to rectify the deficiencies in the defined period.

Talks with Chinese Premier

†*289. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister went to participate in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit and met the Chinese Premier there; and

(b) if so, the initiative taken by Government to start dialogue on bilateral trade relations with China?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) :

(a) Yes, Sir. PM had a bilateral meeting with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao on the sidelines of the 7th East Asia Summit at Phnom Penh on November 19, 2012.

(b) The two leaders, *inter-alia*, discussed ways to enhance bilateral economic cooperation and welcomed the fact that the 2nd India - China Strategic Economic Dialogue was to be held at New Delhi on 26 November, 2012. PM emphasized the need for greater market access in China for Indian exports of services, pharmaceutical products and software.

Diversion of funds meant for tribals in Andhra Pradesh

*290. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that there is diversion of funds meant for tribals to other areas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed before the Planning Commission about the diversion;

(c) if so, the amount of money that has been diverted during the last ten years, year-wise; and

(d) the action the Ministry is going to take against Andhra Pradesh Government for diversion of funds meant for tribals?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) and (b) As per the information made available to this Ministry by the Planning Commission and the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, no instance of diversion of funds meant for Tribals in Andhra Pradesh, has come to notice.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

Mutual flow of information pertaining to money laundering

*291. DR. V. MAITREYAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether money coming into India from foreign countries for various purposes is monitored/scanned/probed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the findings therefrom during the last three years, agency-wise;

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard so far;

(d) whether India has entered into a pact with other countries to share the mutual flow of information pertaining to money laundering and terror funding etc.;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action plan being taken by the concerned countries in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c)

(i) Money coming into India from foreign countries routed through Authorised Persons (APs) are monitored by the Reserve Bank of India in terms of provisions of FEMA 1999. Further money coming into India as FDI and export proceeds which are received through banking channel are also monitored by RBI to examine the bonafide of the trade transactions.

(ii) The Government also monitors the receipt and utilization of foreign contributions by any 'person' in the Country through the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 and Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011 framed under the Act.

(iii) The Directorate of Enforcement has been vested with powers of search, seizure and thus is authorized to investigate into FEMA violations.

The Directorate of Enforcement has issued Show Cause Notices for contraventions of FEMA during the last three years as under:

Year	No. of Show Cause Notices issued for FEMA contraventions	Amount involved (in lakhs of Rs.)
2009-10	463	341756.08
2010-11	440	247505.91
2011-12	239	1179140.91

(d) and (e) Financial Intelligence Unit, India (FIU-IND) has signed MoUs with FIUs of 19 countries till date for information sharing on money-laundering and terror financing. However, not all FIUs require MoUs for information sharing. Information made available by foreign FIUs which is either request based or spontaneous, is shared with the relevant domestic law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

(f) Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Recommendations on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing are considered as global standards. Recommendation No. 40 of FATF requires a country to effectively provide the widest range of international cooperation in relation to money laundering and terrorist financing. India is a member of FATF. As per the recommendations of FATF the member countries provide mutual assistance to each other in matters of money-laundering and terror financing.

Steps to check frauds

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

(a) whether Ernst and Young financial agency has reported that different types of frauds have caused Rs. 6600 crore loss to Indian economy and banks in the last fiscal;

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

(c) the effective steps that Government is taking to check these frauds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) As per the report of Ernst and Young total number of fraud cases during the FY 2011-12 stood at 204 involving an amount of Rs 6600 crore for the financial services sector.

However, as per Reserve Bank of India's record, the incidents of frauds reported by the Banks during FY 2011-12 was 5569 cases involving an amount of Rs. 4448 crore.

As reported by RBI, the reasons for frauds in banks are broadly as under:

- (a) The banks had released the loan amount in lump sum which was not used for the purpose/s for which the loan was sanctioned.
 - (b) The banks had not carried out the pre-sanction inspection of property for the acquisition of which the loan was being sanctioned to ascertain if the unit/property really existed.
 - (c) The loans were sourced through Direct Sales Agents (DSAs) and the banks did not carry out any due diligence on their part before sanctioning the loan.
 - (d) The borrowers submitted fake title deeds of the collateral security which could not be detected through the process of search reports.
 - (e) The borrowers submitted fake documents related to 'Know your Customer' (KYC) compliance and could not be found at the given addresses after release of loan amount.
 - (f) The borrowers submitted fake and fabricated financial statements/salary slips to show improved financial position of the borrowers.
 - (g) The assets created out of the loan amount were sold without the knowledge of the financing banks before the loan is paid in full.
- (c) The steps taken by RBI are as under:—

Reserve Bank of India has issued detailed instructions *vide* Master Circular dated July 01, 2012 on "Frauds - Classification and Reporting" containing all the details/aspects relating to frauds. On receipt of fraud reports from banks, various aspects related to the frauds are examined and concerned banks are advised to report the case to CBI/Police/Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO), examine staff accountability, complete proceedings against the erring staff expeditiously, take steps to recover the amount involved in the fraud, claim insurance wherever applicable and streamline the system & also procedures so that frauds do not recur.

Reserve Bank of India as a part of its supervisory process also takes the following measures to prevent/reduce the incidence of frauds:

- (i) Sensitizes banks from time to time about common fraud prone areas through issuance of modus operandi circulars on various types of frauds and the measures to be taken by them.

- (ii) Issues caution advises in respect of borrowers who have defaulted the banks.

In the past considering various concerns arising out of bank's operations, including incidence of frauds, RBI has advised banks to:

- (a) Introduce a system of concurrent audit;
- (b) Review working of internal inspection and audit machinery in banks by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors;
- (c) Constitute a Special Committee of the Board to exclusively monitor frauds of Rs. 1 crore and above; and
- (d) In order to make third parties and professionals accountable, who have played a vital role in credit sanction/disbursement or facilitated the perpetration of frauds, banks have been advised *vide* circular dated March 16, 2009 to report to Indian Banks' Association (IBA). IBA in turn will prepare caution lists of such parties for circulation among the banks.

Impact of global liquidity infusion

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

- (a) whether the global liquidity infusion is fuelling commodity prices in our country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its impact on our country so far in the market?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) An accommodative monetary policy in Advanced Economies in conjunction with supply construction constraints may keep some key global commodity prices volatile and at elevated levels. Domestic prices of non-food manufacturing products (excluding urea fertilizers), petroleum products (except kerosene, LPG and diesel) and some food products, particularly edible oils are impacted both by the domestic availability of these products, global commodity prices and exchange rates.

(b) Global commodity price inflation measured in terms of World Bank's commodity prices data and domestic inflation measured in terms of the Wholesale Price Index for Food and Energy sectors are indicated below:

Year/Month	Global price inflation (%)		Domestic WPI inflation (%)	
	Food	Energy	Food	Energy
2010-11	14.90	21.10	11.10	12.28
2011-12	12.42	24.97	7.22	13.96
2012-13 (April-October, 2012)	2.39	-3.91	8.85	10.91

Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Yojana

*294. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is considering a new scheme called the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Yojana (RGPSY); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame within which it is likely to be operationalised?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The new Centrally sponsored Scheme *viz.*, Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) for strengthening Panchayats during the Twelfth Plan will support need based activities including administrative and technical expertise at Gram Panchayats, capacity building and training, e-enablement of Panchayats, infrastructure and panchayat processes while also promoting structural reforms in Panchayati Raj Institutions including holding of regular elections, reservation for women, strengthening of State Election Commission and State Finance Commission, devolution, strengthening of Gram Sabha constitution of Mahila Sabha and Ward Sabha and compliance of State laws in Fifth Schedule areas with the provisions of PESA Act, 1996.

Loans at lesser rate of interest to poor

*295. SHRI N. BALAGANGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide loans at cheap rates to the poor and weaker sections;

(b) if so, the details of such loans;

(c) whether any such loans have been provided to the poor under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) As per extant guidelines of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Priority Sector Lending (PSL), all Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) including Nationalised Banks are required to earmark 10% of Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent amount of Off-Balance Sheet Exposure, whichever is higher, for Weaker Sections. Loans at concessional rate of interest are provided, *inter-alia*, under different Schemes:

- (i) The Interest Subvention Scheme is being implemented by the Government of India since 2006-07 to make short-term crop loans upto Rs. 3 lakh for a period of one year available to farmers at the Interest rate of 7% per annum. The Government of India has since 2009-10 been providing additional interest subvention to prompt payee farmers, *i.e.*, those who repay their loans in time. The additional subvention was 1% in 2009-10, 2% in 2010-11 and 3% in 2011-12. Interest subvention of Rs. 3282.70 crore was released by the Government in the year 2011-12, under this scheme. The Scheme is continuing in 2012-13 also.
- (ii) Under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme, the banks provide loans to poor borrowers at concessional rate of interest of 4% per annum. The credit outstanding of Public Sector Banks (PSBs) under the Scheme was Rs, 729.03 crore for the year ended March, 2012.
- (iii) Full interest subsidy is made available for educational loans disbursed by scheduled banks on or after 1st April, 2009, during the period of moratorium for the students belonging to economically weaker sections, under 'Interest Subsidy' scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development. Interest subsidy of Rs. 1616.42 crore has been released upto 30.09.2012 under the scheme.

Directives regarding reduction of bulk deposits

*296. DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have shown their inability for compliance of directives regarding reduction of bulk deposits to 15 per cent of total deposits;

- (b) if so, the details of such PSBs;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to improve profitability and sound asset liability management in PSBs; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to reduce growing non-performing assets of PSBs in a time-bound and phased manner?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have not shown inability to comply with the directives of the Government regarding reduction of bulk deposits to 15 per cent of total deposits.

(c) The Government of India has issued an advisory on Asset Liability Management (ALM) to all PSBs on 06.07.2012 advising them to shed their High Cost deposits, with the objective to improve their profitability.

(d) The Government has advised Public Sector Banks to take a number of new initiatives to increase the pace of recovery and manage NPAs, which include appointment of Nodal officers for recovery, to conduct special drives for recovery of loss assets, to put in place early warning system, to replace system of post dated cheques with Electronic Clearance System (ECS) and to constitute a Board Level Committee to monitor progress in recovery of loans.

Production of iron ore and consumption of steel

*297. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the share of domestic production of iron ore and consumption of steel in the country is declining whereas the share of import has increased during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the net production of iron ore and per capita consumption of steel in the country during the said period;
- (c) the estimated demand and supply projections separately for public and private sectors; and
- (d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the projected demands?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) and (b) The production of iron ore during the last three years has shown a declining trend, whereas consumption of steel during the last three years has been increasing. The share of

import out of the total real consumption of steel in the country has been decreasing during the last three years. The details of iron ore production, real consumption, import and per capita consumption of finished steel during the last three years are given below :

(In million tonnes)

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (Provisional)
Production of iron ore	218.55	207.16	167.29
Real consumption of finished steel	59.34	66.42	70.92
Import of finished steel	7.38	6.66	6.83
Import as percentage of Real consumption of finished steel (%)	12.4	10.0	9.6
Per capita consumption of finished steel (in kg)	51	55	59

Source: For production of iron ore - Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM); and for Steel - Joint Plant Committee, Ministry of Steel.

(c) Projections on demand and supply of steel for the terminal year of Twelfth Five Year Plan (2016-17) for both private and public sectors in the country, as per the Report of the Working Group on Steel for the 12th Plan, are given below:

(in million tonne)

Domestic demand of total finished steel	113.3
Domestic production for sale of total finished steel	115.3

(d) Steel is a deregulated sector. The role of Government is that of a facilitator. The Government promotes/encourages growth of steel industry through suitable policy measures, based on its assessment of industry performance. However, the Government has taken following major steps to increase the steel production capacity and to ensure raw material availability for the steel sector:

- (i) An Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) has been set up by the Government for effective coordination amongst State Governments, different Ministries of Central Government and various other Agencies and to expedite implementation of various projects in the steel sector.

- (ii) Public Sector Undertakings namely Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) & NMDC Limited are in the process of implementing large scale expansions in the crude/finished steel capacity.
- (iii) Import of critical raw materials for steel industry such as coking coal, non-coking coal, scrap etc. is subject to zero or very low customs duty.
- (iv) To improve availability of iron ore for the domestic iron and steel industry and also to encourage domestic value addition, duty on export of iron ore has been increased to 30%.

Promotion of sports in Assam

*298. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts being made to promote sports in the State of Assam during the last two years;
- (b) the number of proposals recommended by the State Government and the development activities with regard to construction of stadia in the State;
- (c) the budgetary allocation made and utilized so far during the last two years; and
- (d) the action plan chalked out to develop sports at district and State level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) Sports is a State subject. However, the Government of India has been promoting sports in all the States/UTs including Assam through its schemes like Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) and Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS). Rs. 3.40 crore was released as grant to Assam during 2010-11 for holding annual competitions. 15212 persons (9724 men and 5488 women) participated during 2010-11 and 122567 persons (76359 men and 46208 women) during 2011-12. Funds could not be released to Assam for development of playfields during 2010-11 and 2011-12 due to non-submission of Utilization Certificate for the amount released during 2009-10. During 2012-13, Rs. 10.29 crore has been released to Assam towards development of playfields and their maintenance, etc. With this, an amount of Rs. 14.14 crore has so far been released to Assam for development of playfields in 999 Village Panchayats and 66 Block Panchayats and their maintenance, etc.

Under USIS, sanction was accorded to Assam for construction of a multi-purpose Indoor hall at SAI-SAG centre, Tinsukia for Rs. 6.00 crore in March, 2012, out of which Rs. 3.20 crore has been released as first installment.

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) also implements its Sports Promotional Schemes in Assam. Currently, it has one National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Centre at Don Bosco High School, Guwahati, two adopted Akharas at Langhin Tiniali Sports Association, Langhin, Distt. Karbi Anglong and Dibrugarh Judo Association, Dibrugarh, two SAI Training Centres (STCs) at Guwahati and Golaghat and two Special Area Games (SAG) centres at Tinsukia and Kokrajhar. Under SAI's schemes, Rs. 3.10 crore and Rs. 3.85 crore was incurred in the State of Assam during 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively.

(b) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports does not have any scheme for construction of stadia.

(c) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports does not make State-wise budgetary allocation. However, funds under different schemes were released, as stated in reply to part (a).

(d) As sports is a State subject, development of sports at District and State level is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Government of India and the Sports Authority of India assist the State Governments including that of Assam under its schemes.

Violation of foreign exchange laws

*299. SHRI D. RAJA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India as well as the Enforcement Directorate of the Finance Ministry are investigating the alleged violation of foreign exchange laws of the country by US retail major Walmart;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has got the reports of these investigations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Directorate of Enforcement has taken appropriate action to examine alleged contravention of the

provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) by Walmart, on the basis of a reference received from the Reserve Bank of India.

- (b) In the interest of investigations details cannot be disclosed at this stage.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Inflation rate of service sector and manufacturing sector

†*300. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the present high inflation rate in the country is a matter of concern;
- (b) if so, the Government's reaction in this regard;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the inflation rate of service sector and manufacturing sector is required to be brought below five per cent;
- (d) if so, whether the rate of inflation in service sector including core manufacturing sector is required to be brought down by one per cent to two per cent; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Overall inflation measured in terms of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) averaged 9.56% in 2010-11, 8.94% in 2011-12 and was placed at 7.45% in October, 2012.

(b) Government monitors the price situation regularly and price stability remains high on its agenda. Necessary fiscal, monetary and administrative measures have been taken to contain inflation.

(c) Both WPI and the Consumer Price Indices (CPIs) have only a partial coverage of service sector. Inflation based on implicit GDP deflator is a more comprehensive measure of underlying inflation for this sector. Comparative picture of inflation for manufacturing and service sector based on implicit GDP deflator is indicated below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Table-1*Year-on-year inflation based on sectoral deflator of GDP(%)*

	Manufacturing sector	Service sector
2011-12 RE	7.24	7.98
2012-13 Q1	5.14	7.31
2012-13 Q2	6.05	7.68

Notes : RE: Revised Estimates, Q1: First quarter, Q2: Second quarter Services Sector includes Trade, Transport & Communication; Financing & Insurance; and Community & personal services.

(d) The non-food manufacturing product (excluding urea fertilizers) and petroleum products (except kerosene, LPG and diesel) are tradeables. Domestic prices for these products are governed both by domestic availability of these products and the global commodity prices. Inflation for food, fuel and manufactured products often gets generalised resulting in higher inflation for service sector also.

(e) Besides the monetary measures which operate on demand side, Government has been taking steps to reduce supply related bottlenecks. Since the production and investment in these sectors is largely dependent on the business expectation and conducive investment climate, Government has taken various measures to improve business sentiments. It has also announced a road map for fiscal consolidation and has reduced uncertainty/apprehension relating to some of the provisions of the tax policy. Regulatory clearances for major projects are also being expedited to improve investment and production capacity in non-food manufacturing sectors. While no target has been set for a level of inflation for manufacturing and services sectors, these measures are expected to contain inflation.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Performance of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)

2172. SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the maximum amount of fines against offences/contraventions related to nuclear and radiation facilities are too low;

- (b) if so, whether the Government has considered revising these fines;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that around 91 per cent of the medical, X-ray facilities in the country are not registered with AERB; and
- (e) if so, under what regulatory body do the X-rays facilities are registered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) As per Section 30(3) of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 "Rules made under this Act may provide that a contravention of the rules shall, save as otherwise expressly provided in the Act, be punishable with fine, which may extend up to five hundred rupees". However, as per Section 24 of the Act, contravention of any rules made under Section 17 (special provisions as to safety) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or both. Thus, Section 24 of the Act has expressly made provisions for just and reasonable punishment for serious violations while Section 30(3) provides for minor administrative lapses. In view of this the Government has not considered revising these fine.

Depending on type of non-compliance, AERB is also empowered to revoke the license of a nuclear and radiation facility. Withdrawal of Consent for operating the facility by itself is a very severe economic penalty and has the potential of seriously affecting the financial health of the Licensee.

(d) and (e) It is true that there are a large number of diagnostic X-ray units/facilities in the country and not all these units are under the regulatory control of AERB. However, the radiation hazard involved in such facilities is as such low.

In regulation of these facilities, AERB's approach is primarily to ensure safety built into the design of the equipment. The regulatory control is exercised on the suppliers/manufacturers to ensure maintenance of quality assurance during manufacturing/sale of such units to give satisfactory performance during the use at the place of end users. This is in line with the approach followed across the world.

AERB has taken measures to implement a State of the art web-based service 'E-Licensing of Radiation Applications' (E-LORA) to assist AERB in strengthening its regulatory control. AERB has also intensified its efforts to raise the public awareness about the radiation safety among its stakeholders through advertisements in electronic and print media.

Radiation accidents in Atomic Power Stations

2173. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether exposure to radiation atomic mishap/accidents has been happening in Atomic Power Stations and Nuclear plants in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of workers affected by the radiation in last three years and the current year;

(c) whether Government has conducted any inquiries in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to avoid such incidents in future; and

(f) the details of the guidelines/rules which govern the amount of compensation in the event of an atomic mishap/accident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (e) There has been no radiation atomic mishap or accident in Nuclear Power Plants in India.

AERB has issued safety directive on the dose limits for occupational exposures. As per this directive, the cumulative effective dose limit for each consecutive block of five years shall be one hundred millisievert (100-mSv) for individual radiation workers. In addition, the annual effective dose to individual workers in any calendar year should not exceed 30-mSv. These limits are in-line with the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP). These limits are very conservative as no adverse impact on health of workers is expected upto the radiation exposure of 1-Sv.

In order to have better control over individual exposures, AERB has specified investigation levels above which all the cases of individual exposures are to be investigated. These levels are as follows:

Monitoring Period	Exposure Level
1-month	10-mSv
3-months	15-mSv
1-year	20-mSv

The exposure cases above these levels are investigated by a Exposure Investigation Committee (EIC) constituted by Station. This Committee investigates genuineness of the reported exposure, investigates the causes of exposure; suggests remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such exposures and suggests further action in respect of work to be allocated to such exposed persons. The Committee recommends medical follow-up, if required, and assign doses for inclusion in the records, The report of EIC is submitted to AERB. Investigation of exposures exceeding 100-mSv is done by a Committee constituted by Chairman, SARCOP.

The details regarding investigation levels and the review mechanism are brought out in AERB Safety Manual on 'Radiation Protection for Nuclear Facilities' (AERB/NF/SM/O-2 Rev. 4, 2005).

During the last three years and the current year, there was no case of individual exposure exceeding 100-mSv in five consecutive years at Indian NPPs (KGS). However, there were five cases of individual exposure exceeding annual limit of 30-mSv in a calendar year. It may be noted that these doses are too small to cause any detectable impact on the biological health of the workers, as established by international experience.

AERB undertook special regulatory inspections to investigate the circumstances that resulted in these exposures. Safety Review Committee for Operating Plants (SARCOP) of AERB reviewed the reports on investigation of these exposures and made recommendations to avoid re-occurrence of such events.

The amount of compensation for the workers in the event of an accident will be governed by the "Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923".

Exemption of Kudankulam Plant from Nuclear Liability Act

2174. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) and Russia have requested Government for exemption of Kudankulam Plant from the Nuclear Liability Act;
- (b) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Attorney General was consulted in this matter and if so, what advice given by him; and

(d) the names of the entities that will pay in case of any accident happens to Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) Atomstroyexport (ASE), the authorised organisation of Russian Federation, in their commercial offer to Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) in respect of Kudankulam Units 3 & 4 has stated that NPCIL being operator is fully responsible for any damage caused to any person and property as a result of a nuclear incident occurring at NPP. ASE has mentioned that their plea is based on the principle of continuity of cooperation in construction of KKNPP in accordance with the agreement between the USSR and Republic of India dated 20th November, 1988, supplement thereto dated 21st June, 1998 and in line with the provisions of Intergovernmental Agreement dated 5th December, 2008.

(c) The Attorney General of India has opined that the decision on not exercising the right of recourse under Section 17 of Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 at the stage of signing of Techno-Commercial Offer (TCO) is legally permissible.

(d) In case of an accident, the Operator is required to pay the compensation up to an amount of Rs. 1500 crore and compensation in excess of Rs. 1500 crore is payable by the Central Government subject to an overall ceiling of 300 million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs). However, the Central Government may take additional measures, where necessary, if the compensation to be awarded exceeds above amount.

Security at units of Atomic Energy

2175. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA :

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken by Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) in coordination with State Government of Gujarat to enhance security at various units of DAE;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) whether Department enhancing security forces at heavy water producing unit of Hazira of Gujarat as this unit is located in sea-shore area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) The Department of Atomic Energy is having four Units in the State of Gujarat viz : (i) Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS), Surat;

(ii) Heavy Water Plant, Baroda; (iii) Heavy Water Plant, Hazira; and (iv) Institute of Plasma Research, Gandhi Nagar. The security arrangements in these units are managed as follows:

- (i) KAPS, Surat is under Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) security cover.
- (ii) Heavy Water Plant, Baroda is having departmental security personnel with armed police support under the command of Dy. Commissioner of Police, Special Branch, Baroda City.
- (iii) Heavy Water Plant, Hazira is co-located with the fertilizer plant of Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) and security is taken care of by KRIBHCO security personnel in addition to armed police personnel from the State Police.
- (iv) Institute of Plasma Research (IPR), Gandhi Nagar is having private security.

The security arrangements of all the above units are reviewed and rehearsed periodically by CISF/departmental security in consultation with central agencies and State police in order to ensure integrated security plans.

(c) Adequate security infrastructure including security personnel of KRIBHCO and State police exists at Heavy Water Plant, Hazira. In addition, required support from State police and Indian Coast Guards is available to meet demands of any security contingency.

Upgradation of safety measures

2176. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN :
SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government wants safety measures upgraded at nuclear facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) Hon'ble Prime Minister in his statement of 14 March, 2011 after the Fukushima accident reiterated that the Government attaches highest importance to nuclear safety.

All the nuclear power plants in India are under continuous regulatory surveillance by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and detailed periodic safety reviews of these plants are conducted while renewing their operating licence. In addition, all the nuclear power plants have an established programme of operating experience feedback under which the events occurring in Indian nuclear power plants and other countries are reviewed. Even though the safety record of Indian nuclear power plants is excellent, the upgradation of safety to still higher levels is an ongoing exercise, conducted through periodic reviews and incorporation of lessons learnt from national and international operational feedback. The safety upgrades in Indian nuclear facilities, as needed to maintain the State of the art safety features, are accordingly implemented.

- (c) Does not arise.

Safety measures recommended by Expert Committee

2177. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Kudankulam plant is to be commissioned comply with the 17 safety measures recommended by the Expert Committee;
- (b) whether the department's plan is to comply with all the recommendations of the Expert Committee; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) The Kudankulam plant design has several advanced features including those for ensuring safety against external events of natural origin as well as accidents. Additional 17 safety enhancements recommended by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) are by way of abundant caution.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

Network to deal with nuclear radiation emergency situations

2178. DR. V. MAITREYAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a network of radiation emergency response centres in different parts of the country to deal with nuclear emergency situations;

- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the cost involved;
- (c) the benefits that are likely to be accrued as a result thereof; and
- (d) the time by which such centres are likely to be operational in the country with their locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) A network of twenty-two radiation Emergency Response Centers (ERC) equipped with adequate radiation measuring and personnel protective equipment and trained Emergency Response Teams have been established by Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) in different parts of the country to respond to nuclear and radiation emergency situations occurring anywhere in the country. The existing Emergency Response Centres are located at following places:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) Mumbai (Nodal DAE-ERC),
Maharashtra | (l) Bangalore,
Karnataka |
| (b) Tarapur, Maharashtra | (m) Shillong, Meghalaya |
| (c) Kaiga, Karnataka | (n) Jaipur, Rajasthan, |
| (d) Kota, Rajasthan | (o) Nagpur, Maharashtra |
| (e) Kakrapar, Gujarat | (p) New Delhi |
| (f) Narora, Uttar Pradesh | (q) Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu |
| (g) Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu | (r) Indore, Madhya Pradesh |
| (h) Kolkata, West Bengal | (s) Gandhinagar, Gujarat |
| (i) Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh | (t) Mysore, Karnataka |
| (j) Aluva, Kerala | (u) Manavalakurichi, Tamil Nadu |
| (k) Jaduguda, Jharkhand | (v) Chatrapur, Odisha |

These Centers have been established at a total cost of Rs. 15 Crores.

(c) These Centres have strengthened preparedness at National level for response to nuclear and radiological emergencies and will enable the first responders from National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)/Police or any other agencies to get proper advice, guidance and technical support in case of nuclear and radiological emergency in public domain.

(d) All the twenty-two DAE-Emergency Response Centers are already commissioned and made operational as mentioned in answer to part (a) and (b) of question.

Projects by China/Pakistan in disputed areas

2179. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China and Pakistan are executing projects in Indian territories under their illegal occupation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken up the matter with the concerned Governments or at international forum; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (d) Government is aware that China and Pakistan are executing projects in Indian territory under their illegal occupation. Government has conveyed its concerns to China about their activities in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, and asked them to cease such activities. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

Visa norm between India and Australia

2180. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to work out easier visas norms between India and Australia to boost bilateral trade between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that certain Indian students and others from India have been targeted and beaten up in Australia;
- (d) whether Indian Government has taken up such cases with the Australian Government and such other countries, to control this menace; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) and (b) Yes. Visa processes are being streamlined for facilitating easy travel for business and other purposes.

(c) to (e) There were a number of attacks on Indians/Indian students in Australia a couple of years ago. These incidents were taken up strongly with the Australian authorities and as a result of concerted efforts by the Indian government and the Federal and State Governments in Australia, the number of incidents has come down sharply. The measures put in place by local authorities include increased security and reviews of the international education system, student visa regulations and migration system.

Problems in getting visitor visa to USA

2181. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA :

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons Government is not concerned about fact that our honest, particularly younger people are not getting visitor's visa of USA and their visa applications are rejected without proper reasons, keeping in view that US top leadership has already stated that they want to increase bilateral leadership with India and despite the fact that visa is their sovereign right;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether our envoy at Washington received any communication within last one year in this regard;

(d) if so, the action taken by our envoy on this important matter; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (e) The Government is aware that not all Indian applicants for United States visas are successful in obtaining visas. While Government recognizes that visa policies and procedures are the prerogative of the host country, the Government, in its dialogue with the United States, emphasizes that policies to facilitate movement of people, professionals and business travellers strengthens bilateral relations, including through people to people contacts and mutually beneficial economic ties. To address such issues and to respond to representations being received including by our Embassy in Washington, from Indian citizens and businesses. Government has established an

annual Consular Dialogue with the United States. All issues pertaining to consular matters are discussed in this forum.

China issuing visa for Arunachal Pradesh and Siachin area

2182. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) it is a fact that China is issuing visa for Tabang area of Arunachal Pradesh and Siachin area of India which are integral part of India; and
- (b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) No.

- (b) Does not arise.

America purchasing debris of Ramsetu

†2183. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that America was willing to purchase the debris of Ramsetu and an agreement to this effect was also reached upon between USA and India;
- (b) if so, the details of the agreement; and
- (c) whether this agreement is still in force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) No.

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

Capabilities of Afghan security forces

2184. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is committed to building the capabilities of Afghan security forces;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) India and Afghanistan signed a Strategic Partnership agreement on October 4, 2011. Under the agreement, India agreed to assist Afghan National Security Forces, particularly for training and capacity building, based on requests received from and as may be mutually decided with the Government of Afghanistan.

Attack on Hamas at Gaza Strip

‡2185. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Israel is waging a continuous missile attack on Hamas at Gaza Strip which has claimed hundreds of innocent civilians;
- (b) whether India has always vehemently opposed the expansionist policies of Israel at the international platforms as per its conventional foreign policy on middle east;
- (c) the reason behind India's silence against the attack of Israel this time; and
- (d) whether Government of India has made some modifications in its foreign policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (d) Government closely followed the recent violence in Gaza, Palestine and categorically condemned it while calling for peace and immediate cessation of violence. India had also condemned Israeli action on Gaza in 2008-09.

In reaction to the recent attack on Gaza in November 2012, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, in a Statement on 21st November, condemned the violence between Israel and Palestine, the disproportionate use of force and reiterated India's strong support to Palestine. Relevant excerpts of the Statement are given below:

“...disproportionate use of force is unacceptable. This is a very sad and tragic escalation of violence that has caused loss of some innocent lives, particularly of women

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and children. We consider that completely unacceptable. We urge that peace must be restored immediately and whatever efforts are being made for peace being restored and de-escalation of violence takes place.....We expect and hope that that is what will happen. We also want to make it very clear that our support for the Palestinian cause remains undiluted. We would reconfirm that support. We believe that Palestine deserves an independent sovereign State with East Jerusalem as its capital. We are confirming that position. But at the same time I think what is important right now is that de-escalation take place, peace return, and that the disproportionate use of force that is being inflicted is something that is completely and totally unacceptable”.

As is evident from the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister's Statement, India's policy on Palestine remains unchanged as we continue to remain steadfast and unwavering in our commitment to the Palestinian cause.

Cash transfer scheme

2186. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce cash transfer scheme for food, fertilizer and fuel in lieu of subsidy;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether Government has a pilot project of cash transfer scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of said pilot project; and
- (e) the details of the action/steps taken by Government on the basis of outcome of the pilot project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (b) In case of fertilisers, the Government plans to transfer fertiliser subsidy directly to the ultimate beneficiaries in a phased manner. The process for implementing the direct transfer of cash subsidy on PDS Kerosene has been initiated in 11 identified States/UTs. The Department of Food and Public Distribution proposes to implement direct transfer of food subsidy to the Targeted Public Distribution System beneficiaries in 6 Union Territories on a pilot basis.

(c) to (e) Aadhaar based direct cash transfer of LPG subsidy pilot scheme, involving 17,000 Customers, is in progress in Mysore. More than 35,000 successful deliveries had been made by 31.10.2012. The pilot project for direct transfer of cash

subsidy on PDS Kerosene is in progress in Kotkasim Tehsil of Alwar District, Rajasthan since December 2011. Pilot implementation of crediting the fertiliser subsidy directly into the end buyers' bank accounts is expected to be launched in 12 identified Districts by 31st December, 2012.

Investigation regarding violation of norms

2187. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Enforcement Directorate of this Ministry has been investigating the alleged violation of norms set by Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on the issue of Rs. 24,000 crore Optionally Fully Convertible Debentures (OFCDs) by an industrial group;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court had asked Sahara to return the money to the investors of OFCDs by November this year; and

(d) If so; the response of the Sahara thereto?

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

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

(c) and (d) Hon'ble Supreme Court, *vide* its judgement dated August 31, 2012 directed Saharas (Sahara India Real Estate Corporation Ltd. (SIRECL) and Sahara Housing Investment Corporation Ltd. (SHICL) to refund the amount collected through Optionally Fully Convertible Debentures (OFCDs) along with 15% interest to Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) within three months from the date of the order, *i.e.* by November 30, 2012. However, they did not refund the money to SEBI within the said time-frame and instead approached Hon'ble Supreme Court. The matter was heard before the Hon'ble Court on December 03 and December 05, 2012. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, *vide* order dated December 05, 2012, directed SIRECL & SHICL to deposit Rs. 5120 crore with SEBI immediately and pay the balance in two installments by first week of January 2013 and first week of February 2013. Consequently, SIRECL & SHICL deposited Rs. 5120 crore with SEBI on December 05, 2012 as part payment.

Enlisting of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in share market

†2188. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to enlist Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in share market of the country by modifying the definition these units;

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the capital investment of these units is from five lacs to ten crores; and

(d) if so, after allowing foreign direct investment whether the interest of crores of units, having the capital of five lacs or less than five lacs, would be safeguarded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) In April, 2010, Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) made amendments to SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2009 [SEBI] (ICDR) regulations] and issued a circular on May 18, 2010 to provide a framework for 'Setting up of a Stock exchange/a trading platform by a recognized stock exchanges having nationwide trading terminals for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME)' so that Small and Medium Enterprises can raise capital and list their securities on the SME platform of stock exchanges. Under this framework, an issuer whose post issue face value capital does not exceed rupees ten crores can raise capital through issuance of securities and list the same on the SME Exchange/platform exclusively. Whereas, if the post issue face value capital of the issuer is between rupees ten crores to twenty five crores, the issuer has the option to list either on the SME exchange/platform or on the Main Board of the stock exchange. At present there is no proposal to change this arrangement.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

(c) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises are defined under Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006. These are classified on the basis of investment in plant and machinery employed in case of manufacturing enterprises and investment in equipments in case of service enterprises. The detail of classification is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. Manufacturing enterprises are defined in terms of investment in plant and machinery and further classified into:
 - (a) Micro Enterprises - investment upto Rs. 25 lakh.
 - (b) Small Enterprises - investment above Rs. 25 lakh & up to Rs. 5 crore.
 - (c) Medium Enterprises - investment above Rs. 5 crore & up to Rs. 10 crore.

2. Service Enterprises are defined in terms of their investment in equipment and further classified into:
 - (a) Micro Enterprises - investment upto Rs. 10 lakh.
 - (b) Small Enterprises - investment above Rs. 10 lakh & up to Rs. 2 crore.
 - (c) Medium Enterprises - investment above Rs. 2 crore & up to Rs. 5 crore.

(d) In accordance with Press Note No. 6 (2009), dated 04.09.2009 issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) are subject to the sectoral caps, entry routes and other relevant regulations, thereby safeguarding the interest of these units which also include units having capital investment of Rs. 5 lakhs and less.

Norms for opening of bank account

2189. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the norms for opening a bank account;
- (b) the identification documents that are required for opening a bank account;
- (c) whether identification documents are cross-checked with the issuing authorities to certify their veracity and detect forged documents;
- (d) if no, the reasons and whether Government intends to prescribe such norms for Banks; and
- (e) if so, how come a recently caught couple who duped lakhs of people could open 100 accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (e) As per the Guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regarding Know Your Customer (KYC) norms/Anti-Money Laundering (AML) standards/Combating of Financing of Terrorism (CFT)/Obligation of banks under PMLA, 2002, the banks frame their KYC policies incorporating the four key elements namely Customer Acceptance Policy; Customer Identification Procedures; Monitoring of Transactions; and Risk Management. The requirement of documents is based on the type of account proposed to be maintained with the bank and have been specified in RBI's guidelines in the matter.

Banks have been advised by RBI to frame a policy approved by the Board of banks which should clearly spell out Customer Identification Procedure to be carried out at different stages, *i.e.* while establishing a banking relationship; carrying out a financial transaction; or when the bank has a doubt about the authenticity/veracity or the adequacy of the previously obtained customer identification data.

However, RBI has not issued specific instructions to banks to check the identification documents with the issuing authority.

Circulation of Fake Currency Notes

2190. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the cases and incidence of circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes (FICN) also give details of FICN cases lodged by banks and other agencies since 2008;
- (b) the reasons for rise in quantum and incidence of circulation of FICN; and
- (c) the action that Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The details of FICN cases recovered and seized for the years 2008-12, State/UT-wise and denomination-wise, as furnished by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is given in Annexure [*See Appendix 227 Annexure No. 29*]. No separate data on FICN cases lodged by banks and other agencies is maintained.

(b) and (c) It is reported that the reason for rise in quantum and incidence of circulation of FICN within and across the country is due to the enhanced efforts of agencies across the border. To address the multi-dimensional aspects of the FICN

menace, several agencies such as the RBI, the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs, Security and Intelligence Agencies of the Centre and States, Central Bureau of Investigation etc. are working in tandem to thwart the illegal activities related to FICNs. FICN Coordination Cell (FCORD) has been formed by the Government to share intelligence/information amongst different security agencies of the State/Centre to counter the menace of circulation of FICN within the country. On the international level, the issue of circulation of FICN has been raised with the FATF (Financial Action Task Force).

Action taken to recover tax arrears from GMR Group

2191. SHRI ANIL DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that investigation team of Income Tax personnel searched offices of the GMR Group across the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Group had evaded payment of tax; and
- (c) if so, the action taken by Government against the company to recover tax arrears ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Following the search action, investigations have been undertaken, utilising the evidences gathered during the search proceedings. The amount of tax evaded can be quantified after completion of assessment/re-assessment of income.

Less agriculture credit by banks in rural areas

2192. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Banks in rural areas are giving less agriculture credit than they did 20 years ago and the share of total agriculture credit by rural branches of banks have declined from 55 per cent in 1990 to 38.5 per cent in 2010;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the contribution of urban and metropolitan bank branches to agriculture credit has more than doubled from 15 per cent to 34 per cent during the same period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the available data raised questions about the segments to which the credit is actually flowing and whether it is reaching the indented beneficiaries; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (e) Reserve Bank has reported that agricultural credit (outstanding) by Scheduled Commercial Banks according to population group as on 31st March, 1990, 2000 and 2010 are as under:

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

Population Group	Year		
	1990	2000	2010
Rural	922658 (55.5)	2223501 (48.7)	15013535 (38.5)
Semi Urban	492305 (29.6)	1387464 (30.4)	10871074 (27.9)
Urban	181616 (10.9)	455079 (10.0)	6756848 (17.3)
Metropolitan	66029 (4.0)	497783 (10.9)	6388373 (16.4)
TOTAL	1662607 (100.0)	4563827 (100.0)	39029830 (100.0)
Memo: Urban+Metropolitan	247645 (14.9)	952862 (20.9)	13145221 (33.7)

1. Figures in parenthesis represent percentage to totals.
2. Data are as per place of utilization.
3. *Source:* Basic Statistical Returns of Scheduled Commercial Banks, Vol. 19 (1990), 29 (2000) and 39 (2010).

As would be seen from the above table, the credit outstanding in rural and semi-urban areas in 2010 is over 16 and 22 times respectively of the corresponding period in 1990.

CD of Indian account holders in France

†2193. SHRI SHANTA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact the France has handed over a CD to Government which contains names of 700 Indian account holders having accounts in foreign banks; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to confirm these illegal accounts?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) On request of the Central Government and persistent follow up in June, 2011, France has provided details of Indians having bank accounts in one of the banks of Switzerland, under the provisions of Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC) between India and France. Based on this information, investigations have been undertaken by the different jurisdictional authorities under the Income-tax Act, 1961.

The information received is protected by the confidentiality clause of the said DTAC. The information can only be used for the tax purposes specified therein.

Audit of PPP projects

2194. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects in the country are subjected to any kind of Government audit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total outlay of PPP projects presently in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 provides for audit of all expenditures from the Consolidated Fund of India; transactions of the Union and the States relating to Contingency Funds and Public Accounts; as well as trading, manufacture, profit and loss accounts and balance sheets of any Department of the Union or of a State. The PPP projects, through audit of Contracting Authority are audited by the Comptroller & Auditor General (C&AG).

(c) As per www.pppindiadatabase.com, there are 866 projects, costing Rs. 506418.4 crore that are under implementation or advance stage of bidding in the country.

Loss of revenue in PPP projects

2195. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has probed the loss of revenues in various Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects/joint ventures in the Country, as reported by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG);

(b) if so, the details thereof; PPP/Joint Venture-wise with outcome in each case; and

(c) the action that Government has taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and the same will be placed on the Table of the House as and when received.

Muslim employees in Nationalised Banks

2196. SHRI AHMAD SAEED MALIHABADI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Muslim employees in our Nationalised Banks, category-wise and grade-wise;

(b) whether there is any policy formation and direction to the Banks for fresh recruitment of candidates from the Muslim community; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Recruitment in Nationalised Banks is open to eligible candidates from all geographical regions and religious communities of the country. As such Muslim employees are present in Nationalised Banks in all cadres *i.e.* officer, clerical and sub-staff. The details of Muslim employees in Nationalised Banks, as available given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of the Muslim employees in Nationalized Banks

Name of the Bank	No. of Muslim employees
1	2
Allahabad Bank	471
Andhra Bank	397
Bank of Baroda	1055
Bank of India	803
Bank of Maharashtra	205

1	2
Canara Bank	846
Central Bank of India	695
Corporation Bank	264
Dena Bank	162
Indian Bank	356
Indian Overseas Bank	441
OBC	262
Punjab and Sind Bank	66
Punjab National Bank	659
Syndicate Bank	674
UCO Bank	330
Union Bank of India	815
United Bank of India	236
Vijaya Bank	249

Direct transfer of cash for subsidies

2197. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked the State Governments to prepare for direct transfer of cash for subsidies to poor through banks by January 1, 2013;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that several State Governments have informed the centre about the difficulties in implementing this order due to problem being faced by the poor in opening bank account etc.; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The process for implementing the direct transfer of cash subsidy on PDS Kerosene has been initiated in 11 identified States/UTs. The Department of Food and Public Distribution proposes to implement direct transfer of food subsidy to the Targeted Public Distribution System beneficiaries in 6 Union Territories on a pilot basis. With regard to fertilisers, the Government has not asked the State Governments to prepare for direct transfer of cash for fertiliser subsidy to the poor through banks by 01.01 2013.

(c) and (d) The concerned Central Ministries have set up Implementation Committees on Direct Cash Transfer for sorting out the issues of hassle free transfer of cash to the beneficiaries with due consultation with State Governments.

Equity investor in India

2198. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the recent freak crash on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) the depth of Indian Markets was found to be poor;
- (b) the reasons for which markets hit circuit limits every now and then;
- (c) the reasons for equity investor's population not rising in the country;
- (d) the reasons for which trading volume stays above 90 per cent in equity markets;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that investors lack faith in equity markets; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to create faith in the investors mind?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) On October 05, 2012, NIFTY opened at 5815 points and fell to an intra-day low of 4888.20 points on account of 59 erroneous orders of a trading member.

Since the aforementioned market fall was on account of an error trade, it may not be accurate to State on the basis of this incident that depth of Indian Markets is poor.

(b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (*vide* its circular dated June 28, 2001) had put in place an index based market wide circuit breaker in compulsory rolling settlement in exchanges with effect from July 02, 2001.

There have been only six instances of markets coming to a halt on triggering of circuit breakers ever since the system was introduced in July 2001.

(c) The equity investor population, estimated on the basis of investor accounts at depositories, have increased in the last two years.

The total numbers of investor accounts stood at 124.5 lakh for National Securities Depositories Limited (NSDL) and 81.1 lakh for Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) at the end of October 2012, indicating an increase of 5.5 per cent for NSDL and 4.3 per cent for CDSL over October 2011.

(d) Trading volume and the delivery percentage in this calendar year are given as under:

Month	National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE)		BSE Limited (BSE)	
	Trading Volume (Rs. crores)	Delivery Ratio/ Percentage	Trading Volume (Rs. crores)	Delivery Ratio/ Percentage
Jan-12	236872	26.8	52571	26.7
Feb-12	327808	28.6	69947	27.1
Mar-12	272482	26.1	62717	30.2
Apr-12	198324	28.3	42305	28.8
May-12	216755	26.2	41655	25.0
Jun-12	202104	27.4	44315	26.1
Jul-12	210325	29.8	44475	33.0
Aug-12	204874	28.9	42789	29.8
Sep-12	240189	31.9	45501	32.7
Oct-12	239795	29.4	51030	32.0

It is seen from the table above that on an average 25% of the trades result in delivery.

(e) Over the years, Indian equity cash and derivatives markets have witnessed an upward movement. As on October 31, 2012, the Nifty 50 reported a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 16.4 per cent over March 28, 2002. The CAGR of cash market (NSE plus BSE) trading volume was 7.9 per cent and CAGR of equity derivatives market (data pertains to NSE) was 62.6 per cent during 2001-02 to 2012-13 (till October 31, 2012).

(f) SEBI maintains constant vigil in the market, and in case of any abnormality, takes appropriate action against the concerned entities. SEBI has placed system and practices to promote a safe, transparent and efficient market and to protect market integrity. This helps in building the faith of investor in the equity markets.

Various other efforts and initiatives taken by SEBI for building investor confidence includes, *inter-alia*, setting up of SEBI Complaints Redress System (SCORES), conducting Investor Awareness Programs/Workshops, comprehensive website for education of investors (www.investor.sebi.gov.in), financial education programme through Resource Persons, toll free helpline and mass media campaign.

Loan restructuring of PSUs

2199. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a large number of private companies that have availed of credit and loans from Public Sector Unit (PSU) Banks, and are now approaching the PSU Banks to restructure/write-off their entire or considerable part of their borrowings;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise, bank-wise, company-wise; and

(c) the implication of this on the PSU banks, and whether there will be any demand from Government and the Exchequer to fund these PSU banks further, as a consequence of such losses/restructuring?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The Public Sector Bank (PSB)-wise details of restructured standard advances for the period March 2010, March 2011, March 2012 are as under:

(Amt. Rs. In Crore)

Name of Bank	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012
Nationalised Banks	88942	89297	160249
State Bank Group	37282	40513	43385
Public Sector Banks	126224	129810	203634

The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not collect company-wise details.

(c) The objective of restructuring is to conserve valuable financial assets in a downturn, revival of entities and ensuring safety of the funds lent by the banks. Although, the Gross Non-Performing Assets and restructuring of loans of PSBs have shown an increasing trend, at system level, they do not indicate any systemic vulnerability. The PSBs have posted a net profit of around Rs. 49,500 crore as on 31.3.2012 as against around Rs. 44,900 crore as on 31.3.2011. The Tier I Capital to Risk-weighted Asset Ratio (CRAR) of all PSBs are above the regulatory norms of 6%. As of now, there is no proposal before the Government to support funding of restructuring by PSBs.

Increase in subsidy on natural gas

2200. SHRI P. RAJEEVE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increase in the price of natural gas would increase the subsidy liability of Government; and

(b) if so, the expected increase in subsidy factor by the increase of price of natural gas by one rupee?

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

(b) Taking into account the weighted average energy consumption of 21 gas based urea manufacturing units in India, if the price of gas is increases by Re. 1.00 per MMBTU, the cost of production of urea, and therefore, additional liability of subsidy towards domestic urea would be Rs. 24.893/MT of Urea approx. Further, 40% subsidy is provided on sale of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) gas by ONGC and OIL to consumers in the North Eastern Region. The subsidy amount will increase by Re. 0.40 for every Re. 1 rise in the price of APM gas.

Tax exemptions given to corporates

2201. SHRI P. RAJEEVE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is giving incentives and tax exemptions to the corporates in our country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the tax forgone from this sector during the last three years; and
- (d) the total amount of tax exemptions given by Government to corporates during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Indirect taxes, 'by nature' are imposed on goods and services and are not imposed on individuals or corporate. Exemptions from customs duty and central excise duty are granted to goods in general. Likewise, exemption from service tax is granted to services in general. So far as direct taxes are concerned, the Income Tax Act, 1961 provides for direct tax incentives to corporate sector. The detailed deductions or incentives available to the sector are mainly in the form of profit-linked deductions and other deductions under Chapter VI-A of the Act, investment-linked deductions, additional depreciation and weighted deduction.

(c) and (d) The tax foregone as a result of exemptions given to the corporate sector is maintained in the form of a Revenue Forgone Statement in the Receipts Budget which is a part to the Annual Budget. The total estimates of revenue forgone on account of direct tax incentives and exemptions, availed by corporate sector, during the last three years are as under:

(figures in Rs. crore)

Financial Year	Corporate sector
2008-09	66901
2009-10	72881
2010-11	57912

Escape route through BIFR

2202. SHRI T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any complaints against any promoters who have referred their companies to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstructions (BIFR) so as to find an escape route by forcibly making the net worth negative by creative accounting, writing off fixed assets, writing off debtors and so on resulting in losses to creditors and mounting NPAs of banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases pending as on date with BIFR registered during 1998 to 2000, State-wise and name of the companies;

(d) whether the rate of disposal of case in the BIFR is very slow; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) Under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, only sick companies can approach the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstructions (BIFR) for appropriate financial reconstruction. Under the procedure specified under the Act, Board examines such proposals ensuring that only genuinely sick companies have recourse to BIFR mechanism. BIFR is deemed to be a civil court and every proceeding before it is a judicial proceeding as per Section 14 of Act, 1985.

(c) As on dated 160 sick companies who have been registered in years 1998, 1999 & 2000 are currently under the purview of BIFR. Details (State-wise and the name of the companies) can be seen at www.bifr.nic.in.

(d) and (e) On an average, 218 references are disposed off each year and Rehabilitation Schemes for 60 sick companies are sanctioned annually. Hence, it is not correct to say that the rate of disposal of case in BIFR is very slow.

Disposal of pending revenue related cases

2203. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA :
SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government in coordination with State Governments are going to launch a special programme for disposal of long pending revenue related

cases in various Tribunals and Courts, as huge amount of Government revenue is stuck-up since very long time;

(b) whether Government intends to launch fast tract courts and tribunal for early disposal of these cases; and

(c) the action that has been taken by Government on recommendation of SEBI to establish fast-track courts for judicial process of scams in financial markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Presently, there is no proposal under consideration of this Ministry to launch a special programme for disposal of pending revenue related cases (pertaining to central taxes) in various Tribunals and Courts.

(b) and (c) Presently, there is no such proposal is under consideration of this Ministry.

Public platform using by CAG

2204. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the legislations, rules and regulations which govern the functioning of Comptroller and Auditor General of India;

(b) whether a Comptroller and Auditor General of India can use a public platform to criticise Government for their actions and policies; and

(c) if so, the authority of Law under which a CAG is entitled to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Articles 148 to 151 of the Constitution of India and Sections 10 to 26 of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Condition of Service) Act, 1971 regulate the functioning of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

(b) and (c) The CAG of India conducts Financial, Compliance and Performance Audits and the important findings of audit are reported in Audit Reports of the CAG that are, as per article 151 of the Constitution of India submitted to the President/Governor to be laid before the Houses of Parliament/State Legislature(s). The report once laid, are in public domain and accessible to public. The CAG of India has issued guidelines for interface with media on the observation contained in the Audit Reports to facilitate, dissemination of information, after the reports enter the public domain.

Loss after publication of CAG report on 2G spectrum

2205. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment of the value of presumptive loss caused to the nation after the publication of CAG report indicating presumptive loss caused to the Exchequer in 2-G spectrum matter, which led to the decline in share market and reduction in foreign and local investment and consequently crores of rupees loss to the nation has been done; and

(b) if not, whether Government would consider initiating such assessment by a special commission under commission of Inquiry Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. No assessment of the value of presumptive loss caused to the nation after the publication of CAG report in 2G spectrum matter, has been made by Government of India.

Movements of share market depend on many factors including economic factors, domestic and international events, market sentiments, corporate performance and future economic-growth. The stock market capitalizes the present and future values of growth opportunities while evaluating the growth of all sectors in economy.

Loss or profit on account of the movement in market prices or indices will depend on the composition of the portfolio, the cost of acquisition of securities, subsequent corporate benefits accruing to the portfolio and selling prices. Therefore, it is not possible to quantify the extent of loss or profit of the shareholders.

(b) No proposal for such an assessment is under consideration.

Cut in plan expenditure

2206. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

SHRI D. RAJA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Ministries and Departments have been told to cut their plan expenditure upto 40 per cent to make up the fiscal deficit for the current financial year; and

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

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

(b) Does not arise.

Reduction in Basel-III burden

2207. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government can cut Public Sector Banks stake below 51 per cent to reduce Basel-III burden;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the PSU banks will need capital in the range of Rs. 70,000 crore to Rs. 1,00,000 crore to be Basel-III ready; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) There is no such proposal.

(c) and (d) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has informed that actual quantum of capital to be required by Indian Banks will depend on numerous factors such as economic growth, growth in the Risk Weighted Assets of the banks, profitability of banks and extent of retained earnings, level of non-performing assets, growth in capital markets etc. However, at present all the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) are well above the regulatory prescription of capital adequacy.

Prop up the insurance sector

2208. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to prop up the insurance sector with a likely announcement of measures to revive insurers and ease investment norms for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has held discussions with the heads of public sector insurance companies in this regard; and

(d) if so, the deliberations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government has held meetings with the CEOs of public and private sector insurance companies, IRDA, Life and General Insurance Councils to address the issues in the insurance sector and steps to be taken to revive the growth in the sector. The steps identified for action, to give fillip to the sector and expand penetration, include tax related measures and regulatory issues including investment norms, product design, micro insurance and bank insurance, among others.

Show Cause Notice issued by Enforcement Directorate

2209. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Enforcement Directorate has issued Show Cause Notice to export companies allegedly involved in a Rs. 600 crore gold export fraud;
- (b) if so, whether this amount is collected, if not, reasons for the same;
- (c) whether any action is taken against those exporters for this fraud and what are the actions taken to stop such type of fraud in future; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (d) Show Cause Notices for amounts totaling Rs. 313.72 crores for contravention of the relevant provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) have been issued to four companies engaged in export of gold jewellery.

Appropriate action is taken by the Directorate of Enforcement whenever instances of contravention of FEMA come to its notice.

Projects running with the help of World Bank

†2210. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of projects being run in the country with the help of World Bank and other kinds of assistance especially in the backward and rural areas as on date, place-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) States which have sent proposals for starting some more similar projects with the help of World Bank during last three years;

(c) the number of projects pending for approval of Central Government State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) A list of ongoing projects signed with World Bank, including those signed during the last three years, is given in Statement-I (*See* below). In addition technical assistance is also provided by World Bank. A list of ongoing activities under technical assistance is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Proposals of States as well as of Central line Ministries, seeking World Bank assistance, that are complete in all respects are placed before the Screening Committee of the DEA on a regular basis. The Screening Committee scrutinizes the proposals on their merit and decides on further course of action to be taken. List of State's Projects that have been signed in the last three years are included in Annexure-I.

Statement-I

List of ongoing projects signed with World Bank, including those signed during the last three years

(Amount in US\$ millions)

Sl. No.	Project Name	Date of Signing	Date of Closing	IBRD Loan Amount	IDA Credit Amount	Total Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project	15-Mar-02	31-Mar-13	0	119	119
2.	Madhya Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project	30-Nov-04	30-Jun-15	394.02	0	394.02
3.	Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project	14-Jan-05	15-Mar-15	0	154	154
4.	Maharashtra Water Sector Improvement Project	19-Aug-05	28-Mar-14	325	0	325
5.	Third Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project (TNUDP III)	14-Sep-05	31-Mar-14	300	0	300

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project	14-Sep-05	30-Sep-14	0	120	120
7.	Himachal Pradesh Mid-Himalayan Watershed Development Project	19-Jan-06	31-Mar-13	0	60	60
8.	Hydrology Project Phase II	19-Jan-06	31-May-14	104.98	0	104.98
9.	Karnataka Municipal Reform Project	02-May-06	31-Mar-14	216	0	216
10.	National Agricultural Innovation Project	24-Jul-06	30-Jun-14	0	200	200
11.	Karnataka Panchayats Strengthening Project	24-Jul-06	31-Dec-12	0	120	120
12.	Karnataka Health Systems Project	16-Oct-06	31-Mar-13	0	141.83	141.83
13.	Uttarakhand Water Supply and Sanitation Project	16-Oct-06	16-Jun-14	0	120	120
14.	Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization and Water-Bodies Restoration and Management Project	12-Feb-07	31-Mar-13	335	150	485
15.	Punjab State Road Sector Project	26-Feb-07	05-Jun-17	250	0	250
16.	Punjab Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	26-Feb-07	31-Dec-13	0	154	154
17.	Andhra Pradesh Community-Based Tank Management Project	08-Jun-07	30-Sep-14	94.5	94.5	189
18.	Himachal Pradesh State Roads Project	07-Aug-07	30-Jun-13	220	0	220
19.	Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project- "JEEViKA"	09-Aug-07	31-Oct-15	0	63	63
20.	Vocational Training Improvement Project	02-Nov-07	31-Dec-12	0	280	280
21.	Strengthening India's Rural Credit Cooperatives Project	02-Nov-07	30-Jun-13	300	300	600
22.	Rampur Hydropower Project	15-Jan-08	31-Dec-14	400	0	400
23.	Power System Development Project-IV	28-Mar-08	31-Jul-14	600	0	600
24.	Orissa Rural Livelihoods Project	27-Jan-09	31-Dec-13	0	82.4	82.4
25.	Orissa State Roads Project	27-Jan-09	31-Dec-14	250	0	250
26.	Orissa Community Tank Management Project	27-Jan-09	31-Aug-14	38.47	38.47	76.98
27.	Power System Development Project-IV-Additional Financing	27-Jan-09	31-Jul-14	400	0	400

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
28.	National Vector Borne Disease Control & Polio Eradication Support Project	13-Feb-09	31-Dec-13	0	521	521
29.	Second Madhya Pradesh District Poverty Initiatives Project (MPDPIP-II)	20-Jul-09	31-Dec-14	0	100	100
30.	Uttar Pradesh Sodic Lands Reclamation III Project	20-Jul-09	31-Dec-15	0	197	197
31.	Haryana Power System Improvement Project	17-Aug-09	31-Dec-14	330	0	330
32.	Power System Development Project-V	13-Oct-09	30-Jun-15	1000	0	1000
33.	Financing Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in Infrastructure through Support to the India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd. Project	13-Oct-09	30-Sep-15	1195	0	1195
34.	Coal-Fired Generation Rehabilitation Project	17-Dec-09	30-Nov-14	180	0	180
35.	Andhra Pradesh Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project	22-Jan-10	30-Nov-14	0	150	150
36.	Andhra Pradesh Road Sector Project	22-Jan-10	30-Jun-15	320	0	320
37.	Andhra Pradesh Municipal Development Project	22-Jan-10	31-Dec-15	300	0	300
38.	Sustainable Urban Transport Project	05-Feb-10	30-Nov-14	105.23	0	105.23
39.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project- Additional Financing	21-May-10	31-Mar-13	0	19	19
40.	Tamil Nadu Health Project- Additional Financing	06-Jul-10	30-Sep-13	0	117.7	117.7
41.	Scaling Up Sustainable and Responsible Microfinance Project	09-Jul-10	30-Jun-15	200	100	300

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
42.	Technical Engineering Educational Quality Improvement Project-II	14-Jul-10	31-Dec-14	0	300	300
43.	West Bengal PRI Project	15-Jul-10	31-Dec-15	0	200	200
44.	Karnataka RWSS Project-II-Additional Financing	17-Jul-10	30-Jun-13	0	150	150
45.	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project	22-Jul-10	31-Dec-15	0	221.96	221.96
46.	Capacity Building for Industrial Pollution Management Project	22-Jul-10	30-Sep-15	25.21	38.94	64.15
47.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project-2A	23-Jul-10	15-Jun-15	430	0	430
48.	Andhra Pradesh Water Sector Improvement Project	14-Aug-10	31-Jul-16	450.6	0	450.6
49.	Maharashtra Agricultural Competitiveness Project	02-Nov-10	31-Dec-16	0	100	100
50.	NHAI Technical Assistance Project	22-Dec-10	31-Jul-16	45	0	45
51.	Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction "VAZHNDHU KATTUVOM" Project-Additional Financing	23-Dec-10	30-Sep-14	0	154	154
52.	Bihar Kosi Flood Recovery Project	12-Jan-11	14-Sep-14	0	220	220
53.	National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (1)	14-Jan-11	31-Oct-15	0	255	255
54.	PMGSY Rural Roads Project	14-Jan-11	30-Nov-15	500	1000	1500
55.	Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Project (RRLP)	24-May-11	31-Oct-16	0	162.7	162.7
56.	Second Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project	30-May-11	31-Dec-16	350	0	350
57.	Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihoods Improvement Project	14-Jun-11	31-Mar-18	0	15.36	15.36

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
58.	National Ganga River Basin Project	14-Jun-11	31-Dec-19	801	199	1000
59.	Kerala Local Government and Service Delivery Project	04-Jul-11	31-Dec-15	0	200	200
60.	National Rural Livelihoods Project	18-Jul-11	31-Dec-16	0	1000	1000
61.	Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project	10-Aug-11	31-Dec-17	648	0	648
62.	Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Project-I	27-Oct-11	30-Jun-17	975	0	975
63.	Capacity Building for Urban Local Bodies Project-NURM	08-Dec-11	30-Jun-16	0	60	60
64.	Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project	21-Dec-11	30-Jun-18	175	175	350
65.	West Bengal Accelerated Development of Minor Irrigation Project	21-Dec-11	31-Dec-17	125	125	250
66.	North East Rural Livelihoods Project (NERLP)	20-Jan-12	31-Mar-17	0	130	130
67.	Second Kerala Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (Jalanidhi II)	15-Feb-12	30-Jun-17	0	155.3	155.3
68.	Uttar Pradesh Health Systems Strengthening Project (UPHSSP)	21-Mar-12	31-Mar-17	0	152	152
69.	Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project-Additional Financing	13-Apr-12	15-Mar-15	0	50	50
70.	National Dairy Support Project	13-Apr-12	30-Sep-17	0	352	352
71.	Rajasthan Agricultural Competitiveness Project	13-Apr-12	30-Apr-19	0	109	109
72.	Bihar Rural Livelihood Project-Additional Financing	09-Jul-12	31-Oct-15	0	100	100

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
73.	Development Policy Loan (DPL) to Promote Inclusive Green Growth and Sustainable Development in Himachal Pradesh	29-Sep-12	30-Sep-13	100	0	100
74.	Secondary Education Project	05-Oct-12	30-Jun-17	0	500	500
75.	ICDS Systems Strengthening & Nutrition Improvement Program (ISSNIP)	05-Nov-12	31-Oct-15	0	106	106
76.	Assam State Roads Project	05-Nov-12	31-Mar-18	320	0	320
77.	HP Mid-Himalayan Watershed Development Project-Additional Financing	20-Nov-12	31-Mar-16	0	37	37
78.	Karnataka Health Systems Project-Additional Financing	21-Nov-12	31-Mar-16	0	70	70

Statement-II

List of ongoing activities under Technical Assistance

Sl. No.	Name of Activity	Amount of Assistance (In US\$)	Window [Bank Executed (BE) or Recipient Executed (RE)]
1	2	3	4
1.	Improving Program Effectiveness	22,93,865	BE
2.	Bihar Capacity Building TA	50,00,000	BE
3.	Capacity Development on Health	3,90,000	BE
4.	TF Supervision and Fiduciary Oversight	11,60,000	BE
5.	Coastal Zone Management	2,90,000	BE
6.	National Land Records Modernization Program	8,80,000	BE

1	2	3	4
7.	Strengthening Management of LA and R&R	3,92,000	BE
8.	National Vocational Qualifications Framework	2,12,000	BE
9.	National Rural Livelihoods Mission TA	10,00,000	RE
10.	Mitigation-Vision 2030	5,00,000	BE
11.	Bihar Flood Management Support	2,00,000	BE
12.	Public Private Partnerships in Health	3,15,000	BE
13.	Andhra Pradesh Randomized Evaluation Study	4,50,000	BE
14.	Capacity Development for Integrated Water Resources	20,00,000	RE
15.	Corporate Social Responsibility	1,90,000	BE
16.	Teachers Education	2,00,000	BE
17.	Higher Education	2,20,000	BE
18.	Skills and Employability	2,90,000	RE
19.	TA for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in West Bengal	2,10,000	RE
20.	Social Pension Programs Review	1,50,000	BE
21.	Accelerating Agricultural Productivity	2,10,000	BE
22.	e-Tools in Mgt. of Construction Projects	2,00,000	RE
23.	Odisha: Capacity Building to Support Mineral-based Inclusive Growth	2,00,000	RE
24.	India Gender and Development Report	2,00,000	RE
25.	India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd. (IIFCL)	10,00,000	RE

1	2	3	4
26.	Bihar Flood Management Implementation Support II	15,00,000	RE
27.	Renewable Energy Technology	11,00,000	RE
28.	Bihar Road Construction Dept.	15,00,000	RE
29.	Assam Public Works Department	17,50,000	RE

Revenue deficit and debt stressed State

2211. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Punjab has been identified as one of revenue deficit and debt-stressed State in the country;
- (b) whether Punjab Government has recently taken up with Central Government the fiscal issues pertaining to the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by Government to address the issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Thirteenth Finance Commission (FC-XIII) has identified that three general category States including Punjab had revenue deficit in 2007-08. Accordingly, it has prescribed fiscal correction path for these three States to eliminate revenue deficit by 2014-15 and to achieve fiscal Deficit/GSDP ratio of 3% by 2013-14 as compared to other general category States that were required to eliminate revenue deficit by 2011-12 and attain fiscal deficit/GSDP ratio of 3% by 2011-12. FC-XIII has not identified any State as debt-stressed State. FC-XIII has *inter-alia* prescribed annual debt to Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) targets for each State to be maintained during its award period 2010-15. The States are required to monitor their liabilities under their respective Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Acts (FRBMAs), enacted/amended by all States in line with recommendations of FC-XIII.

(b) to (d) Requests received recently from State Government of Punjab relate to waiver on outstanding small savings loans or moratorium on repayment of principal and interest of this debt for a period of five years from 2012-13. Requests received

from State Governments on debt restructuring, moratorium and waiver are generally dealt within the ambit of recommendation of Finance Commission.

During the award period of Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC), loans from Ministry of Finance amounting to Rs. 3,067.75 cr. have been consolidated for a fresh tenure of 20 years at an interest rate of 7.5% per annum. Consolidation resulted in interest relief of Rs. 599 cr. to the State. Further, Ministry of Finance loans amounting to Rs. 370.70 cr. were waived.

During the award period of FC-XIII, Central loans for Central Sector Schemes/ Central Plan Schemes (other than Ministry of Finance) outstanding as at the end of 2009-10, amounting to Rs. 32.68 cr. have been written off. With respect to loans from the National Small Saving Fund (NSSF), FC-XIII has recommended that loans contracted from the NSSF till 2006-07 and outstanding at the end of the year preceding the year of enactment/amendment of FRBMA be reset at 9% interest rate on the date of enactment/amendment of FRBMA. Punjab is estimated to get an interest relief of Rs. 703.34 cr. during the award period of FC-XIII.

Zero balance account for beneficiaries of Government programmes

‡2212. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that nationalised banks/post offices are reluctant to open zero balance accounts of beneficiaries for various Government assistance programmes;
- (b) if so, whether Government has received complaints thereto;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has fixed responsibility of anybody thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised all Scheduled Commercial Banks (SCBs) on 10.8.2012 to offer a 'Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account' and also convert existing basic banking 'no-frills' accounts to 'Basic Savings Bank Deposit Account'. Such accounts do not have the requirement of any minimum balance and comes with the facility of ATM Card or ATM-cum-Debit Card.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

However, the holders of such accounts are not eligible to open any other savings bank deposit account in that bank. Under Financial Inclusion, banks have already opened 3.16 crore accounts by March 31, 2012.

Strong law to check public money collection

†2213. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has urged Government to make a law with more powers to check with companies which mobilise huge funds for dubious investment projects without taking Government's permission;

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

(c) by when a law in this regard would be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has written to the Government seeking a well-defined framework for regulating money raising schemes like Multilevel Marketing Schemes, timeshare schemes, emu farming, gold purchase schemes, goat farming and deposit collection for real estate development.

(b) and (c) The proposal sent by SEBI requires extensive consultations with different Departments/Ministries in the Government of India and no time frame can be estimated for concluding the decisions that may emerge from this process.

Risk of rating downgrade to junk status

2214. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India still stands in the risk of a ratings downgrade to junk status which sparked in sell off in Indian stocks and dragged down the rupee;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) During this calendar year, each of the "big three" rating agencies, namely Moody's Investors Service, Standard and Poor's (S&P), and Fitch Ratings, has reaffirmed India's sovereign credit rating at investment grade.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

These agencies have not taken a uniform view about the outlook on India's sovereign ratings. While S&P and FITCH Ratings changed their rating outlooks from stable to negative in their reports released in April 2012 and June 2012 respectively, Moody's has maintained its rating outlook at stable in its reports released in June 2012 and November 2012.

The change of outlook by S&P and Fitch ratings does not appear to have had any significant negative impact on the Indian stock markets or on the value of the Indian rupee. When compared to the market closing on 30 Dec. 2011 (the last working day for the stock markets in 2011), the Indian stock market, as measured by NIFTY 50, appreciated by 27.78% as on 10 Dec. 2012. During this period, value of the rupee, as measured by RBI's reference rate for the USD-INR pair, depreciated by only 1.97%.

Government has taken a number of steps with a view to enhancing the growth prospects of the economy and improving investor sentiments. These include measures for liberalization of FDI regime, liberalization of ECB regime, announcement of five-year fiscal consolidation path, improvement in targeting of subsidies, improvement in the functioning of capital markets etc.

Central subsidies under two per cent of GDP

2215. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to keep the Central subsidies under two per cent of GDP in the financial years 2012-13;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any target for the year 2012-13; and
- (d) if so, the details of target fixed/achieved till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) To improve the quality of public spending, the Government would endeavor to restrict the expenditure on Central subsidies to under 2% of GDP in 2012-13.

(c) and (d) As per the Budgetary Estimates, the total outlay for subsidies is 1.9% of the GDP (BE) of the current Financial Year.

Tax evasion possibility of insurance companies

‡2216. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that notice has been given by Government in view of the possibility of tax evasion by some insurance companies of private sector;
- (b) the details of the companies which have been served the notice in allegation of tax evasion;
- (c) the number of the companies who have submitted their reply to Government; and
- (d) the details of the action taken against them by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the companies which have been served upon Show Cause Notices in 2012-13 (up to October) are as follows:

1. M/s. Bharat Reinsurance Co.;
2. M/s. IFFCO TOKIO General Insurance Services Ltd.;
3. M/s. Apollo DKV Insurance Co. Ltd.;
4. M/s. DLF Premierico Life Insurance Co.;
5. M/s. AVIVA Life Insurance Co. India Ltd.
6. M/s. Sri Ram Life Insurance;
7. M/s. Sahara India Life Insurance Corporation; and
8. M/s. Reliance Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

(c) Out of the 8 companies mentioned at (b) above, the following 4 companies have submitted their reply to Government:

1. M/s. Bharat Reinsurance Co.;
2. M/s. IFFCO TOKIO General Insurance Services Ltd.;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

3. M/s. DLF Premierico Life Insurance Co.;
4. M/s. Reliance Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

(d) In cases where the companies have submitted the reply, a personal hearing will be held and adjudication orders passed. In cases where the reply is yet to be submitted, personal hearings will be conducted after receipt of the replies of the companies.

Agreement to seek information on black money

2217. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India proposes to sign agreement with various countries to seek information on money that has been deposited by Indians in those countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has identified such tax heavens abroad;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any kind of negotiations have since been organized to know the results of such black money; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. India has entered into Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs) with 84 countries. In addition, DTAAs have been signed with 3 countries, *viz.* Colombia, Uruguay & Ethiopia and will enter into force after completion of necessary formalities in these countries. Proposal to sign DTAAs with 12 more countries/jurisdictions is under process. These countries/jurisdictions are Albania, Bhutan, Chile, Croatia, Fiji, Hong Kong, Iran, Latvia, Senegal, Venezuela, Cuba and Macedonia.

The Government has also identified priority countries/jurisdictions for negotiation of Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs). At present, India has TIEAs with 9 jurisdictions *viz.* Bahamas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Isle of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, Liberia and Macau which are in force. In addition, three more TIEAs have been signed with Argentina, Bahrain and Monaco which will enter into force after completion of necessary formalities in these countries/jurisdictions. The

proposal to sign TIEAs with another 34 countries/jurisdictions is under process. These countries/jurisdictions are Andorra, Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Cook Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Grenada, Honduras, Jamaica, Montserrat, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos, Vanuatu, Argentina, Bahrain, Gibraltar, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Panama, Saint Kitts & Nevis and Seychelles.

All these DTAAAs and TIEAs contain an Article on Exchange of Information under which Indian tax authorities can seek information about a taxpayer.

(e) and (f) Information is regularly exchanged with the treaty/agreement partners and is forwarded to the field authorities for taking appropriate action. The information exchanged is governed by the confidentiality clause of the respective DTAA/TIEA.

Demerger of Telecom Operators

2218. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Commissioner of Income Tax has filed an appeal before the Hon'ble High Court regarding the demerger of a leading Telecom Operator with its Tower Division;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the demerger scheme was undertaken by the company to evade tax; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) and (b) Some of the leading telecom companies had filed petitions under provisions of Companies Act before jurisdictional High Courts seeking sanction of scheme of arrangements for demerger/transfer of their Passive Infrastructure Assets. In one of the cases where the said scheme was sanctioned by the division bench of High Court of Gujarat, the Income tax department has filed a Special leave petition before the Supreme Court in which a notice has been issued to the respondents. In some other cases, a single judge bench of the Delhi High Court sanctioned the scheme and the Commissioners of Income Tax concerned have filed appeals before the division bench, which are pending.

(c) and (d) It has been the stand of the Income Tax department before the Courts that the demerger schemes were undertaken by the companies to evade tax. The matter is sub-judice.

Reduction in commission of PPF agents

2219. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recommendation of Shyamala Gopinath Committee for abolishing one per cent commission of agents of PPF schemes and to reduce commission on postal small saving schemes have victimised the agents across the country;

(b) whether Small Savings Agents' Welfare Association, Mumbai has represented to the Ministry to reconsider the Committee's recommendation; and

(c) if so, the action that the Ministry is taking to reconsider the 'one-sided report'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The recommendation of Shyamala Gopinath Committee regarding agents' commission was to reduce commission of 0.5% on Senior Citizens Saving Scheme (SCSS) and 1% on Public Provident Fund (PPF) to zero, reduce 4% commission under Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojana (MPKBY) to 1% in a phased manner and to reduce 1% commission for all other schemes under Standardised Agency System (SAS) to 0.5%. The Government, after consulting all the stakeholders and the representations received, has decided to reduce the commission under PPF and SCSS to zero and under SAS to 0.5%. However, commission under MPKBY continues to be at 4% for the time being.

The main intention of these recommendations is to make these schemes more investor centric than agent centric.

(b) and (c) Representations of Small Savings Agents' Association from various States including Mumbai were received in the past. Taking into account of large number of representations received from Small Savings Agent's Associations, Members of Parliament, other dignitaries and others, the Government accepted most of the recommendations of the Committee.

Suspicious trade transactions by companies

2220. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Economic Intelligence Bureau and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence officials have found details of suspicious trade transaction by some of the companies based in major industrial hubs of the country;

(b) if so, the names of those companies and action taken against them by the Ministry;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of 'fly by night' exporters and importers have been found in routing of black money;

(d) if so, the Ministry has ascertained their whereabouts; and

(e) the suitable action that the Ministry is taking against such persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) No, Sir. The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence officials have not found cases on the basis of suspicious trade transaction reports.

(b) "Nil" in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir. The aforesaid agencies have not investigated any case of involvement of fly by night exporters and importers in routing of black money. However, CBDT takes appropriate action under the Direct tax laws to bring to tax any undisclosed amounts.

(d) and (e) "Nil" in view of (c) above.

Reallocation of funds to investment

2221. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is stepping up policy momentum and reallocate funds to investment, to boost growth;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the funds spent therefor, for the period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) The Planning Commission has informed that with the objective of *Faster, More Inclusive and Sustainable Growth*, the Twelfth Plan aims at achieving real GDP growth of 8.2%, assuming agriculture and allied sector to grow by 4%, industry by 8.1% and service sector by 9.1%. It is estimated that for the Twelfth Plan, the fixed investment rate will have to increase by about 3 percentage point of GDP over the level of 2011-12. The fixed investment rate should increase to 35% by the terminal year of the Twelfth Plan yielding an average fixed investment rate of 34% of GDP as against 32.9% achieved in the Eleventh Plan. A key component for raising the rate of fixed investment is increasing investment in infrastructure. Infrastructure includes all-weather roads; round the clock availability of power at stable voltage and frequency; water for irrigation; railways; ports; airports and telecommunications and broad band connectivity. The Twelfth Plan proposes to increase investment in infrastructure to 9% by 2016-17 from an average of 7.1% achieved in the Eleventh Plan.

(b) Though the Eleventh Plan began with 9.3% growth in the first year as against the target annual growth rate of 9%, with the onset of global financial crisis in 2008-09, the government adopted various steps such as tax cuts and stimulus package as countercyclical measures to recover the economy from the resultant slowdown.

(c) The details of funds spent on infrastructure during the Eleventh Plan are as follows:

Investment in infrastructure during the Eleventh Plan (Year-wise)

(Rs. in crore at current prices)

Years	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12 (RE)	Total Eleventh
Public Investment	227009	286651	313151	381794	375732	1584338
Private Investment	96177	140568	144665	285990	220104	887504
Total Investment	323186	427219	457816	667784	545836	2385980

Source: Chapter 3, (Page 87)—Twelfth Plan Document.

Loan assistance to Odisha Irrigation Project

2222. SHRI A.V. SWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) indicate the prospects of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) loan assistance for excavation of left canal bank phase-II of Rengali Irrigation Project in Odisha, pending with Department of Economic Affairs; and

(b) if so, the probable time for confirming the fact of loan assistance to State Government of Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Government of India poses a list of project proposals every year to Government of Japan for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Official Development Assistance (ODA). The Rengali Irrigation Project, Left Bank Canal (LBC)-II, Phase II, Odisha project proposal for Rs. 1074.36 crores is one of the project proposals posed to Government of Japan on November 8, 2012 for FY 2012 JICA ODA loan package. Due to limited ODA portfolio earmarked by the Government of Japan, only some of the project proposals may finally be selected by Government of Japan. The decision to select a project proposal solely rests with the Government of Japan.

(b) In view of (a) above, it is not possible to indicate, if and when, the Rengali Irrigation Project, Left Bank Canal (LBC)-II Phase-II, Odisha will be selected by Government of Japan for extending ODA loan.

Position of India in Global Economic Freedom Index

†2223. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, according to survey conducted at international level, India stands at 111th position in the list of 144 countries in terms of economic freedom;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that despite opening up of the economy in the name of economic reforms, India still stands below the average rate of 6.83 in the Global Economic Freedom Index; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) As per the 'Economic Freedom of the World: 2012 Annual Report' published by the Fraser Institute, Canada, India ranks 111th in a list of 144 countries in the 'Economic Freedom of the World Index' for 2010. At the 111th

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

position India's rating is 6.26 which is lower than the average rate of 6.83. Several institutions rank countries on the basis of various parameters. These rankings do not represent the views of the Government of India. However, the Government takes into cognizance the concerns expressed by all stakeholders regarding the country's economic development, and takes appropriate action.

Tax collected as percentage of GDP

2224. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the GDP for the last three years;
- (b) the total tax collected by Government during these years, in absolute figures and as a percentage of GDP; and
- (c) whether Government would be prepared to collect more tax from the better off sections so that more subsidy and concessions can be granted to poorer sections of people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) The details of gross domestic product (GDP), gross tax revenue in absolute terms and as a proportion of GDP (in per cent) for the last three years is given below:

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12*
Gross Domestic Product at current market prices (GDP) (Rs. crore)	6,457,352	7,674,148	8,855,797
Gross tax revenue (Rs. crore)	624,528	793,072	890,622
Gross tax revenue as per cent of GDP	9.67	10.33	10.06

* Figures for 2011-12 for Gross tax revenue are based on Provisional actuals (unaudited) released by Controller General of Accounts, Ministry of Finance.

Source: Receipts Budget, Controller General of Accounts and Central Statistics Office.

(c) The levy of direct taxes is based on the principle of progressive taxation wherein the basic exemption limit for non chargeability of tax and the rates of taxes are fixed so as to ensure that the burden of income tax is more on the better off sections of the society. A significant part of the tax revenue so collected are utilized by Government of India for running various welfare schemes for the poor.

Rural Infrastructure Development Fund

2225. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of funds that were earmarked for warehousing financing under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) during 2010-11 and 2011-12 budget;
- (b) whether RIDF fund can be utilized for refinancing by NABARD;
- (c) whether NABARD can utilize the funds earmarked for warehousing under RIDF for refinancing of private warehouses;
- (d) whether NABARD have violated RBI-GOI directives regarding RIDF financing; and
- (e) if so, the action that is proposed to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No funds were earmarked for warehousing finance under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) during 2010-11. An amount of Rs. 2000 crore was earmarked for warehousing infrastructure in 2011-12.

(b) to (e) RIDF fund for warehousing was also used to provide refinance by NABARD to Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks as per the NABARD warehousing scheme, for the said objective.

Merger of two regional rural banks of Uttarakhand with nationalized banks

†2226. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a decision has been taken to merge Almora-Nainital Regional Rural Bank and Pithoragarh Regional Rural Bank with the nationalized banks;
- (b) if so, the total number of the branches of these banks and the places where they are situated and names of the nationalized banks with which these branches are going to be merged; and
- (c) the reasons which necessitated merging of the regional rural banks with other nationalized banks?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) No Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are proposed to be merged with nationalised banks.

However, two RRBs namely Nainital Alamora Kshetriya Gramin Bank and Uttaranchal Gramin Bank which were the only RRBs functioning in the State of Uttarakhand have been amalgamated into one RRB namely Uttarakhand Gramin Bank on 1st November, 2012 under sponsorship of State Bank of India.

Non-life insurance business

2227. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the non-life insurance business is at present estimated at less than one per cent of the GDP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked the non-life insurance companies to come up with specific proposal to increase penetration of non-life insurance business in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response received from the non-life insurance companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) As per Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) the non-life insurance business was 0.70% of GDP in 2011.

(c) and (d) The Public Sector General Insurance Companies (PSGIC) duly assessing the market potential have decided to open branches up to tier IV cities in the country. This would help in increasing insurance penetration in the country.

Tax savings for disabled persons

2228. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether disabled persons are entitled for higher rate of interest on their savings in banks;

(b) if so, the reasons for deducting TDS from interest accruing on their deposits by banks;

(c) the steps taken to stop deducting TDS on interest from deposits made by disabled persons; and

(d) the details of facilities and privileges provided by banks to disabled persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Savings bank deposit interest rate for residents including disabled persons have been deregulated as per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines. These guidelines require banks to offer uniform interest rates for savings bank deposits upto Rs. 1 lakh. Differential interest rates can be provided for savings bank deposits above Rs. 1 lakh subject to the condition that banks will not discriminate in the matter of interest paid on such deposits, between one deposit and another of similar amount, accepted on the same date, at any of its offices.

(b) and (c) Tax Deduction at Source (TDS) on interest paid to disabled persons is done as per provisions of Income Tax Act, 1961, as amended from time to time.

(d) Under Government Sponsored Schemes some reservations/concessions are available to the disabled persons. RBI has also advised banks to provide all banking facilities to visually challenged persons without any discrimination as they are legally competent to contract.

Decreased assets of general households

†2229. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn towards the news-item published in media on 11th October, 2012 captioned as “Indian households wealth eroded but millionaires set to grow”;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that assets of general households have decreased while assets of wealthy people keep on increasing; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) Based on the Credit Suisse Global Wealth Databook 2012, a few newspapers have published some of the findings of the Databook under the head ‘Indian households wealth eroded but millionaires set to grow’ which says

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

India has 2.37 lakh members of the top 1 per cent of global wealth holders. However, it is also a fact that the poverty head count ratio (HCR) in the country has declined from 37.2 per cent in 2004-05 to 29.8 per cent in 2009-10 as per the Planning Commission (which is the nodal agency for estimating poverty in India), based on the NSSO survey conducted once in five years.

Revival package to Life Insurance Sector

2230. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Life Insurance Sector is reeling under existence problems;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has proposed a revival package along with tax benefits to Insurance Sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) has informed that the Growth indicators (CAGR) of Life Insurance Industry for the period 2001-02 to 2011-12 have been as under:

- i. Number of policies 7.47 per cent;
- ii. First Year Premium 30.02 per cent;
- iii. Total life insurance premium 21.91 per cent.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Consultations have been held with the insurance industry and steps have been identified for action, to give fillip to the sector and expand insurance penetration. These include regulatory issues as well as tax related measures including direct tax and service tax benefits.

Revenue generated by sports

2231. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the sports exempted from customs duties and income tax;

(b) whether the Government monitors the levy of entertainment tax on sports and if so, the details thereof, discipline-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether Government intends to bring sports like Formula one Race and cricket within the ambit of income/entertainment tax/customs duties;

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

(e) the revenue likely to be generated by bringing such games within the tax ambit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM) : (a) Customs duties are levied on import of goods. Exemptions from customs duties are provided to goods only. Sports, as such are not exempt from customs duty. Further, no specific exemption is granted to any particular sport under the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(b) Entertainment tax is governed by State Governments.

(c) to (e) Questions do not arise in view of above.

Banks' exposure to real estate of Noida Extention

2232. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of huge NPAs of the nationalized banks which have been rising in the recent past;

(b) whether Government is aware that many nationalized banks have huge exposure to real estate sector in Greater Noida West Area (NOIDA Extension) which is under litigation and builders have paid only a fraction of land cost to Greater Noida Authority;

(c) the details of the loans given by nationalized banks to real estate companies operating in Greater Noida West, bank-wise and company-wise; and

(d) if so, the action taken to instruct banks to reduce their exposure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Although the Gross Non-Performing Assets (GNPAs)

of the nationalized banks have shown an increasing trend at system level, they do not indicate any systemic vulnerability.

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) disseminates list of non-suit filed 'doubtful' and 'loss' borrowal accounts of Rs. 1 crore and above on half-yearly basis and the list of non-suit filed accounts of wilful defaults of Rs. 25 lakh and above on quarterly basis to banks and financial institutions for their confidential use. Section 45 E of the RBI Act, 1934 prohibits RBI from disclosing 'credit information' except in the manner provided therein.

Further, the Credit Information Companies (CICs), including Credit Information Bureau of (India) Limited (CIBIL), maintain a database of defaulters (suit-filed accounts) of Rs. 1 crore and above and list of wilful defaulters (suit-filed accounts) of Rs. 25 lakh and above for use by banks. The information pertaining to suit-filed cases can be accessed at the websites of CICs.

In accordance with the practices and usages customary amongst the banks and in conformity with provisions of statutes governing the financial institutions as also the provisions of the Public Financial Institutions (Obligations as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983, information relating to the names of individual defaulters is not divulged.

(d) In view of the growing need for putting in place proper risk management system for identification, assessment and containing risks involved in the banking business including in respect of real estate exposure and also with a view to sensitizing the banks in this regard, RBI has issued instructions/guidance on various risks for the benefit of the banks. These include a Board mandated policy for real estate exposure, limiting the size of exposure, margins to be kept, putting in place of a risk management system and monitoring mechanism in bank.

Reduction of share in Central Taxes allocation

†2233. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has reduced the share of Madhya Pradesh in Central Taxes allocation;

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether State Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested to reconsider it and to release arrears amount of Central Taxes estimated in State's budget for 2011-12; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by Government so far thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) No, Sir. The devolution of State's share is based on the net divisible pool of Central Taxes and Duties to State Governments as per the recommendations of the Finance Commission which is constituted by Central Government every five years. The Finance Commission makes recommendations, consulting all State Governments and ascertaining the available resources of the Central Government for the respective period. The Award period of the 13th Finance Commission is from the financial year 2010-11 to 2014-15. The Central Government does not make any change in the accepted recommendations of the Finance Commission during their Award period.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Ministry of Finance has not received any request from Government of Madhya Pradesh for reconsideration of the State's share.

(d) Does not arise.

Service complaints of banking correspondents

2234. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of complaints are being reported against banking correspondents due to lack of service;

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

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to further strengthen this model and improve service standard and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (d) The Business Correspondents (BCs) are engaged by

the banks to render banking services in areas where opening of brick and mortar branches are not viable. Banks are required to formulate a policy for engaging BCs after carrying out due diligence to assess reputation, financial soundness, management/corporate governance, cash handling ability and the ability to implement technology solutions in rendering financial services. Banks have also introduced service level indicators in their new arrangements for BCs. Any complaints/grievances related to service standards/customer service are taken up by the banks concerned for taking remedial measures.

Effective use of funds

2235. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various Financial Management Groups (FMGs) across the Ministries have failed to monitor utilization of funds effectively leading to greater non-plan expenditures;

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

(c) whether Government has strengthened the functioning of FMGs in recent time;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (e) Ministry of Finance has not set up Financial Management Groups across Ministries to monitor the utilization of funds. However, in terms of Rule 64 of General Financial Rules (GFRs) the Chief Accounting Authority of a Ministry/Department shall take effective and appropriate steps to ensure that his Ministry/Department avoids unauthorized, irregular and wasteful expenditure and monitor utilization of funds. Government also issues instructions on expenditure management from time to time. The instructions advise adherence to budgeted estimates and contain economy measures related to Seminars/Conferences, Purchase of vehicles, Foreign Travel, Consultancy Assignments etc. and guidelines for observance of discipline in fiscal transfers and balanced pace of expenditure. The responsibility for implementing the instructions rests with the respective Ministries/Departments and their Integrated Finance Units.

Inflation rate of various sectors

2236. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the diesel price hike has contributed to increase in food inflation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the diesel price hike has increased the retail vegetable prices;
- (d) the details of inflation rates of food and other related commodities over last 3 months; and
- (e) the details of inflation rates of various sectors registered from July 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) A mis-match in demand and supply and increase in production and distribution costs contribute to an increase in the prices of food products, It is, however, not possible to separately assess the contribution of each of these factors, including the increase in prices of diesel on inflation of food products.

(d) and (e) Details of the level of prices as measured by the Consumer price Index (All India New Series) and inflation since July 2012 are indicated in Table below:

Table
Consumer Price Index (All India-New Series) and inflation of commodity groups

Group/sub-groups	Weight (%)	Jul - 12	Aug - 12	Sep - 12	Oct - 12	Jul - 12	Aug - 12	Sep - 12	Oct - 12
		Index (2010=100)				Year-on-Year Inflation (%)			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
General index	100.00	121.4	122.9	124.0	124.9	9.86	10.03	9.73	9.75
Food	47.58	122.9	124.8	125.9	126.7	11.63	12.06	11.75	11.45
Cereal and Products	14.59	112.3	115.0	117.5	119.2	6.45	8.59	10.33	11.82
Pulses and Pulse Prod.	2.65	110.0	114.3	116.2	116.5	12.59	16.04	16.20	14.89
Oils and Fats	3.90	138.6	141.5	143.2	142.8	17.46	18.41	18.54	17.92
Meat, Fish, etc.	2.89	125.9	126.7	129.3	129.9	11.02	11.63	12.14	12.18
Milk and Milk Products	7.73	129.0	129.8	131.2	132.4	12.08	11.51	10.62	10.06
Spices and Condiments	1.71	122.5	124.8	125.8	126.5	1.91	2.80	2.28	2.35
Vegetables	5.44	137.8	137.1	133.7	133.0	27.24	20.79	14.37	10.74
Fruits	1.89	139.5	140.6	134.0	134.1	9.15	7.99	5.26	5.09

Sugar, Honey, etc.	1.91	103.8	112.1	114.4	115.3	9.38	17.51	19.29	19.61
Non Alcoholic Beverages	2.03	121.5	122.4	124.2	125.5	9.26	9.38	10.01	10.28
Prepared Meals	2.83	121.7	122.9	124.3	125.6	8.95	8.95	8.94	9.22
Non-food	52.42	120.1	121.2	122.3	123.3	8.27	8.19	7.92	8.22
Pan, Supari etc.	2.13	131.0	131.9	132.8	133.8	10.83	10.65	10.30	10.40
Fuel and Lighting	9.49	123.9	125.4	126.4	127.7	7.27	7.55	7.21	7.58
Housing	9.77	118.4	119.5	120.6	121.6	10.65	10.75	10.85	10.55
Clothing and Footwear	4.73	128.9	130.2	131.5	133.0	10.93	10.62	10.32	10.47
Medical Care	5.69	114.4	115.2	116.2	117.0	6.42	6.37	6.51	6.65
Education	3.35	115.7	116.6	117.4	117.8	6.93	6.68	6.92	7.09
Recreation and Amusement	1.43	108.4	108.9	109.3	109.8	3.44	3.32	3.41	3.78
Transport and Commun.	7.57	117.5	118.0	118.8	119.8	6.82	6.31	5.79	5.74
Personal Care Items	2.92	114.9	115.7	116.8	117.6	7.18	7.33	7.25	7.59
Household Requisites	4.30	122.4	123.4	125.5	126.0	10.57	8.25	8.47	8.71
Others	1.06	129.4	130.6	131.6	132.7	11.94	11.24	10.96	10.86

Meeting of Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians

2237. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister chaired the third meeting of his Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians;
- (b) if so, the issues discussed in the meeting;
- (c) whether decisions have been taken on the basis of the suggestions emanating from this and the previous such meetings of the council; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The discussions in the meeting cover, *inter-alia*, issues relating to Education, Economic Growth, Diaspora Engagement, promotion of philosophies of Gandhi and Tagore etc.

(c) and (d) Suggestions made by the PMGAC are used as inputs, along with inputs received from other sources for taking appropriate decisions on issues relating to NRIs and PIOs.

Bringing back of NRIs from UAE

2238. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to bring back the NRIs from UAE, who are there without valid documents, using the special scheme announced by the UAE Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of Indians who are expected to be rescued under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) :

(a) and (c) The Ministry is coordinating with the Indian Mission in the UAE to facilitate the return of non-resident Indians (NRIs) from UAE who are without valid documents. The Indian Mission has taken measures to facilitate issue/update of travel documents

and to expedite completion of exit formalities for illegal Indian residents desirous of availing amnesty announced by the UAE authorities. The number of Indians who are expected to avail the amnesty is not available with the Indian Mission in the UAE.

Harassment of Indian workers in Gulf countries

2239. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian workers in Gulf nations are facing a number of harassments in the working places like over-time, low salary or work without salary etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has received any representation from Indian workers of Gulf countries regarding harassments in work place; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI) :

(a) Complaints from Indian workers pertaining to contractual violations, viz., non-payment of salaries, long working hours, inadequate living conditions, physical harassment, refusal of leave or 'exit/re-entry permits', 'final exit visa', medical benefits, air tickets etc., are received from time to time.

(b) and (c) The Complaints pertaining to the Gulf Countries during the last three years are furnished below:

Country	2010	2011	2012 (upto Nov.)
Bahrain	1384	1163	812
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	3139	2330	2547
Kuwait	4373	2854	3228
Oman	2262	2789	2183
Qatar	3034	3186	3087
Abu Dhabi, United Arab of Emirates	1036	1588	491

Opening of Panchayat windows

2240. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where meaningful and effective devolution of functions, funds and functionaries, in accordance with detailed Activity Mapping, has been undertaken;

(b) the names of States which have opened Panchayat windows in their State Budgets and assigned functionaries in accordance with the devolution of functions and funds; and

(c) the names of States where District Panchayat Committees have consolidated plans prepared by Panchayati Raj Institutions and municipalities within the district in accordance with the provision of Article 243ZD of the Constitution?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) As per Article 243G of the Constitution, States are to endow Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and to plan and implement schemes for economic development and social justice, including those in relation to matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. Within the constitutional framework, 'Panchayats' is a State subject and States Legislatures pass legislations suitable in their context. The present status of devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries (3Fs) to the Panchayats by various States/UTs is given in Statement-I.

(b) The States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and West Bengal have reported about opening of Panchayat Windows in their respective State Budget.

(c) As per Article 243ZD District Planning Committee (DPC) is to consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole. One of the mandatory conditions for release of the development grant under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) is that the district plans prepared by local bodies need to be consolidated and approved by the District Planning Committee. Information regarding consolidation of plans by DPCs under BRGF during 2012-13 is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Status of devolution of departments/subjects with funds, functions and functionaries to the Panchayati Raj Institutions for Major States/UTs.

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. and names of the Departments/subjects Transferred to Panchayats with respect to Funds	Functions	Functionaries
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Grant-in-aid is released to PRTs to discharge their functions	All the functions (29 subjects) have been transferred to the PRIs	639 functionaries of various departments have been transferred to the PRIs.
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Only Gram Panchayats (GPs) are empowered to collect taxes. Governments Orders (GOs) issued for devolving funds of 10 departments.	22 GOs issued during 1997-2002. Further, 10 line departments have devolved certain powers to PRIs.	Functionaries are under the administrative control of their respective line departments but they are partially accountable to PRIs.
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	PRJs do not collect taxes. Transfer of funds by departments has not taken place.	29 subjects have been devolved. GOs covering 20 departments have been issued, but not yet implemented.	Functionaries have not been transferred.

	1	2	3	4	5
4. Assam	PRIs are empowered to collect taxes but cannot enforce. Main source of revenue is lease rent from markets, river banks and ponds.	Activity-mapping done for 23 subjects. But GOs have been issued only for 7 subjects by 6 departments.	Activity mapping has been conducted. 20 line deptts. have issued GOs.	There has been very minimal devolution of functionaries. Officials continue to report to departments.	
5. Bihar	No taxes are collected by PRIs but a proposal regarding the same is under consideration of State Government.	Activity mapping has been conducted. 20 line deptts. have issued GOs.	Departmental staff are answerable to departments. Angandwadi workers, teachers and health workers are appointed by PRIs.		
6. Chhattisgarh	GP is authorized to collect various types of taxes. Funds for 12 departments have been devolved.	Activity Mapping of 27 matters has been undertaken. GOs not issued.	Panchayat make recruitments for 9 departments.		
7. Goa	Panchayats levy 11 types of taxes. Untied funds are given to Panchayats.	18 matters are devolved to GPs, while 6 are devolved to ZPs.	PRIs have their own core staff for the execution of works.		
8. Gujarat	8 major taxes are collected by PRIs. In 2008-09, 13 departments allocated funds to PRIs.	14 functions have been completely devolved and 5 are partially devolved.	GOs have been issued for devolution of functionaries for 14 functions.		
9. Haryana	GPs generate revenue from lease of Panchayat land, liquor cess and rental of Panchayat premises.	Panchayati Raj Act devolves 29 functions. GOs have been issued for 10 deptts.	There is no significant devolution of functionaries.		

10. Himachal Pradesh Only GP is empowered to levy taxes. Funds have not been transferred. 27 out of 29 subjects have been devolved to PRIs. Functionaries have not been transferred to PRIs.
11. Jammu and Kashmir State Government has issued GO notifying activity mapping. Funds have been devolved in a limited sense. Functionaries have been identified in the Activity Mapping document who will assist Panchayats in carrying out assigned functions but have not been transferred.
12. Jharkhand Elections to PRIs were held in November- December 2010 for the first time since 73rd CAA came into force. Activity Mapping has not been done so far.
13. Karnataka PRIs collect 7 types of taxes. Karnataka has delegated all 29 subjects to PRI by notifying Activity Mapping. All Panchayat employees function under dual control of the Deptts. concerned and the PRIs.
14. Kerala GPs have tax domain of 9 types of taxes. Untied funds and funds for specific purposes by deptts are given to PRIs. Activity mapping for all 29 functions done and activities devolved to Panchayats. PRIs have full managerial and part disciplinary control over transferred functionaries.
15. Madhya Pradesh GPs are empowered to collect taxes. Funds for 13 departments covering 19 matters are released to PRIs. GOs containing the Activity Mapping in respect of 25 matters pertaining to 22 deptts. have been issued. Functionaries for 13 departments have been transferred to the PRIs. There is a State Panchayat Service.
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	1	2	3	4	5
16.	Maharashtra	ZP and GP collect taxes. Grants for 11 departments are transferred to PRIs.	11 subjects have been fully devolved. For 18 subjects, schemes are implemented by PRIs.	Class III and Class IV employees at all levels are Zilla Parishad employees.	
17.	Mamipur	Five Departments have issued GOs transferring funds to PRIs.	GOs have been issued devolving functions related to 22 departments.	5 Departments have issued GOs transferring functionaries to PRIs.	
18.	Orissa	PRIs collect 6 types of taxes. There is no clear devolution of untied funds.	11 departments have devolved 21 subjects.	Officials of 11 departments are accountable to PRIs.	
19.	Punjab	Main source of income of GP is from auction of Panchayat land. There is no clear devolution of funds.	The devolution of 7 key departments relating to 13 subjects approved.	No functionaries have been transferred to PRI by line departments.	
20.	Rajasthan	5 departments have issued GOs transferring funds to PRIs up to district level. 10% untied fund to PRIs.	Five Departments have transferred all functions up to district level to PRIs. Fresh Activity Mapping of above 5 Departments has been done.	5 departments have transferred all functionaries upto district level to PRIs.	
21.	Sikkim	PRIs do not collect taxes. Funds are being transferred by 17 departments. 10% of total fund of each department is given to Panchayats. Untied funds are given to PRIs.	All 29 subjects are devolved as per legislation. Activity Mapping has been conducted for 20 subjects covering 16 departments.	Employees are under the control of PRIs, but Panchayats exercise limited control over them.	

22. Tamil Nadu	Only village Panchayats have the power to levy taxes. 9% of the States own tax revenue devolved to Local Bodies, of which rural local bodies will receive 58% share.	Government of Tamil Nadu has delegated supervision and monitoring powers of 29 subject to PRIs	There is no significant devolution of functionaries.
23. Tripura	Part funds related to PWD department, primary schools and social welfare and social education, department and pension funds have been transferred to the Panchayats. Untied funds are also transferred to PRIs.	So far GOs have been issued devolving irrigation schemes, primary schools and activities related to adult and non-formal education, women and child development and social welfare.	Functionaries of 5 subjects for which functions have devolved, have been transferred to Panchayats.
24. Uttar Pradesh	All 3 tiers have the power to collect taxes.	16 subjects relating to 12 departments have been devolved to PRIs.	PRIs do not have control over functionaries.
25. Uttarakhand	Only ZPs collect taxes. Funds are made available to PRIs for activities for only 3 functions.	Master GO on transferring financial and administrative powers on 14 subjects has been issued in 2003.	Supervisory role over functionaries related to 14 subjects.

	1	2	3	4	5
26.	West Bengal	GPs can impose and realize taxes. Untied funds are allocated under the TFC grant as well as SFC grant. 5 departments have opened Panchayat Window in their budgets.	State Government agrees with transfer of these 28 subjects. 14 departments have so far issued matching GOs transferring 27 subjects.	The Panchayat employees have been made into different district cadres. Other than the posts created in the Panchayat bodies, 7 departments of the State Government have devolved functionaries.	
27.	Daman and Diu	Not available	12 subjects are fully devolved and 10 subjects are partially devolved.	Functionaries for 13 departments have been transferred to PRIs.	
28.	Puducherry	Panchayats collect taxes and receive funds from the state budget under the community development sector.	22 functions have been devolved to the PRI.	Devolution of functionaries has not been done yet.	
29.	Lakshadweep	Entire Plan and Non Plan budget required for Schemes and Programmes being implemented by 5 departments viz. Education, Medical & Health Services, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Agriculture is transferred to the District Panchayat and Village (Dweep) Panchayats.	All Schemes and programmes being implemented by five major departments, viz. Education, Medical & Health Services, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Agriculture have been transferred to the PRIs w.e.f. 1st April, 2010.	Entire establishments of five major departments, viz. Education, Medical & Health Services, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Agriculture except Director and few staff have been transferred to District Panchayat and Village (Dweep) Panchayats.	

30. Chandigarh

A committee constituted by the Chandigarh Administration recommended transfer of some functions of 12 Departments. However, the State Government felt that such an exercise of devolving the functions to PRIs would only be an interim measure because fast urbanization would result in villages becoming part of Municipal Corporation in near future.

Note: Mizoram, Meghalaya and Nagaland are exempt.

- Delhi has no Panchayats.
- Information is not available for UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

Statement-II

State-wise District Planning Committees consolidated Plans received during the year 2012-13 as on 30/11/2012

Sl.No.	State	No. of BRGF Districts	No. of Districts Plans received
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0
3.	Assam	13	7
4.	Bihar	38	32
5.	Chhattisgarh	15	15
6.	Gujarat	6	6
7.	Haryana	2	2
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	2
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	5
10.	Jharkhand	23	19
11.	Karnataka	6	6
12.	Kerala	2	2
13.	Madhya Pradesh	30	29
14.	Maharashtra	12	12
15.	Manipur	3	3
16.	Meghalaya	3	3
17.	Mizoram	2	2
18.	Nagaland	5	5
19.	Odisha	20	19

1	2	3	4
20.	Punjab	1	1
21.	Rajasthan	13	13
22.	Sikkim	1	1
23.	Tamil Nadu	6	6
24.	Tripura	1	1
25.	Uttar Pradesh	35	33
26.	Uttarakhand	3	3
27.	West Bengal	11	11
TOTAL		272	251

Provisions of BRGF guidelines approved by District Planning Committee

2241. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRARAO : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the provisions of the BRGF guidelines, funds are released to the districts against annual action plans duly approved by the District Planning Committee; and

(b) if so, the details of the funds released to the districts in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) As per the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Guidelines the Annual Action Plans prepared by the Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are consolidated into the District Plan by the District Planning Committee. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj releases funds for the district on the basis of such District Plan duly forwarded by the concerned State Government.

(b) A Statement showing the details of funds released to the 13 backward districts of Andhra Pradesh during the last 3 years and current year is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of District-wise Funds Released Under Development Grant Component of BRGF during the last three years and current year (as on 10.12.2012) to Andhra Pradesh

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	Districts	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (10.12.2012)	Total
1.	Adilabad	26.54	26.54	29.88	18.57	101.53
2.	Anantpur	31.47	31.47	35.80	14.96	113.70
3.	Chittoor	29.00	29.00	32.85	25.50	116.35
4.	Cuddapah	26.50	26.50	29.83	24.05	106.88
5.	Karimnagar	25.92	25.92	28.63	14.23	94.70
6.	Khammam	26.76	26.76	16.65	12.34	82.51
7.	Mahboobnagar	30.56	30.56	34.71	4.92	100.75
8.	Medak	22.63	22.63	25.19	0.00	70.45
9.	Nalgonda	27.05	27.05	30.50	17.49	102.09
10.	Nizamabad	20.70	20.76	22.80	0.00	64.26
11.	Rangareddy	23.19	23.19	25.13	0.00	71.51
12.	Vizianagaram	18.90	18.90	20.70	3.83	62.33
13.	Warrangal	26.06	26.06	27.85	0.00	79.97
TOTAL		335.28	335.34	360.52	135.89	1167.03

Provision of training of elected representatives

2242. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRARAO : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry provides assistance to States for training of Elected Representatives and functionaries of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs);

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of funds provided to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) provides assistance to States for training of Elected Representatives (ERs) and functionaries of Panchayats under the schemes of Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana (RGSY) and Panchayat Mahila Evam Yuva Shakti Abhiyan (PMEYSA).

(c) The details of funds released to Andhra Pradesh under BRGF, RGSY and PMEYSA schemes during last three years is as under:

Year	Amount Released (Rs. In Crore)		
	BRGF	RGSY	PMEYSA
2009-10	22.11	6.22	0.16
2010-11	13.00	6.23	0.0012
2011-12	6.07	-	-

Resignation by Sarpanches in Jammu and Kashmir

†2243. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several Sarpanches in Jammu and Kashmir have resigned following terrorists threats in the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents occurred in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme for the security of the Sarpanches in the State of Jammu and Kashmir; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) Yes, Sir. As per information received from the State Government, a total number of 80 Panches and Sarpanches have tendered their resignation following terrorist threats in the last one year. But out of these 68 members have withdrawn their resignations.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The details of the Sarpanches/Panches killed in militancy related incidents as intimated by the State Government, are as under:

Sl.No.	District	Block	Particulars of Sarpanch/Panch	Panchayat/ Village	Designation	Date of Death
1	Kulgam	Qaimoh	Gh. Mohammad Dar, S/o Ab. Gani Dar, R/o Howoorah	Rampora	Sarpanch	09.02.2012
2	Baramulla	Pattan	Gh. Mohammad Yattoo S/o Ab. Karim Yattoo, R/o Rajpora	Palhalan-A	Sarpanch	09.09.2012
3	Baramulla	Wagoora	Mohammad Shafi Teli S/o Habib Ullah Teli R/o Nowpora	Nowpora	Deputy Sarpanch	23.09.2012

(c) and (d) The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has taken some measures to ensure security to the elected representatives of Panchayats. These include night patrolling by security forces in the areas which are perceived to be vulnerable to such attacks.

National Equal Development Scheme

†2244. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched/included National Equal Development Scheme; and

(b) if so, the, details thereof and progress made with regard to inclusion of this scheme and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj does not have any proposal to launch such scheme.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Panchayat elections in Uttar Pradesh

‡2245. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplates to conduct simultaneous panchayat elections in each State including Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the States where regular panchayat elections are not being conducted;

(c) whether any such case has come to light where the amount allocated for this purpose has been misused; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the election process?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) to (d) Holding of elections to the Panchayats is the responsibility of the State Governments and the State Election Commissions. The Constitution mandates that where the Part IX of the Constitution applies, Panchayat elections be conducted every five years, under the overall superintendence, direction and control of the State Election Commission. The Constitution also empowers the State Legislations to make laws regarding elections. Panchayat elections are held in the States where Part IX of the Constitution applies as mandated by the Constitution. Elections to Panchayats in Andhra Pradesh scheduled in 2011 could not be held because of a stay by the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh on account of percentage of reservation of seats and offices for people belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Elections to Panchayats in Puducherry have been held up because of administrative difficulties.

Backward Districts in Assam

2246. SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the number of backward districts in the State of Assam;

(b) the schemes being implemented for overall developments on the backward districts of that State;

(c) whether Government propose to identify some more districts of Assam; and

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) There are 13 districts identified as backward in Assam under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) scheme.

(b) BRGF scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj is designed to the redress regional imbalances in development. The funds provide financial resources for supplementing and converging existing developmental inflows into identified districts so as to bridge critical gaps in local infrastructure and other development requirements.

- (c) There is no proposal at present to identify some more districts of Assam.

- (d) In view of (c) above, does not arise.

**Impact on functioning of e-governance in Panchayat due to
power crisis in rural areas**

2247. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether power crisis in rural areas is causing several problems for the proper functioning of e-governance;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and measures taken by Government;

(c) whether Government has taken decision to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayat in the country under e-governance scheme;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) will Government plan to evolve a framework to facilitate the use of renewable energy for the proper functioning of e-governance; and

- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO) : (a) and (b) e-Governance in Panchayats is sought to be achieved through the e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) under which 11 Core Common Software applications are planned. Lack of adequate power supply in Panchayats has affected the pace of adoption of these applications in the Panchayats. States have been advised to prefer laptop with extra batteries and desktops with UPS having 6-8 hours backup option in case of Gram Panchayats which are not electrified.

(c) and (d) There is no provision under e-Panchayat MMP for providing broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats in the country. However, the Government has approved the Scheme for creation of National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) for providing broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats. Under NOFN, three pilot projects have been sanctioned to cover Gram Panchayats of Arain Block in Ajmer District (Rajasthan), Panisagar Block in North Tripura District (Tripura), Paravada Block in Visakhapatnam District (A.P.). A total of 58 Gram Panchayats have been provided with 100 Mbps bandwidth each in these three blocks till 15.10.2012.

(e) and (f) States facing power supply problems in Gram Panchayats have been advised to provide solar PV Power Packs.

Number of working days of the Parliament

2248. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) in view of the present deplorable functioning of the Parliament, would the Ministry think of preparing any plan so that Parliament atleast function for 100 days;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, please give the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS : (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since 1993 when the Standing Committee system was introduced, the number of days in the Budget Session have got reduced by about 3-4 weeks as the two Houses have to be adjourned for recess to enable the Departmentally related Standing Committees to consider the Demands of Grants for various Ministries/Departments and make their reports. Therefore, if the reduction in the number of sittings on account of recess period of the Houses is taken in to account, the number of year-wise sittings of the two Houses would be around 100 per year.

Reservation of SC/ST in promotion

2249. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Attorney General of India has suggested Government that the proposed Bill for reservation of SCs/STs in promotion in Government jobs is erroneous;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of Government thereto;

(d) whether Government proposes to include OBCs and poor minorities, including Muslims to provide for quota in promotion in the proposed Bill in view of some recent suggestions after introduction of Bill in the Parliament; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) The Supreme Court in the matter of M. Nagaraj case, while upholding validity of the Constitution amendments regarding reservation in promotion to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, has laid down certain pre-requisite conditions for providing reservation in promotion to SCs and STs, namely the State has to see about inadequacy of representation, backwardness of the class and efficiency of administration. To overcome these pre-requisite conditions, the Government proposed to introduce a bill to amend the Constitution. Opinion of the Attorney General of India was sought on the proposed bill and he has not opined that the Bill on the Constitutional amendment for reservation of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in promotion in the Government jobs was erroneous.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The Bill aims to amend Article 16(4A) so as to continue with existing provisions of reservation in promotion to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, without any impediment.

Suggestion to amend RTI Act

2250. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :

SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sought suggestions from State Government regarding RTI Act, 2005 to amend it, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of States which have sent their suggestions, so far;

(c) the details of the main suggestions received from State Governments;

- (d) the reasons for amendment in RTI Act;
- (e) whether RTI activists have registered their protest against the intention of Government to amend it;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

Effectiveness of Lokayuktas

2251. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sixteen Lokayuktas have sent several recommendations to the Union Government to enhance their “effectiveness” which include making the anti-corruption body, the nodal agency for receiving all graft complaints and conferring the jurisdiction over probe agencies at State level;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Lokayuktas and whether the Union Government has since examined those recommendations;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the further response of Government on the implementation of those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) As per the information available in the Department, the Delhi Lokayukta has forwarded the Resolution passed by the 11th All India Lokayuktas Conference, 2012 held at New Delhi from 2nd November, 2012 to 4th November, 2012 to the Union Law Ministry.

(b) to (d) A copy of the said Resolution, indicating the issues raised and the recommendations made therein, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The State Lokayuktas work under different legislations passed by the respective State legislatures. It is for the respective State Governments to consider the issues raised and recommendations made by the Lokayuktas. The Central Government has no role in the matter. However, to establish the Institution of Lokpal at the Centre level and a uniform Institution of Lokayuktas in all the States, the Government has introduced “The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011” on 22.12.2011 in Lok Sabha. The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 has been passed by Lok Sabha on 27.12.2011 and presently is pending in the Rajya Sabha.

Statement

Resolution passed by the Lokayuktas/Uplokayuktas participating in the Conference after detailed Deliberations in the Colloquium

11th All India Lokayuktas Conference, 2012 held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi under the aegis of Justice Monmohan Sarin, Lokayukta, Delhi from 2nd to 4th November, 2012

All the participating Lokayuktas/Uplokayuktas in the 11th All India Lokayuktas Conference, 2012, hereby resolve as under:-

It is resolved that:-

1. The definition of ‘public servant/public functionaries’ shall also include persons who are members of the Civil Service or All India Service and/or persons holding civil posts under the Union or employed in connection with the affairs of the State. “Public Functionary” shall also include Principal Officer of an NGO receiving grant or financial aid from the State or the Central Government.
2. The Lokayuktas be conferred with powers to take cognizance on receipt of a complaint, other information or *suo moto*.
3. The Lokayuktas being former Judges of High Courts and, having regard to the nature of their functioning, need to be vested with powers to initiate and punish for contempt of Court on the same lines/analogy as the High Courts.

4. During investigation, Lokayuktas/Uplokayuktas may themselves exercise powers of search and seizure and delegate the same powers to any Officer investigation into any complaint(s) under his order/directions.
5. The Lokayuktas/Uplokayuktas, in appropriate cases, seek intervention or impleadment in any proceedings before any Court.
6. The Competent Authority, unless specifically permitted under the statute, shall not carry out any further inquiry or afford hearing to any indicted person, after receiving the recommendations from the Lokayuktas. The Competent Authority, in case of not accepting recommendations, shall give the reasons therefor.
7. The Institution of Lokayukta be made the Nodal Agency for receipt of all complaints for registration of cases against corruption and mal-administration/practices. The Lokayuktas shall forward, where necessary, the complaints to the appropriate authority for action.
8. The Lokayukta(s) as Nodal Agency be also conferred with appropriate supervisory jurisdiction over the anti-corruption bodies/agencies.
9. The Lokayuktas shall enjoy adequate financial and administrative autonomy and, for this purpose, necessary allocation of funds shall be made to them.
10. The Lokayuktas shall take necessary steps to promote awareness and knowledge about the Institution of Lokayuktas, its functioning, powers, responsibilities, jurisdiction etc., so that a common man is informed as to on what all complaints or issues he can approach the Lokayukta or Uplokayukta for redress.
11. Appeal to the print, electronic and social media to strength and build credibility of institutions engaged in eradicating corruption, by objective, balanced and truthful reporting and publication. Further, to endeavor to build a strong public opinion to discourage and deter the indolent, dishonest and corrupt.
12. Appeal to the higher judiciary to appreciate the sensitivity of functioning and objectives of the Lokayukta and inquiries, investigations being conducted by them and the desirability of the same being continued unimpeded, except in exceptional circumstances, specially so, since the findings and conclusions are for the purpose of the recommendations only.
13. Lokayukta(s)/Uplokayuktas be treated as “State Guest” by those States that are not observing this protocol.

Cases handed over to CBI by Assam Government

2252. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total number of cases that has been handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) by the Assam Government in different aspects for last three years and till date;

(b) the details of the present status of the cases being investigated by the CBI in this regard and the time by when they are likely to be completed, case-wise and year-wise, till date; and

(c) the reasons of delaying in completion of cases by the CBI in Assam and the action taken to expedite for early disposal of cases by the investigating agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) 28 cases have been handed over to CBI for investigation by the State Government of Assam in the last 3 years (*i.e.* 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 till 31.10.2012) as follows:

Year	Cases handed over by State Government of Assam
2009	05
2010	06
2011	09
2012 (upto 31.10.2012)	08
TOTAL	28

(b) As on 31.10.2012, out of aforesaid 28 Regular Cases, charge-sheets have been filed in 14 cases, closure report has been filed in one case and 13 cases are still under investigation. The details of these cases reflecting case No., name of accused and allegation in brief and status of cases are given in Annexure. [*See Appendix 227 Annexure No. 30*]

(c) In respect of cases pending under investigation, the delay is attributed to reasons like complicated nature of cases, difficult terrain of North East, requirement for investigation in more than one state of North East etc.

Violation of CCS (Conduct) Rules

‡2253. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a person reporting the violation of rules of CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 by a Government employee to the officer of that Government employee can move the court if the concerned officer conniving with that employee does not take any action against him, so that action for violation of rules of CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 may be initiated against Government employee; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Report of Expert Committee on Lok Pal

2254. SHRI N. BALAGANGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expert Committee on Lok Pal had submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features of the report;

(c) whether it is a fact that the report included a recommendation that the Prime Minister should also be under the purview of Lokpal;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and the response of the Government thereto; and

(e) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) The Rajya Sabha, by adopting a motion on 21.05.2012, referred the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha for examination and report. The Select Committee has submitted its report to the Rajya Sabha on 23.11.2012. The Select Committee report has been put in public domain at <http://164.100.47.5/newcommittee/reports> (Rajya Sabha official website).

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) to (e) The Select Committee, in its report, has not recommended any change to the provisions as contained in the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 which provides that the Prime Minister shall be under the jurisdiction of the Lokpal but with certain safeguards.

Amendment in RTI Act

‡2255. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to review the Right to Information Act in view of its rampant use by the civil society which is using it successfully as a weapon in making corruption in Government machinery a national issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this act was rendered factual confirmation to the lack of transparency in the working of Government, if so, whether Government would consider enhancing the scope of this Act, instead of putting restrictions on it; and

(d) if so, by when and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Government is of the considered opinion that the provisions of RTI Act is meeting its objective to promote transparency and accountability in the working of public authorities.

(d) Does not arise.

Killing of whistleblowers

2256. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that killing of number of whistleblowers in the country is increasing continuously;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to prevent such killings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) The identity of whistleblowers is confidential as per Department of Personnel and Training's Resolution, dated 21st April, 2004. Therefore, data relating to whistleblowers killed is not maintained centrally. However, the Government has introduced a Bill for protection of whistleblowers which has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 27th December, 2011 as the "Whistle Blowers Protection Bill, 2011" and is presently pending in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill provides for adequate safeguards against victimization of the person making disclosure on any allegation of corruption or willful misuse of power or willful misuse of discretion against any public servant. It is also provided that if the Competent Authority is of the opinion that either the complainant or public servant or the witnesses, etc. need protection, the Competent Authority shall issue appropriate directions to the concerned Government authorities (including police) which shall take necessary steps, through its agencies, to protect such complainant or public servant or persons concerned.

Constitutional status for CBI and CVC

2257. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering giving constitutional status to the CBI and CVC to make them more effective in fighting corruption as suggested by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on 7 November, 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government intends to take any other steps to grant autonomous status to these bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal with the Government to give constitutional status to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The CVC is a statutory body and derives its powers from the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003. The CBI derives its power from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946. Both organizations have adequate functional autonomy.

Posting of employees in remote areas

2258. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government/PSU employees are not happy with the posting in remote areas;
- (b) if so, the details of transfer rejected by the employers; and
- (c) the steps Government is taking to provide such an environment that people could move happily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) Government is not aware of any such specific complaints.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The respective Ministry/Departments under the Government of India and the Management of respective Central Public Sector Enterprises are having their own guidelines for transfer/posting of their employees depending upon their specific requirements.

Government of India has also introduced various incentives for officers belonging to North-Eastern cadres of All India Services like grant of special allowance, retention of government accommodation at the last place of posting, additional weightage for empanelment and for central deputation, special health care, etc.

CBI approaching DoPT for prosecuting a telecom operator

2259. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that CBI had approached Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) for its views on prosecuting a leading telecom operator as quoted in various newspapers recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this is the standard practice carried out by CBI in all its cases; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for approaching DoPT and other agencies for their views?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. CBI has not approached the Secretary, DoPT for his views on prosecuting a leading telecom operator. However, the Secretary, DoPT was requested to seek opinion of Ld. Attorney General of India on certain queries/issues in RC 24(A)/2011/CBI/ACB/Delhi (2G Spectrum Case).

(c) and (d) In certain cases where there is a difference of opinion between Director, CBI and Director of Prosecution, CBI, references may be sent to the Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) for seeking the opinion of Ld. Attorney General of India.

Overcharging at branches of Kendriya Bhandar

2260. SHRI A.A. JINNAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of complaints of consumers received by management of Kendriya Bhandar, New Delhi, regarding overcharging by the officials at branches of Kendriya Bhandar in Delhi/New Delhi, during the last five years;

(b) if so, the action taken on each of them and the amount of overcharging in each case;

(c) the action that was taken against the guilty officials in each case and the amount overcharged; and

(d) the relief that was given to the complainant in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) to (d) Kendriya Bhandar has received 10 complaints regarding overcharging by officials at branches of Kendriya Bhandar in Delhi/New Delhi during the last five years. These complaints were duly investigated and action taken as per details given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of complaints of consumers received by management of Kendriya Bhandar, New Delhi regarding overcharging by the officials at branches of Kendriya Bhandar in Delhi/New Delhi during the last five years

Sl. No.	Details of complaint	Details of Amt. of overcharging as per complainant	Action taken against the guilty officials	Relief given to the complainant
1	2	3	4	5
Year: 2007-08				
1.	19.06.2007 Telephonic complaint from a customer	Overcharging of Rs. 1/- on Urad Chilka	Imposed penalty of reduction to lower stage in the time scale of pay by one stage for a period of one year without cumulative effect on the Incharge.	Complainant politely declined to accept the refund being a meagre amount.
2.	05.11.2007 Sh. Umesh Kumar Sarin, R.K. Puram	Overcharging of Rs. 23.97 on certain items.	The In-charge of the store was transferred out to another Kendriya Bhandar store.	An amount of Rs. 92/- was refunded to the customer on 14.05.2009.
Year: 2008-09				
1.	29.1.2009 Sh. Umesh Kumar Sarin, R.K. Puram.	Overcharging of Rs. 48/- on certain items.	Penalty of reduction to lower stage in the time scale of pay by one stage for a period of two year without cumulative effect on the Incharge on 27.4.2009.	The amount overcharged had already been refunded by the store In-charge.

2.	23.3.2009 Sh. Umesh Kumar Sarin, R.K. Puram	Overcharging of tax on Trishul White Pheryl % at R.K. Puram Sector-III, Store.	Recordable warning issued to Incharge, Kendriya Bhandar Store at R.K. Puram-III, New Delhi on 12.8.2009.	Refunded Rs. 26 to the customer.
3.	30.3.2009 Rashtriya Sahara report by Sh. S.K. Goswami	Overcharging of Rs. 13/- on Sambhar Masala and Tea City tea purchased from KB Store at Pushp Vihar-I.	A penalty of withholding of increment for a period of one year was imposed on the store incharge <i>vide</i> order dated 12th August, 2009.	The overcharged amount of Rs. 13/- has been refunded to the customer by Kendriya Bhandar.
Year: 2009-2010				
1.	15.04.2009 Sh. Umesh Kumar Sarin, R.K. Puram	Overcharging of Rs. 1.50 on Shivaji Chandan Agarbati in Patpar Ganj store.	A penalty of reduction of his pay by one stage for a period of three years was imposed against Store Incharge on 25th June, 2009.	Complainant politely declined to accept the refund being a small amount.
2.	6.5.2009 Customer Complaint recd. by a KB officer	Overcharging by Store Incharge on Atta by Rs. 2/- per bag of 10 kgs.	A penalty of withholding of increment for a period of one year without any cumulative effect was imposed on 31st October, 2009.	The customer politely declined to accept the refund.

1	2	3	4	5
Year: 2010-2011				
1.	27.10.2010 Complaint received from Inderjit Guglani resident of JNU against JNU-II store.	Overcharging of Rs. 2/- on Scotch Brite Scrubb.	Warning letter issued to Store Incharge, JNU store and Shri Keshav Singh, Helper on 11.10.2011.	The overcharged amount of R. 2/- has been refunded to the customer by the Store Incharge.
2.	9.1.2011 Complaint received from Shri B.P. Sharma, resident of Laxmibai Nagar against INA Colony store.	Overcharging of Rs. 7 to Rs. 10 on Rajdhani Kesari Chana.	After investigation no overcharging was detected at Kendriya Bhandar store.	The complainant was informed accordingly.
Year: 2011-12				
1.	10.10.11 Complaint of Sh. B.P. Sharma, Laxmibai Nagar, New Delhi	Overcharging of Rs. 7/- in Desi Ghee.	After investigation no overcharging was detected at the Kendriya Bhandar store.	The complainant was informed accordingly.

Ensuring information under RTI Act

‡2261. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether informations are not being provided by Government departments within the time period as prescribed under Section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action being taken by Government to ensure that the information is provided by departments;

(c) whether any action has been taken against any department/official for not providing information under this section;

(d) if so, the details of the reformative action taken in this regard; and

(e) the number of cases registered for not providing the information sought under the Right to Information Act, 2005?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) Compliance of the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005 including Section 4 is a statutory obligation of all public authorities.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Information Commission does not compile such information.

(d) The Central Government through various means, including training of stakeholders, publishing and distribution of guides, have been impressing upon the public authorities to disclose maximum information proactively so that citizens need not resort to filing of RTI applications to access information available with the public authorities.

(e) The Central Information Commission does not compile such information.

Supreme Court's criteria for choosing CIC

2262. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Apex Court has directed that Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) be chosen from only among retired or serving Supreme Court Judges or Chief Justices of High Courts and half the Information Commissioners be from judicial background; and

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the reaction of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The Government has filed a review petition against the judgement dated 13.09.2012 of Supreme Court in WP(C) No. 210/2012.

Increase in annual plan for Rajasthan

†2263. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the increase made in the annual plan of the Rajasthan State for the year 2012-13, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government proposes to make a special provision in the next plan for the desert and tribal dominated areas; and
- (c) if so, the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) The Annual Plan of Rajasthan for the year 2012-13 has increased by Rs. 6000.00 crore over the Annual Plan 2011-12. The approved outlay of Rajasthan for the Annual Plan 2012-13 is Rs. 33500.00 crore while for the Annual Plan 2011-12, it was Rs. 27500.00 crore.

(b) and (c) Government of Rajasthan has intimated that preparation of draft Annual Plan 2013-14 is under process. The details will be known only after the finalisation of Annual Plan 2013-14.

Tribal districts in Andhra Pradesh

2264. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of each of the project undertaken under the Integrated Action Plan (IAP) for 60 selected tribal and backward districts in the country;
- (b) the details of physical targets set and achieved in the identified tribal districts in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has identified some more districts under IAP; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details of districts identified from Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) An Integrated Action Plan (IAP) for 60 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts was approved by the Government on 25.11.2010 with a block grant of Rs. 25 crore and Rs. 30 crore per district for 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. Currently, IAP covers 82 districts including 8 districts of Andhra Pradesh. IAP has also been extended in its present form to 2012-13 with an allocation of Rs. 30 crore per district. The details of type of works taken up as per the information given by the State Governments as on 8.12.2012 are as follows:

Sl.No.	Type of Work	Total
1.	Anganwadi Centres	11459
2.	Ashram Schools	2295
3.	Community Hall	823
4.	Drinking Water Facilities/Drainage & Sanitation	18480
5.	Electric Lights	8719
6.	Godowns	923
7.	Health Centres/Facilities	3266
8.	Livelihood Activities	1104
9.	Minor Irrigation Works	4592
10.	Miscellaneous Activity	0
11.	School Buildings/School Infrastructure	8608
12.	Skill Development and Training	577
13.	Veterinary Hospitals	173
14.	Village Roads	17610
15.	Others*	16661
TOTAL		95290

(b) In Andhra Pradesh, out of a total of 4949 works taken up, 2289 works have been completed as on 8th December, 2012.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, 18 districts were added on 7th December, 2011 and another 4 districts were added *w.e.f.* 14th June, 2012. Two districts of Andhra Pradesh *viz.* Adilabad and Khammam were included in the original 60 IAP districts. Six more districts *viz.* East Godavari, Karimnagar, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Warangal were added to IAP on 7th December, 2011.

Service of Bharat Nirman Volunteers

2265. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Bharat Nirman Volunteers in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the service of Bharat Nirman Volunteers has significantly improved the access to services of rural households;
- (c) whether there has been an impact assessment done for the Bharat Nirman Volunteers Programme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Ministry has any plan under consideration that would ensure employment to the youth, after their contract ends, as a Bharat Nirman Volunteers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) There are 173690 Bharat Nirman Volunteers enrolled so far all over the country. The State-wise number of Bharat Nirman Volunteers enrolled is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Every Bharat Nirman Volunteer is attached with a maximum of 40 village households for facilitating delivery of public services under various government programmes to eligible rural households. The impact of these volunteers is not assessed so far.

- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No such proposal is under consideration.

Statement*State-wise number of Bharat Nirman Volunteers enrolled*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Bharat Nirman Volunteers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29581
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	99
3.	Assam	4904
4.	Bihar	1233
5.	Chhattisgarh	5404
6.	Goa	0
7.	Gujarat	12950
8.	Haryana	1124
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2024
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	359
11.	Jharkhand	1464
12.	Karnataka	2844
13.	Kerala	880
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7257
15.	Maharashtra	8644
16.	Manipur	5373
17.	Meghalaya	1168
18.	Mizoram	384
19.	Nagaland	739
20.	Odisha	336

1	2	3
21.	Punjab	2373
22.	Rajasthan	23023
23.	Sikkim	746
24.	Tamil Nadu	38672
25.	Tripura	690
26.	Uttarakhand	3588
27.	Uttar Pradesh	17569
28.	West Bengal	262
TOTAL		173690

CSS/ACA schemes implemented in Assam

2266. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and Additional Central Scheme (ACA) being implemented during last six years for infrastructure and allround development of the State of Assam;
- (b) the details of amounts sanctioned and amount spent;
- (c) whether CBI or any other Central agencies is conducting any investigation into the irregularities committed by the State authorities in any such scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details with outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

Programmes to improve condition of poor in Jharkhand

2267. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people living below poverty line in Jharkhand;

(b) the programmes of the Union Government to ameliorate the condition of the poor people in the State; and

(c) the number of people benefited by these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) As per the latest estimates of poverty released by the Planning Commission through a Press Note issued on 19th March, 2012, the number of people living below poverty line in Jharkhand is estimated as 12.6 million in 2009-10.

(b) The Government has taken various measures for upliftment of the poor and improve their quality of life through direct intervention by implementing specific poverty reduction and mitigation programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission (RGDWM), Indira Awaas Yojana (LAY), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) etc. All other policy initiatives of the Government which have led to higher GDP growth in the country have individually and collectively contributed to raising the living standards of people over time and to the decline of absolute poverty and destitution. All these programmes and schemes are implemented throughout the country including Jharkhand.

(c) Comparing two latest estimates of poverty ratio made by the Planning Commission, the percentage of people living below poverty line in Jharkhand has declined from 45.3% in 2004-05 to 39.1% in 2009-10. In terms of number of poor, it has declined from 13.2 million in 2004-05 to 12.6 million in 2009-10. The decline in number of poor during this period is the combined effect of economic growth and the poverty alleviation programmes. The number of people assisted under major programmes in Jharkhand in 2011-12 is as follows:

Sl.No.	Programme/Scheme	2011-12
1	2	3
1.	<i>MGNREGS</i>	
	No. of households provided Employment	1556569
	No. of Person days generated (lakh)	601.24
2.	<i>SGSY/NRLM</i>	
	Total Swarozgaris assisted	57019

1	2	3
3.	<i>IAY</i> No of houses completed	117343
4.	<i>Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)</i> No. of Urban poor beneficiaries assisted for setting up individual micro enterprises (USEP) No. of beneficiaries provided skill training (STEP-UP)	81 438
5.	<i>Total Sanitation Campaign</i> No. of BPL household provided with financial assistance for construction of individual households latrines (IHHLs) (as on 09.12.2012)	1420437

Allocation of natural resources

2268. SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any committee was established to assess how to allocate natural resources;
- (b) if so, the details of its mandate;
- (c) whether this committee's report has been submitted;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) by when this report would be placed in the Parliament for discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition of the Committee and Terms of Reference is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir. The Committee submitted its Report on 31-5-2011.

(d) Summary of Recommendations of the Committee is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(e) The Committee was constituted by an executive order. Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs has set up a Monitoring Committee to review the status of implementation of accepted recommendations of the Committee.

Statement-I*Composition and TOR of the Committee on Allocation of Natural Resources*

The Committee on Allocation of Natural resources was constituted on 31st January, 2011 under the chairmanship of Shri Ashok Chawla, the then Finance Secretary. The Composition and TOR of the Committee is as under:

Composition of the Committee

Shri Ashok Chawla, Finance Secretary	-	Chairman
Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	-	Member
Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests	-	Member
Secretary, Ministry of Coal	-	Member
Secretary, Department of Telecommunications	-	Member
Secretary, Ministry of Defence	-	Member
Secretary, Ministry of Mines	-	Member
Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources	-	Member
Secretary, Department of Land Resources	-	Member
Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure	-	Member
Representative of Planning Commission (not below the rank of Adviser) Shri Chandrajeet Banerjee	-	Member
Director-General, Confederation of Indian Industry	-	Member
Shri Rajiv Kumar, Director-General, FICCI	-	Member
Shri Govind Mohan, Joint Secretary Cabinet Secretariat	-	Member Secretary

Terms of Reference of the Committee were:

- (a) to identify major natural resources which are allotted/allocated/distributed by the Government of India and the institutional framework for utilization of such resources;

- (b) to examine the efficacy and suitability of existing legal and regulatory frameworks and rules and procedures in this regard;
- (c) to suggest measures to optimize the benefits of such utilization for all stakeholders, while ensuring sustainability of the resources.
- (d) To suggest measures for promoting transparency and enhancing effectiveness in allocation, pricing and utilization of these resources.
- (e) To suggest changes in legal, institutional and regulatory framework to implement the above recommendations; and
- (f) any other issue(s) related to the above.

Statement-II

Recommendations of the Committee on Allocation of Natural Resources.

The Committee in its deliberations grappled with the central problem of revenue maximisation, *vis-a-vis* protection of public interest. This issue was discussed thread bare with the Ministries of Coal, Mines, Petroleum & Natural Gas and Telecom. The Committee has tried to strike a balance between these two objectives while making its recommendations. The Committee has also noted proposed policies and regulatory changes being contemplated by the Ministries dealing with identified natural resources and made suggestions for improvements/modifications in the policies/regulations under consideration.

2. The thrust of the Committees recommendation is to move towards a market mechanism for allocation and pricing of identified natural resources. The Committee, however, has taken note of the existing commitments and suggested that in case of gas, the market related prices may be made mandatory for new gas discoveries. The Committee has recommended full allocation of gas for fertilizer plants at subsidised rates and suggested a gradual freeing of pricing for power sector so that gas based power stations ultimately become peaking facilities, which is the best use of natural gas.

3. In case of mines and coal blocks, the Committee has made a number of recommendations for increasing transparency in the auction processes and move to a market mechanism. In the short term *i.e.* over the next two years it recommends creation of a platform owned by CIL for transaction of coal and allowing existing allottees of captive blocks to sell coal through this coal platform to notified users. In case of mines,

which is a State subject, the proposed MMDR Act is a significant step towards reform of the mining industry. The Committee has recognised this fact and made certain suggestions for improving transparency in the bidding processes.

4. In case of Petroleum, the Committee noted the NELP award process which is well established. It, however, recommends that DGH should be reconstituted in to an independent technical office attached to the Ministry and establish an upstream regulator to focus on regulatory functions. It recommends that upstream regulator can be part of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB).

5. In case of Spectrum, the Committee recommends that all future telecom licensees should be unified licenses and spectrum should be delinked from the licenses. The spectrum for telecom access services should be made available through suitable market related processes. Its major recommendation in regard to spectrum is that Merger and Acquisition guidelines should be liberalised to ensure competition. Spectrum sharing and issue of spectrum trading should also be looked by the Ministry at appropriate stage.

6. The Committee has recommended to establish an ab-initio classification of forest based on ecological value to improve the predictability of clearances for diversion of forest land. The minutes of the meeting of various statutory bodies under Ministry of Environment and Forests should be made available on the website of Ministry to ensure transparency. Payments under the Net Present Value Regime for forest land should be suitably readjusted as forest land as value over and above the value of only land.

7. The Committee has made a number of recommendations on land available with Central Government Departments and Organisations. It has recommended to create an institutional framework for a centralised and transparent data bank which would include the ownership details, area allotted and possible land users along with actual status with regard to utilisation in addition to the satellite images and GIS mapping. Central Government departments need to utilise the land for most optimum use as well as maximum permissible F.A.R. This exercise is like to generate surplus land resources for other alternative users.

8. In case of water, the Committee recommends a comprehensive national legislation. Water could either be brought under concurrent list or a framework law could be enacted which could then be adopted by the State Governments. It has recommended an amendment to River Board Act, 1956 to include ground water in its

ambit while assigning the River Board Act a managerial role in the management of water resources.

9. In brief, the Committee has recommended movement towards more market related and open and transparent mechanisms for pricing and allocation of identified natural resources. The recommendations have been discussed with the respective Ministries and their major concerns taken on board by the Committee.

Overlap in the data collected for NPR and UID

2269. SHRI N.K. SINGH :

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any overlap in the data collected for the purpose of the National Population Register (NPR) and the Unique Identity (UID) Project;

(b) whether the data collected by the NPR would be accepted for issuing a UID number;

(c) whether cost of implementation of the NPR Project and UID Project can be lowered with the removal of the overlap and the harmonization of the two schemes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the measures taken to create harmonization in the NPR Project and UID Project and remove the overlap between the two;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) to (f) The Registrar General, India (RGI) is creating a National Population Register (NPR) of persons usually residing in India under the Citizenship (registration of citizens and issue of national identity cards) Rules, 2003 read with the Citizenship Act, 1955. UIDAI is issuing unique identification numbers (called aadhaar numbers) to all residents as a developmental initiative. Essentially the processes of creation of NPR and UIDAI enrolments for issue of UID numbers are different. The only point of convergence between the NPR exercise and the enrolments by non-RGI Registrars for UID project is the collection of biometrics and its use for

de-duplication and generation of unique identity for every resident. With a view to streamline biometric data collection of residents, the Government has decided that in States where UIDAI has made good progress or where States/UTs Government's have given commitment for aadhaar enrolments and are planning to integrate with various service delivery applications, aadhaar enrolments through non-RGI Registrars will continue. Accordingly, certain States/UTs have been specified where non-RGI Registrars of UIDAI will continue to collect data whereas in other States/UTs, only RGI will enroll residents. It has also been decided that NPR enrolment will continue as envisaged, but, if in the course of NPR enrolment, a person indicates that he/she is already enrolled for Aadhaar, the biometric data will not be captured by RGI. Instead, the Aadhaar number/enrolment number will be recorded in NPR and biometric data will be sourced from UIDAI.

RGI is one of the Registrars of UIDAI and aadhaar numbers are generated for data collected for NPR.

- (g) Does not arise.

Implementation of UID pilot projects

2270. SHRI N.K. SINGH :

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the pilot projects under the Unique Identity (UID) project undertaken so far;
- (b) the status of implementation of the UID pilot projects;
- (c) whether any performance audit has been conducted for the UID pilot projects; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) The Pilot Projects are being implemented in Jharkhand, Tripura and Maharashtra. The details are as under:

- (i) **Direct Cash Transfer into a beneficiary account through Aadhaar Payment Bridge System:** This system has been used for transfer of various

welfare benefits like MGNREGAS, Scholarships, Old Age Pensions and BPL payments for UIDAI enrollment etc.

(ii) **Ease of access of Financial Services to Rural population through Aadhaar Enabled Payment Systems:** The resident to use Aadhaar as his/her identity to authenticate and subsequently operate his/her respective Aadhaar Enabled Bank Account (AEA). Approximately 45 micro ATMs with Standardized Financial Application developed by respective banks have been deployed.

(iii) **PDS Pilot in Andhra Pradesh**

This pilot was initiated by Consumer Affairs, Food and Civil Supplies Department of Andhra Pradesh in the East Godavari district on 1st September, 2012 later in Hyderabad district also. Out of targeted 1 lakh households with around 4.5 lakh, beneficiaries, more than 2 lakh ration deliveries have been made so far.

(iv) **LPG Delivery Pilot in Mysore, Karnataka**

This pilot was initiated by the three Oil Marketing Companies - IOCL, and BPCL and HPCL in January 2012, in collaboration with Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to use Aadhaar biometric authentication at the time of delivery of LPG cylinders to minimize diversion of subsidized LPG cylinders. The target consumer base for the pilot is around 85,000 beneficiaries.

(c) and (d) No such audit has been conducted for the UID Pilot Projects.

Attainment of MDGs targets

†2271. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is ranked at 89th position among the list of 125 nations in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 2012 Report;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per the statistics issued by the UNICEF 32.7 per cent population of India is surviving on less than a dollar;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the reasons behind such disparity of sustenance in India; and

(d) the details of schemes run by Government to tackle the situation and the impact thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) As per the report of UN Millennium Development Goal, 2012 no such position for India is mentioned. The report contains performance of different countries on account of Goals/indicators embodying the different Millennium Development Goals.

(b) and (c) As per World Bank database, the percent of India's population surviving with less than a dollar per day is 32.7% in 2009-10. The disparity of sustenance among the different income classes of the population arises due to lack of income and adequate employment opportunities. Faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth articulated by the Planning Commission in the Approach to the Twelfth Five Year Plan addresses these issues.

(d) The Administrative Ministries such as the Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development are implementing a number of schemes and programmes relevant to attainment of MDGs targets.

Government has initiated various measures to improve the quality of life of the people and to reduce poverty in the country through direct intervention by implementing specific poverty reduction and mitigation programmes such as: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), etc. All other policy initiatives of the government which have led to higher GDP growth in the country have individually and collectively contributed to raising the living standards of people over time and to the decline of absolute poverty and destitution. Over the years the sharp edges of acute poverty have been stunted as a result of various programmes and policies of the Government as also there has been a reduction in the percentage of people living below poverty.

Issuing of ID card read by hand-held device

2272. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs wants to give all adult residents an identity card which could be read with a hand-held device that would not require net connectivity;

(b) if so, whether the Aadhaar scheme can perform many functions of the scheme mentioned at (a) above; and

(c) if so, whether this would not entail avoidable extra expenditure especially when there are resource constraints due to non-availability of huge funds required for other developmental projects aiming at socio-economic upliftment of deprived sections of the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The need to create a National Population Register (NPR) and issue Resident Identity Smart Cards (RICs) stems from the assessment of the Government of the internal security system in the country while Aadhaar is essentially meant for welfare and development functions. The RIC would enable both online and offline authentication of identity in a secure manner and will complement the efforts of Aadhaar which works online and does not involve issuing a smart card. Therefore, there is no duplication.

Amount spent in Bharat Nirman

†2273. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that few years back Government had initiated a scheme namely 'Bharat Nirman' for development of rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, when this scheme was started and the total amount spent upto September, 2012 under the said scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that certain targets set for development of villagers in the rural areas under this scheme were fulfilled within time-limit; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details of these targets and the time by when these targets were to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India has launched the Bharat Nirman Programme, a time bound business plan to build rural infrastructure in 2005 for the development of rural areas of the country.

(b) Bharat Nirman Programme lauched in 2005 has two Phases. Phase I of the programme was implemented in the period 2005-06 to 2008-09. Phase II is being implemented from 2009-10. The Bharat Nirman Programme, has six components of Rural infrastructure namely, Rural Drinking Water (National Rural Drinking Water Programme), Housing (Indira Awaas Yojana), Irrigation (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme), Rural Roads (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)), Electrification (Rajiv Gandhi Grammen Vidyutikaran Yojana), Rural Telephony. Total amount spent on various components of Bharat Nirman is shown in the table below:

Component	Amount spent (Rs. in Crores)
Rural Drinking Water (National Rural Drinking Water Programme)	50,926.40 (upto Sep. 2012)
IAY Housing (Indira Awaas Yojana)	67155.16 (upto Sep. 2012)
Irrigation (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme)	37616.34 (up to Oct. 2012)
Rural Roads (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)	166514.71 (from 2007-08 to Oct. 2012)*
Electrification (Rajiv Gandhi Grammen Vidyutikaran Yojana)	26154.33 (upto Sep. 2012)
Rural Telephony.	226.08 (upto Sep. 2012)

* For PMGSY as a whole including Bharat Nirman Component.

(c) and (d) The physical targets and achievements of the six components are given in the Statement.

Statement*Physical targets and achievements of the six components***1. Rural Drinking water (National Rural Drinking Water Programme)***(No. of habitations)*

Period	Un-covered Habitations		Quality affected habitations		Slipped-back	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
Phase-I (2005-06 to 2008-09)	55,067	54,440	2,16,968	50,168	3,31,604	3,58,362,
Phase -II (2009-10 to 2013-14)	962	753*	1,32,000	87,028*	4,34,268	3,61,054*

* As on 30.10.2012.

2. Housing (Indira Awaas Yojana)

Component	Target	Achievement
Houses Constructed Phase-I (2005-06 to 2008-09)	60 lakh houses	71.76 lakh houses
Houses constructed Phase-II (2009-10 to 2013-14)	120 lakh houses	95.1 lakh houses (upto September, 2012)

3. Irrigation (Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme)

Component	Target	Achievement
Irrigation potential created Phase-I (2005-06 to 2008-09)	10 m.ha (2005-09)	7.3155 m.ha (2005-09)
Irrigation potential created Phase-II (2009-10 to 2013-14)		4.460 m.ha (2009-10 to 2011-12)

4. Rural Roads (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY))*(as on Oct, 2012)*

Activity	Target (2005-12)	Achievement
Habitations (in Nos.)	63,940	46,695
New Connectivity (Length in km)	1,89,897	1,49,078
Upgradation including renewal (in km)	1,94,131	2,42,400

5. Electrification (Rajiv Gandhi Grammen Vidyutikaran Yojana)

The targets for the scheme were achieved by November, 2011

Activity	Target	Achievement
Electrifying unelectrified villages	1.0 lakh villages	1.0 lakh villages
BPL household electricity connections	1.75 crore BPL households	1.75 crore BPL households

6. Rural Telephony*(As on 31.08.2012)*

Activity	Target	Achievement
Village Public Telephones	62,302	62,101

Growth rate of investment

2274. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate of investment in the economy is estimated to have registered a significant decline during 2011-12;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has adversely affected investment in States too;

(d) if so, the States which have been significantly affected due to the decline in investment; and

- (e) the impact on the economy of Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the Revised Estimates of Annual National Income released by Central Statistics Office (CSO), the investment measured in terms of Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF) at current prices has risen from Rs. 2,331,382 crores in 2010-11 to Rs. 2,614,634 crores in 2011-12 thereby indicating an increase by 12.1% in nominal terms.

- (c) to (e) In view of above, does not arise.

Launching of GSAT-12

2275. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI :

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether GSAT-12 is to be launched;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) The GSAT-12 satellite has already been launched on July 15, 2011.

(b) This satellite weighs 1410 kgs and carries 12 Extended C-band transponders.

(c) The objective of GSAT-12 is to facilitate Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) based applications, primarily for societal applications.

Launching of space labs

2276. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) by when we are planning to launch space labs and manned spaceships and set up our space stations;
(b) whether Government has any perspective planning to put an astronaut on the moon;

(c) whether Government is training our personnel in advanced space technology so as to match global standards of countries like USA, Russia, etc.; and

(d) whether an extensive studies/training programmes are pre-requisite for monitoring space debris and near "Earth" celestial bodies, has been kept in view while drawing roadmap for Thirteenth or Fourteenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : (a) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) does not have plans in the immediate future to launch space labs and manned space ships and to set up our space stations. However, ISRO has undertaken the development of critical technologies required for manned missions in the Earth's orbit.

(b) India does not have any perspective plan to put an astronaut on the Moon, as of now.

(c) The Department of Space (DOS) has developed well structured training programmes, in-house, as entry-level induction-cum-training programme and a mid-career training-cum-orientation programme for middle-level Scientists/Engineers of ISRO/DOS in all required domains, which are relevant to 'Space'.

The Department of Space is also utilising the training/education opportunities that are available through institutions of international repute like International Space University, which organises Space Studies Programme annually.

(d) Yes, Sir. India actively participated in the efforts of the Space Debris Working Group of the United Nations Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in formulating the space debris mitigation measures leading to the adoption of the UNCOPOUS Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines. India is an active member of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee.

ISRO has successfully developed methodologies and software tools to predict close approaches between its functional spacecraft and other resident space objects, including space debris. For Indian launches, collision avoidance analysis is carried out by ISRO, to identify the safe lift-off times within the designated launch windows.

ISRO has been carrying out Space Object Proximity Awareness analysis for all its operational Low Earth Orbit spacecraft on a daily basis, to assess the collision risk to its space assets as well as to determine appropriate risk mitigation strategies in advance.

ISRO has initiated studies on Near Earth Objects and deflection strategies for Near Earth Asteroids

Dominant market position of SAIL

2277. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has abused its dominant market position in terms of pricing the iron ore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps Government takes to ensure prevention of misuse of dominant market position by State-run producers;
- (d) the details thereof;
- (e) the steps Government would take with regard to this specific issue; and
- (f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

Modernization and expansion in VSP

2278. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken modernization and expansion project in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for carrying out modernization and expansion activities in Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The process of expansion of VSP's production capacity to 6.3 MTPA against original capacity of 3 MTPA of liquid steel is to be completed in two stages. Installation of new Blast Furnace and Steel Melting Shop to produce additional 2.8 MTPA of liquid steel along with addition of new Wire Rod Mill to produce 0.60 MTPA of finished

product has been carried out in Stage-I expansion and installation of two new Finishing Mills, viz. Special Bar Mill and Structural Mill to produce additional 1.45 MTPA of finished steel has been carried out in Stage-II expansion of VSP. Under Stage-I of expansion major units, viz., Blast Furnace, Turbo Blower-4, Oxygen Plant etc. had already been commissioned. Several auxiliary systems viz. Oxygen Plant, Water System, Power System, Utility System etc. have also been commissioned and under operation. Balance units of Stage-I are planned to be commissioned progressively by end of the current financial year. In both the Special Bar Mill and Structural Mill of Stage-II expansion, almost all the supplies have been completed. Major Civil and Structural works are complete and the equipment erection is in progress. Several related units viz. water system, power system etc. are getting commissioned matching the requirement.

VSP is in the process of modernizing and upgrading its existing facilities to upkeep the health of the existing Blast Furnaces, Converters of Steel Melting Shop and Sinter Machines. In the process of modernization, production capacity will go up to 7.3 MTPA.

- (c) Not Applicable, in view of replies at (a) and (b) above.

Recruitment in BSP

†2279. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) is number one in the field of production and import;

(b) if so, the reasons for no new recruitment of workers there;

(c) whether it is a fact that the officers and workers are being retired before superannuation; and

(d) whether Government would provide the figures of officers and workers thus retired before superannuation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) is number one steel plant in production amongst all integrated steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). BSP does not import any steel.

(b) BSP has recruited 1,713 non-executive employees since the year 2007-08.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

Proposal for CFA for tourist destinations in Uttar Pradesh

2280. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has received a proposal from Government of Uttar Pradesh on adopting Carry and Forward Agent (CFA) for erection of signages on the roads leading to tourist destinations in Uttar Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Tourism project sanctioned by Government to Odisha

2281. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourism projects sanctioned by Government to Odisha during 2012-13;

(b) the details of names of project and sanctioned amount;

(c) whether any other projects requested by the Odisha Government pending with the Ministry;

(d) what is the reason behind not to sanctioned these projects; and

(e) the number of tourists visited the State in the last five years, the details of Domestic and foreign tourists thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) to (d) Development and promotion of tourism including festival is undertaken primarily by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, however, extends financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism projects which are prioritized every year based on discussions with them, subject to availability of funds, inter-se-priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

No tourism infrastructure project prioritized during the current financial year 2012-13 has been sanctioned to the State Government of Odisha on account of non-receipt of the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) from them. However, six DPRs have been received recently for Ministry's approval.

(e) The number of domestic and foreign tourist visits to the State of Odisha in the last five years is as under.

(in lakh)

Sl.No.	Year	Domestic Tourists	Foreign Tourists
1.	2007	59.45	0.42
2.	2008	63.58	0.44
3.	2009	68.92	0.46
4.	2010	75.92	0.50
5.	2011 (Provisional)	82.71	0.61

Tourism infrastructure in Andhra Pradesh

2282. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tourism infrastructure and Human Resource Development (HRD), State Institute of Hotel Managements (IHMs) and Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management (IITTM) projects sanctioned and executed during Eleventh Plan in Andhra Pradesh; year-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned, released and utilized of the above projects, year-wise;

(c) whether all Utilization Certificates have been received in the Ministry;

(d) if not, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that there are projects which have not been completed in time; and

(f) if so, the details of the same, reasons for such delay and details of time and cost-over-run?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) to (f) Development and promotion of tourism destinations and products, implementation of various projects and their timely execution is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration. The Ministry of Tourism, however, provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for various tourism projects identified in consultation with them, subject to availability of funds, inter-se-priority and adherence to scheme guidelines.

The details of CFA sanctioned and released by the Ministry to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for various tourism projects during the Eleventh Plan and its utilization, year-wise and project-wise is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of Central Financial Assistance provided to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for various Tourism Projects during the Eleventh Plan, year-wise and project-wise are as under:

(in crores)

Sl. No.	List of projects sanctioned during 11th Plan	Amount sanctioned	Amount released	Utilization Certificate received for amount	Utilization Certificate pending for amount	Status of projects
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2007-08						
1.	Development of Kolleru Lake in West Godavari District	4.47	3.58	3.58	0.00	Under Execution
2.	Development of Horsely Hills in Chittoor District	2.54	2.03	2.03	0.00	Completed
3.	Destination development of Anantharam village, Mahabubabad Mandal, Warangal District	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.00	Completed
4.	Development on Rivers Godavari and Krishna	4.26	3.41	2.50	0.91	Under Execution
5.	Development of Eco Tourism Centre at Pulicat Lake in B.V. Palem at Nellore District	1.67	1.67	1.67	0.00	Completed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Development of Charminar Area of Hyderabad	9.95	7.97	7.11	0.86	Under Execution
7.	Development of Puligundu as an Adventure & Destination tourism in Chittoor District	2.17	1.73	1.50	0.23	Under Execution
8.	Tourism Development at Padmakshi Temple, Hanumakonda, Warangal District	0.44	0.38	0.38	0.00	Completed
9.	Celebration of Kadaposthavalu (Cultural Festival) 2007 in Kadapa District	0.15	0.12	0.12	0.00	Completed
2008-09						
1.	Development of Heritage Circuit in Tirupati as a Mega Project	46.52	23.26	17.07	6.19	Under Execution
2.	Development of Heritage Tourist Circuit in Kadapa District as a Mega Circuit	36.93	18.46	17.71	0.75	Under Execution
3.	Development of Integrated Circuit in Chittoor District	2.84	2.27	0.37	1.90	Under Execution
4.	Destination Development of Chilaka Hill Tribal Retreat—Phakal Eco Tourism Zone and Landscape Park Kummarikunta Narsampet. Waranaal District	3.12	2.50	0.62	1.87	Under Execution
5.	Development of tourism infrastructure facilities at Kaligiri Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Kaligiri Hills Village, Puthalapattu Mandal in Chittoor District as a major destination	1.37	1.10	0.00	1.10	Under Execution
6.	Integrated Development of Vizianagaram-Srikakulam Tourism Circuit	7.35	7.35	7.35	0.00	Completed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Destination development of Eco Park at Nellore Tank, Nellore District	1.66	1.32	1.32	0.00	Completed
8.	Institute of Hotel Management (IHM) at Tirupati (State HIM)	10.00	5.00	3.99	1.01	Under Execution
2009-10						
1.	Development of Jammulamma Reservoir at Jammiched Cheruvu, Mahabubnagar District as tourist destination	2.32	1.85	0.89	0.97	Under Execution
2.	Development of Beach Destination at Baruva, Srikakulam District	2.38	1.90	0.30	1.60	Under Execution
3.	Development of Eco Tourism Center at Jannaram Adilabad District	2.84	2.27	0.04	2.23	Under Execution
4.	Development of Tummalapenta Sea Coast as a Tourist Center at Kavali in Sri Potti Sriramuli Neilore District	3.78	3.02	0.00	3.02	Under Execution
5.	Development of Bhadrakali Temple Warangal District	0.93	0.75	0.00	0.75	Under Execution
6.	Development of Ramayapatnam as Beach Destination Prakasam District	3.18	2.54	0.95	1.59	Under Execution
7.	Development of Tribal Haat at Bhadrachalam in Khammam District	2.58	2.06	0.00	2.06	Under Execution
8.	Celebration of Tourism-cum-Handicrafts-cum-Culture festival at Shilparamam, Hyderabad	0.15	0.12	0.00	0.12	Under Execution
9.	Infrastructure Development at Village Ktikoppaka, District Vishakhapatnam (Hardware) [Rural Tourism]	0.46	0.37	0.00	0.37	Under Execution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Capacity Building at Village Etikoppaka. District Vishakhapatnam (Software) [Rural Tourism]	0.14	0.11	0.00	0.11	Under Execution
11.	Infrastructure Development at Dharmavaram, Ananthapur District (Hardware) [Rural Tourism]	0.50	0.40	0.00	0.40	Under Execution
12.	Capacity Building at Dharmavaram, District Ananthapur (Software) [Rural Tourism]	0.20	0.16	0.00	0.16	Under Execution
13.	Infrastructure Development at Kuchipudi, District Krishna (Hardware) [Rural Tourism]	0.46	0.30	0.27	0.03	Under Execution
14.	Capacity Building at Kuchipudi, District Krishna (Software) [Rural Tourism]	0.20	0.16	0.00	0.16	Under Execution
15.	Infrastructure Development at Nirmal, District Adilabad (Hardware) [Rural Tourism]	0.40	0.32	0.00	0.32	Under Execution
16.	Capacity Building at Nirmal, District Adilabad (Software) [Rural Tourism]	0.20	0.16	0.00	0.16	Under Execution
17.	Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management (IITTM) District Nellore.	24.68	4.58	0.00	4.58	Construction work is held up due to stay granted by the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh
2010-11						
1.	Development of Eco Tourism Centre at Ananthagiri, Ranga Reddy District.	4.05	3.24	0.20	3.04	Under Execution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Setting up of 3D LED Information Display Board at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Shamshabad, Hyderabad.	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.00	Completed
3.	Setting up of Information Kiosks at 10 selected major cities of India and Andhra Pradesh	0.20	0.18	0.00	0.18	Under Execution
4.	Setting up of Mobile Multimedia Tours at Golconda Fort	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	Completed
5.	Development of Guntur District consisting of Manalgiri, Uppalapadu Bird Sanctuary, Undavalli Caves, Peda Kakani Temple Kondaveedu Fort, Veerula Gudi (Palnadu Battle Field) at Karempudi in Guntur District	2.60	2.08	0.00	2.08	Under Execution
6.	International Dance Festival titled Shreyasi in Hyderabad	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	Completed
7.	Institute of Hotel Management (IHM) at Medak (State IHM)	12.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	Under Execution
8.	Infrastructure Development at Cheriyal, District Warangal (Hardware) [Rural Tourism]	0.50	0.40	0.00	0.40	Under Execution
9.	Capacity Building at Cheriyal, Warangal District (Software) [Rural Tourism]	0.20	0.16	0.03	0.13	Under Execution
2011-12						
1.	Development of Tourism Circuit in Medak District	7.26	5.81	0.50	5.31	Under Execution
2.	Development of Tourism Infrastructure at Ghanpur Temple and Pandavula Guhalu	4.81	3.85	0.22	3.63	Under Execution
3.	Development of Tourism Infrastructure at Warangal Fort	4.37	3.50	0.18	3.32	Under Execution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Development of Minimum Tourist Infrastructure with Tourist Facilities & Amenities in various districts.	7.73	6.18	0.00	6.18	Under Execution
5.	Development of Tourism Infrastructure at Bhongir, Fort	4.99	4.00	0.27	3.73	Under Execution
6.	Development of Tourist facilities in Adilabad District	6.27	5.01	0.00	5.01	Under Execution
7.	Development of Tourism Infrastructure at Ramappa temple and lake	4.76	3.81	0.77	3.04	Under Execution
8.	Comprehensive Mobile based Tourism Promotion System and Dedicated Tourist Helpline.	0.09	0.08	0.00	0.08	Under Execution
9.	Development of Eco-Tourism Centre at Orvakallu, Kurnool District	4.86	3.89	0.00	3.89	Under Execution
10.	Mounting of sound and light show at Warangal Fort	5.00	4.00	0.00	4.00	Under Execution
11.	Infrastructure Development at Pembarthi, District Warangal (Hardware) [Rural Tourism]	0.48	0.38	0.30	0.08	Under Execution
12.	Capacity Building at Pembarthi, District Warangal (Software) [Rural Tourism]	0.14	0.11	0.00	0.11	Under Execution

Implementation of tourism projects in Andhra Pradesh

2283. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of mechanism followed to monitor implementation of tourism projects in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any separate cell to inspect implementation of projects physically;

(c) whether the Ministry has taken back any Central Financial Assistance (CFA) funds allotted to Andhra Pradesh on account of non-implementation of tourism infrastructure and HRD (State IHMs and IITTM) projects;

(d) whether there is any CFA funded project has been privatized;

(e) if so, the details of (b), (c) and (d) above;

(f) whether State Government obtained prior permission to privatize these projects; and

(g) if so, the details thereon and list of projects privatized with Ministry's permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) Implementation and monitoring of tourism projects is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism also monitors the progress of the projects through Regional Conferences, review meetings with the State Government officers and site visits.

(b) There is a separate cell by the name Project Monitoring Unit Cell in Andhra Pradesh Secretariat to inspect the implementation of tourism projects.

(c) Government of Andhra Pradesh has refunded Rs. 390.54 lakh to Union Ministry of Tourism on account of non-implementation of some part of the project Integrated development of Beach Circuit comprising Bhavikonda-Thotlakonda-Pavuralakonda-Appikonda.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) to (g) Do not arise.

Enhancement of facilities to tourist at Barpeta in Assam

2284. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that lacs of tourists from various parts of India and abroad gathered during Daulutsav at Barpeta in Assam;

(b) the details of the steps taken by Government for the beautification and enhance facilities to tourist during last five years; and

(c) whether Government is going to develop infrastructure such as budget and economy hotels, affordable transport, railway connection guided tour etc. in Barpeta to attract more tourists to visit Barpeta and its nearest tourist place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the Eleventh Plan Period (2007-08 to 2011-12), the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the following two Infrastructure projects under the scheme "Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits (PIDDC)" in respect of Barpeta :

- (i) Development of Tourist Circuit- Dhubari-Mahamaya-Barpeta-Hajo, Assam for Rs. 4.98 crore.
- ii. Development of Sarthebari-Barpeta-Patbaosi-Konora-Baghbor-Sorbhog Heritage Circuit in Assam for Rs. 7.08 crore.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism including festival is undertaken primarily by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, however, extends financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism projects which are prioritized every year based on discussions with them, subject to availability of funds, inter-se-priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

Development of tourist centres in Jharkhand

2285. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the tourist centres in Jharkhand selected for development at national level;
- (b) the pace of development in regard thereto and the reasons for delay in its development; and
- (c) the scheme for the development of new tourism centres in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) The identification and development of tourism projects is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance for projects which are prioritized in consultation with the State Government/UT Administration subject

to availability of funds and adherence to guidelines under various schemes. Some of the tourist centres identified by the State Government for development include Development of Ranchi Mega Circuit, Parasnath, Mc-ckluskiganj. Basukinath, Chandil, Way side amenities along National and State Highways, Rural Tourism Projects and SEL show at Shilp Gram Deoghar and Kanke Dam, Ranchi.

(b) Implementation and timely completion of project is responsibility of the State Government. The State Government has informed that in majority of cases non-availability of land was main reason for delay in execution of projects.

(c) The State Government has informed that development of following tourist centres in the Twelfth Five Year Plan is proposed:

1. Deoghar-Giridih- Parasnath Circuit;
2. Dhanbad- Parasnath -Gaya-Rajgir-Pawapuri Circuit;
3. Hazaribagh-Ranchi and adjoining tourist attractions-Deori Mandir-Dalma Sanctuary-Jamshedpur Circuit;
4. Ranchi-Betla Netarhat Circuit;
5. Mega Tourism Park at Ranchi;
6. Rural Tourism Clusters.

Special scheme for promoting tourism

†2286. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special scheme has been formulated to promote tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the States in respect of which proposals for tourism are still proposed with the Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that tourism in core area surrounding the national parks is prohibited; and

(d) if so, whether prohibiting tourists this way would not hamper the development of the country, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India undertakes a series of promotional activities in the domestic and international markets with the objective of promoting tourism under its existing and ongoing Schemes namely 'Domestic Promotion and Publicity Including Hospitality' and 'Overseas Promotion and Publicity including Marketing Development Assistance' respectively.

(b) The development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/UT Administration. The Ministry of Tourism, however, provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to all State Governments/UT Administrations for the various tourism projects identified in consultation with them, subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to scheme guidelines. The projects which are not considered in a financial year, can be re-prioritised for CFA during next financial year in consultation with respective State Government/UT Administration. The exercise for 2012-13 has been completed for all States/UTs.

(c) and (d) The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Ministry of Environment and Forests on 15.10.2012 has notified guidelines for tourism in and around Tiger Reserves titled 'National Tiger Conservation Authority (Normative Standards for Tourism Activities and Project Tiger) Guidelines, 2012'. These guidelines, *inter-alia*, require States to notify the State-level Tourism and Ecotourism Strategy within one year of the date of notification of these guidelines. The guidelines have also recommended the identification and monitoring of ecologically sensitive areas surrounding tiger reserves to ensure the ecological integrity of corridor/buffer areas that will prevent encroachment.

Investment in hotel sector by Brunei

2287. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Brunei proposes to invest jointly in the field of hotel industry and infrastructural development;

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

(c) whether Brunei has considered investment in India's hotel sector, which has been opened up for 100 per cent foreign direct investment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of tourism trade between the two countries during each of the last three years; and

(f) the extent to which it is likely to be increased in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The details of tourism traffic between the two countries in terms of number of Tourist Arrivals during last three years is as below:

Country	2010	2011	2012
Brunei to India	456	556	Figures not available
India to Brunei	4904	Figures not available	Figures not available

(c) The Ministry of Tourism carries out various marketing and promotional activities in ASEAN Region including Brunei for increasing inbound tourism.

Tourist park in the country with private partners

2288. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to set up tourism parks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it also a fact that Government will take the help of private persons in setting up of these parks; and

(d) if so, whether locations have been finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) to (d) Development and promotion of tourism including the identification of new tourism destinations and setting up of Mega Tourism Parks for

holding the tourists for a longer period as well as adopting public-private partnership model for their development are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/ Union Territories (U.T.) Administrations.

Assistance from Ministry of Tourism to State Governments/U.T. Administrations in these activities may include services of consultants and financial assistance under its Plan Schemes as per the scheme guidelines, inter-se priority and subject to availability of funds. The projects to be funded by the Ministry of Tourism (MOT) are decided in the prioritization meeting with the States/UTs.

MOT has appointed a National Level Consultant (NEC) to develop action plans for setting up of Tourism Parks including their locations and integrated development of tourist destinations/circuits in consultation with States/UTs.

Roadmap for development of Sufi Circuit in Maharashtra

2289. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any roadmap for the development of Mumbai Sufi Circuit in Maharashtra for the development of religious tourism in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether funds have also been earmarked for this purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism has appointed a National Level Consultant (NLC) to identify some spiritual tourism circuits, including Suft Circuit, for integrated development in association with the States/Union Territories (UTs) during the 12 Plan Period. The Sufi Circuit identified by NLC for the State of Maharashtra is "Mumbai - Aurangabad - Shirdi".

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tourism has appointed State Level Project Management Agency (SLPMA) for Maharashtra for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of circuits identified by NLC.

The fund requirement for each circuit will be decided after the finalisation of DPRs and funds will be provided under the Plan Schemes of Ministry of Tourism

based on the project proposal received from the State Government subject to inter-se-priority.

Sound and Light show at Udayagiri

2290. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has made any plan to remove hindrances in the completion of Sound and Light show at Udayagiri;

(b) if so, the details thereof about the timeline for completion of said show; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Culture, Government of India had sanctioned Rs. 125.00 lakh to India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) during the year 2003 to organize Sound and Light show at Udayagiri, Odisha.

ITDC implemented the project and the trial run was held in 2008. However, as informed by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) that during the installation of the show, some damages were caused to the caves. In a meeting held on 19th February, 2010, ASI decided to remove all the installations carefully and accordingly its team has removed all the installations.

Infrastructure and tourism development project in Assam

2291. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of infrastructure and tourism development projects sanctioned and executed during the Tenth and Eleventh Plan in the State of Assam, plan-wise and year-wise:

(b) whether any special grants have been given for festival as a part of tourism development in Assam during the above periods:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) Development and promotion of tourism including festival is undertaken primarily by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, however, extends financial assistance to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism projects which are prioritized every year based on discussions with them, subject to availability of funds, inter-se-priority and adherence to the scheme guidelines.

The detail of infrastructure projects sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism under the scheme "Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits (PIDDC)" sanctioned to the State of Assam is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) to (d) The detail of the amount of grant sanctioned for the festivals to the State of Assam during the 10th and 11th Plan Period is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

*Detail of infrastructure projects sanctioned under the scheme "Product/
Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of project	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
Tenth PLAN		
2002-03		
1.	Camping Site at Kohora	1.42
2.	Development of Ethnic village at Bhalukpung	0.45
3.	Signages	0.25
4.	Development of Heritage & Eco-Tourism Resort at Majuli	3.82
5.	River front Development along Brahmaputra	0.30
6.	Construction of facilities for pilgrims at Kamakhya	0.80
TOTAL		7.04

1	2	3
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2003-04

1.	Integrated Tourist Complex at Agartoli Range, Kaziranga (N.E. Circuit-2002-03)	1.58
2.	Development around Kamakhya Temple	1.51
<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/>		
TOTAL		<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/> 3.09 <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/>

2004-05

1.	Development of Tourism Circuit Assam-Pobitra- Kaliabhomara-Amoni	4.38
2.	Tourist Arival-cum-Reception Center, Guwahati	3.56
<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/>		
TOTAL		<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/> 7.94 <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/>

2005-06

1.	Circuit Development of Manas-Guwahati-Kaziranga	7.81
2.	Development of NE Circuit in Assam	2.80
3.	Integrated Development of Dhubri-Goalpara-Guwahati- Silchar Karimganj Tourism Circuit in Assam	4.32
4.	Proposal for Development of Adventure Tourism in Kaziranga, Assam	0.45
5.	Proposed Eco-Tourism Development at Kokrajhar, Assam	4.60
<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/>		
TOTAL		<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/> 19.98 <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto;"/>

2006-07

1.	Integrated Development of Tourism Circuit Orang- Tezpur-Bhalukpong-Biswanath-Chairaiali-Gohpur Circuit	7.75
2.	Construction of Integrated Convention Centre and Wellness Centre in the Centre of Hotel Brahmaputra Ashok, Guahati under Integrated Destination Development Scheme	4.54

1	2	3
3.	Destination Development of Sivasagar	3.69
4.	Development of Kamakhya and Satelite Pilgrimage Township of Hajo	4.37
5.	Destination Development of Bhramaputra River front and Cruise Vessel on Bhramaputra	3.66
TOTAL		24.01
GRAND TOTAL		62.06

Eleventh PLAN

2007-08

1.	Development of Tourist circuit Barak Valley and Two Hill District in Southern Assam.	6.05
2.	Development of Tourist Circuit (Western Assam Circuit) Dhubari-Mahamaya-Barpeta-hajo, Assam.	4.98
3.	Setting up of a Sound & Talatal Ghar, Sivasagar in Assam	1.59
TOTAL		12.62

2008-09

1.	Development of Tourist Circuit- Kaliabor-Jakhalabandha-Nagaon	6.69
2.	Development of Buddhist Tourist Circuit in Assam	6.53
3.	Dev. of Tourist Circuit Dibru Saikhowa National Park-Makum-Margherita-Digboi. Assam	3.32
4.	Development of Tourist Circuit Kaziranga - Sivasagar-Jorhat (East Assam Circuit)	4.54
TOTAL		21.08

1	2	3
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2009-10

1.	Destination Development on the Bank of Brahmaputra at Guwahati	2.01
2.	Destination Development of Koya Kujia Lake, North Salmara, Bongaigaon	3.79
3.	Samaguri Lake- Morikolong- Badulikorung-Chapanala-Akashiganga” Tourist Circuit in Assam	4.36
<hr/> TOTAL		<hr/> 10.16 <hr/>

2010-11

1.	Destination of Haflong, NC Hills along with Heliport in Assam under the scheme of Destination Development.	4.76
2.	Development of Sualkuchi as Tourist Destination in Assam.	4.41
3.	Development of Sarthebari-Barpeta-Patbaosi-Konora-Baghor-Sorbhog Heritage Circuit in Assam	7.08
4.	Development of Wayside Amenities along NH-31, 37 and 52 in Assam	7.31
<hr/> TOTAL		<hr/> 23.56 <hr/>

2011-12

1.	Development of Tourist Destination of Samaguri Lake in Nagaon District in Assam	3.48
2.	Development of tourism infrastructure including Ghats and Jetties along the Brahmaputra Riverways.	6.59
<hr/> TOTAL		<hr/> 10.07 <hr/>
GRAND TOTAL		77.49

Statement-II

Details of the amount of grant sanctioned for the festivals to the State of Assam during the 10th and 11th Plan

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of project	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
Tenth PLAN		
2002-03		
1.	Rangoli Bihu Festival	0.12
2.	Majuli Festival	0.05
		TOTAL 0.17
2003-04		
1.	Elephant Festival	0.04
2.	Rangoli Utsav	0.05
		TOTAL 0.09
2004-05		
1.	Celebration of Kaziranga National Park and 3rd Elephant Festival of Kaziranga 11th to 17th February, 2005	0.15
		TOTAL 0.15
2005-06		
1.	Celebration of Dehing-Patkai Festival. Assam	0.05
2.	Kaziranga Festival 11th to 14th February, 2006	0.05
	Celebration of the Tea Tourism Festival, 2005	0.05
4.	Celebration of Barak Valley Festival, Silchar	0.05
		TOTAL 0.20

1	2	3
2006-07		
1.	Celebration of Elephant Festival	0.10
2.	Celebration of Rangoli Bihu Festival in the month of March/April, 2007	0.10
3.	Celebration of the Tea Tourism Festival, 2006	0.05
4.	Celebration of Dihing-Patkai Festival, 2007	0.05
		TOTAL
		0.30
		GRAND TOTAL
		0.91
Eleventh PLAN		
2007-08		
1.	Celebration of Tea Tourism Festival, 2007	0.05
2.	Celebration of Dehing Pataki Festival, 2007	0.05
		TOTAL
		0.10
2008-09		
	NIL	0
2009-10		
1.	Celebration of Rangoli Utsav	0.05
2.	Celebration of Elephant Festival	0.05
		TOTAL
		0.10
2010-11		
	NIL	0

1	2	3
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2011-12

1.	Celebration of Rass Festival at Majuli in the month of October, 2011	0.25
2.	Organize the Bodo National Festival and Jaipore Rain Forest Festival	0.25
		TOTAL
		0.50
		GRAND TOTAL
		0.70

Capacity building scheme for rural tourism

2292. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether capacity building schemes for rural tourism adopted in 2011 have been implemented;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise; and
- (e) whether such schemes cover any arts and craft industry of Tamil Nadu, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tourism is implementing a scheme of capacity building for service providers for rural tourism since 2004-05. Under this scheme. Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of upto Rs. 20.00 lakh is sanctioned to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for rural tourism projects for capacity building of local persons in villages which have core competence in art & craft, handloom, textiles, natural environment, etc. The projects are sanctioned based on proposals received from State Governments/UT Administrations, subject to adherence to scheme guidelines, availability of funds and *inter-se* priority. The State-wise and district-wise details of CFA sanctioned to the State Governments/UT Administrations for capacity building for rural tourism during 2011-12 are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Under the scheme of capacity building for rural tourism, 2 projects covering arts and crafts have been sanctioned to Government of Tamil Nadu so far. Their details are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Amount of funds sanctioned for rural tourism projects for capacity building during 2011-12, State-wise and district -wise

Sl. No.	State/UT	Village and District of Project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Village Pambarthi, District Warangal	14.42
2.	Jammu and Kashmir	Village Saderkote Payeen, District Bandipora	20.00
3.	Maharashtra	Village Hivre Bazar. District Ahmadnagar	17.29
4.	Nagaland	Village Chesezu, District Phek	20.00
5.	Nagaland	Village Yikhum, District Wokha	20.00
6.	Nagaland	Village Khetoi. District Zunheboto	20.00
7.	Nagaland	Village Tuensang, District Tuensang	20.00
8.	Odisha	Village Khiching, District Mayurbhanj	20.00
9.	Punjab	Village Chhat, District Patiala	15.93
10.	Uttarakhand	Village Koti - Indroli, District Garhwal	17.00
11.	West Bengal	Village Furfura Sharif, District Hooghly	20.00
TOTAL			204.64

Statement-II

*Details of Rural Tourism Projects of Capacity Building sanctioned to Tamil Nadu
with core competence in arts and crafts*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Core competence	Year of sanction	Amt. sanctioned (Rs. in lakh)
1.	Village Karaikudi, Chettinadu, District Sivaganga	Wood carving, Athangudi tiles, Kandangi sarees, Gold jewellery	2004-05	20.00
2.	Villagae Edyanchavadi, District Villupuram	Performing arts	2007-08	20.00

Development of tourism projects in MP

†2293. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal of State Government of Madhya Pradesh is pending before Ministry for approval regarding development of Mega Circuit Bundelkhand and Sonari-Satdhara-Murelkhurd Budhist circuit; and

(b) if so, by when the proposed amount is likely to be disbursed after sanctioning the proposal of scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal has been submitted by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh seeking Central Financial Assistance for development of Mega Circuit Bundelkhand and Sonari-Satdhara-Murelkhurd Budhist circuit. However, the projects submitted by State Governments are considered for providing Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects subject to availability of funds, inter-se priority and adherence to scheme guidelines.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Restoration of land to tribal people

2294. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether tribal communities have been displaced from their traditional habitation without providing them long-terms and lasting livelihood;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the quantum of acquired tribal land lying unutilized till date;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to restore back that land to tribal people and to bring a comprehensive law to protect the tribals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) and (b) The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007, which came into force on 31st October, 2007 covers affected families who are involuntarily displaced permanently due to any reason. The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 provides for the basic minimum requirements that all projects leading to involuntary displacement must address. The State Governments, Public Sector Undertakings or agencies, and other requiring bodies shall be at liberty to put in place greater benefit levels than those prescribed in the NRRP-2007.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from the Department of Land Resources, the nodal agency for this matter, information regarding the quantum of acquired tribal land lying unutilized is not maintained.

(e) As per the information received from Deptt. of Land Resources, the nodal Ministry, a Bill related to Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement, 2011 was approved by the Cabinet on 5th September, 2011. It was introduced in the Parliament on 7th September, 2011

Promotion of education among tribal girls

2295. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for the promotion of education among tribal girls;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of measures taken to improve the socio-economic status of the poor and illiterate tribal population through education of women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) to (c) With a view to improve the socio-economic status of tribal population, including tribal women and girls, through promotion of education a number of schemes have been formulated by Government for:

- (i) Construction of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys.
- (ii) Establishment of Ashram School in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas.
- (iii) Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students.
- (iv) Upgradation of Merit of ST students.
- (v) Strengthening Education among Scheduled Tribes (ST) Girls in Low Literacy Districts.
- (vi) Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations (under which residential, non-residential schools Hostels run by NGOs for ST students are supported).
- (vii) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for STs.
- (viii) National Overseas Scholarship for STs.
- (ix) Top Class Education for ST students.
- (x) Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students.

Whereas the Scheme of “Strengthening Education among Scheduled Tribes (ST) Girls in Low Literacy Districts” is exclusively for ST girls students other schemes are aimed at benefiting both Scheduled Tribe boys and girls.

Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India are also released for setting up “Eklavaya Model Residential Schools” (EMRS) for providing quality education to ST students (both girls and boys) from class VI to XII.

Claims rejected under Forest Rights Act

2296. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that nearly 1.5 lakh claims from the forest dwellers have so far been rejected till 31 July, 2012 under the Forest Rights Act; and

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) and (b) As per the information received from the State/UT Governments, a total number of 32,28,887 claims had been filed under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, till 31st July, 2012, out of which 27,73,631 claims (85.90% of the total claims filed) had been disposed off. The claims filed under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 for vesting of rights are adjudicated at three levels, namely, the Gram Sabha, the Sub-Divisional Level Committee and the District Level Committee. The claims filed under this Act are finally approved by District Level Committee. Out of total 27,73,631 claims disposed off, 12,68,766 claims were approved and same number of titles were distributed, and the remaining 15,04,865 claims were rejected.

Functioning of Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST students

2297. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry reviewed the functioning of the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for the ST students for doing M.Phil and Ph.D;
- (b) if so, what are the findings;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) if not, whether it is propose to evaluate the scheme in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) and (b) During the financial year 2011-12 functioning of the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for Scheduled Tribe students was not reviewed by the Government.

(c) and (d) As per the instructions of Government of India all the running schemes including the above mentioned scheme are required to be evaluated before their inclusion in Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Impact of welfare measures on tribals

2298. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the population of Tribals in India, State-wise;

(b) how Government evaluate the impact of different welfare measures for the tribal population; and

(c) as per Government criteria which are the five States where the measures of tribal welfare is satisfactory, also give the list where the measures of tribal welfare are not satisfactory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) The population of Tribals in India, State-wise, is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) To evaluate the impact of different welfare measures for the tribal population, the Government conducts Surveys and Censuses. The Census, 2011 data/information pertaining to STs in the country is yet to be released by the Office of Registrar General. However, Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO), Planning Commission, conducts evaluation study to assess the impact of different schemes implemented by the Government of India. Recently, Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO), Planning Commission, conducted an evaluation study entitled "Evaluation of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP).

Statement

State-wise Demographic Status of Scheduled Tribes as per Census 2001

Sl. No.	India/State	ST Population
1	2	3
	India	84,326,240
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5,024,104
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	705,158
3.	Assam	3,308,570
4.	Bihar	758,351
5.	Chhattisgarh*	6,616,596
6.	Goa	566
7.	Gujarat	7,481,160

1	2	3
8.	Haryana	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	244,587
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,105,979
11.	Jharkhand*	7,087,068
12.	Karnataka	3,463,986
13.	Kerala	364,189
14.	Madhya Pradesh	12,233,474
15.	Maharashtra	8,577,276
16.	Manipur	741,141
17.	Meghalaya	1,992,862
18.	Mizoram	839,310
19.	Nagaland	1,774,026
20.	Odisha	8,145,081
21.	Punjab	-
22.	Rajasthan	7,097,706
23.	Sikkim	111,405
24.	Tamil Nadu	651,321
25.	Tripura	993,426
26.	Uttarakhand*	256,129
27.	Uttar Pradesh	107,963
28.	West Bengal	4,406,794
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	29,469
30.	Chandigarh	-

1	2	3
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	137,225
32.	Daman and Diu	13,997
33.	Delhi	-
34.	Lakshadweep	57,321
35.	Puducherry	-

Irregularities and lack of essential resources in the Ashram schools

†2299. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities and lack of other essential resources have been found in the Ashram-schools run for the students of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes through the Ministry in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is dearth of food and other things required for appropriate living of students in most of the residential Ashram-schools;

(d) if so, whether the Government tries to ascertain the reality of such residential and non-residential Ashrams-schools every year; and

(e) if so, the district-wise details of all such schools in Maharashtra, where inspection-inquiry has been held during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) to (e) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides grants-in-aid to the respective State Governments/Union Territories for Construction of Ashram Schools for Scheduled Tribe students only. These State Governments/Union Territories have the sole responsibility to arrange for food, essential facilities and other things required for appropriate living of students. However, from time to time the Ministry of Tribal Affairs advises the State Governments/Union Territories to ensure that necessary facilities are made available to the Scheduled Tribes students in Ashram Schools to provide them conducive environment for their studies.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Vacant post of teachers in ashram schools of Uttarakhand

‡2300. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the vacant post of teachers in the ashram schools in the tribal sub-plan areas in Uttarakhand and other States of the country; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken by Government in coordination with the concerned State Governments for filling up the vacant posts of teachers in ashram schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of "Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas". As per the provisions of the scheme in the Tribal Sub-Plan Areas, 100% central assistance is provided for construction of all ST girls' ashram schools and boys' ashram schools in naxal-affected districts identified by Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time and for boys' ashram schools other than in naxal-affected districts only, 50% of the total estimated cost is shared by the Ministry. Under the scheme, only construction cost is provided in full or shared by the Ministry. The running and maintenance of these ashram schools including filling up of vacancies of teachers is solely the responsibility of the concerned State Government/UT Administration.

Titles distributed to tribals in Jharkhand

2301. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has distributed titles covering forest areas under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of titles distributed to the tribals in Jharkhand since the enactment of this Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information collected

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

from the State/UT Governments, till 31st October, 2012, a total number of 32,36,539 claims have been filed under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and 12,75,570 titles have been distributed. Further, a total number of 14,603 titles were ready for distribution. The State-wise details of number of titles distributed is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement appended no. U.S.Q. No. 286 (Part a and b)].

(c) As per the information collected from the Government of Jharkhand, till 31st October, 2012, a total number of 42,003 claims have been filed under the Act and 15,296 titles have been distributed. The State-wise detail including that of Jharkhand is given in the above Statement.

Pending proposal of Karnataka under JNNURM

2302. DR. VIJAY MALLYA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many proposals of Karnataka are kept pending with the Ministry for the clearance under the scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM);

(b) the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in getting the approvals; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the proposal of three Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for an estimated investment of Rs. 167.12 crore are pending approval of Government of India requiring an Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 61.08 crore is waiting to get Center's approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) One (1) project namely 'Construction of Grade Separator at Kittur Rani Chennamma Circle at Bangalore, Karnataka' for an estimated cost of Rs. 3200.00 lakh for sanction under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) Sub-Mission of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM) has been appraised but not approved as the Mission has completed its normal tenure of 7 years on 31.03.2012 and the Government has extended the tenure for 2 years *i.e.* upto 31.03.2014 only for completion of ongoing projects and reforms. It has no mandate to consider and sanction fresh projects.

(d) No, Sir.

Central funds to various projects under UID Schemes

2303. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of releasing Central funds to various projects under the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for small and medium towns of Maharashtra State which are already sanctioned by the Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Planning Commission has also given its directions that the cities of Maharashtra in which not a single project is sanctioned, such projects should be funded;

(c) whether Government is considering to increase the outlay for funding such projects keeping in view of the directions of the Planning Commission; and

(d) if so, the details of Central funds released/to be released so far, scheme-wise, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) Under UIDSSMT, 95 projects in 84 towns at a cost of Rs. 2826.78 crore have been sanctioned. For these 95 projects, Rs. 2269.97 crore has been committed and a sum of Rs. 1949.35 crore has been released to the State of Maharashtra so far.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) and (d) In view of reply to (b) above, Question does not arise.

Status of urban water supply in North East States

2304. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status of urban water supply in North East States specially in Assam; and

(b) the details of scheme/programmes being implemented in North East States for the development of urban water supply in North East States specially in Assam, year-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) The status of water supply in North Eastern States including Assam as given by Census of India, 2011 is as follows:

Name of State	Total No. of household	Tapwater from treated source	Tapwater from untreated source	Covered well	Un-covered well	Hand pump	Tubewell/ Borehole	Spring	River/ Canal	Tank/ pond/ lake	Other sources
Arunachal Pradesh	65891	30637	24812	1313	2016	3732	986	1010	671	192	522
Assam	992742	272060	27401	47240	129754	327339	149166	9959	8046	11627	10150
Manipur	171400	87160	9289	3986	5441	7317	515	2096	15068	29127	11401
Meghalaya	116102	79122	10962	4048	5179	518	1691	10242	292	1620	2428
Mizoram	116203	71864	14547	2527	2449	993	684	13912	1832	1568	5827
Nagaland	115054	6922	34124	11869	20717	4606	13958	5943	2600	8564	5751
Sikkim	35761	25043	7884	332	11	6	34	2279	16	48	108
Tripura	235002	102164	24737	3147	12210	50294	38710	191	460	303	2786

(b) The schemes running in Ministry of Urban Development under which water supply projects are supported are Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) which ran from 2005 to 2012 and has been extended till 2014 for completion of ongoing projects; 10% lumpsum scheme for infrastructure development in North Eastern States including Sikkim in operation since 2001-02. Under this scheme, all notified urban areas are eligible for support. North Eastern Region Urban Development Program (NERUDP) which runs from 2009-2016 under which *inter-alia* supports water supply projects in Gangtok, Aizwal, Agartala and Kohima.

Radial roads under JNNURM-II

2305. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Radial roads in and around the cities would be covered under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission-II (JNNURM-II);

(b) whether there is any advance planning related to JNNURM-II, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any planning to include all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) under the JNNURM-II, rather than selecting the towns/cities based on the population criteria;

(d) would operation and maintenance cost, at least, for 15 years be included in the project cost for sustaining complete projects on long-term basis; and

(e) whether Government plans to include the cost escalation factor due to increase in raw-material and labour cost in the overall project cost in the JNNURM-II.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) to (e) The contours of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) Phase-II have not been finalized.

Water supply schemes in smaller ULBs of Odisha

2306. SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether the Ministry would consider to include more water supply schemes in smaller ULBs of Odisha for improving the water supply level to reach the National Standards in JNNURM-II, for the interest of the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : The contours of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) Phase-II have not been finalized.

Dwarka - Najafgarh Metro Rail project

2307. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the status of Dwarka-Najafgarh Metro Rail project;
- (b) whether this project will be completed during third phase of Metro Rail project;
- (c) if so, the details of completion schedule;
- (d) how much is the cost of Dwarka- Najafgarh Metro Rail project; and whether financial sanction has been given or not; and
- (e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) The Government has sanctioned the proposal for metro connectivity from Dwarka to Najafgarh covering a length of 5.50 km, as a part of Delhi Metro Phase-III project.

- (b) and (c) The project is scheduled to be completed by 2015.
- (d) and (e) The approved estimated completion cost of this project is Rs. 1070 crore.

Development work in Rajasthan

2308. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of development works being carried out in Rajasthan under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM);
- (b) whether any target were fixed for those works under JNNURM;
- (c) whether targets were achieved or completed in scheduled time period;
- (d) if not the reasons for the same; and
- (e) how much amount is, so far, provided for those works and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) to (d) Under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) Sub-Mission of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), 13 projects have been approved for the Mission cities in the State of Rajasthan, out of which 4 projects have been reported physically completed. The remaining projects are at various stages of implementation.

Under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) of JNNURM, 37 projects have been approved for 35 Towns/Cities in the State of Rajasthan, out of which 8 projects have been reported physically completed. The remaining projects are at various stages of implementation.

The projects approved under JNNURM are to be completed within the Mission period *i.e.* March 2014. The projects under JNNURM are implemented by State Governments through Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)/ Parastatals. Constraints experienced in implementation of projects relate to utility shifting, delay in receipt of permission from various authorities (Railways, Forests etc.), lack of capacity, land acquisition, contractual issues etc. and with respect to implementation of reforms due to their complexity and difficulty and capacity of local bodies CO accomplish them.

(e) Details of fund committed and released for utilization for the projects approved under UIG Sub-Mission and UIDSSMT of JNNURM in the State of Rajasthan are as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of Scheme	No. of projects approved	Additional Central Assistance (ACA) Committed	ACA released for utilization
UTG	13	76555.99	43261.74
UIDSSMT	37	48790.82	28421.99

Funds allocated to erect memorials of freedom fighters

2309. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA : Will the Minister of URBEN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has allocated funds to erect the memorials in honour of freedom fighter in various cities across the country;
- (b) if so, the fund allocated for the same for the last three years, the fund released and utilized, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of such memorials erected, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) No funds are allocated to this Ministry to erect the memorials in honour of freedom fighters in various cities across the country;

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Development plan to bring improvement in Rajasthan

2310. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any development plan to bring improvement in urbanisation in the selected cities and towns of the country;

(b) if so, the city and town-wise details thereof, in Rajasthan; and

(c) the names of cities in which houses are proposed to be built and by when they are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) was launched on 3rd December, 2005 for seven years beginning from 2005-06 to 2011-12 with the objective of reforms driven and fast track development of cities across the country with focus on bringing about efficiency in urban infrastructure, service delivery mechanisms, community participation and accountability of Urban Local Bodies and Parastatal agencies towards citizens. 65 cities, on the basis of population as per census 2001, and State Capitals and other cities/Urban Agglomeration (UAs) of religious/historic and touristic importance have been included in Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) Sub-Mission of JnNURM. All other cities are admissible for funding under scheme of Urban Infrastructure Development of Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT).

(b) Details of projects approved under UIG Sub-Mission of JnNURM for the Mission Cities and other cities under UIDSSMT in the State of Rajasthan are given in Statement-I and Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Details of cities/towns covered under Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP) and Integrated Housing and Slums Development Programme (IHSDP) in the State of Rajasthan for construction/upgradation of dwelling units are given in Statement-III and Statement-IV respectively (*See* below). The completion of these dwelling units depends upon pace of execution of the sanction projects by the State.

Statement-I*Status of projects approved under UIG in the State of Rajasthan**(Rs. in Lakhs)*

Sl. No.	Name of the City	Project Title	Approved Cost	Total ACA Commitment (Central Share)	Additional Central Assistance (ACA) Released for Utilization	Date of Completion as per latest Quarterly Progress Report (QPR)
1.	Ajmer-Pushkar	Water Supply Transmission for Ajmer City	18,873.00	15,098.40	15,098.40	Completed
2.	Ajmer-Pushkar	Water Supply to Ajmer-Pushkar	16,642.00	13,313.60	5,325.29	Mar-14
3.	Ajmer-Pushkar	Urban Renewal of Dargah Area, Ajmer	3,841.80	3,073.44	1,997.74	Dec-12
4.	Ajmer-Pushkar	Sewerage Project	11,208.00	8,966.40	2,521.50	Mar-13
5.	Jaipur	Urban Renewal of Chowkdi Sarhad, Walled City, Jaipur	1,159.66	579.83	521.85	Completed
6.	Jaipur	Solid Waste Management for Jaipur	1,319.74	659.87	494.91	Completed
7.	Jaipur	Sewerage System for Jaipur (Phase-I)	7,495.97	3,747.99	3,373.20	Dec-12
8.	Jaipur	Jaipur Sewerage Project, Phase II	11,086.00	5,543.00	4,988.70	Dec-12
9.	Jaipur	BRTS project proposal (Package IB) from C zone Bypass crossing to Panipech via Sikar Road - 39.45 km (for all 3 projects)	7,519.00	3,759.50	3,383.57	Completed
10.	Jaipur	Construction of Bus Rapid Transit System (Package 2) - 39.45 km (for all 3 projects)	14,400.00	7,200.00	1,800.00	Mar-14
11.	Jaipur	Conservation and propagation of Panna Meena Bori and its environs Amber, Jaipur	431.00	215.50	140.09	Sep-12
12.	Jaipur	BRTS (Package - IIIA & IIB), Jaipur - 39.45 km (for all 3 projects)	26,035.94	13,017.96	3,254.49	Dec-12
13.	Jaipur	Revitalisation of Walled City of Jaipur, Phase-I	2,761.00	1,380.50	362.00	Jun-13
TOTAL			122,773.11	76,555.99	43,261.74	

Statement-II*Status of projects approved under UIDSSMT in the State of Rajasthan**(Rs. in Lakhs)*

Sl. No.	Name of towns/cities	Scheme/Name of component	Cost approved by SLSC	ACA Commitment	Total Release	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Bundi	Storm Water Drainage	624.22	508.74	508.74	Under Progress
2.	Bhawani Mandi	Road	311.00	248.80	248.80	Under Progress
3.	Bikaner	Preservation of Water Bodies	177.12	141.70	141.70	Completed
4.	Bikaner	Sewerage	3876.10	3100.88	1550.44	Under Progress
5.	Chittorgarh	Sewerage & Drainage	328.18	262.54	262.54	Under Progress
6.	Deshnok	Road	140.52	112.42	112.42	Completed
7.	Jalore	Sewerage	1066.31	869.04	442.51	Under Progress
8.	Jhalawar and Jhalarpatan	Sewerage	1904.02	1551.78	790.17	Under Progress
9.	Jhalrapatan	Preservation of Water Bodies	493.41	394.73	394.73	Under Progress
10.	Mangrole	Storm Water Drainage	292.3	238.23	121.31	Under Progress
11.	Nimbhera	Road	214.40	171.52	171.52	Completed
12.	Niwai	Road	202.39	161.91	80.95	Completed
13.	Nokha	Road	149.90	119.92	119.92	Completed
14.	Paratapgarh	Drainage	148.03	120.65	120.64	Completed
15.	Rajakhera	Road	272.18	221.82	221.82	Under Progress
16.	Ramganj-mandi	Storm Water Drainage	148.97	121.42	61.83	Under Progress

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Reengus	Road	251.23	200.98	100.49	Under Progress
18.	Sikar City	Road	374.67	299.74	299.74	Under Progress
19.	Sri Madhopur	Road	290.97	232.78	232.78	Completed
20.	Sumerpur	Sewerage	927.74	756.11	385.02	Under Progress
21.	Tonk	Road	520.58	416.46	208.23	Under Progress
22.	Udaipur	Water Supply	5395	4396.39	4396.39	Under Progress
23.	Uniara	Road	100.20	81.66	81.66	Completed
24.	Sardulshahar	Road	352.00	286.88	146.08	Under Progress
25.	Mount Abu	Sewerage	2715.00	2172.00	1086.00	Under Progress
26.		Storm Water Drainage	422.00	343.93	175.13	Under Progress
27.	Sangaria	Storm Water Drainage	366.00	298.29	298.29	Under Progress
28.	Jodhpur	Sewerage	6167.00	5026-11	2559.31	Under Progress
29.	Kishangarh	Sewerage	2601.00	2080.80	1040.40	Under Progress
30.	Hanumangarh	Sewerage	4279.00	3423.20	1711.60	Under Progress
31.	Pali	Sewerage	3329.53	2663.62	1331.81	Under Progress
32.	Virat Nagar	Urban Renewal	102.41	81.93	40.96	Under Progress
33.	Beawar	Water Supply	4979.31	3983.45	1991.72	Under Progress
34.	Makarna	Water Supply	4870.41	3896.33	1948.16	Under Progress

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
35.	Kota	Sewerage	5122.42	4097.94	2048.97	Under Progress
36.	Jhunjhunu					Under Progress
37.	Sardarshahar	Sewerage	3692.00	2953.60	1476.80	Under Progress
TOTAL	35	37	60988.52	49063.09	28421.99	

Statement-III*Status of projects approved under Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP)**(Rs. in crore)*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Mission Cities	Projects Approved	Total Project Cost Approved	Total No. of Dwelling Units Approved	Total Central Share Approved	Total State Share Approved	Total ACA Released
1.	Rajasthan	Ajmer-Pushkar	DPR for Basic Services to Urban Poor in Ajmer-Pushkar	107.71	5337	84.57	23.14	42.28
2.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	BSUP project Relocation of 17 Slums under JDA in Jaipur	94.00	2922	45.63	48.37	11.41
3.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	BSUP project on Relocation of 14 Slums Under JDA for Jaipur	87.50	2892	42.48	45.03	10.62
	Project Cancelled on 116th CSMC Meeting, dated 12.09.2011	Jaipur (Revised)	Redevelopment Project for Sanjay Nagar Bhatta Basti for Jaipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	21.16
TOTAL				289.21	11151	172.67	116.54	85.47

Statement-IV*Status of projects approved under Integrated Housing and Slums Development Programme (IHSDP)*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of District	No. of towns/ ULBs	Total No. of Projects Approved	Total Projects Cost Approved	Total No. of dwelling units Approved (new+ Upgradation)	Total Central Share	Total State Share Approved	Total ACA released	(Rs. in crore)	
										8	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Project Cancelled on											
112th CSC Meeting Alwar Alwar											
dated 12/09/11											
1.	Rajasthan		Anta	1	27.62	963	11.61	16.01	5.81		
2.	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Asind	1	5.08	694	3.91	1.18	1.95		
3.	Rajasthan	Sri Ganganagar	Anupgarh	1	16.39	592	10.75	5.65	5.37		
4.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Bilara	1	13.96	574	9.35	4.61	4.68		
5.	Rajasthan	Hanumangarh	Bhadra	1	37.69	1332	24.25	13.44	12.12		
6.	Rajasthan	Banswara	Banswara	1	4.23	217	2.66	1.56	1.33		
7.	Rajasthan	Pali	Bali Nagar	1	3.30	523	2.64	0.66	1.32		

8.	Rajasthan	Barmer	Balotra	1	8.48	447	5.47	3.01	5.47	5.47
9.	Rajasthan	Baran	Baran	1	9.70	407	7.37	2.33	7.37	7.37
10.	Rajasthan	Barmer	Barmer	1	23.71	1281	15.22	8.50	15.22	7.61
11.	Rajasthan	Jhalawar	Bhawani Mandi	1	1.82	114	1.43	0.38	1.43	1.43
12.	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Bhilwara	1	19.13	1704	15.10	4.03	15.10	15.10
13.	Rajasthan	Bikaner	Bikaner, Phase-I	1	3.32	0	2.66	0.66	2.66	2.66
14.	Rajasthan	Bikaner	Bikaner (Phase-II)	1	35.57	1216	21.89	13.67	21.89	10.95
15.	Rajasthan	Jalore	Bhinmal	1	10.59	639	5.38	5.21	5.38	2.69
16.	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh	Begun	1	22.71	529	12.57	10.14	12.57	
17.	Rajasthan	Pratapgarh	Chhoti Sadri	1	9.22	380	6.20	3.02	6.20	3.10
18.	Rajasthan	Baran	Chhabra	1	4.47	312	3.58	0.89	3.58	3.58
19.	Rajasthan	Chittaurgarh	Chittorgarh, Phase I	1	6.70	540	5.12	1.58	5.12	5.12
20.	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh	Chittorgarh, Phase-II	1	10.93	433	7.33	3.61	7.33	3.66
21.	Rajasthan	Bikaner	Deshnok	1	16.20	391	9.29	6.91	9.29	4.65
22.	Rajasthan	Pali	Falna	1	4.46	361	3.52	0.95	3.52	3.52
23.	Rajasthan	Sawai Madhopur	Gangapur	1	3.52	161	2.46	1.06	2.46	1.23
24.	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Gulabpura	1	1.24	0	1.00	0.25	1.00	1.00
25.	Rajasthan	Hanumangarh	Hanumangarh	1	22.25	651	17.54	4.71	17.54	17.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
26.	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer	Jaisalmer, Phase-I	1	16.76	1042	12.64	4.12	6.32
27.	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer	Jaisalmer, Phase-II	1	32.81	1497	21.87	10.94	10.94
28.	Rajasthan	Pali	Jaitaran	1	4.84	214	3.23	1.62	1.61
29.	Rajasthan	Jhalawar	Jhalarpatan	1	4.21	413	3.16	1.05	1.58
	Project Cancelled on 112th CSC Meeting, dated 12/09/11	Jhalawar	Jhalawara						1.74
30.	Rajasthan	Jalore	Jhalore	1	7.90	263	4.89	3.01	2.45
31.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Jodhpur, Phase-I	1	20.56	883	12.14	8.41	6.07
32.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Jodhpur, Phase-II	1	44.40	1832	26.52	17.87	13.26
33.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Jodhpur, Phase-III	1	12.58	373	5.51	7.08	2.75
34.	Rajasthan	Kota	Kaithoon	1	5.06	327	3.45	1.61	1.73
35.	Rajasthan	Ajmer	Kekri	1	18.60	871	12.77	5.83	6.38
36.	Rajasthan	Kota	Kota, Phase-I	1	21.62	1478	17.04	4.58	8.52
37.	Rajasthan	Kota	Kota, Phase-II	1	28.58	845	15.14	13.44	7.57
38.	Rajasthan	Kota	Kota, Phase-III	1	33.91	752	13.34	20.57	6.67

39.	Rajasthan	Baran	Mangrol	1	23.40	476	12.40	11.00	6.20
40.	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh	Nimbahera	1	11.06	457	7.59	3.47	3.79
41.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Pipar	1	24.76	654	12.73	12.03	6.36
42.	Rajasthan	Pali	Pali	1	22.06	2722	17.64	4.41	17.64
43.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Phalodi, Phase -I	1	23.27	764	13.79	9.47	6.90
44.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Phalodi, Phase -II	1	25.45	626	11.00	14.45	5.50
45.	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer	Pokran	1	21.83	787	12.20	9.63	6.10
46.	Rajasthan	Chittaurgarh	Pratapgarh	1	11.20	711	7.20	4.00	5.40
47.	Rajasthan	Sirohi	Pindwara	1	13.26	686	8.00	5.26	4.00
48.	Rajasthan	Sirohi	Pilibanga	1	6.41	244	4.27	2.14	2.14
49.	Rajasthan	Kota	Ramganj Mandi	1	2.69	75	1.48	1.21	0.74
50.	Rajasthan	Hanumangarh	Rawatsar	1	30.69	1398	18.51	12.18	9.26
51.	Rajasthan	Pali	Rani Nagar	1	0.79	19	0.63	0.16	0.63
52.	Rajasthan	Chittorgarh	Rawatbhata	1	36.55	1439	25.16	11.38	12.58
53.	Rajasthan	Churu	Sardarsahar	1	49.44	1802	21.47	27.97	10.74
54.	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Shahpura	1	11.16	317	5.25	5.91	2.63
55.	Rajasthan	Pali	Sadri	1	1.29	46	1.03	0.26	1.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
56.	Rajasthan		Sheoganj	1	16.03	489	7.03	9.00	3.51
57.	Rajasthan	Sawai Madhopur	Sawai Madhopur	1	13.48	976	9.93	3.56	9.93
58.	Rajasthan	Sikar	Sikar	1	5.44	556	4.35	1.09	2.18
59.	Rajasthan	Jalore	Sanchor	1	9.47	390	5.31	4.16	2.66
60.	Rajasthan	Kota	Sangod	1	9.01	442	6.09	2.93	3.04
61.	Rajasthan	Pali	Sojat	1	3.16	196	2.53	0.63	2.53
62.	Rajasthan	Pali	Sumerpur	1	10.36	529	6.64	3.72	3.32
63.	Rajasthan	Ganganagar	Suratgarh	1	35.05	1493	22.10	12.95	11.05
64.	Rajasthan	Pali	Takhatgarh	1	16.69	635	9.25	7.44	4.63
65.	Rajasthan	Tonk	Tonk, Phase-I	1	4.46	136	3.57	0.89	3.57
66.	Rajasthan	Tonk	Tonk, Phase-II	1	9.45	384	5.97	3.48	2.99
67.	Rajasthan	Udaipur	Udaipur	1	24.55	1737	16.07	8.48	8.03
TOTAL				67	1046.61	46437	639.20	407.41	373.21

Plan to connect through rapid rail system

2311. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry's ambitious plan to connect three major locations in the National Capital Region (NCR) with Delhi through rapid rail system is likely to be submitted to Parliament during the current session as a part of the Annual Report of NCR Planning Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the likely cost of the entire project indicating who would fund/bear huge expenditure of Rapid Rail Transit System (RRTS) for joining Delhi with Alwar, Meerut and Panipat by 2016?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) In the annual report of National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) of 2010-11, laid in the Parliament, it has already been informed that the work of preparation of Feasibility Studies of Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridors for the three prioritized corridors have been awarded to consultants. They are as follows:

Sl. No.	RRTS Corridor	Length (km)
1.	Delhi-Sonipat-Panipat	111.2
2.	Delhi-Gurgaon-Rewari-Alwar	180.0
3.	Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut	90.2
	TOTAL	381.4

Based on the Feasibility Studies, the estimated project cost for the three corridors including escalation and Interest During Construction (with Central and State Taxes) is Rs. 72.170 crore. No decision has been taken by the Government on the funding pattern of these corridors.

Guidelines for construction in unauthorised colonies of Delhi

†2312. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines of Government for providing approval for construction related work, in unauthorised colonies of Delhi;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction without getting the plan approved in the said colonies has been banned by Government; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) to (d) Regulations for constructions in Unauthorized Colonies are governed as per “The Building Regulations for Special Area, Unauthorized Regularized Colonies and Village Abadis, 2010,” notified by Delhi Development Authority *vide* notification number S.O. 97 (E), dated 17.1.2011 under Master Plan for Delhi—2021. Further, as per the Regulation for regularisation of Unauthorized Colonies in Delhi notified by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) *vide* Gazette Notification No. S.O. 683 (E), dated 24.03.2008 and amendments therein notified *vide* Gazette Notification No. S.O. 1452(E), dated 16.6.2008 and Gazette Notification No. S.O. 1297(E), dated 6.6.2012, the Layout plans of unauthorized colonies are approved by the competent authority in the Local Body on submission by Resident Welfare Association (RWA). Building activities are allowed only after approval of layout plans.

Grants allocated for cleaning of Yamuna in Delhi

†2313. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the grants allotted for cleaning of Yamuna in Delhi under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission;

(b) the type of scheme provided for Yamuna under the said scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the schemes proposed before Government in future for a clean Yamuna, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) A project namely ‘Laying Interceptor Sewers along the 3 major drains *viz*, Najafgarh, Supplementary and Shahdara for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

abatement of pollution in Yamuna River' has been approved with an objective of abatement of pollution in the River Yamuna and improvement of quality of water under Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UIG) Sub-Mission of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM) with an approved cost of Rs. 135771.00 lakh and Additional Central Assistance (ACA) commitment of Rs. 47519.85 lakh. An amount of Rs. 11880.00 lakh has been released so far for utilization.

(c) The mission has completed its normal tenure of 7 years on 31.03.2012 and the Government has extended the period for 2 years *i.e.* upto 31.03.2014 for completion of on going projects and reforms only. It has no mandate to sanction fresh projects during the extended period.

Transfer orders in various divisions of CPWD

2314. SHRI A.A. JINNAH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of transfer orders issued by various divisions of CPWD (Civil & Electrical) during the period 1 October, 2010 and 31 October, 2012 to remove the irregularities of overstay at same place;

(b) the number of such transfer orders, which have been issued by various divisions of CPWD (Civil & Electrical) during the period 1 October, 2010 and 31 October, 2012, but have not been implemented in true spirit at various CPWD Service Centres in Delhi/New Delhi;

(c) by when these orders are likely to be implemented in true spirit; and

(d) the action Government propose to take against those disobeying transfer orders already issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) The number of transfer orders issued by various divisions of CPWD (Civil & Electrical) during the period 1 October, 2010 and 31 October, 2012 is 214.

(b) All transfer orders issued by the Divisions located in Delhi/New Delhi have been implemented.

(c) and (d) Not applicable in view of reply at (b) above.

Construction of additional floor in bungalows in Lutyens Zone

2315. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to allow construction of an additional floor in some of the bungalows in Lutyens Bungalow Zone after relaxing certain norms;

(b) whether any survey was conducted by the Ministry before taking a decision, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the salient features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) There is no such proposal nor any survey has been conducted by Ministry. However, the guidelines issued by Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment *vide* letter D.O. No. K-13011/17/86-DDIIA, dated 08.02.1988 and as clarified by Ministry of Urban Development from time to time are applicable for any construction in Lutyens Bungalow Zone.

Projects approved for city of Chennai

2316. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects approved for city of Chennai under the Urban Infrastructure and Governance' scheme, as of May, 2012, and details thereof;

(b) the amount of money sectioned, project-wise; and

(c) how many of these projects have been completed, as of May, 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) to (c) Thirty Five (35) projects on various admissible components have been approved under Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UIG) Sub-Mission of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM) for the city of Chennai during the Mission period, out of which Eight (8) projects have been reported physically completed. Details of fund sanctioned project-wise is given in the Statement.

Statement*Details of funds sanctioned project-wise under Urban Infrastructure and Governance's Scheme**(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)*

Sl. No.	Project Title	Sector	Approved Cost	Total ACA Commitment (Central Share)	ACA Released for utilisation	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Improvements to Water Supply System in Chennai	Water Supply	32,200.00	11,270.00	7,325.50	In progress
2.	Providing Water Supply and Sewerage System infrastructure along IT corridor in Chennai (7 packages)	Water Supply	4,177.00	1,461.95	1,096.47	In progress
3.	Improvement of water supply in Tambaram Municipality	Water Supply	3,261.60	1,141.56	1,027.40	Completed
4.	Solid Waste Management for Chennai	Solid Waste Management	3,647.58	1,276.65	319.16	Completed
5.	Construction of additional sewerage treatment plant 54 MLD at Perungudii	Sewerage	3,147.98	1,101.79	991.61	Completed
6.	Sea Water Desalination Plant at Minjur	Water Supply	8,780.00	7,024.00	6,321.60	Completed
7.	Construction of RoBs and RUBs at Chennai (6 Nos.)	Roads/ Flyovers/ RoB	4,440.80	1,554.28	1,398.85	In progress
8.	Construction of flyover at Perambur at Chennai	Roads/ Flyovers/ RoB	3,287.50	1,150.63	1,035.57	Completed
9.	Construction of High Level bridge. Adyar River at Alandur Road, Chennai	Roads/ Flyovers/ RoB	548.30	191.91	172.70	Completed

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Improvement of water supply to Porur Twon Panchayat	Water Supply	1,235.79	432.53	389.27	Completed
11.	Improvement of water supply to Maduravoil	Water Supply	2,330.00	815.50	530.09	In progress
12.	Construction of sump cum pump house over 90 cusec canal near Poondi reservoir for raw water treatment plant	Water Supply	911.00	318.85	286.96	Completed
13.	Comprehensive Water Supply scheme for Avadi Municipality	Water Supply	10,384.00	3,634.40	3,270.96	In progress
14.	Providing sewerage facilities to Ullagaram Puzhithivakkam	Sewerage	2,808.05	982.82	638.82	In progress
15.	Providing comprehensive water supply scheme to Ullagaram Puzhuthivakkam Municipality	Water Supply	2,424.00	848.40	551.46	In progress
16.	Nerkundram Village Panchayat-Improvement of Water Supply	Water Supply	1,917.00	670.95	268.39	In progress
17.	Providing comprehensive Sewerage scheme to Avadi Municipality	Sewerage	15,805.41	5,531.89	4,978.69	In progress
18.	Providing sewerage facilities for Ambattur Municipality (Phase-III)	Sewerage	13,091.00	4,581.85	2,978.20	In progress
19.	Solid Waste Management of Alandur, Pallavaram and Tambaram Municipality	Solid Waste Management	4,421.25	1,547.44	618.97	In progress
20.	Providing Sewage facilities for Chennai Maduravoyal Municipality	Sewerage	5,745.50	2,010.93	1,307.10	In progress

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Providing Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme to Thiruvottiyur Municipality	Water Supply	8,511.70	2,979.10	1,191.86	In progress
22.	Improvement to Storm Water Drains in the Northern Basin of Chennai	Drainage/ Storm Water Drains	35,986.39	12,595.24	5,038.09	In progress
23.	Improvement to Micro and Macro Drainage System in Central basin of Chennai	Drainage/ Storm Water Drains	34,500.00	12,075.00	4,830.00	In progress
24.	Porur Panchayat- Providing Sewerage facilities for Porur Town Panchayat	Sewerage	3,829.00	1,340.15	871.09	In progress
25.	Nesapakkam-54, MLD Sewerage Treatment Plant	Sewerage	5,457.00	1,909.95	1,718.95	In progress
26.	Alandur-Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme to Alandur	Water Supply	6,439.00	2,253.65	1,464.87	In progress
27.	Improvement to Storm Water Drains in the Eastern Basin of Chennai City	Drainage/ Storm Water Drains	44,407.00	15,542.45	10,102.59	In progress
28.	Providing comprehensive Sewerage Scheme to Tambaram Municipality	Sewerage	16,096.59	5,633.81	3,661.97	In progress
29.	Providing comprehensive Water Supply in entire area of Ambattur Municipality	Water Supply	26,708.00	9,347.80	8,413.10	In progress
30.	Providing Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme to Perungudi Town Panchayat	Sewerage	2,019.24	706.73	459.41	In progress
31.	Providing Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme to Thirumazhisai Town Panchayat	Sewerage	2,047.32	716.56	465.76	In progress

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32	Improvement to Micro and Macro Drainage System in the Southern Basin of Chennai City	Drainage/ Storm Water Drains	29,897.57	10,464.15	6,801.70	In progress
33	Providing Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme to Pallikarani Town Panchayat	Sewerage	5,861.00	2,051.35	1,334.22	In progress
34.	Construction of Heritage Precincts along EVR Periyar Salai, Chennai	Development of Heritage Area	610.00	213.50	138.78	In progress
35	Construction and Commissioning of additional 120 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant at Koyambedu (Phase-II) in Chennai	Sewerage	11,610.00	4,063.50	1,015.88	In progress
TOTAL			358,543.57	129,441.25	83,016.04	8

Migrants by-passing smaller cities

2317. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that population of cities with more than one million have shown significant rise in population in the last decade and half, while those under one million have registered decline in population and whether in the rural urban migration, rural migrants; are deliberately by-passing smaller cities; and

(b) if so, what measures are being thought about to prevent this trend and to attract migrant to smaller and medium cities for balanced regional development to reduce unbearable load on the civic infrastructure of bigger cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) According to the Census of India in 2001 the population of million plus cities was 7.81 crore which increased to 16.07 crore in 2011. In 2001 there were 35 million plus cities which constituted 37.85% of the total Urban Population, whereas in 2011 the 53 million plus cities constituted 42.62%. In 2011, out of 53 million plus cities, 30 cities have shown declining growth rates during

2001-2011. As per Census-2011, only population of Class I cities (more than 1 lakh population) is available. In 2001, the total number of Class I cities was 441 which constituted 62.29% of the total urban population whereas in 2011, the total number of Class I cities increased to 468 constituting 70.24% of total urban population. Analysis of migration data of Census, 2011 is not available at present.

(b) It is not the policy of Government to either check or facilitate migration to the cities as the process of migration is driven by demographic and economic factors and distortions in the process may have undesirable consequences on economic growth and development.

Planning for water cycling plant

2318. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is planning to start a water cycling plant at its office at Vikas Sadan very shortly;

(b) what quantity of water is likely to be salvaged per day at the proposed plant;

(c) whether the DDA is planning to make it mandatory for the new Group Housing Societies to install a mini sewage plant in the society premises; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) and (b) DDA has informed that a water cycling plant is proposed at its office in Vikas Sadan. Being at planning stage, the quantity of water likely to be salvaged per day at the proposed plant is being worked out.

(c) and (d) DDA has also informed that in case of new Group Housing Societies it has been made mandatory to provide dual pipe system and mini sewage treatment plant within the premises for treatment of sewage and utilizing the treated water for the purpose other than for drinking.

Subletting of Government accommodation

2319. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be please to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is conducting regular checking to avoid subletting of Government accommodation allotted to Government servants;

(b) the number of complaints received from the allottees by the Directorate of Estates particularly in respect of Naroji Nagar;

(c) if so, the number of subletting cases detected during the last one year, type-wise quarters; and

(d) the action that has been taken against those Government servants who are found to be subletting their Government accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : (a) Yes Sir, Surprise inspections are carried out in General Pool Residential Accommodation regularly, on receipt of complaints and suo-motu, to detect subletting therein.

(b) and (c) Total 15 number of complaints regarding subletting of Government Quarters in Naroji Nagar were received by the Directorate of Estates during the last one year *i.e.* from 1st December, 2011 to 30th November, 2012 and subletting was detected in 2 Type-II and 5 Type-III (total 7) quarters.

(d) The Government Servants who were found involved in the subletting cases have been imposed with penalties prescribed under SR-317-B-21 of Allotment Rules, 1963, *viz.* cancellation of allotment, debarment of the allottee from future allotment for the remaining period of service and recovery of damage charges from the allottee in respect of the unauthorized period of stay in the quarter. Moreover, their Department/ Ministries have also been advised to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the delinquent official as per Rules.

Financial assistance to students and non-student youths

†2320. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take any effective steps for providing guidance and financial assistance to youth leadership training camps for students and non-student youths;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Department of Youth Affairs has a provision for financial assistance for organizing youth leadership training programme/camp under National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development Scheme. The said programme is implemented through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), both autonomous organizations under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. A sum of Rs. 25.70 lakhs was sanctioned to NYKS for conducting 9 Youth Leadership training camps benefiting a total of 225 youths (25 per camp) in the last financial year and RGNIYD also imparted youth leadership training to 121 youths during the same period from its own budget.

(c) Does not arise.

Medals bagged by India recently in Olympic Games

†2321. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of gold, silver and bronze medals bagged by India in recently concluded Olympic Games and the names of medal winning countries in this event along with their medal tally;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the actions being taken by Government to improve the poor condition of Indians among medal winning nations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) India bagged two (2) Silver and four (4) Bronze medals in the London Olympics, 2012. The names of medal winning countries in London Olympics, 2012 alongwith their medal tally is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) Government has already initiated preparations for Olympic Games, 2020 with intermediate milestones of Asian Games (2014 & 2019), Commonwealth Games (2014 & 2018) and Rio Olympic Games, 2016. Identification of sportspersons, their training, provision of expert coaches and support personnel, foreign exposures, scientific support, etc. are part of such preparations.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The provision of foreign coaches and other facilities required for the training of sportspersons in potential sports disciplines is assessed in association with the concerned National Sports Federations of the respective disciplines

Statement

The names of medal winning countries in London Olympics, 2012 alongwith their medal tally

Sl.No.	Country's Name	Gold	Sliver	Bronze	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	United States of America	46	29	29	104
2.	People's Republic of China	38	27	23	88
3.	Great Britain	29	17	19	65
4.	Russian Federation	24	26	32	82
5.	Republic of Korea	13	8	7	28
6.	Germany	11	19	14	44
7.	France	11	11	12	34
8.	Italy	8	9	11	28
9.	Hungary	8	4	5	17
10.	Australia	7	16	12	35
11.	Japan	7	14	17	38
12.	Kazakhstan	7	1	5	13
13.	Netherlands	6	6	8	20
14.	Ukraine	6	5	9	20
15.	New Zealand	6	2	5	13
16.	Cuba	5	3	6	14
17.	Islamic Republic of Iran	4	5	3	12

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Jamaica	4	4	4	12
19.	Czech Republic	4	3	3	10
20.	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	4	0	2	6
21.	Spain	3	10	4	17
22.	Brazil	3	5	9	17
23.	South Africa	3	2	1	6
24.	Ethiopia	3	1	3	7
25.	Croatia	3	1	2	6
26.	Belarus	2	5	5	12
27.	Romania	2	5	2	9
28.	Kenya	2	4	5	11
29.	Denmark	2	4	3	9
30.	Azerbaijan	2	2	6	10
31.	Poland	2	2	6	10
32.	Turkey	2	2	1	5
33.	Switzerland	2	2	0	4
34.	Lithuania	2	1	2	5
35.	Norway	2	1	1	4
36.	Canada	1	5	12	18
37.	Sweden	1	4	3	8
38.	Colombia	1	3	4	8
39.	Georgia	1	3	3	7

1	2	3	4	5	6
40.	Mexico	1	3	3	7
41.	Ireland	1	1	3	5
42.	Argentina	1	1	2	4
43.	Slovenia	1	1	2	4
44.	Serbia	1	1	2	4
45.	Tunisia	1	1	1	3
46.	Dominican Republic	1	1	0	2
47.	Trinidad and Tobago	1	0	3	4
48.	Uzbekistan	1	0	3	4
49.	Latvia	1	0	1	2
50.	Algeria	1	0	0	1
51.	Bahamas	1	0	0	1
52.	Grenada	1	0	0	1
53.	Uganda	1	0	0	1
54.	Venezuela	1	0	0	1
55.	India	0	2	4	6
56.	Mongolia	0	2	3	5
57.	Thailand	0	2	1	3
58.	Egypt	0	2	0	2
59.	Slovakia	0	1	3	4
60.	Armenia	0	1	2	3
61.	Belgium	0	1	2	3
62.	Finland	0	1	2	3

1	2	3	4	5	6
63.	Bulgaria	0	1	1	2
64.	Estonia	0	1	1	2
65.	Indonesia	0	1	1	2
66.	Malaysia	0	1	1	2
67.	Puerto Rico	0	1	1	2
68.	Taipei (Chinese Taipei)	0	1	1	2
69.	Botswana	0	1	0	1
70.	Cyprus	0	1	0	1
71.	Gabon	0	1	0	1
72.	Guatemala	0	1	0	1
73.	Montenegro	0	1	0	1
74.	Portugal	0	1	0	1
75.	Greece	0	0	2	2
76.	Republic of Moldova	0	0	2	2
77.	Qatar	0	0	2	2
78.	Singapore	0	0	2	2
79.	Afghanistan	0	0	1	1
80.	Bahrain	0	0	1	1
81.	Hong Kong, China	0	0	1	1
82.	Saudi Arabia	0	0	1	1
83.	Kuwait	0	0	1	1
84.	Morocco	0	0	1	1
85.	Tajikistan	0	0	1	1

Inauguration of 'Come and Play' scheme by SAI

‡2322. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sports Authority of India has inaugurated 'Come and Play' scheme for entire India, on the 9 October, 2011;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the scheme and the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of coaches being appointed in the State of Himachal Pradesh under this scheme and the estimated amount provided for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The 'Come and Play' Scheme was launched with the objectives of utilization of sports infrastructure, providing scientific training to sports enthusiasts and developing sports culture in the community.

The Salient features of the scheme include the following:

- (i) Training to sports enthusiasts between age group 8-17 years at nominal rates.
 - (ii) Age specific competitions *ie.*, 8-10, 10-12 and 12-17 years, conducted as per the calendar declared in advance twice a year on specified dates.
 - (iii) The first three position holders in the relevant age groups in these competitions would be allowed to participate in the competitions organized for selection of trainees for admission to the Boarding Scheme in SAI Training Centres/Special Area Games Centres.
- (c) Since the Scheme provides sports facilities and training at the existing SAI Centers, there is no requirement/need for appointing coaches under this scheme anywhere in India including Himachal Pradesh. No amount has been provided for appointment of coaches under this Scheme. The 'Come & Play' Scheme trainees are being coached by SAI coaches posted at respective Centres.

Action Plan for discontinued NIS trained coaches

‡2323. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Sports Authority of India has discontinued the services of NIS trained coaches for State's schemes along with Centre earlier;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has chalked out any action plan to resume it; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (d) Earlier, coaches were being provided on demand by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) to the State Governments/UT Administrations for State/District Coaching Centres under the Schemes of the concerned States/UTs.

Since SAI has been facing acute shortage of coaches for the last 2-3 years, a policy decision has been taken to provide coaches for SAI's own schemes only. However, around 259 SAI coaches are still working in various State Coaching Schemes and University Field Schemes.

Gender disparity in sports

2324. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken steps for eradicating gender disparity in sports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken for promoting women in sports;
- (c) whether the various schemes for promoting sports in the country provide for the distinctive dietary/training needs of sportswomen; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to provide special incentives to distinguished sportswomen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) All schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYA&S) and Sports Authority of India (SAI), including those related to spotting and nurturing of sportspersons, cash incentives and national sports awards are gender neutral, and sportswomen and sportsmen are treated equally.

Further, conscious efforts are being made to encourage the participation of women in sports. The Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), which aims at the

creation of playfields in village and block panchayats and equivalent units, besides providing access to organized sports competitions, lays special emphasis on participation of girls in sports. An exclusive national championship for women is also held under PYKKA.

(c) Dietary needs are not worked out according to gender, but under power and non-power categories. The diet also varies according to body weight. The training and fitness regimes are tailor-made to suit the individual sport and athlete.

(d) Uniform incentives are available under the Scheme of Special Awards to winners of medals in international sports events and their coaches and Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons for women and men sportspersons.

Status of 'National Game' to any sports

†2325. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the schemes being run by Government to promote sports in the country;

(b) whether Government has given the status of National Game I to any sports; and

(c) if so, the name of the sports and if not, whether any sports is proposed to be given the status of a 'National Game'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) At present, the following Schemes are being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports for development and promotion of sports in the country:

- (i) Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA);
- (ii) Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS);
- (iii) Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs);
- (iv) Talent Search & Training;
- (v) National Sports Development Fund;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (vi) Special Awards to winners in International Sports Events and their coaches;
- (vii) Awards Schemes viz Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Dhyan Chand Awards for lifetime achievement in sports and games, Arjuna Awards, Dronacharya Awards and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy;
- (viii) Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons;
- (ix) National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons;
- (x) Scheme of Sports & Games for Persons with Disabilities.

Following Schemes are being implemented by Sports Authority of India, an autonomous organization under the administrative control of this Ministry, for talent identification and promotion of excellence in sports:

- (i) National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme;
- (ii) Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSC) Scheme;
- (iii) SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme;
- (iv) Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme;
- (v) Centres of Excellence (CoE) Scheme;
- (vi) Come & Play Scheme.

(b) and (c) The Government has not given status of National Game to any sports discipline. The Ministry does not propose to accord status of National Game to any sports discipline.

12.00 NOON

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will now take up Short Notice Question, Shri Prakash Javadekar.

Direct cash transfer in Centrally sponsored schemes

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

(a) whether it is true that Government has taken a decision of direct cash transfer in beneficiary accounts for 29 Centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) if yes, then the details and name of the schemes for which the facility is going to start thereof;

(c) whether the response and concern of all the State Governments and various stake holders has been sought;

(d) if yes, then the details thereof; and

(e) if no, then the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government has decided to shift to a system of Aadhaar enabled Direct Benefit Transfer of funds under 34 identified Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes in a phase-wise manner starting with 43 districts with effect from 1.1.2013.

(b) The list of the aforementioned schemes identified for this purpose are provided in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Central Ministries concerned have set up Implementation Committees on Direct Benefit Transfer which will operationalize transfers with due consultation with State Governments and various stakeholders.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement-I

List of Central Sector/Centrally sponsored Schemes amenable to Direct Benefit Transfers

-
1. Post Matric Scholarship for SC Students
 2. Pre Matric Scholarship for SC Students
 3. Pre Matric Scholarship for children of those engaged in unclean occupations
 4. Upgradation of merit of SC students
 5. National Overseas Scholarship Schemes for SC students
 6. Post Matric Scholarships for OBC

7. National Overseas Scholarship for OBCs
8. Post Matric Scholarships for economically backward class students
9. Post Matric Scholarship for students with disabilities
10. National Overseas Scholarship for persons with disabilities
11. Scholarship for top class education for students with disabilities
12. Top Class Education Scheme
13. Scholarship to Universities/College Students
14. Fellowship Schemes of UGC
15. Fellowship Schemes of AICTE
16. Subsidy on Fee to Students
17. National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship
18. National Schemes for Incentive for the girl child for secondary education
19. National Overseas Scholarship for ST students
20. Post Matric Scholarship Scheme
21. Upgradation of Merit Scheme
22. Top Class Education Schemes
23. Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship
24. Matric Scholarship Scheme
25. Maulana Azad National Fellowship
26. Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Scgene
27. Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahiyog Yojana (IGMSY)
28. Dhanalakshi Scheme
29. Janani Suraksha Yojana
30. Scholarship to the Children of beedi workers

31. Housing subsidy to beedi workers
32. Stipend to children in the special schools under the Child Labour Project
33. Permanent Disablement Benefits, Dependent's benefits, Sickness Benefit by Employees' State Insurance Corporation to the insured persons and their families
34. Pension withdrawal of PF, Premature withdrawal of pension, payment related to Employees Deposit Linked Insurance

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I lay a statement on the Table of the House.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति महोदय, अभी जो फिलहाल एक डायरेक्ट केश ट्रांसफर की योजना घोषित हुई है, मैंने उसी पर अपना यह क्वेश्चन पूछा है। इस बार विशेषता यह थी कि यह सरकारी कार्यक्रम सरकार के द्वारा लोगों तक नहीं पहुंचा, लेकिन एक पार्टी के दफ्तर से वित्त मंत्री जी ने उसका खुलासा किया, उसका स्पष्टीकरण किया कि यह कैसी योजना है। समाचार पत्रों ने लिखा कि गेम चेन्जर है, ऐतिहासिक कदम है और उसके कारण लोगों को लगा कि जिसके पास भी आधार कार्ड है, उसको यह सरकार हर महीने कुछ देने वाली है। लोगों को लगा कि यह कोई नई सबसिडी है, नया कुछ मिलने वाला है, लेकिन आज आपके जवाब से यह साफ हो गया कि इसमें कोई भी नई सबसिडी नहीं है, या कोई भी ऐसी नई चीज नहीं है और इससे हरेक आधार कार्ड वाले को कुछ मिलने वाला नहीं है।

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सर, मेरा सवाल यह है कि जवाब के साथ दी गई 34 योजनाओं की लिस्ट मैंने पढ़ी। इसमें तो स्कॉलरशिप और पेंशन की योजनाएं हैं, जो कि बहुत सी राज्य सरकारें पहले से ही बैंक में जमा कर रही हैं। तो आप क्या नया कर रहे हैं?

सर, बहुत सारे राज्य, गुजरात में इंदिरा आवास की भी निधि बैंक में जमा होती है, महाराष्ट्र में 25 योजनाओं के पैसे बैंक में जमा होते हैं, मध्य प्रदेश में लाडली लक्ष्मी का डिपोजिट भी बैंक में जमा होता है। यह तो राज्य सरकारें कर ही रही हैं, आप नया क्या कर रहे हैं? कृपया करके आप यह बताइए।

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, if the hon. Member wishes to believe that there is nothing new or nothing novel about this, well I can't quarrel with his belief. That is his belief. We believe that the system that we have introduced will be a more efficient system, more transparent. It will be a seamless transfer of the benefit from the transferor to the transferee's bank account. It will eliminate leakage, it will eliminate delays, it will eliminate duplication and falsification. This is the way to go in the future, harnessing technology for the purpose. No one claimed that every Aadhaar card holder will be given a cash benefit. If someone made the claim, I am sorry for him. No one made that claim. All that the Government said was, following the announcement in the

Budget Speech, we intend to move over to a system of electronically transferring the benefits, including cash subsidies, to the beneficiary using the banking system and the Aadhaar, and, we believe, the Government firmly believes, that this will introduce a very high degree of transparency and efficiency and the people of India will wholeheartedly welcome this system.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर : सभापति जी, मेरा दूसरा सप्लिमेंटरी यह है कि यह एक सीमलेस ट्रांसफर है। मैंने भी थोड़ा बैंक में काम किया है, अभी जो 43 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स हैं, उनमें लगभग 47,000 विलेजेस हैं, जिनमें से 30,000 विलेजेस में बैंक्स नहीं हैं। मैं समझ रहा हूँ कि आप उसके पास बैंकिंग करस्पोंडेंट करके एक डिब्बा दोगे, जिस पर उसके आधार कार्ड का रियल टाइम क्रॉस वेरिफिकेशन होना है कि बेनिफिशरी वही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यानी जिसको लाभ मिलने वाला है, उसकी पहचान कैसे होगी? वह आधार कार्ड से होगी। तो आधार कार्ड के लिए आपको उसको एक मशीन देना पड़ेगी। वह मशीन लेकर जाएगा, ग्राम पंचायत के ऑफिस में बैठेगा, कैश लेकर जाएगा, वहां फिंगर प्रिंट्स लेंगे, जहां बैंक नहीं हैं, मैं वहां की बात कर रहा हूँ, I am talking about those areas which do not have bank branches. तो वहां वह अंगूठा देगा और फिंगर प्रिंट्स का रियल टाइम में यूआईडी के मैन सर्वर से तुरंत वेरिफिकेशन होगा और फिर उसको पैसा मिलेगा।

अब आप मुझे यह बताइए कि those 43 districts which have been selected in the first phase, उनमें से कितने districts ऐसे हैं, जहां internet connection speed इतनी fast है कि वहां ATM की तरह real time verification हो सके, यानी वहां आपके internet की speed क्या है? अभी वहां पर electricity नहीं है, अगर आप वह डिब्बा बैटरी पर चलाएंगे, तो वहां पर वे डिब्बे भी नहीं हैं, जिन पर fingerprints लेने हैं। What preparation the Government of India has done to, actually, ensure the seamless transfer of money? Otherwise, people will be waiting there and nothing will be given to them.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, if I may say it in a lighter way, I thought I was technologically challenged, but I find my friend is equally technologically challenged.

There is a Technology Committee, headed by a person eminent in his own field and who has the capacity to put in place the technology required for making the success of this scheme, today, just after this Question Hour is over, at half-past-twelve, we have called the District Collectors of 43 districts in which we intend to be able to roll it out from the 1st of January. Work is going on in all the Ministries. Work is going on at different levels. We think, we have mastered the technology. We think, the technology will enable us to roll it out. I think, the proof of the pudding is in its eating. On 1st January, a certain number of schemes will be rolled out in a certain number of districts. There will be some hiccups in the beginning. But, these hiccups can be brought over. I appeal to every section of the House to support the Government and help the Government make this a success.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सभापति जी, मैं श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर जी की बात से अपने को सम्बद्ध करते हुए माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वे आधार कार्ड योजना इसी वजह से लाए हैं कि सरकार ने सोचा कि वह जो subsidy दे रही है, आपने इन 34 प्रायोजित स्कीमों की सूची दी है, वह subsidy सीधे रूप से लाभार्थियों को नहीं पहुंच रही है, कहीं न कहीं बीच में गड़बड़ी है। इसलिए सरकार ने सोचा कि वह आधार कार्ड के माध्यम से इसे सीधे जनता तक पहुंचाएगी। अगर आप यह मान रहे हैं कि यह subsidy सही रूप से नहीं पहुंची है और आधार कार्ड के माध्यम से पहुंच जाएगी, तो अब तक जो subsidy सही रूप से नहीं पहुंची है, क्या आप उसकी जांच कराएंगे? दूसरा, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : कृपया आप केवल एक सवाल पूछिए।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सभापति जी, यह इसी का दूसरा पार्ट है। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या खाद पर मिलने वाली subsidy और kerosene oil पर मिलने वाली subsidy को भी आप आधार कार्ड योजना के अंतर्गत ला रहे हैं? यदि ला रहे हैं, तो क्या उसके बाद आम जनता को जो खाद और मिट्टी का तेल मिलेगा, वह जनरल market rate पर मिलेगा या subsidized rate पर मिलेगा?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, each one has his Constituency and each one travels in his Constituency. We hear complaints such as, 'My old age pension has not come to me for the last three months', 'My MGNREGA wages have been entered in my Card, but I don't find money deposited in the bank account.' Students have told me, 'I am told that scholarship has been sanctioned, but neither the Principal of my college knows about it nor my bank manager knows about it.' This is common experience of anyone traveling around India. I am not saying every case is bad. There are enough examples where we know there is delay, there is duplication, there is falsification and there is leakage. What this will do is: It seamlessly transfers the amount of benefit from Ministry or department which transfers the benefit into the bank account of the beneficiary.

Now, I have laid down very strict conditions. I will, of course discuss this with my colleagues and the hon. Prime Minister. It is our intention that every scheme must have a digitized list of beneficiaries. The digitized list of beneficiaries will be broken down, district-wise, and given to the District Collector and to the lead bank of that district. It is the responsibility of the District Collector and the lead bank of that district, especially the lead bank, to ensure that every beneficiary has a bank account. The bank account will be ceded with the Aadhar Number and we must reach a certain threshold of ceding before we can say that district is ready for the roll out.

And there must be sufficient number of business correspondence in each of these districts to enable people to withdraw the benefit. These are very strict conditions. I have put them down in writing. And today, I will tell the District Collectors at 12.30,

“Unless these conditions are met, your district will not be selected.” Likewise, the Ministries have been told that unless the Digitized Beneficiary List is available, and authenticated, that Scheme will not be rolled out. We are embarking upon, what I believe, a major technological change in the way Government transfers benefits. There will be hiccups. But that does not mean we should stop the Scheme. We should try to get over the hiccups. I am confident, Sir, that when the Scheme is rolled out, and glitches are removed, it will be a more efficient, more transparent system of transferring benefit to the beneficiary.

श्री साविर अली : सर, मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि जो पीछे बैठते हैं, वे सिर्फ सुनने के लिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, मंत्री जी से हमने inquiry के लिए पूछा था।

श्री साविर अली : सर, हाउस में जो सदस्य आगे बैठते हैं, क्या वे ही बोलते रहेंगे? जो सदस्य पीछे बैठते हैं, क्या वे सिर्फ सुनने के लिए आते हैं?

श्री सभापति : आप अपना सवाल पूछिए।

श्री साविर अली : सर, मैं सवाल पूछ रहा हूँ। चूंकि हम लोग हाथ उठाते हैं, नीचे करते हैं, फिर हाथ उठाते हैं, नीचे करते हैं, क्या जो पीछे की बैंचों पर बैठते हैं, वे सिर्फ सुनने के लिए आते हैं?

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री साविर अली : सर, पीछे की बैंचों पर बैठने वाले सदस्यों को भी बोलने का मौका मिलना चाहिए। जो फ्रंट की बैंचों पर बैठते हैं, सिर्फ वे ही बोलते रहते हैं।

सर, मेरा सवाल यह है कि Finance Minister यहां बैठे हैं। वे स्कीम लाए हैं और मैं उसी कमेटी में हूँ, तो मैं इनसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिन 43 जिलों को आपने चुना है, उन जिलों की पंचायतों में पहले बैंक खोलने के प्रयास क्यों नहीं किए गए? मैं तीन साल से कह रहा हूँ कि देहातों में औरतों को, बच्चों को, स्कूल के विद्यार्थियों को पांच, छः या दस किलोमीटर तक पैदल चलकर पैसे निकालने के लिए जाना पड़ता है, तो आपने वहां बैंक खोलने का प्रयास क्यों नहीं किया? आपने वह प्रयास किया जिसमें आपको वोट का फायदा हो।

श्री सभापति : देखिए, आप सवाल पूछिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री साविर अली : आप अपना exposure दें। आप ऐसा काम नहीं करते जो आम लोगों तक पहुंचे।

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल पूछिए, भाषण मत दीजिए।

श्री साविर अली : सर, मैं भाषण नहीं कर रहा हूँ। दूसरे भाषण दें तो वह ठीक है, हम बोलें तो भाषण हो जाए! सर, ऐसा discrimination नहीं होना चाहिए। मैं बड़ी मिन्नत के साथ, बड़ी आरजू के साथ आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि क्या Finance Minister ने ऐसी कोई स्कीम बनाई है कि हर पंचायत में एक बैंक खुलेगा और वह काम कब तक पूरा होगा?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I appreciate the sentiment of the hon. Member that more bank branches should be opened. Last year, for example, we opened over 6,000 branches throughout the country. That works out to an average of about 18-19 branches per day. We have instructed the banks to open many, many more branches.

I am very happy, Sir, that people of India are demanding bank branches in their panchayats. That is a sign that this country is maturing and people are demanding their rights.

Now, we will open more branches. These 43 districts that have been selected have sufficient number of bank branches, if they didn't have sufficient number of bank branches, we would not have selected these districts.

To Shri Naresh Agrawal's question which I omitted to answer, I have to say that, today, so many complaints come about benefits not being received, if under this Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme (DBTS), complaints come, of course, the complaints will be enquired into; but, please remember, it is easier to enquire into a complaint in this Scheme because the transfer leaves an electronic trail; so, we will know where the mistake has occurred.

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि अगली 1 जनवरी से हमने 43 जिलों को चुना है और उन तमाम जिलों के गांवों में हम इस स्कीम को लागू करेंगे। माननीय मंत्री जी से मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि जनवरी के बाद आप कौन सी तिथि या साल तय कर रहे हैं, जब से यह स्कीम पूरे देश में लागू हो जाएगी और इस स्कीम के तहत हर लाभार्थी को उसका लाभ मिल सकेगा?

इसके साथ ही मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि बहुत जल्दी में यह कार्यक्रम तय किया गया है, कि क्या लाभार्थियों को ट्रेनिंग दी गई है या नहीं? वे कैसे कैसे निकालेंगे? इलेक्ट्रॉनिक व्यवस्था है, टेक्नालॉजी है, तो इसके लिए क्या आप आम लोगों को, जो गरीब तबके लोग हैं, उनको ट्रेनिंग देंगे? वे कैसे कैसे निकालेंगे, इसके लिए आपने कौन सी व्यवस्था की है?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the scheme was not devised in a hurry. I respectfully submit that the scheme is not being implemented in a hurry. In fact, the watch-word for implementation of the scheme is—we will hasten slowly. We will take it step by step because this is an important scheme. The scheme will benefit millions of people. So, we will hasten slowly. The scheme is announced by my distinguished predecessor in one of his Budget Speeches and we have worked on it for the last year-and-a-half. Yes, training is being provided. Banks' branch managers are being trained to open accounts and to see the account with Aadhar. Business Correspondents are being trained how to carry the Business Correspondents Service to the villagers. I say with respect that we have a tendency to under-estimate the intelligence and common

sense of the poor people. Today, they are able to access the ATMs. This is only a mini ATM. It is a replica of the ATM machine which even an illiterate lady in a village is able to use today. This is a mini ATM. The mini ATM will be in the hands of a Business Correspondent. He has an area of service of a couple of Panchayats or half-a-dozen villages—that is, a cluster of villages where he will serve. He will operate the mini ATM with the beneficiary. The beneficiary can draw the benefit through the mini ATM or the micro ATM.

I want all of you to please join in this great experiment and make it a success.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Short Notice Question is over.

EXPRESSION OF FAITH AND RESPECT IN THE CHAIR

सुश्री मायावती (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपकी इज्जत करती हूँ, चेयर की इज्जत करती हूँ। महोदय, दुख इस बात का है कि पिछले सत्र के दौरान और इस बार भी सत्र के दौरान शेडयूल्ड कास्ट और शेडयूल्ड ट्राइब्स वर्गों का प्रमोशन में आरक्षण से संबंधित विधेयक हंगामे की वजह से अभी तक पास नहीं हो पाया है। मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है और आपके ऊपर पूरा भरोसा है कि आप ऐसा कोई न कोई रास्ता निकालेंगे कि हाउस पीसफुली चले और यह विधेयक पास हो जाए। इसके साथ ही मैं सरकार से भी रिक्वेस्ट करती हूँ, खास तौर से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी से निवेदन करती हूँ कि आप भी कोई ऐसा रास्ता निकालें जिससे इस विधेयक को पास होने में जो अड़चन पैदा हो रही है, वह दूर हो सके। जो लोग अड़चन पैदा कर रहे हैं, आप उनसे बातचीत करें, उनको समझाएं और कोई ऐसा रास्ता निकालें जिससे हाउस पीसफुली चले और माननीय सभापति जी को भी हाउस चलाने में दिक्कत न हो। इसके साथ ही विपक्ष के नेता श्री अरुण जेटली जी से, सभी सम्मानित दलों के माननीय नेताओं से और जो न्यूट्रल हैं, उन सभी से भी मैं यह रिक्वेस्ट करती हूँ कि वे दलगत राजनीति से ऊपर उठकर, जो शेडयूल्ड कास्ट और शेडयूल्ड ट्राइब्स वर्गों का प्रमोशन में रिज़र्वेशन से संबंधित विधेयक है, इसको पास कराएं। मुझे माननीय सभापति जी के ऊपर पूरा भरोसा है कि जो दबे-कुचले लोग हैं, उनकी दुख-तकलीफ को समझकर आप जरूर कोई न कोई रास्ता निकालेंगे, जिससे यह विधेयक पास हो सके। धन्यवाद।

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to convey to you that our Government has the fullest faith and the highest regard for you. Respect for the Chairman of the House is a respect for maintaining the dignity of this House and we will work with all sections of the House to ensure that the Chair gets all the cooperation and all the respect that is due to you and to this august Chair.

Sir, I also agree that we must find ways and means of conducting the business of the House smoothly, without interruptions. In so far as the Government has a role, I promise the fullest cooperation in that regard as well.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I join the hon. Prime Minister in expressing full faith, both in your person as also the Chair that you occupy. What we are seeing today is really the strength of India's parliamentary democracy where we all do believe that the credibility and dignity of the Chair are synonymous with the dignity of the House which in turn reposes popular confidence in India's democracy. I wish to assure you that this House will speak in one voice in upholding your honour, both as an individual and as also the dignity of the Chair that you occupy. Managing contradictions is the strength of India's parliamentary democracy and I am sure that the current issues which confront them we will successfully be able to manage those contradictions also, Sir.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal) : Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments of the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition and we all echo the same. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SHASHI BHUSAN BEHERA (Odisha) : We also associate ourselves with the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : सभापति महोदय, मैं अपने आपको इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता (बिहार) : सभापति महोदय, मैं अपने आपको इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We also associate ourselves with the sentiments expressed by them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Sir, during the Question Hour we had raised an issue and requested that either the Prime Minister or the Home Minister should come and inform the House ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Can we just finish, what we are doing now? ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair thanks the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the BSP and the Leaders of all other political parties, the Groups and the Members for the sentiments expressed. The Chair seeks, as always, the cooperation of the House in its own functioning. Thank you very much. We now go on to the Papers to be laid. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Venkaiahji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, we requested in the morning that we should the Question Hour and after that the Government should respond to the important issue of the Supreme Court judgement in giving death sentence to Afzal Guru who was instrumental in attacking this Parliament. We are paying tribute to the martyrs.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

It will be fit on the part of the Government to inform the House as to what is the action the Government is taking the judgement of the Supreme Court, what is the timeframe for implementing the judgement of the Supreme Court and what has happened to the petition which is pending with the Home Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : Sir, I will request the Home Minister to keep the House apprised of the steps being taken and the process involved in this. Since it has been raised today, I will inform the Home Minister who will keep the House apprised.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Thank you.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Administrative Report (2011-12) of the Haj Committee of India and related papers

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : Sir, I lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under subsection (4) of Section 34 of the Haj Committee Act, 2002:—

- (a) Administrative Report of the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai, for the year 2011-12.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

(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. 7792/15/12]

Reports and Accounts (2011-12) of various PSU's and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : Sir, I lay

on the Table, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers :—

- (i) (a) Thirty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited (NEHHDC), Guwahati, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7594/15/12]
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (ii) (a) Thirtieth Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC), Guwahati, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7767/15/12]
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

Notification of the Ministry of External Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 41 of the Nalanda University Act, 2010, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of External Affairs, Notification No. S.O. 2774 (E), dated the 23rd November, 2012, publishing the Nalanda University (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2012. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8333/15/12]

Report and Accounts (2011-12) of the IIPA, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Fifty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi, for year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7815/15/12]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

II. Report (as on August 2012) of the IIBI, Kolkata and related papers

III. Reports and Accounts (2011-12) of the various PSU's and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : Sir, I lay on the Table—

I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under Section 25 of the Coinage Act, 2011: —

- (1) G.S.R. 648 (E), dated the 23rd August, 2012, publishing the coinage of One Hundred Rupees and Five Rupees coins to commemorate the occasion of 150 Years of Kuka Movement Rules, 2012.
- (2) G.S.R. 691 (E), dated the 14th September, 2012, publishing the coinage of Twenty Five Rupees, Ten Rupees and Five Rupees coins to commemorate the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Rules, 2012.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 7968/15/12]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under Section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:—

- (1) G.S.R. 795 (E), dated the 30th October, 2012, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
- (2) G.S.R. 796 (E), dated the 30th October, 2012, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
- (3) G.S.R. 797 (E), dated the 30th October, 2012, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2012.
- (4) G.S.R. 798 (E), dated the 30th October, 2012, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2012.

- (5) G.S.R. 799 (E), dated the 30th October, 2012, publishing the Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Exchange Derivative Contracts) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2012.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (5) See No. L.T. 7588/15/11]

(iii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), under sub-section (2) of Section 30 of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976, along with delay statement:—

- (1) No. HGB/HRD/2010/5250, dated the 13th September, 2010, publishing the Haryana Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (2) No. 250, dated the 30th October, 2010, publishing Satpura Narmada Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (3) No. 44, dated the 30th October - 5th November, 2010, publishing the Samastipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations. 2010.
- (4) NRB/28/H.O./12/854, dated the 6th November, 2010, publishing the Nagaland Rural Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (5) No. 293, dated the 6th November, 2010, publishing the J & K Grameen Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (6) No. 300, dated the 15th November, 2010, publishing the Himachal Grameen Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (7) No. 302, dated the 15th November, 2010, publishing the Meghalaya Rural Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (8) No. 303, dated the 15th November, 2010, publishing the Bangiya Gramin Vikash Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (9) No. 306, dated the 19th November, 2010, publishing the Kalinga Gramya Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (10) No. 330, dated the 20th December, 2010, publishing the Allahabad UP Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.

- (11) F. No. K.K.G.B./Personnel/2010-11/5719, dated the 11th January, 2011, publishing the Kshetriya Kisan Gramin Bank, Mainpuri (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (12) No B.R.G.B./H.O./2010-11 Maa.Sa.Pra./7381, dated the 14th February, 2011, publishing the Baroda Raiasthan Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (13) F.No. 1/Staff/610/2010-11, dated the 17th March, 2011, publishing the Chhattisgarh Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (14) F. No. HQ/Per./679/2010-11, dated the 4th April, 2011, publishing the Vananchal Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (15) F.No. RRB/HO/Staff/2011/769, dated the 7th May, 2011, publishing the Sulej Gramin Bank Bathinda (Punjab) (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (16) F. No. Item No. 20, dated the 16th May, 2011, publishing the Krishna Grameena Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (17) F. No. K.G.S.G.B./HQ/Pers./468/2011, dated the 24th May, 2011, publishing the Kashi Gomti, Samyut Gramin Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (18) F.No. MRB/RRB-Act/1/2011-12/306, dated the 2nd July, 2011, publishing the Manipur Rural Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
- (19) F.No. Praka/Karmik/001401/2011-12, dated the 10th August, 2011, publishing the Vidisha Bhopal Regional Rural Bank (Officers and Employees) Service Regulations, 2010.
[Placed in Library. for (1) to (19) See No. L.T. 8334/15/12]

(iv) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), under sub-section (4) of Section 23A of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 :—

- (1) S.O. 2664 (E), dated the 1st November, 2012, regarding amalgamation of Madhya Bharat Gramin Bank, Sharda Gramin Bank and Rewa Sidhi Gramin Bank as Madhyanchal Gramin Bank.

- (2) S.O. 2665 (E), dated the 1st November, 2012, regarding amalgamation of Narmada Malwa Gramin Bank and Jhabua Dhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank as Narmada Jhabua Gramin Bank.
- (3) S.O. 2666 (E), dated the 1st November, 2012, regarding amalgamation of Nainital Almora Kshetriya Gramin Bank and Uttaranchal Gramin Bank as Uttarakhand Gramin Bank.
- (4) S.O. 2667 (E), dated the 1st November, 2012, regarding amalgamation of Cauvery Kalpatharu Grameena Bank, Chikmagalur Kodagu Grameena Bank and Visveshvaraya Grameena Bank as Kaveri Grameena Bank.
- (5) S.O. 2668 (E), dated the 1st November, 2012, regarding amalgamation of Rushikulya Gramya Bank and Utkal Gramya Bank as Utkal Grameen Bank. [Placed in Library. For (1) to (5) See No. L.T. 7703/15/12]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under subsection (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (a) Report on the Proposed Voluntary Winding Up of the Industrial Investment Bank of India Limited (IIBI), Kolkata, as on August, 2012, 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 proposed Voluntary Winding Up of the above Bank. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7964/15/12]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government on the Annual Accounts of the above institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7701/15/12]
- (ii) (a) Nineteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Development Economics (CDE), Delhi School of Economics, Delhi, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government on the Annual Accounts of the above Centre. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7696/15/12]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government on the Annual Accounts of the above Council.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7700/15/12]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government on the Annual Accounts of the above Centre.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7697/15/12]
- (v) (a) Nineteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Madras School of Economics (MSE), Chennai for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government on the Annual Accounts of the above School.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7698/15/12]
- (vi) (a) Thirteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Pratichi (India) Trust, Delhi for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government on the Annual Accounts of the above Trust.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7702/15/12]
- (vii) (a) Twenty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government on the Annual Accounts of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7699/15/12]
- (viii) Consolidated Review of working of the Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), for the year ended 31st March, 2012.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7705/15/12]

SHRI NAMO NARIAN MEENA : Sir, I lay on the Table.

...(Interruptions)...

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान) : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो पेपर्स लेड डाउन किये हैं, उनके बारे में एक ऑब्जेक्शन है, because it is defective, Sir. ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ आर्डर है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मैं एक ऑब्जेक्शन रेज़ करना चाहता हूँ। सर, यह जो ...(व्यवधान)... सर, एक ऑब्जेक्शन है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मुझे आप दो मिनट का मौका दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप प्रॉपर नोटिस दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : Sir, it is not a matter of notice, Sir.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, he has some objection against the paper that is being laid on the Table. He can raise it only now.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : Sir, I have an objection. ...(Interruptions)... Please listen to me. ...(Interruptions)... I seek your protection, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It has already been laid. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, Point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Point of order! Okay. Let me listen to the point of order first. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव : सर, मैं भी point of order कर रहा हूँ। सर, मुझे दो मिनट...।

श्री उपसभापति : आपने point of order बोला है? मैंने नहीं सुना।

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : Yes, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please wait. Let me listen to him first. ...(Interruptions)... बोलिए, बोलिए।

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव : सर, मेरा यह कहना है कि माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने जो papers laid किए हैं, G.S.R. 796(E) इसका retrospective मार्च 31, 2011 से है। जबकि इस हाउस की सबऑर्डिनेट लेजिस्लेशन कमेटी की जो रिपोर्ट है, उसमें अटॉर्नी जनरल से opinion लेने के बाद कहा गया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप रूल बताइए।

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : Even when a Statute empowers, giving a retrospective effect ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप रूल नम्बर बताइए।

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : Sir, it is an objection.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Tell me the rule, रूल बताइए। You are raising a point of order; रूल बताइए। You are raising a point of order; रूल बताइए। I will help you; रूल बताइए।

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव : सर, पेज नम्बर में सब ऑर्डिनेट लेजिस्लेशन की रिपोर्ट ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मेरा एक जनरल सवाल है कि क्या गनर्वमेंट डिफेक्टिव लेजिस्लेशन रख सकती है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No; no. No, please. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री भुपेन्द्र यादव : सर, जब सब ऑर्डिनेट लेजिस्लेशन ने कहा है, without explanatory note आप कैसे पेपर रख सकते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप रूल बताइए; I will go by that rule.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : There is a procedural defect, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There is a way for that. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Sir, he is seeking the permission of the Chair under rule 258 to allow him to raise his objection with regard to the papers that are being laid on the Table of the House, with retrospective effect. ...(Interruptions)... What the Committee on Subordinate Legislation has said, he, as a Member, has ever right to explain his point of view. Please bear to hear him. And, then, you can dispose it of.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I am asking under which rule he is raising his point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Under rule 258. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No; no. ...(Interruptions)... That is for point of order. ...(Interruptions)... I agree to that. It is under that rule that I allowed him. But, now, he should tell under which rule he is raising his point of order and objecting this. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, there are a number of precedents where papers laid with retrospective effect had to be explained to the House why they were being laid with retrospective effect. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have no objection. ...(*Interruptions*)... Venkaiahji, you are a very senior Member. I have allowed him to raise his point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please... ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, it is his duty to tell under which rule he objects this particular.... ...(*Interruptions*)... आप रूल बताइए; I have no problem. ...(*Interruptions*)... Tell me the rule. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, when a Minister comes to the House and lays a paper on the Table of the House and says that it should be valid from retrospective effect, he has to explain the reasons for that. And it had been done in the House. If you want the precedent, I can bring it to you. ...(*Interruptions*)... But the point is that the hon. Minister is laying it on the Table of the House and is saying that it will be valid from retrospective effect. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : He did not say that. ...(*Interruptions*)... He did not say that. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : He said that, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)... See the paper. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Okay. I have allowed him. But tell me the rule. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : There can't be a specific rule for each and every thing. The issue has been raised under a particular rule. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : What do you want? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : I want the Minister to explain what is the justification for validating it with retrospective effect, while he is laying it on the Table today. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Then that is not a point of order. That is a request. I have no objection if the Minister obliges, if it is a request. But if it is a point of order, you will have to tell the rule number. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. NAJMAA. HEPTULLA : Sir, if any business, which is taking place in the House, is not in proper order, a Member can raise a point of order. Now, the Papers, which have been laid by the hon. Minister, are not in order. To correct the order, he should reply and the hon. Member is raising a point of order to that effect. That comes under point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Okay. Now, shall I reply? ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. Rama Joisji, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me now react. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, subordinate legislation cannot be with retrospective effect. That is the practice of Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I got the point.

Number one, with regard to the point of order, since the hon. Member did not mention the specific rule under which it is objected to, I am not allowing. But, Venkaiahji, Najmaji and also Justice Rama Jois are requesting that since it is being implemented retrospectively, the Minister should explain the reason. I have no objection if the Minister explains it. I have no objection. That is up to the Minister.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal) : Sir, on a similar issue, here, it is mentioned, he has laid on the Table of the House a copy each of the following notifications of the Ministry of Finance under Section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA). There are five notifications. Now, according to the Section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, these amendments have to be laid on the Tables of both the Houses of Parliament. It does not say that these have to be laid simultaneously, but it does not say separately either. It was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha two weeks ago and it has come here now. Why is that time gap?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No; that is not to be explained.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Why not? Sir, according to the law, we have a right to move amendments within 30 days since the day it has been tabled.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes; now, you have 30 days.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Now, we have 30 days, beginning today.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You have got 30 days.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, we need 30 days from today.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Are you seeking a clarification?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Yes, Sir. I want to know whether those 30 days begin from today. In Lok Sabha, it began two weeks earlier.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : As far as this House is concerned, we are concerned with the date on which it is placed here.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Okay.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Why should we be concerned, about the date on which it was tabled in the Lok Sabha?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Okay, I agree. So, it is 30 days from today.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You go by rules. Yechuryji, there are rules governing the question that you have raised. You go by rules. You know it.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, I don't want any manipulation in the rules. We seek your protection.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I don't think the Chair will manipulate at all.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : The Chair won't manipulate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, no; we cannot. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar) : Sir, do we have the assurance of the hon. Chair that for these FEMA notifications, under Section 48, the 30 days' period impinging our right will be counted from today?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I am not giving any assurance. I said, the rules will take care of it. ...(*Interruptions*)... But I also said that it is immaterial on which date it is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. We go by the date on which it is placed in our House.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : All right.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, Mr. Namo Narain Meena, you have laid it. Okay.

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA : Sir, I lay on the Table—

I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under sub-section (2) of Section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944, along with Explanatory Memoranda:—

- (1) G.S.R. 758 (E), dated the 10th October, 2012, declaring that the provisions of Section 28AAA of the Customs Act, 1962 shall be applicable in regard to like matters in respect of duties imposed by Section 3 of the Central

Excise Act, 1944 to certain modifications and alterations. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7704/15/12]

- (2) G.S.R. 833 (E), dated the 19th November, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 256 (E), dated the 16th March, 1995, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (3) G.S.R. 835 (E), dated the 20th November, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 182 (E), dated the 8th March, 2002, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7965/15/12]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, along with Explanatory Memoranda :—

- (1) G.S.R. 829 (E), dated the 16th November, 2012, publishing the Customs House Agents Licensing Regulation, 2012.
- (2) G.S.R. 831 (E), dated the 16th November, 2012, publishing the Handling of Cargo in Customs Areas (Amendment) Regulation, 2012.
- (3) G.S.R. 834 (E), dated the 19th November, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 291 (E), dated the 23rd July, 1996, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (4) G.S.R. 836 (E), dated the 21st November, 2012, amending Notification No. G.S.R. 185 (E), dated the 17th March, 2012, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification. ...(*Interruptions*)...
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7966/15/12]

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala) : Sir, the hon. Minister has to reply as to what is the necessity of retrospective effect. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That is over. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is over. ...(*Interruptions*)... Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Sir, the hon. Minister has to reply as to what is the necessity of retrospective effect. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That is over. I have ruled it out. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have ruled out the point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have ruled it out. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : There is another thing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Sir, is it prospective or retrospective?
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Ruling is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is over.
...*(Interruptions)*... It is on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उपसभापति जी, जया जी का एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर था। उनको भी बोलने का मौका दें।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है। आपका क्या प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है? आप बोलिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala) : The hon. Minister has to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, no. I have called Shrimati Jaya Bachchan.
...*(Interruptions)*... You take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. She has a point of order. What is that? ...*(Interruptions)*... Ms. Bachchan, do you have a point of order? Stand up and speak. I have no problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA : Sir, with due respect to you, I would like to mention here that before disposing one point of order, you gave instructions to the Minister to give the explanation. You can ask Jayaji after the hon. Minister has replied. Sir, instruction is not ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I said, I have no objection if he makes a statement.

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA : But, Sir, it is not the objection. It is your responsibility.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Najmaji, if the Minister wants to make a statement, I have no problem. I am not directing. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not directing.
...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Balagopal, please take your seat.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Sir, the Minister is ready to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Then he can do that. I have no problem.
...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Why is the Chair not allowing the Minister?
...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister is ready. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Balagopalji, I said what I had to say. बालगोपाल जी, आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Have some consolation for your sister, Jayaji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : She will raise that. But the earlier point-of-order that was raised by ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Let us hear what she is saying. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have said what I had to say. आप बैठिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu) : Why are you not giving him permission. Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No; I have no objection; I told you. It is up to the Minister to decide whether he should say something on this or not. ...(*Interruptions*)... जया जी, आप बोलिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL :*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Only what Jayaji says will be on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Balagopal, it is not going on record.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL :*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Balagopalji, it is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Jayaji. You can raise only the point of order.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh) : Yes, Sir. I wish to draw your attention to the answers given on 12th December, 2012 by the hon. Minister of Women and Child Development. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No; that is not a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)... Jayaji. I will allow you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Sir, this is a very ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सुनिए। It is not a point of order. If you want, I will allow you later. What I will advise you is that if there is a wrong answer, factually wrong answer, there is a rule by which you can write, and the Minister concerned ...(*Interruptions*)... Let me complete. Let me advise you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : Sir, I had written in the past, but I have not had a reply. Therefore, I am requesting you to give me an opportunity to point out that...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : This is not a point of order. I will allow you later. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will allow you later. Let me dispose this. ...(*Interruptions*)... Agrawalji, this is not the way.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, मैं उसी को ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री उपसभापति : अग्रवाल जी, मेरा कहना यह है कि मुझे यह बिजनेस खत्म करने दीजिए। बिजनेस खत्म करने के बाद। will allow. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : सर, महिलाओं की जो समस्या है ...(*व्यवधान*)... उसको हम backbench पर रख देंगे? नहीं, सर, this is not fair. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति : अभी नहीं; after finishing this. It is not a point of order. I will allow you later, if you want. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am saying, I will allow you after finishing this. I am not saying that I will not allow you. मैं permission दूँगा, लेकिन अभी नहीं। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : सर, महिलाओं के इश्यू को आप ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री उपसभापति : जया जी, अभी नहीं। I will allow you. आप बैठिए।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : मैं बैठ रही हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have told you that I will allow you.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN : O.K. I accept. I am just saying कि आप महिलाओं के इश्यू को priority नहीं दे रहे हैं। I want this to be noted that women issues are not being given priority.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Papers to be laid. Shri Rajiv Shukla.

Statements showing action taken by Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements showing action taken by Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the Session shown against each:—

Statement No. XXXIII Hundred and Eighty-fifth Session, 1998. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8336/15/12]

Statement No. XXXII Hundred and Ninety-sixth Session, 2002. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8337/15/12]

Statement No. XXI	Two Hundred and Fourth Session, 2005. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8338/15/12]
Statement No. XXVIII	Two Hundred and Fifth Session, 2005. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8339/15/12]
Statement No. XXIV	Two Hundred and Seventh Session, 2006. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8340/15/12]
Statement No. XXIV	Two Hundred and Eighth Session, 2006. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8341/15/12]
Statement No. XIX	Two Hundred and Eleventh Session, 2007. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8342/15/12]
Statement No. XIX	Two Hundred and Twelfth Session, 2007. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8343/15/12]
Statement No. XVII	Two Hundred and Thirteenth Session, 2008. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8344/15/12]
Statement No. XV	Two Hundred and Fourteenth Session, 2008. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8345/15/12]
Statement No. XIII	Two Hundred and Fifteenth Session, 2009. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8346/15/12]
Statement No. XII	Two Hundred and Seventeenth Session, 2009. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8347/15/12]
Statement No. XI	Two Hundred and Eighteenth Session, 2009. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8348/15/12]
Statement No. X	Two Hundred and Nineteenth Session, 2010. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8349/15/12]
Statement No. VIII	Two Hundred and Twentieth Session, 2010. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8350/15/12]
Statement No. VII	Two Hundred and Twenty-first Session, 2010. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8351/15/12]
Statement No. VI	Two Hundred and Twenty-second Session, 2011. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8352/15/12]

Statement No. V	Two Hundred and Twenty-third Session, 2011. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8353/15/12]
Statement No. IV	Two Hundred and Twenty-fourth Session, 2011. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8354/15/12]
Statement No. III	Two Hundred and Twenty-fifth Session, 2012. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8355/15/12]
Statement No. I	Two Hundred and Twenty-sixth Session, 2012. [Placed in Library. <i>See</i> No. L.T. 8356/15/12]

Report and Accounts (2011-12) of NSTFDC together with related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers: —

(a) Eleventh Annual Report and Accounts of the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7978/15/12]

Report and Accounts (2011-12) of CMRL, New Delhi together with related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI) : Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(a) Fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL), New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7858/15/12]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala) : Sir, I present the Hundred and Forty-third Report (in English and Hindi) of the Committee on Petitions on the representations praying for payment of enhanced gratuity benefits to the retired executives of NTPC & BHEL *at par* with the retirees of Central Government and CPSEs.

**REPORT OF DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Punjab) : Sir, I present the Two Hundred Forty-seventh Report (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011.

**EVIDENCE TENDERED BEFORE DEPARTMENT RELATED
PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT**

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Punjab) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy of the Evidence tendered before the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on The Higher Education and Research Bill. 2011.

STATEMENT BY MINISTERS

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Hundred and
Sixty-second report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Home Affairs**

AND

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred
and Thirty-first report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Industry**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : Sir, I, make the following statements regarding:—

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Sixty-second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Demands for Grants (2012-13) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region; and

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Thirty-first Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry on Action Taken Notes on the Two Hundred and Twenty-third Report of the Committee on Revival and Restructuring of North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Ltd. pertaining to the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Issue of notice of privilege

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, Zero Hour. Shri P. Rajeeve.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Sir, before going into that, I would like to say that I had given a Notice of Privilege against the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas. I had given the Notice yesterday and reminded about it even today. When the Parliament is in Session, the Minister has made a policy statement outside, which even the Election Commission has taken note of, with regard to increase in the cap on supply of cylinders from six to nine. The Parliament is in Session and this is a policy matter, as he said that either increasing or decreasing subsidy is a policy matter. The policy matter has to be announced on the floor of the House, not outside the House. Secondly, there is a code of conduct which is in place. Elections are on. The Minister has, in an unethical manner, just to derive short-term political gain, misused his office and then made a statement outside to influence the voters. That being the case, I would request the Chair to kindly allow me to make my presentation and then refer this matter to the Privileges Committee.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It was received only in the morning. It is being examined, and I would come back to you.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri P. Rajeeve.

**Engagement of lobbying agency of Wal-Mart by Indian Embassy for
Indo-US Nuclear deal**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to an important issue—‘double agents in lobbying’.

Sir, it is true that the act of lobbying is a legalized mechanism in the United States of America. Most of the embassies are engaging several lobbying firms for persuading the Senate, the Congress and other Departments in the United States of America. But, the Indian Embassy had engaged Patton Boggs, which is the main lobbying agent of Walmart, for lobbying in the United States of America. David Headley is a double agent of America and ISI while Patton Boggs is a double agent for lobbying for the Indian Government in the United States of America and for Walmart in our country. This is very shameful. Patton Boggs, one of the lobbying firms that represented the global retail chain, Walmart, was hired by the Indian Embassy in the United States in 2008 to help clinch the Indo-US Nuclear Deal, Sir. The *Indian Express* daily has reported these things. On the website of Patton Boggs, they have said, “we championed the US-India civilian nuclear advocacy initiative for the U.S. India Business Council, which resulted in the US Congressional passage of the Henry Hyde Act of 2006”. On the website, they claim that they “maintain relationships at the highest level of the Government of India with whom we worked closely and discreetly to advocate or resolve our clients’ interests strategically and effectively”. On the same website, they have said, “Like most foreign markets, having the right local relationships and resources is necessary to help maximize our clients’ capture of opportunities in India including retail market”. This clearly indicates that the Indian Government agreed with Patton Boggs and they would favour them in capturing the Indian retail market for Walmart and in return, the same company would be ready to pressurize the American Senate for taking care of the interests of the Government of India, and the Indian Embassy in the United States of America for getting approval for the nuclear deal and passing the Hyde Act. This is a very shameful thing. Also, the former US Ambassador to India, Mr. Frank Wisner, joined the firm as foreign affairs advisor, and his brother, who heads the firm’s India practice is used for his expertise in Indian political, diplomatic and commercial matters. This earlier story of Rs. 125 crores spent by Walmart on lobbying in India is a very clear case of ...(*Time-Bell*)*

*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Your time is over. What you are saying is not going on record. You have exhausted your three minutes. The mike has been switched off.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. T. N. SEEMA (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

Death of dalit boy in Ambedkar Welfare Hostel in Bhojpur, Bihar

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura) : Sir, I would like to mention about the death of a Dalit boy in Ambedkar Welfare Hostel, a Government facility for Dalit students, by Ranvir Sena in the State of Bihar. Sir, I would draw the attention of this House to the death of a Dalit student in June this year at Ambedkar Welfare Hostel, a Government facility for Dalit students known locally as the ‘**hostel’, by Ranvir Sena.

As per the official estimates, property in 15 rooms was found to be burnt, with several other rooms ransacked. Damage was recorded in 48 rooms spread across several wings of the hostel. A library was gutted and several vehicles were also burnt. Soot-covered walls and ceilings, charred windowpanes and de-plastered areas still bear testimony to the mayhem that was unleashed upon the hostel.

*Not recorded.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

While earlier reports pinned the blame on Ranvir Sena supporters, six months after the incident, the motive behind the specific targeting of Dalit students remains a matter of conjecture for the investigators.

Probes into the incident and three other simultaneous cases of arson and violence - namely the burning of the Circuit House, the Block Office and a minor incident at a dairy farm in Ara - that accompanied the hostel attack that day, have discounted any link with the Ranvir Sena.

Although the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act has been invoked, the underpinnings of caste violence is entirely absent in the case. The police have rounded up a group of usual upper caste suspects, many of them history-sheeters in extortion cases.

Sir, this House should condemn this incident and demand strict action against the culprits.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Time is over. That's the problem. Mike is off. It is not going on record.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

प्रो एस.पी. सिंह बघेल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Bihar) : Sir, we support it. It should be inquired. इसकी जाँच होनी चाहिए।

श्री राम कृपाल यादव (बिहार) : सर, जो मामला माननीय सदस्या ने उठाया है, यह मेरे प्रदेश से सम्बन्धित है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सिर्फ एसोसिएट कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कृपाल यादव : यह अत्यंत गम्भीर है। ...(व्यवधान).... मैं इससे निश्चित तौर से सहमत हूँ। ...(व्यवधान).... इसकी जाँच होनी चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Only associate. Names of all those who associate should be noted.

SHRI MANGALA KISAN (Odisha) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

**Declaring of digging soil on less than five acres of land as mining activity by
Ministry of Environment and Forests**

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा और एक महत्वपूर्ण ही समस्या को माननीय मंत्री जी तक पहुँचाना चाहता हूँ।

श्रीमन्, पर्यावरण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार ने 2006 में एक जी.ओ. जारी किया, जिसके अंतर्गत अगर कोई 5 एकड़ या उससे कम भूमि पर मिट्टी खोदता है, तो उसको खनन मान लिया गया। श्रीमन्, उसके खिलाफ तमाम राज्य सरकारें माननीय हाई कोर्ट गईं, सुप्रीम कोर्ट भी गईं, लेकिन इसमें कोई रिलीफ नहीं मिली। उसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि आज यह केवल उत्तर प्रदेश की ही समस्या नहीं है, बल्कि इससे पूरे भारतवर्ष में ईंट के भट्टे बंद हो गए, बालू का खनन बन्द हो गया और यहाँ तक कि गाँव का किसान अगर अपने मकान बनाने के लिए या मकान को लेपने के लिए अपने खेत की मिट्टी भी खोदना चाहता है, तो उसको खनन एक्ट के अंतर्गत बन्द कर दिया जाता है।

श्रीमन्, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से मिला। पता नहीं वहाँ फाइल कैसे ऊपर आती है, यह मैं आज तक समझ ही नहीं पाया, इसका प्रयास कर रहा हूँ। सिर्फ उस जी.ओ. में एक अमेंडमेंट करने से इस समस्या का समाधान हो जाएगा। हम कांस्टीट्यूशन में अमेंडमेंट कर सकते हैं और माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के आदेश के खिलाफ कांस्टीट्यूशनल अमेंडमेंट ला सकते हैं, लेकिन जी.ओ. में एक अमेंडमेंट नहीं ला सकते, जिससे पूरे देश की समस्या का समाधान हो जाए।

आज स्थिति यह है कि सारा डेवलपमेंट रुक गया है, चाहे वह सरकार के काम हों या पब्लिक के काम हों। इस कारण से न मकान बन सकता है, न सड़क बन सकती है, इस तरह की समस्या खड़ी हो गई है। श्रीमन्, यह समस्या आगे इस देश की प्रगति के लिए एक रुकावट होगी और यह एक गंभीर मुद्दा है। इस संबंध में मैं चाहूँगा कि माननीय संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी इसकी गंभीरता को समझते हुए कम से कम इस सदन को आश्वासन दे दें कि सोमवार को माननीय मंत्री जी इसका जवाब दे देंगे, जिससे इस समस्या का समाधान हो सके। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री मंगल किसन (ओडिशा) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री दर्शन सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजीव शुक्ल) : सर, माननीय सदस्य ने काफी महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न उठाया है, जिसमें उन्होंने बताया है कि इससे लोगों को कितनी परेशानी हो रही है। खनन मंत्री जी इस समय बाहर हैं, गुजराज के दौरे पर हैं, इसलिए यह सोमवार को तो नहीं हो सकता है, लेकिन मैं उनसे पता लगा लूंगा कि इस मामले पर वे कब इस सदन में अपना जवाब दे सकते हैं। मैं आज ही इनकी भावनाओं से उनको अवगत कराऊंगा और उनसे पूछ लूंगा कि कब वे इस पर सदन में जवाब दे सकते हैं और उसी मुताबिक मैं इस पर उनका उत्तर दिलवाऊंगा।

Non-payment of salary to workers and employees of Burn Standard Company Limited

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE (West Bengal) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, on 1st December, 2012, the Deputy General Manager of Burn Standard Company Limited *vide* its Notice number BW/DGM(I/C)2012/357 notified that the company will not be able to pay salary to workers of the Burnpur Works and employees of the Head Office for bad financial condition.

It is noteworthy to mention here that Burn Standard Company Limited has been taken over by Railways and revival package of the company is under consideration of BIFR. At this stage, such anti-labour notice of the management will vitiate the entire process of revival. I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to intervene in the matter and ensure payment of salary to the workers of Burnpur Works and permanent employees of Head Office.

I also seek the assistance of the Government to provide working capital and raw material to the company so that Burn Standard Company Limited may carry on uninterrupted production. Thank you.

Alleged exploitation of precious mineral resources by corporates without approval of Parliament

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to bring a very important issue to the notice of the Government as well as hon. Members of Parliament.

[Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu]

There are reports in newspapers about the massive fraud perpetrated on Parliament and the people of India by a coterie of bureaucrats and businessmen in the State of Tamil Nadu. The Department of Atomic Energy, the apex body controlling India's nuclear power sector, blatantly flouted all the rules governing civil society and established norms by stealthily, throwing open the country's precious mineral resources to corporates for exploitation. This was done without getting the approval of Parliament.

Sir, precious mineral resources like Ilmenite, Monazite, Zircon, Rutile and Leucoxene, which are on atomic minerals list in Act No. 67 of 1957, are allowed to be exploited only by public sector undertaking, the Indian Rare Earths Limited. These atomic minerals, except Monazite, were delisted and put into open general category in a notification issued by Mr. V.P. Raja, the then Additional Secretary, DAE on January 20, 2006.

However, no Bill in this regard has been introduced in Parliament so far. Without Parliament's approval of the notification, these minerals, which command hefty premium in international market, were being exported by certain corporate firms without paying a single rupee as royalty to the Government. Sir, this is open loot.

Sir, I would like you to go through the note issued by the concerned officer. In his order, Mr. V.P. Raja said, "This change will become effective only after suitable amendments are carried out to the Mines and Minerals Act and passed by the Parliament." This is the order wherein they said that it would come into operation only after the Act is passed by the Parliament. But, unfortunately, the Government has not brought any Act before the Parliament, and, this export is going on causing thereby a huge loss to the Exchequer of the country by way of export of precious minerals which we have in our country.

I would like the Government to take note of this matter. Since the concerned department is directly dealt by the hon. Prime Minister, I request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to take note of this and convey it to the Prime Minister's Office to take appropriate action to stop this loot of precious minerals of the country. This is my submission. I hope the concerned Minister will take note of this matter. Thank you.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar) : Sir, while associating, I have to say only one thing. The hon. Minister would kindly note that these rare, precious materials

are needed for country's atomic energy and other developmental projects, yet Government of India is permitting all this. It is a very serious matter. Please take note of it and take proper preemptive measures to stop it.

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं इस विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. NAJMAA. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, the same, thing happened in the case of the State you belong to, Kerala. The sand was exported which had some rare radioactive minerals in it. So, the Government should have had known that it happened in Kerala and now it is happening in Tamil Nadu.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA) : Hon. Members, Venkaiah Naiduji, Ravi Shankar Prasadji and Najmaji, have raised a very important issue. I will study it and find out whether it falls into the domain of the Prime Minister's Office, because Atomic Energy comes under the Prime Minister, or under the Mines Ministry. Accordingly, I will come back to you.

Incidents of de-railment in Kerala

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a few important matters related to the development of railway facilities in Kerala.

In the last two weeks, two accidents happened due to de-railment in Kerala, one was a passenger train and another was Rajya Rani Express. In both the accidents, the compartments got de-railed and rammed into the platform. This happened since the compartments were so old and rusty that its bottom portion got broken from the rest of the train. The passengers had a narrow escape. The coaches used in the trains running in Kerala, both in passenger trains and long-distance trains, are very old and in a damaged condition. The coaches and the seats are not clean; they are foul smelling and full of rats and other insects.

The development work of the coaching terminals at Nedom, Kochuveli and Kottayam are progressing at a snail's pace mainly due to inadequate provision of funds. Promised projects like water bottling plant and medical college in Thiruvananthapuram, new wagon factory at Alappuzha and coach factory at Palakkad, etc., are languishing.

[Dr. T.N. Seema]

On top of this, there is a threat of splitting many adjoining station areas from the Trivandrum division, reducing its importance and further throttling the railway development in the State.

I urge the Government to stop the step-motherly treatment towards the state and accord top priority and funds for completing the projects on schedule and also to withdraw from the move to split the neighbouring station areas from Trivandrum division.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala) : Sir, I associate with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (West Bengal) : Sir, I associate with the issue raised, by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal) : Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. NAJMAA. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, are we going to have lunch hour?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : After this, we will take up Special Mentions and then we will have lunch hour.

DR. NAJMAA. HEPTULLA : Sir, there are many Special Mentions. We won't be able to finish.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No, no, let me finish it. Yes, Mr. Javadekar.

1.00 P.M.

Deaths of five patients in a Delhi hospital due to interrupted supply of oxygen

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : उपसभापति महोदय, दिल्ली के अस्पतालों में क्या हो रहा है? पिछले सप्ताह हमने पढ़ा कि पाँच मरीज आईसीयू में ऑक्सीजन न मिलने के कारण मर गए और दूसरे अस्पताल में गुंडे आए और उन्होंने मरीजों पर फायरिंग की। सर, तीसरे अस्पताल में महिला को डिलीवरी के लिए नहीं लिया गया जिससे उसके बच्चे का जन्म सड़क पर हुआ और जिसका संज्ञान उच्चतम न्यायालय ने भी लिया एवं उनको एक तरह से खड़काया। हम देश की राजधानी की चर्चा कर रहे हैं, लेकिन आप देखिए कि बाकी जगहों पर क्या होता होगा। बीमार व्यक्ति ठीक होने के लिए अस्पताल में जाता है, लेकिन अस्पताल ही बीमार हों, तो क्या करें?

सर, इस विषय के दो पहलू हैं, एक स्वास्थ्य व्यवस्था और एक कानून व्यवस्था। जिस सुश्रुत ट्रॉमा सेन्टर में यह हादसा हुआ और पाँच मरीज ऑक्सीजन के बिना मर गए, जो कि आईसीयू में थे, उसकी तकनीकी गलती क्या थी, उसकी इन्वॉयरी चल रही है, लेकिन सीएमओ और डॉक्टर को तुरंत निकाल दिया गया, उन्हें निलंबित कर दिया गया।

सर, मेरा सवाल है कि उस अस्पताल के बारे में सभी समाचारपत्रों में यह खबर आयी कि वहां आधे से ज्यादा पद खाली हैं, वहां पद भरे हुए ही नहीं हैं और जो लोग वहां काम कर रहे हैं, उनको डबल ड्यूटी करनी पड़ रही है। तो, ये सारी अव्यवस्था भी हैं और हॉस्पिटल के जितने प्रपोजल्स जा रहे हैं, उनको सरकार स्वीकृति नहीं दे रही है।

और उसका कांट्रेक्ट भी रिन्यू नहीं हुआ। इस योजना से केन्द्र सरकार का सम्बन्ध है, इसलिए मैं बोल रहा हूँ। अगर वहां कोई गलती है और इसलिए अगर वहां डॉक्टर, सी.एम.ओ. तथा अन्य लोगों को निलंबित करते हैं तो पद न भरने और अस्पताल की जरूरतों को पूरा न करने के लिए दिल्ली सरकार के खिलाफ केन्द्र सरकार क्या कार्रवाई करेगी? सर, दूसरी बात कानून और व्यवस्था की है कि अस्पताल में अंधाधुंध फायरिंग हुई है, eve teasing के कारण हत्या हुई है। eve teasing से लड़की को कोई बचाने गया तो उसकी हत्या हो गई। कल की रिपोर्ट आई है कि इस देश की राजधानी को लोग रेप की राजधानी कहने लगे हैं। यहां पर महिलाएं असुरक्षित हैं, क्राइम बढ़ रहा है। अब मरीज भी अस्पतालों में असुरक्षित हैं। सर, मैं केवल यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि यह दोनों व्यवस्थाएं दिल्ली में बिगड़ गई हैं। इसलिए केन्द्र सरकार को तुरन्त हरकत में आकर इस पर कदम उठाने चाहिए, नहीं तो यह जो स्थिति है वह देश की गलत पिक्चर प्रेजेंट करती हैं।

श्रीमती माया सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं इसका समर्थन करती हूँ।

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी इसके साथ अपने को सम्बद्ध करना चाहता हूँ।

श्री फगन सिंह कुलस्ते (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, मैं भी एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़) : सर, मैं भी इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar) : Sir, we all associate ourselves with the mention made by the hon. Member.

Poor condition of bogies in Kerala-bound trains

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala) : Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the House to reports that two railway divisions, Palakkad and Trivandrum, in Kerala are going to be bifurcated.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It is not your subject. Your subject is "Poor condition of bogies."

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN : Sir, I am coming to that. Dr. T.N. Seema raised this question. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Railways is showing step-motherly attitude towards Kerala. The best example is the condemned coaches which are being given to Kerala. Yesterday, a coach derailed near Kottayam. Last week, another coach derailed at Alappuzha Railway Station. This issue raises serious security concerns in the minds of passengers. Coaches from Kerala are being taken to Chennai for repair. There is no coach-repairing unit in Kerala. Once they are taken to Chennai, we get back not the repaired coaches, but some condemned coaches. The Railways should take immediate action to start the work of railway repairing unit at Nemom and Kottayam and the promised rail coach factory at Palakkad, its foundation stone was laid one year ago. Still no work is going on at the rail coach factory at Palakkad. The Railways, the Union Government must take action to commence the work of rail coach factory at Palakkad.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala) : Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

Difficulties being faced by Hindus and Sikhs in absence of cremation grounds in Afghanistan and Pakistan

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : सर, मैं एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय को उठाना चाहता हूँ। अफगानिस्तान में जो हिन्दू और सिख रह रहे हैं, उनके यहां जब भी किसी व्यक्ति की डैथ होती है, अगर काबुल में डैथ हुई तो उसकी cremation करने के लिए 503 किलोमीटर का सफर तय करना पड़ता है। यहां पर 1200 के करीब फैमिली थीं लेकिन अब 100 के करीब फैमिली रह गई हैं। कभी किसी ढंग से, कभी किसी ढंग से मना करके

उनको संस्कार करने के लिए इतना लम्बा सफर तय करना पड़ता है। सर, इसी तरह अगर पाकिस्तान में लाहौर में किसी हिन्दू, सिख भाई की डेथ होती है तो डिस्ट्रिक्ट ननकाना साहब में संस्कार के लिए जाना पड़ता है। सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार को निवेदन करूंगा कि हम और किसी ढंग से इस संस्कार को नहीं कर सकते, हमारी अपनी रीति और रिवाज है। पाकिस्तान और अफगानिस्तान में हमारे जो भाई रह रहे हैं, उनके बारे में मैं सरकार से निवेदन करता हूँ कि उन्हें सख्ती से इस विषय को उनकी सरकारों के साथ उठाना चाहिए, ताकि वहां के लोग इस संस्कार को नजदीक से नजदीक जो भी वहां cremation ground है या जहां पहले करते थे, वहां कर पाएं। इससे उनके अंदर असुरक्षा की भावना पैदा हो रही है।

अब वहां पर उनका मरना भी मुश्किल हो गया है। अब जब भी ऐसी बात होती है, तो वे भारत की तरफ देखते हैं और जब भारत का inaction देखते हैं तो उनके मन में कहीं-न-कहीं यह वेदना होती है कि जो reaction भारत सरकार की तरफ से आनी चाहिए था, वह नहीं आ रही है।

सर, यहां पर हमारे सत्ता पक्ष के लोग बैठे हैं, माननीय मंत्री जी भी हैं, मैं आप से निवेदन करता हूँ कि वे अफगानिस्तान और पाकिस्तान से इस सम्बंध में बातें करें कि वहां पर हिंदू या सिख लोग भविष्य में स्वजनों का दाह संस्कार जहां पहले करते थे, वहीं कर पाएं और अपने नीति-रिवाज को पूरा कर पाएं। सर, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Members, it is five minutes past one of the clock. If the House agrees, I will allow Members to lay their Special Mentions on the Table of the House by mentioning the subject. Then, we will adjourn for lunch. Now, Dr. K.P. Ramalingam, I understood why you agreed. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, lay it.

DR K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu) : No, no. I will speak for two minutes only.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If it is to be read, I will allow you in the evening. You just mention the subject and lay it.

Need for protection of small scale farmers who lost money in Emu contract farming

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, once again a financial irregularity has been committed by few business establishments in the State of Tamil Nadu. This time also, as it always has been, the small farmers are worse affected in the recent financial irregularity in Emu poultry farming.

*Laid on the Table.

[Dr. K.P. Ramalingam]

Sir, Emu birds are native of Australia. The present episode started as contract farming in which interested persons in Emu farming invests between Rs. 1.5 lakhs to 30 lakhs with promoter. The investors are given incentives and bonus. After rearing Emu birds, the same will be returned to promoter, whose main business activity is in Perundurai of Erode District in Tamil Nadu. Of late, one after another promoter entered the industry and offered varying rate as incentives and bonus. More than 12,000 people from various districts of Tamil Nadu invested with one or the other promoter. Later, the promoters stopped giving bonus and incentives to the investors who invested in this business.

Sir, in the past, advertisements were made to invest in teak wood company, financial companies assuring high interest returns etc. People also invested their money in these companies and were cheated. Till now they are running from pillar to posts to get back their money.

Sir, nowadays agriculture has become un-remunerative for small farmers. So, they become easy prey for such activities. Rough estimates states that amount invested by small farmers runs into crore of rupees. Hence, I urge the Government to take necessary steps to protect small farmers affected by this.

Thank you.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Dr. Bharatkumar Raut, just mention the subject and lay it on the Table.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra) : Sir, I wish I could only mention the subject. But what I am going to mention through my Special Mention is not only my feeling, my party's feeling, but the feeling of 16 crore people of Maharashtra. I can't be unjust to them by just mentioning the subject and laying it on the Table only to save my time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will allow you to read it in the evening.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Yesterday, you gave the time for Members to read it. I am not disputing it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will tell you. There are 25 Special Mentions. If the House agrees for reading, I have no objection. Then, we will have to sit up to 1.30 or 1.45.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : I have respect for the Chair. My feeling is that there should be consistency. Yesterday, you have given the ruling. ...(*Interruptions*)... What is wrong? After all, why do we make a Special Mention? We make Special Mentions, not only to go on record, but through the House, the nation should know.

Please allow us to read. This is my humble request. The nation should know. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is not something that an untoward thing has happened, or, you have to rush through. I think you should allow us. I will give the logic. I am doing this only to go on record. If I read it, the nation would know.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Dr. Bharatkumar Raut, the Chair has no objection. If the House agrees to sit until all the Special Mentions are disposed of, it would take another 45 minutes. ...(*Interruptions*)... Okay, if the House agrees, as a special case, you are allowed. ...(*Interruptions*)... Okay, my ruling stands. You lay it on the Table. No more discussion. Lay it on the Table. Ruling is over. So, it is over. Next hon. Member. ...(*Interruptions*)... Every Member should lay it on the Table. Okay. Mention the subject and lay it on the Table.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : How many submissions were there? I was present in the House. Those were not more than ten.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, it is only laying. Those who want to read it out, it could be done later.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Will you give time to read it out later?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Before the House adjourns, I will allow you.

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Will I be allowed to read it later in the day?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have said what I wanted to say. Are you laying it or not?

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : If you allow me to read, I will read it in the evening.

**Demand to release a postal stamp to commemorate birthday of
Balasaheb Thackeray**

DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT (Maharashtra) : Sir, we, the Shiv Sena Members of Parliament from Maharashtra State, place on record our sincere thanks to hon. Chairman, Rajya Sabha, and the House for fitting tributes paid in Rajya Sabha on the sad demise of Balasaheb Thackeray at the first sitting of the Winter Session, on 22nd November, 2012.

Shri Balasaheb Thackeray was undisputedly a great leader of Maharashtra and played an active role in socio-economic upliftment of poor people. He worked as a great social worker for as many as four decades. He was a socio-political reformer who worked untiringly for the people of the country. He died on 17th November, 2012, after a long illness. His popularity and leadership is very much evident from the fact that 20 lakh people from all over the country, especially from Maharashtra, attended his funeral on 18th November, 2012, that too without any untoward incident, at Shivaji Park in Mumbai where he was cremated in the presence of lakhs of people.

Apart from being a world-renowned political cartoonist, Late Balasaheb took keen interest in many other forms of art, *viz.*, dance and drama, film and music. His friend-circle and admirers encompassed many leaders of other political parties too. He inculcates pride of being 'son of soil' and stood for war against injustice. Moreover, he was a true nationalist in principle and action.

I, on behalf of all the people of Maharashtra State and on behalf of Shiv Sena, request the Government that a commemorative postal stamp be released in the memory of Balasaheb Thackeray on his birthday, that is, 23rd January. It will be a fitting tribute to this great leader.

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra) : Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Dr. Bharatkumar Raut, has said.

Demand for taking steps to check spread of dengue in Mumbai

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, a spate of dengue cases has caused an alarm in different parts of Mumbai. Nearly 907 dengue cases have been reported in the city with 166 persons contracting the vector-borne disease in November alone. Since dengue is not a notifiable disease, private hospitals are not

required to report the cases to the Health Department. The information on the number of dengue cases has been provided by the public hospitals.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government that dengue be categorised as a notifiable disease which will enjoin upon private hospitals to report the dengue cases to the State Health Department.

At the same time, I request the Ministry of Health to set up a task force to combat the disease.

Demand to remove the cap imposed on the number of subsidized LPG cylinders in the country

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, दिसम्बर 1 से प्रभावी एक सरकारी अधिसूचना के अनुसार एक परिवार के एक गैस कनेक्शन को सिर्फ 6 घरेलू रियायती LPG cylinder प्राप्त होने थे और उससे पूरे परिवार को प्रति cylinder 900 देने पड़ते। पेट्रोलियम मंत्री ने 10 दिसम्बर को एक घोषणा कर सालाना रियायती cylinder की संख्या बढ़ा कर 6 से 9 करने की बात कही है, जिसे चुनाव आयोग आचार संहिता के चलते निरस्त करने की सोच रहा है।

जैसा कि आप सभी जानते हैं, एक घरेलू cylinder ज्यादा से ज्यादा 20-22 दिन ही चलता है। एक मध्य वर्गीय परिवार, जो आजकल की कमरतोड़ महंगाई में मुश्किल से जीवनयापन करता है, उसके लिए गैर रियायती cylinder खरीदना भारी पड़ेगा। वेतनों में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है, महंगाई बेलगाम बढ़ती जा रही है और ऐसे में सरकार का यह निर्णय अविवेकी और गलत है।

महोदय, मेरा सरकार से विनम्र निवेदन है कि वह अपने इस निर्णय पर compassionately पुनर्विचार करे and abolish the imposed cap on the LPG cylinder at the earliest.

Demand to make a concrete policy to rehabilitate and grant compensation to innocent muslims imprisoned on the charges of terrorism

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार) : महोदय, धर्मनिरपेक्ष लोकतंत्र में सरकारी सेवाओं, संसद और विधानसभाओं में मुसलमानों का प्रतिनिधित्व भले कम है, लेकिन देश की जेलों में वे अपनी कुल संख्या के दोगुने हैं। हाल ही में एक प्रमुख हिन्दी साप्ताहिक (इंडिया टुडे) ने एक विस्तृत रिपोर्ट छपी है, जिसमें नेशनल क्राइम रिकार्ड ब्यूरो और सूचना के अधिकार कानून के तहत जुटाए गए आंकड़ों से यह साफ हुआ है कि 2001 की जनगणना के मुताबिक 13.4 प्रतिशत मुसलमान हैं, लेकिन जेल में उनकी संख्या 21 प्रतिशत है। खुद अल्पसंख्यक मामलों में मंत्री श्री के. रहमान खान ने उस पत्रिका को इंटरव्यू में कहा है कि ज्यादातर मुसलमान मामूली जुर्म में बंद हैं। सच्वर रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि मुसलमानों के एक तबके की सामाजिक स्थिति दलितों से भी बदतर है।

[श्री अली अनवर अंसारी]

कई ऐसे युवाओं को हाल ही में अदालत ने आतंकवाद जैसे जुर्म से बरी कर दिया है, लेकिन 12-14 साल जेल में बंद रहे ऐसे युवा मुसलमान नई जिन्दगी के लिए जद्दोजहद कर रहे हैं। सरकार की ओर से ऐसे निर्दोष साबित मुसलमानों के लिए कोई पुनर्वास या मुआवजा नीति नहीं है। ऐसे मामलों में दोषी पुलिस अफसरों पर भी सरकार कोई कार्रवाई नहीं करती है।

हमारी मांग है कि सरकार इस पूरे मामले का अध्ययन कराए और पुलिस-प्रशासन की जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करते हुए मुआवजा-पुनर्वास की स्पष्ट नीति बनायी जाए।

Demand for taking measures for providing safe drinking water in the country

DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Rural Development to the acute shortage of drinking water which the country has been facing for the past many years, but nothing concrete has been done by the Government in this direction.

Many parts of the country are complaining about shortage of drinking water, in the list of 122 countries rated on quality of potable water, India ranks a lowly 120. It is estimated that by 2020, India will become a water-stressed nation. Nearly 50 per cent of villages in the country still do not have any source of protected drinking water.

The quality of ground water is affected by chemical contamination in many parts of the country. Several children are afflicted by water-borne diseases due to excess quantity of fluoride in water.

There is an urgent need to look for alternative sources of potable water in places where water quality has deteriorated.

Sir, most of the villages in Madhya Pradesh, the State which I represent, do not have access to safe drinking water and Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested to Government to ensure safe drinking water supply to its villages.

Sir, I strongly urge upon the Government to take concrete steps to ensure safe drinking water supply in the country.

Demand for restoring services of Alliance Airlines in Meghalaya

SHRI THOMAS SANGMA (Meghalaya) : Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of this august House a very important issue pertaining to the State of Meghalaya. It has

been reported that the Alliance Airlines, a subsidiary company of Air India, is going to stop its operation from 1st January, 2013 from Umroi-Shillong in the State of Meghalaya for reasons best known to the Government. I would like to inform the House that Shillong is the only Airport which is operational in Meghalaya and stopping of operation of Alliance Airlines at Shillong will cause immense hardships to the people of Meghalaya, besides affecting economic activities in the State. The next nearest Airport to Shillong is Guwahati which is already congested. Apart from this, journey by road takes a very long time due to difficult terrain and heavy traffic on the Guwahati-Shillong highway. In addition to causing hardships, this act of discontinuing the Airline operation will have an adverse effect on tourism.

I, therefore, request that the operation of Alliance Airlines should be continued, and, as a matter of fact, another non-functional Airport of Meghalaya at Tura-Baljek should also be made operational.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : As I said, before the House adjourns, we always allow you to read. It can be allowed today also, provided the House is sitting. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Anil Desai. I have no time to argue with you. If you want to lay it now, lay it; otherwise, you can do it later.

**Demand for waiving income tax on prize money won by Sonali Mukherjee,
a victim of acid attack on humanitarian grounds**

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal) : Sir, a Thomas Reuters survey in 2011 says that India is the fourth most dangerous place in the world for women to live in as women can be easy victims to cruel forms of violence and disfigurement such as acid attacks. With acid being cheap and easily available, such attacks in the country are on a rise. The story of Sonali Mukherjee, who had acid thrown on her face while she was asleep, has captured the conscious of the nation. This shameful incident occurred in the year 2003 in the State of Jharkhand. Since then laws regarding such heinous crimes have been relooked. But for Sonali who was 29 years of age at the time of the attack, it has been a tough battle.

Sir, I am happy to report that Sonali won a prize money amounting to Rs. 25 lakhs from the popular television programme. Kaun Banega Crorepati, hosted by actor Amitabh Bachchan. However, under Section 194B of the Income Tax Act, 30 per cent of the tax is deducted on any prize money in excess of Rs. 10,000 and other winnings from games, lotteries, etc. As a rarest of rare cases, on humanitarian grounds, kindly consider waiving the customary 30 per cent tax assessed on the prize money.

Demand for early release of Tamil Nadu fishermen from jails in Sri Lanka

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu) : I wish to bring to the attention of this House that on 3rd December, 22 fishermen from Nagapattinam district and 18 fishermen from Karaikkal were arrested by Sri Lankan Navy near Pulmoddai, on the east coast of Sri Lanka.

They were supposed to be released by 10th December, but there is no information on their whereabouts or safety.

It has been reliably learnt that their boats had drifted into the Sri Lankan Maritime Zone due to there having been strong winds at that time. The Sri Lankan authorities detained the fishermen, five trawlers and their catch on the ground of poaching.

This incident has brought the focus on to other Tamil fishermen who continue to languish in Sri Lankan jails. The group of five fishermen-hailing from Thangachimadam, Ramanathapuram - were arrested on the foisted charges of drug-smuggling on 28th November, 2011.

A charge-sheet was filed, against them on 20th November, 2012, after nearly a year of their arrest. They have been brought from Jaffna Prison to the Welikada Prison in Colombo over the course of their incarceration. During the time, their court hearing has been, adjourned 28 times, with their next hearing posted for 16th January, 2013.

Representations from the Tamil Nadu fishermen communities have been made to the hon. Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister seeking the Government's intervention, but there has been little help forthcoming. The Government has promised assistance and action many times in the past but the fishermen of Tamil Nadu have not been released.

I hope that the Government takes notice of the sad plight of Tamil fishermen and ensures that those who are suffering in Sri Lankan jails are released without any further delay.

Demand to take effective measures to reduce the child mortality rate in the country

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura) : Sir, my Special Mention relates to the concern over the child mortality in India: With almost 19,000 children under

five years of age dying everyday across the world, India tops the list of countries with the highest number of 16.55 lakh such deaths. In 2011, according to a UN Agency, it is six times higher than that of China. China has reported the death of around 2.49 lakh children under the age of five.

In 2011, around 50 per cent of the global under-five deaths occurred in India, Nigeria, Congo. Pakistan and China. India's toll is higher than the deaths in Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo and Pakistan put together. While there have been 7.56 lakh deaths in Nigeria during the last year. Congo accounts for 4.65 lakh deaths and Pakistan accounts for 3.52 lakh deaths of under-five children during 2011, followed by 1.94 lakh in Ethiopia and 1.34 lakh each in Indonesia and Bangladesh.

Uganda with 1.34 lakh such deaths and Afghanistan with 1.28 lakh such deaths held the 9th and 10th position in the top ten list of countries reporting under five children deaths.

Globally, five leading causes of deaths are pre-term birth complications—14 per cent, diarrhea—11 per cent, intrapartum related complication—9 per cent, and, malaria—7 per cent; it has come down from nearly 12 million in 1990 to 6.9 million in 2011.

My question to the hon. Minister is as to what are the steps taken for the health of children in India.

Demand for taking steps to increase population of Ongole, Punganuru and Deoni breed cattle in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, Ongole cattle are world famous for their toughness, frugality, rapid growth rate, natural tolerance to tropical heat and disease resistance. Andhra Pradesh is proud that it is the first Indian breed recognized all over the world. With lactation period of 279 days, Ongole cow is known for giving 30-35 litres of milk a day which contains rich A2 Casein protein that protects from heart disease and diabetes. But due to negligence by State and Central Governments, it is on the verge of extinction with only 750 left in Andhra Pradesh. Now Ongole cattle is ruling the roost in countries like the US, Brazil, Australia and Africa in the name of Brahman.

Punganuru dwarf cow is the smallest—2.6 ft to 3.5 ft—cow in the world and is considered as Kamadhenu for farmers. Punganuru breed's milk is rich in medicinal properties. It is highly drought resistant and able to survive exclusively on dry fodder.

[Shri Palvai Govardhan Reddy]

According to one estimate, its population has come down to 130 which is a cause of concern. Punganuru is amazingly efficient, milker, highly drought resistant and able to survive on dry fodder.

Deoni is another important dual-purpose breed of cattle in Telangana, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Deoni cattle are hardy and well adapted to their breeding tract and constitute an important cattle genetic resource of India. It also has very good lactating period. It is also on the verge of extinction.

In view of the above, I request the Government of India to immediately take steps to increase population of these breeds with special emphasis in the Twelfth Plan.

Demand to confer classical language status to Malayalam

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala) : The Government of Kerala has been urging the Central Government since 2008 for conferring classical language status for Malayalam. The Constitution of India has recognised Hindi as the official language of India and English is also being used by the Government as a language for official purposes by an Act of Parliament. However, in 2004, the Government of India conferred the status of classical language to Tamil, followed with same status to Sanskrit in 2005. There is no doubt, both Tamil and Sanskrit are of ancient tradition and deserve to be named as classical languages. Subsequently, bowing to popular demand, the Government of India conferred the status of classical languages to Kannada and Telugu also in 2008, based on the recommendations of an expert committee using a different set of criteria. The land area between Tirupati and Kanyakumari known in ancient days as Tamilakam, inherited a common tradition and culture. Tamil was the earliest derivative from the Proto Dravidian language, followed by Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam. All the three are equal in all respects and share common traits. The eligibility norms now prescribed to determine the classical status of language are grossly inadequate and arbitrary. Malayalam also has every right to be treated as a classical language.

The Government should appoint a committee of experts to examine and evaluate the claim of Malayalam. The terms of reference should include the revision of eligibility conditions wherever required.

I urge the Government to take a favourable decision without any more delay.

**Demand for renaming Tropical Diseases Institute in Patna as Samrat Ashoka
Tropical Diseases Institute**

DR. C.P. THAKUR (Bihar) : Sir, during the regime of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a Tropical Diseases Institute was started in the campus of Rajendra Memorial Research Institute, Patna in the name of Samrat Ashoka Tropical Diseases Research Institute. It was there in all the proceedings of that Institute. Samrat Ashoka ruled almost half of the world from that place. Keeping all these things in mind, we named that Institute as Samrat Ashoka Tropical Diseases Research Institute. I do not know why, when the Institute is ready, we do not find his name there. I request the Government to rename it as Samrat Ashoka Tropical Diseases Institute.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We will have a one-hour lunch break. The House will re-assemble after one hour.

The House then adjourned for lunch at eighteen minutes past two
of the clock.

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The House reassembled after lunch at seventeen minutes
past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We will now take up a Bill for introduction.
...(Interruptions)... Shrimati Krishna Tirath. ...(Interruptions)...

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Amendment Bill, 2012

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now we will take up The Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012. Shri V. Narayanasamy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI NARAYANASAMY) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I am not going to allow this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : Sir, just at 12 o'clock today, this House pledged that the House will function in an orderly manner. ...*(Interruptions)*... एक मिनट ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमारी बात तो सुन लीजिए। Everybody has committed himself to run the House in an orderly manner. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Go back to your seats ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go back to your seats ...*(Interruptions)*... I am asking these Members to go back to their seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to take action against you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me hear what the hon. Minister wants to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, please go back to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not going to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go back to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me hear what the Minister is saying.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : At 12 o'clock, this House pledged today and committed itself for the orderly running of this House. It is very unfortunate that after having done this just two hours ago, there is disturbance in this House now. Sir, there are rules in this regard. When there is obstruction in the House, when Members are not letting this House function in an orderly fashion, I would appeal to you that please take action under the rules of the House, Rule 255 and Rule 256 ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will take action ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, you take action against them ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please go back to your seats ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to take action against you ...*(Interruptions)*... I will see that you are suspended ...*(Interruptions)*... Go back to your seats ...*(Interruptions)*... I will not

allow This ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh, one second ...*(Interruptions)*... आप जरा सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप जरा सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Mr. Singh, keep quiet ...*(Interruptions)*... आप जरा सुनिए। This is not going to be a joke ...*(Interruptions)*... How many days have you obstructed the House? ...*(Interruptions)*... Today, I am not going to allow this ...*(Interruptions)*... Already, hon. Minister has explained this ...*(Interruptions)*... I will take action ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't test my patience ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, don't test my patience ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Arvind Kumar Sing, don't test my patience ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, go back to your seats ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go back ...*(Interruptions)*... I will name you ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh. I will name you ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, go back ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Naresh Agrawal, I request you to please go back ...*(Interruptions)*... I am going to name you ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to do that ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not going to allow this ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Marshals also be ready...*(Interruptions)*... If you don't go. I know what to do ...*(Interruptions)*... I know what to do ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go out ...*(Interruptions)*... I will not allow ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh ...*(Interruptions)*... I am asking Mr. Agrawal to take them out ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, you take action against them under Rule 255 of Rules ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will be forced to invoke Rule 256. I am telling you ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced by you ...*(Interruptions)*... But, really, I don't want to do it on my own ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, obey me ...*(Interruptions)*... I will do that ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to do that ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to do it ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go back ...*(Interruptions)*... You obey the Chair ...*(Interruptions)*... I will take action ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, please go back ...*(Interruptions)*... Should I name you? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am going to name you ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take them away ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, Naresh Agrawalji take them away ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't allow ...*(Interruptions)*... I will name them ...*(Interruptions)*... I will not adjourn the House ...*(Interruptions)*... I will name you and see that you are out ...*(Interruptions)*... See, I will be forced to name ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to take the following names ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Arvind Kumar Singh, Shri Alok Tiwari, Shri Naresh Agrawal, Shri Kiranmay Nanda, Shri Darshan Singh Yadav, I will be force to name these people ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go out ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Chaudhary Munabbar Saleem, please go out ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't make me to take action

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

against you ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, I will not adjourn ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go out ...(*Interruptions*)... You are simply wasting your time ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go out ...(*Interruptions*)... I will not ...(*Interruptions*)...

Go, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am going to name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am telling you that I will be forced to name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will do that. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will name you, I am telling you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please understand. ...(*Interruptions*)... Naresh Agrawalji, Ram Gopal Yadavji, I will name you. Please go back. ...(*Interruptions*)... I don't want to do it. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will not adjourn the House. ...(*Interruptions*)... There will be no adjournment today. ...(*Interruptions*)... I cannot surrender to this kind of tactics and blackmail. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh, please go back. ...(*Interruptions*)... Naresh Agrawalji, I will be forced to name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Okay. I am going to do that. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go out. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will be naming you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Arvind Kumar Singh, Shri Alok Tiwari, Shri Naresh Agrawal, Shri Kiranmay Nanda, Shri Darshan Singh Yadav, Chaudhary Munabbar Saleem, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, I will name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Ram Gopalji, please. You are my friend. ...(*Interruptions*)... Naresh Agrawal, you are my friend. Don't make me name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... No, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will not adjourn. ...(*Interruptions*)... Go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will name you. I am telling you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Naresh Agrawalji. ...(*Interruptions*)... Ram Gopal Yadavji, please. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will name you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please go back. I will not adjourn the House.

You proceed, Mr. Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Minister, you proceed.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, I have already ...(*Interruptions*)... the Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012. ...(*Interruptions*)... In fact, I have already explained certain facts. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Naresh Agrawalji. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : ...whether reservations can be given to Backward Classes or not. ...(*Interruptions*)... This issue was there before the court. The Supreme Court. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will name you. I am telling you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will name you. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Therefore, the issue came ...*(Interruptions)*... It has been decided that an amendment to the Constitution should be brought before the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... The amendment has been brought ...*(Interruptions)*... It is the Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will be forced to name you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't test my patience. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't test my patience. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mantriji, you continue, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

आप जरा सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप जरा सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Ram Gopalji, please ...*(Interruptions)*... I am going to name all of you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go out; otherwise, I will name you. Please go out. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go to your seats. Do not compel me to name you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Ram Gopalji, please go back to your seat.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, I would like to continue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I will forcefully evict you. Please go to your seats; otherwise, I will name you. ...*(Interruptions)*... See, as per rule 255, I am asking Shri Arvind Kumar Singh to withdraw from the House. As per rule 255, I am asking Shri Arvind Kumar Singh to withdraw from the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have to withdraw, Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am asking Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh to withdraw from the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh has to withdraw from the House. He has to withdraw from the House, I am ordering his withdrawal. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have ordered his withdrawal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh, you have to withdraw from the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji, I have ordered his withdrawal. Ask him to go out. I have ordered his withdrawal. Ask him to withdraw. Ram Gopalji, I have ordered his withdrawal. Ask him to withdraw. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh, I have ordered your withdrawal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

You are not listening. Now, the House stands adjourned for ten minutes.

The House then adjourned at thirty-four minutes past two of the clock.

The House re-assembled at forty-four minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have asked ...(*Interruptions*)... Please don't telecast it. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have asked Shri Arvind Kumar Singh to withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)... Nothing will be telecast. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)... See, I have asked you to withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)... If you do not withdraw, I will be forced to call the Marshal and take you out by force. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am telling you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Do you want me to do that?

No please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Ram Gopalji, I am asking him to withdraw. According to rule 255, he must withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)... You advise him to withdraw otherwise I will have to call the marshals and chase him out. ...(*Interruptions*)... You please advise him. ...(*Interruptions*)... You advise him. ...(*Interruptions*)... Ram Gopalji, ask him to withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)... Ram Gopalji, please ...(*Interruptions*)...

The House is adjourned for another ten minutes.

The House then adjourned at forty-six minutes past two of the clock.

The House reassembled at fifty-five minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, रूल 255 के तहत हमारे एक मेम्बर अरविन्द कुमार सिंह जी को नेम किया गया है। मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि रूल 256 तहत अगर सदन की यही मंशा है और यही सेंस ऑफ द हाउस है कि हमारे मेम्बर्स को हाउस से निकाल दिया जाए, तो आप सदन का सेंस ले लें। अगर सदन का सेंस है, तो हमें रूल 256 के तहत सदन छोड़ने में कोई एतराज़ नहीं है।

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, a Member has been named by the Chair. It is essential that that Member withdraws from the House first, before the House proceeds. So, the Member who has been named must withdraw from the House first. That has been the convention.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : That is as per the rules. The Member must withdraw from the House, because the Member has been named by the Chair. We have all agreed to let the House function normally. So, let us start with that Member withdrawing from the House.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : उपसभापति जी, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह रूल 256 के तहत होना चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Ram Gopalji, the rule you mentioned is 255.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, एक बात हम भी कहना चाहते हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Okay.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आपने रूल 255 में अरविन्द कुमार सिंह जी को इंगित किया है। शायद आपने नाम तो हम लोगों के भी पढ़े थे, अगर हम सब लोगों को भी आप इंगित कर देते, तब तो बहुत ही अच्छी बात थी। लेकिन अगर हम रूल 255 को नहीं मानेंगे, तो उस के लिए रूल 256 दिया हुआ है। रूल 256 बना ही इसलिए है कि अगर आपने किसी मेम्बर को रूल 255 में इंगित किया, आपने उस दिन के लिए उस मेम्बर को निकाला और अगर वह मेम्बर नहीं निकलता है, तब आप रूल 256 में रेज़ोल्यूशन लाएंगे और वह रेज़ोल्यूशन पूरे सदन के सामने रखा जाएगा। अगर सदन इससे सहमत है, तब हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है, लेकिन अगर हम रूल 255 defy कर रहे हैं, तब आप रूल 256 में रेज़ोल्यूशन क्यों नहीं लाते हैं?

श्री उपसभापति : अब आप बैठिए। It is very strange that the hon. Member is asking for a greater punishment. But the rule 255 is very clear. I will read it. आप ज़रा बैठिए। It says, "The Chairman may direct any Member whose conduct is in his opinion grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the Council and any Member so ordered to withdraw shall do so forthwith and shall absent himself during the remainder of the day's meeting." Now, please listen to me. I have invoked this rule, that is, rule 255. The rule is very clear. Once I invoke this rule, the Member is expected to withdraw from the House. So, I want this rule to be operationalised, if you say, "we will not allow to agree for this rule and give us a greater punishment", that is a strange argument. That is up to the Chair to decide what rule should be invoked and what punishment has to be given. I have invoked rule 255. I want that this should be operationalised and this should be implemented. That is what I have to say.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : उपसभापति जी, मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि रूल 255 के तहत आपने जो रूलिंग दी है, उसे आप विज़ॉ कर लें। अगर लाना है, तो रूल 256 के तहत मोशन आए।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : इस पर भी आप सदन की राय ले लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... राम गोपाल जी के प्रस्ताव पर आप सदन की राय ले लीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... अगर सदन बहुमत में है और सदन इस बिल को पास करना चाहता है ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, once there is.....

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : हम लोग विरोध कर रहे हैं, सब कहते हैं कि समाजवादी पार्टी विरोध कर रही है, तो रामगोपाल जी जो प्रस्ताव लाए हैं, इसको पूरे सदन में रख लीजिए। अगर सदन इसे स्वीकार करता है, तो हम लोग ओबे करेंगे। इसके लिए हम कब मना कर रहे हैं?

श्री कमलनाथ : क्या राम गोपाल जी यह प्रस्ताव लाए हैं कि रूल 256 में ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्या आप रूल 256 में प्रस्ताव लाए हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Standing here, you cannot speak.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, Rule 255 is very clear. The Member, once he is being named, must withdraw from the House. The question of Rule 256 does not arise in this case because you have already named him. You have named him. It has gone on record that you have named him, and once it has gone on record that he has been named, then, that Member must withdraw from the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Ram Gopal, you are a very senior Member, a very learned Member, erudite; you are a Professor. You know how to act. See, the Rule should be operationalised. The Chair cannot violate, and the Chair has to see that Rules are observed in the House. I have invoked Rule 255.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV : Sir, you have invoked the Rule. I am requesting my Member, Shri Arvind Kumar Singh, to leave this House. We are there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The House is adjourned for another 15 minutes.

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

The House re-assembled at sixteen minutes past three of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member, do you want me to name you too? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am telling you ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, already one Member has been named by you, and I think that is a very right decision. If this continues, I would urge you to name another Member of theirs, or you name them all so that they all are out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : What do you want me to do? ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you want to be suspended from the House? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am telling you ...*(Interruptions)*... I will ask you to ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go back. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't make me do this. You are my friends. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, Mr. Naresh Agrawal ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to ask you to withdraw ...*(Interruptions)*... I would invoke Rule 255 again. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you want me to do that? ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, under Rule 255, I am asking

Chaudhary Munabbar Saleem to withdraw from this House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go out. You have to withdraw. If you don't withdraw, I will have to call the Marshals. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, the Member must withdraw from the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If you don't withdraw, I will have to call the Marshals. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am telling you, I will call the Marshals if you don't withdraw. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar) : No, Sir. No Marshals, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No Marshals, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Then, let him withdraw. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him withdraw. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I understand the feeling of the Members. It is for me to act according to your feelings. There is no problem about that, but I have to ...*(Interruptions)*... I understand your feelings and I will not act against your feelings or your concern. However, enforcing the rule is not only the responsibility of the Chair but also the responsibility of the Members. I have invoked Rule 255, under which the hon. Member is bound to withdraw immediately. He is expected to withdraw. If he does not do that, what do I do? I want the cooperation of the House. So, I am asking the hon. Member to withdraw. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please withdraw. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have to go. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Nareshji please, I have to enforce the rule. राम गोपाल जी, मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : उपसभापति महोदय,

श्री उपसभापति : हां बोलिए, बोलिए।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : उपसभापति महोदय, यह विधेयक पूरी तरह से अनकंस्टीट्यूशनल है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के एक जजमेंट को नल एंड वोइड करने के लिए इसको लाया जा रहा है। देश की अधिकांश जनता इसके खिलाफ है। मैं जानता हूँ कि सदन में व्हिप की वजह से बहुत सारे मेम्बर्स इसके पक्ष में वोट करेंगे। केवल हमारी पार्टी और शिव सेना के लोग इसके खिलाफ हैं। लेकिन अगर स्वतंत्र छोड़ दिया जाए तो इस सदन के 80 परसेंट मेम्बर भी इसके खिलाफ हैं। इसके बावजूद ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have allowed him to speak. Don't interrupt.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : इस वजह से ये लोग चुप बैठे हुए हैं, सभी पर व्हिप का अंकुश लगा हुआ है। इस असंवैधानिक संविधान संशोधन विधेयक को लाने का हम शुरू से विरोध कर रहे हैं। जिस तरह से बहुमत के बल पर और जिस तरह से पार्लियामेंटी अपफेयर्स मिनिस्टर ने अभी कहा कि इन सबको निकाल दीजिएगा, एक मॅबर को नेम कर दिया गया, दूसरे का नेम कर दिया गया। यह बहुत ही गंभीर मामला है और बहुत ही चिंता की बात है कि मजॉरटी के बल पर देश की अधिकांश जनता की इच्छा के खिलाफ मनमाने तरीके से काम किया जाए। इसलिए सरकार के इस रवैये के खिलाफ और जिस तरीके से सारे लोग मौन धारण किए हुए हैं* ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु (कर्णाटक) : यह आपत्तिजनक है। This is not fair. He cannot make a comment about the entire House. He can speak for himself. This is wrong. He has every right to put his point. But, he cannot make a comment about the entire House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes, don't make comments. I agree.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU : If we are in support of the Bill, it is because we find certain merits; and if we have objections, we will raise objections through the amendments.

प्रो राम गोपाल यादव : अगर बेंकैया जी को किसी बात पर ऐतराज है तो मैं उस चीज को वापिस ले सकता हूँ। लेकिन मुझे ऐसा लगा कि जैसे हम दो-चार लोग हैं और अकेले पड़ गए हैं, कोई कुछ समर्थन नहीं कर रहा है, देश की जनता इसके खिलाफ है। इसलिए गवर्नमेंट भी खास तौर से और जिस लहजे में अभी पार्लियामेंट अपेयर्स मिनिस्टर ने कहा कि इन सबको निकाल दिया जाए, मैं इस सदन से बहिष्कार करता हूँ अपने साथियों के साथ।

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Narayanasamy, please proceed.

The Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Sir, I beg to move:

That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration.

*Withdrawn by the hon. Member.

The Bill, in clause 2, reads, “2. In the Constitution, in Part III, in article 16, for clause (4A), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:— “(4A) Notwithstanding anything contained elsewhere in the Constitution, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes notified under article 341 and article 342, respectively, shall be deemed to be backward and nothing in this article or in article 335 shall prevent the State from making any provision for reservation in matters of promotions, with consequential seniority, to any class or classes of posts in the services under the State in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to the extent of the percentage of reservation provided to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the services of the State.”.

This is the Amendment which we have brought. Sir, I would like to narrate little background of this Bill. The Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe population in this country has been enjoying reservation in promotions since 1955. Sir, when the issue of reservation in promotions for backward classes came up in the Supreme Court, in Indira Sahni’s case, the judgement was rendered, “including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also that they are not eligible for promotion.” That issue became a very contentious issue, and, therefore, Sir, by 77th amendment to the Constitution, the Government brought an amendment to the Constitution under Article 16(4A) which says, “Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any provision for reservation in matters of promotion, with consequential seniority, to any class or classes of posts in the services under the State in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes which, in the opinion of the State, are not adequately represented in the services under the State.” Sir, while that is being implemented by the Government by nullifying the Indira Sawhney’s case relating to reservation in promotion for SCs and STs by 77th amendment to the Constitution, in Virpal Singh’s case, the Supreme Court ruled that at the time of getting promotion, even if the person from the reserved category got promotion over him, the general category person would retain his original seniority, and, that is why, the general category person would become senior to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe person. This was also an issue.

Sir, in the year 2000, the NDA Government brought the 85th amendment to the Constitution wherein they mentioned very clearly the term ‘consequential seniority’ which meant that whenever the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are promoted in service, they will carry the consequential seniority. It was added in Article 16(4A) of the Constitution by the Government.

[Shri V. Narayanasamy]

There are other issues also. The first one is 81st amendment to the Constitution and the second is 82nd amendment to the Constitution. The 81st amendment is very clear. As far as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concerned, whenever, there was a backlog of vacancies, it was not carried further or added, and, it was being filled up by the persons from general category. It became a contentious issue. Therefore, the Government brought an amendment to the Constitution bringing therein Article 16(4B) mentioning therein that if the vacancies are not filled up in a particular year, the same will be carried over to the subsequent years so that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people are able to enjoy the reservation in promotion in the respective categories and also in the original category. Therefore, Sir, this was also accepted by the Parliament, and, it was implemented.

Then, Sir, another issue relating to this is relaxing the qualifying standards for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. The provision under Article 335 is very clear to show that there should be no relaxation of standards for anybody and all should be equal at the time of employment opportunity. Sir, we have to see the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population. Because of their backwardness, because of the inadequacy of their representation in the Government services, and considering the efficiency part, the Government brought the 82nd amendment thereby adding a proviso to Article 335 saying, "Provided that nothing in this article shall prevent in making of any provision in favour of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for relaxation in qualifying marks in any examination or lowering the standards of evaluation, for reservation in matters of promotion to any class or classes of services or posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State."

Sir, all these things were challenged in M. Nagaraj's case. In this case, the Supreme Court held that the reservation in promotion for Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is valid. The Court held it valid but the Court put three qualifying conditions, namely, the backwardness of the population has to be considered, the efficiency has to be considered, and, also the inadequacy of representation has to be considered. Sir, on this basis, rules were framed in Uttar Pradesh and also in Rajasthan, and, those State Governments started implementing the reservation in promotion, which was challenged in Nagaraj's case saying that three conditions are not followed in various States. Therefore, they said that promotion that has been given is invalid in the UP sugar mill case and also in the Rajasthan case. Therefore, there are several cases filed in various

High Courts. All those cases have come and the Nagraj case has been decided. Now, Sir, the situation is, quoting the Nagraj case in all the subsequent matters, the Supreme Court held that the reservation in promotion will not be effective unless and until the three qualifying conditions are followed. Sir, I would like to submit that *per se* under articles 341 and 342, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are deemed to be backward. With respect to inadequacy of representation, I would like to submit that in class 'A' posts and class 'B' posts, especially in class 'A' posts, not even one Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe officer is there at the level of the Secretary to the Government of India. Therefore, Sir, inadequacy of representation has been proved. As far as efficiency part is concerned, some arguments were going on, discussions were held and ultimately the Government is considering some of the suggestions given by the various political parties. We discussed the matter with the Leader of the Opposition and also the Bahujan Samaj Party leader and also leaders of various political parties. The Government is considering it, as far as efficiency part is concerned, and we will come back to this House on this issue. A lot of confusion is going on whether the SC/ST population should be given promotion or not. A lot of agitation is also going on in some of the States. Therefore, Sir, I commend this Bill for the consideration of this august House and present it before this House.

The question was proposed.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this Constitution Amendment has been brought by the Government as a result of the judgement of the Supreme Court in Nagraj case which has been followed in two other subsequent judgements relating to Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, as the hon. Minister pointed out. Ideally, in the Nagraj case, the Supreme Court had suggested that quantifiable data of under-representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes be obtained and wherever quantifiable data is obtained and there is under representation, to that extent adequacy of representation should be considered. The concept of reservation in promotion was upheld by the Supreme Court. Therefore, there was a very easy course available to certain State Governments and this is an enabling provision which applies to the States that you could well do a survey and find out wherever there is under representation, you could allow adequate representation in accordance with the law as was declared by the Supreme Court. In fact, States like Bihar resorted to that course and in a very amicable manner was able to fill up the entire quota as necessary. However, the Government has chosen not to embark on that course, but bring about a Constitution Amendment.

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

Sir, I merely wish to point out two-three things. My party is fully committed to the concept of social justice. We believe that because of inbuilt and historical injustices, there were inequalities which have built into the system. Reservation which was originally conceived in the Constitution is not intended to create that inequality but is intended to make unequals as equals. It is more of a social or poverty alleviation scheme. Therefore, in the sections it has been made applicable, it has yielded dividends. But there are miles which we still have to travel. However, Sir, the principle which has to be kept in mind while using reservation as an affirmative action intended to remove discrimination is that it should not be implemented in a manner that it starts creating a reverse discrimination. The Supreme Court judgement, therefore, while interpreting both these principles that it is a poverty elimination programme of the Government which is implemented through this affirmative action should not be so excessive that it results in reverse discrimination.

In Nagaraj's case, the Supreme Court therefore did the balancing act. I will just read the most operative sentence in Nagaraj's case which really does this balancing act. It says, "We reiterate that the ceiling limit of 50 per cent, the concept of creamy layer and the compelling reasons, namely, backwardness, inadequacy of representation and overall administrative efficiency are all constitutional requirements without which the structure of equality of opportunity would collapse." Therefore, as a Parliament, we must remember that we are exercising our constituent power. Our constituent power is not absolute: our constituent power under Article 368 is subject to one basic limitation and that basic limitation is that we cannot alter the basic structure of the Constitution. We can amend it. We can alter it. But we can't change the basic structure or we can't abrogate the basic structure. Therefore, the words which the Supreme Court has used are that some of these concepts like the upper limit of 50 per cent, the concept of creamy layer, the compelling reasons of backwardness, inadequacy of representation and efficiency are the constitutional requirements without which the structure of equality of opportunity would collapse. Some of these obviously created resentment among certain groups and the Government, therefore, has chosen to introduce this constitutional amendment while amending Article 16, sub-clause (4A). There have been two earlier amendments. I should clarify that the concept of reservation in promotion in principle which was brought by earlier amendments has already been upheld by the Supreme Court. So, contrary to this popular perception that this is being given for the first time is not correct. This is already in existence. This has never been struck down by the

court. The principle of consequential seniority has also been upheld. But because of this, certain complications have arisen and the present amendment does three things.

One, it says that whichever are the notified Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under Article 341 and Article 342 shall be deemed to be backward; they shall be entitled to benefit of Article 16 (4). So, the benefit must go to whoever is notified as a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe in Article 341 and Article 342. The reason for this—and there is a good reason for this—is that there is a fundamental difference between those who are the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes. The stigma of caste, stigma of social injustice is a stigma which is very difficult to get out of. Once you are born into a caste, you live your entire life through that caste. Social and educational backwardness are areas which you can travel out of. And, therefore, the first part of this amendment places those notified under Article 341 and Article 342 as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—this benefit is not available to anybody else—and they are entitled to the benefits which are available under the Constitution, that is, Article 16 (4) for backwards. आर्टिकल 16(4) के तहत affirmative action का जो भी benefit है, संविधान की धारा 341 और 342 के अंतर्गत जो सूची बनती है, जिनके नाम उसमें आएंगे, उनको वह लाभ मिलेगा, यह पहला अंश है। दूसरा अंश थोड़ा विवादित है। उस अंश को लेकर मेरे मन में कुछ शंकाएं हैं। इसलिए मैंने सरकार से और अन्य साथियों से भी बात की है। शायद इसकी वैधानिकता पर प्रश्नचिह्न लग जाए। जो संशोधन आपने दिया है, उसकी भाषा है, “Nothing in this article, that is, Article 16 (4A) or Article 335, shall prevent the State from making laws, providing for reservation in promotion.”

अब धारा 335 के तहत भी इस अमेंडमेंट के माध्यम से सरकार ऊपर अंकुश नहीं होगा। So, nothing in article 335 will prevent the State from making laws. Sir, I would urge the Government to seriously reconsider this because article 335 is a provision in the Constitution which deals with efficiency of service. The language of article 335 is, मैं आर्टिकल 335 को पढ़ देता हूँ—“The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State.” That is to say, कि जो Scheduled Castes और Scheduled Tribes है, उनके लिए जितने भी प्रावधान किए जाएंगे, वे प्रावधान efficiency of service maintain हो, उसके साथ consistent होंगे। लेकिन कठिनाई आती है और वह कठिनाई यह है कि जिनके ऊपर ऐतिहासिक दृष्टि से भेदभाव हुआ, शायद वे उस प्रतिस्पर्धा में, उस मुकाबले में उस स्तर तक न आ पाएं, तो उसके लिए एक proviso दिया गया और आर्टिकल 335 का वह proviso है “Provided that nothing in this article shall prevent in making of any provision in favour of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for relaxation in qualifying marks in any

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

examination or lowering the standards of evaluation, for reservation in matters or promotion to any class or classes of services or posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State.” Article 335 is a very important provision. It says that for everybody efficiency standards will apply. They will apply also to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes but for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, relaxed standards will apply. उन standards को कमज़ोर कर दिया जाएगा, वे apply करेंगे। This is already in article 335. Now, you say, “Nothing in article 335 will apply” which means neither standards will apply nor relaxed standards will apply. So, if somebody consistently has a record of doubtful integrity or if he consistently has a record of being inefficient or poor, he still would be entitled to promotion. Now, it is quite possible that for a general category officer, you may say that he must have eight ‘very good’ or ‘excellent’ reports; for a reserved category candidate, he must have four ‘very good’ or ‘excellent’ reports. So, you can give relaxed standards or even ‘good’ can be considered good enough. But, to say, “No standards will apply” may be a little difficult. I would, therefore, urge the hon. Minister to reconsider it and consider deleting this part of article 335 being not applicable because the moment you overrule article 335, it will have two adverse consequences. Firstly, the efficiency of service will be adversely affected. Secondly, the quality itself may suffer and more importantly, it will run the risk of being struck down as unconstitutional because in Nagraj’s case, the Supreme Court has said that efficiency of service is one of the criteria of Constitutional requirements without which the structure of equality of opportunity under Article 16 will collapse. So, if efficiency of service is completely done away with, then the structure will itself collapse. Sir, this is the second limb. Once the Government agrees—and I do hope that the hon. Minister after consulting all sections and taking their opinion reasonably agrees—to this, then there is only the third limb of the amendment. In fact, the third limb of the amendment corrects a major problem into which we were earlier falling. The problem was that once you have reservation in promotion, you introduce what is called a system of leapfrogging. Leapfrogging means somebody is entitled to a faster promotion than others because there is a reservation in his category. So, somebody who could be junior to one person can get accelerated promotion and overtake his senior. Now, once this system sets into action, under the original situation and that is the example our friend. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, has been repeatedly giving of the UP Irrigation Department, उनका कहना था कि वहां पांच चीफ इंजीनियर थे और एक इंजीनियर-इन-चीफ था। इस प्रावधान की वजह से छह से छह एक वर्ग के आ गए और उनकी शिकायत इसी वजह से रहती थी।

अब इस कानून में जो अमेंडमेंट आया है, वह इस anomaly को ठीक करता है, वह यह कहता है कि “That laws will be made in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the extent of percentage of reservation provided to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the services of the State.” Therefore, this anomaly is being corrected. Now, a cap is being put, the result of that cap is whatever the permissible quota is in that State is the quota in the promotional post that will be allowed. Therefore, if the hon. Minister agrees to reconsider the second limb which is article 335, then, there are two limbs left; and the two limbs are पहला यह है कि जो आर्टिकल 341 और 342 की सूची में हैं, उनको इस आरक्षण का लाभ मिलेगा। इस देश में एक आम राय है कि जो शेडयूल्ड कास्ट और शेडयूल्ड ट्राइब्स वर्ग के हैं, उनको आज भी इस लाभ की जरूरत है, इस आरक्षण की आवश्यकता है। दूसरा जो है, वह एक प्रकार से मौजूदा anomaly को ठीक करता है कि वह आरक्षण उस सीमा तक हो सकता है, जितने आरक्षण की उस राज्य के अंदर अनुमति हो। अधिकतर राज्यों में 20 परसेंट या 22 परसेंट मैक्सिमम शेडयूल्ड कास्ट और शेडयूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लिए है तो यह उसकी कैप फिक्स कर देता है। मंत्री जी बहस के अंत में बतलाएं कि अगर वे इस दूसरे संशोधन पर पुनर्विचार करने के लिए तैयार हैं तो मुझे लगता है कि यह पूरा का पूरा संविधान संशोधन अपने आपमें न्यायसंगत हो जाएगा। इतना कहकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (NOMINATED) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, thank you very much for allowing me to participate in the debate on the crucial important topic that the nation is confronting. I rise to support the Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012 moved by the hon. Minister. Sir, let us widen the scope of this debate beyond the constitutional legalities. I would first like to submit that caste is the basic structure of the Indian society. We understand that the Indian Constitution had abolished the untouchability by article 17. But the Indian Constitution could not abolish the caste system because it is the basic structure of the Indian society beginning with the Hindu society transferring it to the Christianity and Islams that it was beyond the scope and comprehension of the Indian Constitution to abolish the caste system. What we are witnessing today is with respect to the demand on this amendment moved by the hon. Minister; basically, the inherent contradictions of the Indian societies exhibited through the caste system. They are coming to the fore. I apprehend, knowing a little better from my personal point of view, in the context of the time, the contours and conflicts of the caste system in this country. Political, social, cultural and educational governance are going to come in much more fierce manner to the fore than ever before.

Sir, caste system has played havoc. I don't want to go into what the hon. Minister has said and what the hon. Leader of the Opposition has explained in terms of legal niceties. The question is: What has the caste system done? There are several countries

[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

in the world. There are social formations like caste. But nowhere in the world a particular social formation based on the caste distributing the privileges of poverty, prestige and power in the most unequal manner is known in the history except India. There is also the case so far as gender is concerned. Therefore, I call three pieces. Dr. Lohia used to say, “सत्ता, सम्पत्ति एवं प्रतिष्ठा”. That power, property and prestige, from times immemorial, there had been highly unequal distribution of these three P’s. Unfortunately, the ancient law giver, mam in his “Manusmriti”, has codified rigid three P’s across the social system.

Sir, one thing I want to bring to your notice that the people, those who were opposing reservation, were largely supposed to be believing in the philosophy of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia. I remember, in my earlier school days, Dr. Lohia gave the slogan “संसोपा ने बांधी गांठ, पिछड़ा पावे सौ में साठ।” that Dr. Lohia was not in favour of the ‘equal opportunity’, Dr. Lohia was in favour of the ‘preferential opportunity’. But the case here is, the important point I want to make here is, whenever we say ‘Power, Prestige and Property’, generally people try to finger towards the Brahmin as a community. I want to place it on record because Dr. Ambedkar was fighting throughout his life against the pernicious hierarchic caste system. But let me submit before the House Dr. Ambedkar’s contribution towards understanding the caste system. Dr. Ambedkar never defined Brahminism in terms of Brahmins by birth. For Dr. Ambedkar, Brahminism was not by birth, for Dr. Ambedkar Brahminism was by attitude; Brahminism by cultural traits. Then Dr. Ambedkar, in his Special Lecture in 1932 delivered on the Railway workers at Manmad, clearly mentioned that this attitude of Brahminism was not only confining to Brahmins alone—but it was rampant in all sections of the society. That is why it is a notional mistake to confine Brahminism or such kind of attitude only to a particular caste.

Sir, the point is, this highly unequal distribution of the privileges largely concentrated in the fewer hands, as you are talking about concentration of wealth and economic power, they were largely concentrated in the hands of the supposedly upper castes. Since I don’t believe in caste system, I am using the word ‘supposedly’. The Founding Fathers of the Constitution could not overlook this issue and they made the provision in the Constitution for the ‘affirmative action’. There are several countries in the world which are implementing affirmative action without prescribed quota in a more stringent manner than in our country. The question is, according to the

constitutional-makers, the fundamental rights would be remaining notional if the social, political and educational situation in the country is not created of such kind where equal opportunity is not provided. The Leader of the Opposition rightly mentioned that basically it is necessary to remove inequality by creating this kind of affirmative action. Now the point is—I don't want to go into the constitutional provisions; 15 per cent seats for the Scheduled Castes, 7.5 per cent for the Scheduled Tribes and 27 per cent for OBCs—it is extremely painful for me, when I am in support, I do not personally, believe, 50 per cent ceiling on reserved seats constitutes apart of the basic part of the Indian Constitution. This is proportional equality, preferential equality; I reserve my comments on that. According to me, I repeat, that 50 per cent ceiling on reservation for deprived sections of the society does not constitute the part of the basic structure of the Constitution. My only point is, the people, these who have got the benefits from reservation, for the socially and educationally backward classes—there is no term in the Constitution 'OBCs'; it is a generalized term; generic term is 'Socially and Educationally Backward Classes'—it is painful that some sections of the society benefiting from the same reservation, taking the name of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, did not allow Parliament to function due to providing reservation to still backward sections of the society, namely, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Sir, from 1951 till today, that is, 13th December, 2012, if we see the functioning of the caste system, and if we see the functioning of the class system, I would show that the caste system in India is exactly corresponding to the class system in the country. Among them land owning castes upper castes, less poverty, there is still more poverty among OBCs, still more poverty in Scheduled Castes and still more poverty among Scheduled Tribes. This country must understand, sometimes, the sociology of poverty. Poverty is not a mathematical figure derived by applying 2,250 calories per day alone. There is sociology of poverty.

Now the point is, this reservation enabled the social categories such as the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to seek certain amount of equality, mobility of labour and mobility of occupations, and they achieved certain status, according to me. Now, this social status is not corresponding with the social status in terms of emotions or feelings. I know when Babu Jagjivan Ram was, the Defence Minister, when garlanded Sampurnanand's statute in Bihar, the next day, the people of the country custodians of culture washed the Sampurnanand's statute in order to make it pure. This is the greatest stigma so far as the Indian political history is concerned.

[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

Sir, now, my point is that so far as the reservations are concerned, reservations in promotions are, absolutely, necessary for the very simple reason that together they will be coming to 22.5 per cent, and I do not think that once they come to the level of 22.5 per cent, following the present basic structure of the Constitution, namely, 50 per cent ceiling level, that this will be exceeded. The question is that they are not going even up to 22.5 per cent. As the hon. Minister has just now mentioned, the basic point is this. I have got the data with me from 1st January, 2011. Sir, there are seven grades, that is, the Pay Bands (1-7) in terms of salaries. I will tell you why reservations in promotions are important. When you take the case of Pay Bands-four 90.4 per cent of the posts, filled up by the Scheduled Castes, belong to relatively lower categories of bureaucracy and 89 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes belong to lower categories. So far as the upper three grades are concerned, that is, the Grade Pay—Rs. 8,900, Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 10,000 and above, there is barely 7.32 per cent of the Scheduled Castes and 2.5 per cent of the Scheduled Tribes. Nobody is saying in the House, including myself, knowing elementary politics that you can extend the limit by more than 22.5 per cent. But, Sir, the point is that so far as the IAS officers are concerned, as the hon. Minister mentioned,—I have got the latest data, on 10th January, 2012—out of 84 Secretaries to the Government of India, which are the highest posts in the bureaucracy, not even a single Scheduled Caste person is there. After more than sixty years of Independence, if there is not even a single Scheduled Caste in that position, then, the country must consider the limitations of implementation. Then, in the post of Additional Secretary including its equivalents, there are only two posts, and in the post of Joint Secretary including its equivalents, there are just 28 posts. I would like to request the Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions that the DoPT must, immediately, reclassify these positions. This position is unacceptable to me. What is stated here is, ‘Secretary-level including its equivalents’. Now, equivalent is in terms of salaries. Tomorrow, if pilots would get more salaries and privileges than the Members of Parliament, then, can we say, at any point of time, that pilots are more superior or equivalent to Members of Parliament, those who represent the popular sovereignty of the people? So, this is a bogus category and I would request the hon. Minister that category including ‘Secretary-level and its equivalents’ is, absolutely, deceptive.

Sir, the third important point is, we are talking about the merit. The Leader of the Opposition has just now mentioned about article 335. I went through it again. I do not know law much. When I do not know about economics, I cannot claim to know

4.00 P.M.

law. Article 335 says, and I quote: “The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State.” And I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Leader of the Opposition to the fact that article 335 in this case exclusively and expressly deal with the norms of efficiency connected only with the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. If there are apprehensions that they will be extended to General Category people also, while giving promotions, then, according to me, the Government should, definitely, reconsider it. But this clause, according to me,—I have been reading the Reports of the Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes right from 1954—has created a havoc. Sir, let me tell you a very simple thing. I was privileged to be Vice-Chancellor of the University of Mumbai. When the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe people were appearing for interviews, or, the Muslims, for that matter, or, the non-English speaking people, for that matter, there was a general tendency on the part of the selectors to reject them.

I am not against English language, but I remember Dr. Lohia very much. It was not the question of language. The five per cent or ten per cent correct or incorrect English speaking elite class in this country has kept the 90 per cent non-English knowing community as hostage. In this country, according to me, the correctly speaking Telugu, Tamil, Gujrati, Malayalam person less given less prestige than the person who is speaking incorrect English. Therefore, this is explicitly dealing with this and that is why I am suggesting that this class has been taken care of and eliminated as far as amenities are concerned. Sir, my last point is, we are discussing ‘merit’ again and again and it is absolutely unpardonable on my part to say that merit is of no consequence.

Sir, with your kind permission, let me make one simple observation and it should offend no one. Did we discover the concept of merit after 15th August, 1947? When the First East India Company was formed in 1600, till 1947, nearly for 347 years when East India Company was converted into British Empire and 35 lakhs of British officers were managing 35 crore people till 15th August, 1947, then what was the merit in this country? Why is it that ‘merit’ and ‘efficiency’ criteria are adopted or invoked again and again when something is to be given only to the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? Why is it that a minimum of 45 per cent of women are not

[Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar]

represented and why is the Government compelled to bring in reservation up to 33 per cent? Why not 45 per cent? My question is, let us try to understand the issues in a larger context and in the context of the Indian Society. I was just discussing with my colleague, Shri Janardan Dwivedi in the corridor. He is present in the House. Sir, if there is an IAS officer's son or daughter getting tuition throughout the year, studying in St. Stephen's college, which is more prestigious than any of the universities, and getting 95 per cent marks in the 12th standard examination and if a maid servant working in the broken *chawl* is getting 65 per cent marks, how do you judge merit? So far as inter-personal merit is concerned, in the context of who is glaringly unequal due to social, economic and political structure, merit is the most bogus thing. That is why if you want to discuss merit objectively, then, try to create the conditions where merit can be objectively discussed because merit is not so valid. I am not against merit. I know its attributes, but, merit is a social category, just as Marx said that capital is not a tangible commodity and machinery. Capital was a social category. Merit is a social category. Therefore, when somebody is getting 90 per cent and not getting admission and a Scheduled Caste student with 75 per cent, marks is getting admission, then, merit it is said that is violated, though the inter-personal comparison of merit is bad. But when somebody like a Minister or a Member of Parliament or an IAS officer is giving Rs. 50 lakhs to the deemed university and getting admission by bribing the deemed university, at that time, where is the merit? That is why in an unequal society, there are no standards or uniform and objective norms of merit. Therefore, let us try to go, for the word, the kind of society that is just. Rather than opposing the reservation now, let us try to ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, please, I am addressing the Chair. Sir, I am addressing you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan) : I am putting a question. Is it not merit that made you the Vice-Chancellor of Mumbai?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Are you yielding?

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : No, I am not at all yielding. Sir, I take care not to yield for the very simple reason that I would not allow that situation to arise. Sir, I don't want to go into the history. Sir, I have analyzed the social composition of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha right from 1952.

I don't want to go into the history and logistics. My simple point is: Reservations, in the larger context, related to morality. And, morality, again, is not an objective standard.

Sir, till recent years, women were not allowed to go out of the kitchen. The men dominated obscurantist society always stalling their merit. Today, not only they entered into every field, but wherever they entered they excelled the men of the country.

My only point is, let us try to create a situation where caste will be abolished and, as a consequence of that, all these caste-based situation and reservations also will be abolished. But, keeping caste intact, washing the Statue of Sampurnanda garlanded by late Shri Jagjivan Ramji, and keeping away reservation is not acceptable. That is why I support the Constitution (Amendment) Bill which provides reservation in promotions to SC/ST brought by the hon. Minister both in letter and spirit.

Thank you very much for your indulgence.

सुश्री मायावती (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, हमारी पार्टी द्वारा संसद के अंदर और संसद के बाहर किए गए जबर्दस्त और लंबे संघर्ष के बाद केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा देश में एससी/एसटी वर्गों के लोगों की नौकरियों में पदोन्नति में आरक्षण एवं वरिष्ठता को लेकर संविधान में 117वाँ संशोधन विधेयक, 2012 लाया गया है, जिसके तहत संविधान के भाग 3 में, अनुच्छेद 16 के खंड (4ए) के स्थान पर, अर्थात् “(4ए) संविधान में अन्यत्र अंतर्विष्ट किसी बात के होते हुए भी, अनुच्छेद 341 और अनुच्छेद 342 के अधीन क्रमशः अधिसूचित अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों को पिछड़ा हुआ समझा जाएगा और इस अनुच्छेद या अनुच्छेद 335 के अंतर्विष्ट कोई बात राज्य को अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के पक्ष में आरक्षण की उस प्रतिशत सीमा तक, जिसका राज्य की सेवाओं में अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए उपबन्ध है, राज्य के अधीन सेवाओं में किसी वर्ग या वर्गों के पदों पर, पारिमाणिक ज्येष्ठता सहित, प्रोन्नति के मामलों में आरक्षण के लिए कोई उपबन्ध करने से निवारित नहीं करेगी”, यह खंड रखा जाएगा। हमारी पार्टी इसका स्वागत एवं समर्थन करती है।

मान्यवर, देश में एससी/एसटी वर्गों के लोगों को नौकरियों में पदोन्नति में आरक्षण दिए जाने की आवश्यकता क्यों है, इसके बारे में अभी मुझसे पूर्व कांग्रेस पार्टी के सांसद ने इसकी आवश्यकता क्यों है, उसके बारे में काफी डिटेल् में आँकड़ों सहित तथ्य माननीय सदन के सामने रखे हैं। लेकिन दुख की बात यह है कि जब सम्मानित सदस्य, चूँकि वे कांग्रेस पार्टी से मेम्बर ऑफ पार्लियामेंट हैं, वे आँकड़े रख रहे थे, तो उनको यह भी बता देना चाहिए था कि अंग्रेजों के जाने के बाद तो अपने देश में और खास तौर से सेंटर में ज्यादातर कांग्रेस पार्टी के नेतृत्व में ही सरकार रही है और अभी भी कांग्रेस पार्टी के नेतृत्व में यूपीए की सरकार चल रही है।

अर्थात् लम्बे अरसे तक सेंटर में कांग्रेस पार्टी के नेतृत्व में सरकार रही है, तब भी अभी तक इतनी खराब स्थिति इन वर्गों की क्यों बनी हुई है, यह सोचने की बात है। यदि कांग्रेस पार्टी की मेंटेलिटी या मानसिकता

[सुश्री मायावती]

साफ रही होती, तो मैं समझती हूँ कि आज हम लोग इन वर्गों के आरक्षण के लिए जो लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं, वह लड़ाई लड़ने की जरूरत हमें महसूस नहीं होती। इन वर्गों के लोग बहुत पहले ही जिन्दगी के हर पहलू में, समाज के अन्य वर्गों के समकक्ष आ कर खड़े हो जाते ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, प्लीज़ ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

सुश्री मायावती : मान्यवर, देश में ...**(व्यवधान)**... सच्चाई थोड़ी कड़वी लगती है ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप विधेयक लाए हैं, इसका तो मैं वेलकम करती हूँ, लेकिन कैसे लाए हैं, इसके लिए हमें संसद के अन्दर और बाहर कितना एजिटेशन करना पड़ा है, यह किसी से छिपा नहीं है ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसका तो मैं वेलकम कर ही रही हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

महोदय, देश में SC/ST वर्ग के लोगों को नौकरियों में पदोन्नतियों में आरक्षण दिए जाने के सम्बन्ध में सबसे पहले मैं एक बात स्पष्ट कर देना चाहती हूँ। देश में आरक्षण विरोधी और इन वर्गों के प्रति हीन एवं जातिवादी मानसिकता रखने वाले लोगों द्वारा इस प्रकरण को लेकर जान-बूझकर, एक सोची समझी साजिश के तहत ऐसा इम्पेशन दिया जा रहा है, जैसे देश में पहली बार केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा इन वर्गों के लोगों को यह सुविधा देने के लिए यह संशोधन विधेयक लाया जा रहा हो। इस किस्म का जो इम्पेशन दिया जा रहा है, वह ठीक नहीं है। संविधान के लागू होने के कुछ समय के बाद ही इन वर्गों को यह सुविधा, सन् 1955 से मिल रही है। हालांकि इस सुविधा को निष्प्रभावी एवं खत्म करने हेतु कई बार अड़चनें भी पैदा की गई हैं, जिनकी वजह से पहले भी कांग्रेस पार्टी और बीजेपी के शासन काल में संशोधन हुए हैं और अब फिर से इसमें कुछ अड़चनें पैदा हुई हैं, जिनकी वजह से आज फिर यह संशोधन विधेयक लाया गया है।

इतना ही नहीं, दलित विरोधी मानसिकता रखने वाले कुछ लोगों द्वारा तो इस किस्म का इम्पेशन भी दिया जा रहा है, जैसे हम लोग, खास तौर पर हमारी पार्टी देश में बैकवर्ड क्लास के लोगों के खिलाफ है या फिर हम लोग यह नहीं चाहते हैं कि बैकवर्ड क्लास के लोगों को भी पदोन्नति में आरक्षण की सुविधा मिले। इस किस्म का जो इम्पेशन दिया जा रहा है, यह गलत है। बैकवर्ड क्लास के लोगों को पदोन्नति में आरक्षण की सुविधा मिले, हम और हमारी पार्टी इसके पक्षधर हैं, इसके खिलाफ नहीं हैं, लेकिन यह जो अमेंडमेंट विधेयक लाया गया है, यह केवल SC/ST वर्गों के लोगों के लिए ही लाया गया है, इसीलिए इसमें ओबीसी का मामला जोड़ा नहीं जा सकता।

माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं सदन को यह भी बताना चाहती हूँ, यदि आज इनका यह विधेयक पास हो जाए, उसके बाद बैकवर्ड क्लास के लोगों को पदोन्नति में आरक्षण देने के लिए यदि केन्द्र की सरकार द्वारा अलग से कोई विधेयक लाया जाता है, तो पूरे देश के अन्दर बहुजन समाज पार्टी ही पहली ऐसी पार्टी होगी, जो इसका स्वागत करेगी। हम इसका विरोध नहीं करेंगे। बैकवर्ड क्लास के साथ-साथ मैं तो अपर कास्ट समाज के बारे में रिज़र्वेशन को लेकर भी कहना चाहती हूँ कि हमारी पार्टी, अपर कास्ट समाज में जो गरीब लोग हैं, जिनकी माली हालत बहुत ज्यादा खराब है, आर्थिक आधार पर उनको भी आरक्षण दिए जाने की पक्षधर है। इसके लिए हमारी पार्टी ने कई बार सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को चिट्ठी भी लिखी है।

कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि देश में अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति वर्गों के जो लोग हैं, उनको पदोन्नति में आरक्षण की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए और जारी रहनी चाहिए, क्योंकि अभी इस समाज को इसकी बहुत जरूरत है।

अभी समाज में इन लोगों को जितना अन्य समाज के लेवल में आकर खड़ा होना चाहिए, अभी ये लोग खड़े नहीं हुए हैं। अभी इनको इसकी बहुत जरूरत है। आप हर विभाग के सरकारी आंकड़े उठा कर देख लीजिए, तो खास तौर से नौकरियों में बहुत ही निराशाजनक आंकड़े हमें देखने को मिलते हैं। इसलिए, एस.सी./एस.टी. के लिए प्रमोशन में रिजर्वेशन का लगातार कायम रहना, अभी इसका बने रहना बहुत जरूरी है।

इसके साथ ही भारतीय संविधान के तहत देश में एस.सी./एस.टी. वर्गों के लोगों को मिल रहे आरक्षण के सम्बन्ध में मैं यहाँ यह भी कहना चाहती हूँ कि अपने देश में इन वर्गों के लोगों को विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में और उसमें भी खास तौर से नौकरियों में जो आरक्षण की सुविधा उपलब्ध हुई है, इसके अलावा इन वर्गों के साथ-साथ देश में जो बैकवर्ड क्लास के लोग हैं, उनको भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 340 के तहत जो आरक्षण की सुविधा इन लोगों को मंडल कमीशन की रिपोर्ट के तहत उपलब्ध हुई है, यह सब पूरे तौर से सही मायने में इन वर्गों के मसीहा व भारतीय संविधान के निर्माता परम पूज्य बाबा साहेब डॉ. अम्बेडकर की ही देन है। बाबा साहेब डॉ. अम्बेडकर ने इसके लिए बहुत स्ट्रगल किया, तब जाकर इनको रिजर्वेशन की यह सुविधा मिली। बाबा साहेब डॉ. अम्बेडकर ने यह प्रेरणा कहाँ से ली? समाज में जो दबे-कुचले लोग हैं, इन लोगों को आरक्षण की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए, इनको जिन्दगी के हर पहलू में आगे बढ़ने के लिए यह सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए, यह प्रेरणा बाबा साहेब डॉ. अम्बेडकर ने छत्रपति शाहू जी महाराज से ली। क्योंकि, महाराष्ट्र में कोल्हापुर में छत्रपति शाहू जी महाराज की रियासत थी, तो छत्रपति शाहू जी महाराज ने अपनी रियासत में दबे-कुचले लोगों को जिन्दगी के हर पहलू में आगे बढ़ने के लिए रिजर्वेशन की सुविधा दी थी, जिससे बाबा साहेब डॉ. अम्बेडकर ने प्रेरणा ली। उनसे यह प्रेरणा लेने के बाद इसकी जरूरत महसूस करते हुए उन्होंने भारतीय संविधान में इनके लिए यह व्यवस्था की, जिसे कुछ वर्गों के लोग और उसमें भी खास तौर से एस.सी./एस.टी. वर्गों के प्रति हीन व जातिवादी मानसिकता रखने वाले लोग आसानी से हजम नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। यही मुख्य वजह है कि इस मामले को लेकर संविधान में अभी तक कई संशोधन किए जा चुके हैं। इसलिए, हमारी पार्टी ऐसी स्थिति में इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्र सरकार को अनेकों बार यह बात कह चुकी है कि देश में एस.सी./एस.टी. वर्गों के लोगों को विभिन्न स्तर पर और उसमें भी विशेष तौर से नौकरियों में मिल रहे आरक्षण को लेकर समय-समय पर जो अड़चनें पैदा की जाती रहती हैं, जिनसे इन वर्गों के लोगों को काफी ज्यादा नुकसान पहुँच रहा है, उन्हें रोकने के लिए इनके इस आरक्षण को संविधान की नौवीं अनुसूची में डालने के लिए केन्द्र की सरकार को ठोस कदम जरूर उठाने चाहिए। इस सम्बन्ध में हमने कई बार केन्द्र की सरकार को चिट्ठी भी लिखी और जब भी यह मामला, अर्थात् आरक्षण का मुद्दा आया, यह बात हमने हमेशा हाउस के अन्दर रखी है। लेकिन, दुख की बात है कि केन्द्र में अभी तक जिन पार्टियों की भी सरकारें रही हैं या बनी हैं, उन्होंने इस मामले को हमेशा की दरकिनार कर दिया है, जिसको लेकर हमारी पार्टी काफी ज्यादा चिन्तित है। इतना ही नहीं, बल्कि इन वर्गों के आरक्षण को लेकर संविधान में जब भी संशोधन करने की आवश्यकता महसूस हुई, तो इन वर्गों के लोगों को इसके लिए काफी कड़ा संघर्ष करना पड़ा है और इसका जीता-जागता उदाहरण इन वर्गों से सम्बन्धित नौकरियों में पदोन्नति में आरक्षण एवं वरिष्ठता को लेकर आज संसद में पेश किया गया संविधान संशोधन विधेयक है।

[सुश्री मायावती]

सर, इस सम्बन्ध में मेरा संक्षेप में यह कहना है कि संविधान के अनुच्छेद 16 के खंड 4 में यह प्रावधान किया गया है कि अनुच्छेद 16 में लिखा हुआ कोई भी प्रावधान सरकार को पिछड़े नागरिकों के किसी वर्ग के पक्ष में, जिसका प्रतिनिधित्व राज्य की राय में राज्य की सेवाओं में पर्याप्त नहीं है उनको, नियुक्तियों में आरक्षण प्रदान करने का अधिकार होगा। इस प्रकार, संविधान के अनुच्छेद 16(4) में दिए गए इस प्रावधान के तहत केन्द्र सरकार व सभी राज्य सरकारें संविधान के बनने से लेकर 16 नवम्बर, 1992 तक, अर्थात् जिस दिन इंदिरा साहनी बनाम यूनियन ऑफ इंडिया के केस में माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा निर्णय दिया गया था, उस दिन तक प्रथम नियुक्ति के साथ-साथ पदोन्नति देते समय भी अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के वर्गों को अनुच्छेद 16(4) के तहत आरक्षण की सुविधा प्रदान की जाती रही थी।

लेकिन इंदिरा साहनी बनाम यूनियन ऑफ इंडिया के केस के निर्णय दिनांक 16 नवंबर, 1992 में माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय की 9 न्यायाधीशों की खंडपीठ ने पहली बार यह होल्ड किया कि अनुच्छेद 16 के खंड (4) में जो आरक्षण की व्यवस्था है, वह केवल प्रथम नियुक्ति पर लागू होती है तथा पदोन्नति के समय आरक्षण की व्यवस्था अनुच्छेद 16(4) में यह **provided** नहीं है, परंतु इसके साथ-साथ इसी निर्णय में माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने जो पदोन्नति में आरक्षण चल रहा था, उसको अगले पांच वर्षों तक चलते रहने की अनुमति भी दी थी। जब कि यह सर्वविदित है कि देश में अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति वर्गों के लोगों को नौकरियों में तथा खास तौर से पदोन्नति के पदों में उचित प्रतिनिधित्व प्राप्त नहीं है, जिसे ध्यान में रख कर ही इन वर्गों के कड़े संघर्ष करने पर ही सरकार को इंदिरा साहनी केस के निर्णय दिनांक 16 नवंबर, 1992 के उपरांत संविधान में 77वें एवं 85वें संशोधन लाकर अनुच्छेद 16(4) (ए) व 4(बी) जोड़ कर यह प्रावधान करना पड़ा कि पदोन्नति में आरक्षण एवं वरिष्ठता अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के लोगों को मिलती रहेगी। लेकिन, इस व्यवस्था को संविधान में स्पष्ट रूप से लाए जाने के बाद भी एम. नागराज के केस में माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय की संवैधानिक पीठ ने अपने निर्णय, दिनांक 19.10.2006 में यह व्यवस्था दे दी है कि पदोन्नति में आरक्षण व वरिष्ठता का कोई भी कानून बनाने के पहले केन्द्र सरकार तथा प्रदेशों की सरकारों को अनुमान्य आंकड़ों के तहत यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि SC, ST के कर्मचारियों का सेवा में उचित प्रतिनिधित्व है या नहीं है, उनका पिछड़ापन है या नहीं है तथा इनकी पदोन्नति से संविधान के अनुच्छेद 335 के तहत प्रशासनिक कार्यों में दक्षता प्रभावित तो नहीं हो रही है। इस प्रकार से इस निर्णय ने 77वें, 81वें व 85वें संवैधानिक संशोधन द्वारा अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति वर्गों के लोगों को प्रमोशन में दिए गए अधिकारों को निष्प्रभावी बना दिया। जब कि उत्तर प्रदेश के साथ-साथ देश के अन्य सभी प्रदेशों ने तथा केन्द्र सरकार ने अपने कर्मचारियों के लिए इंदिरा साहनी केस के निर्णय के बाद लाए गए 77वें, 81वें व 85वें संशोधनों के तहत कानून बना कर पदोन्नतियों में आरक्षण की व्यवस्था करते हुए उसी के तहत पदोन्नतियां भी कर दी थीं, परंतु एम. नागराज के निर्णय को बाध्य मानते हुए माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने अपने निर्णय दिनांक 27.04.2012 द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश में पदोन्नति में आरक्षण तथा वरिष्ठता से संबंधित कानून को असंवैधानिक करार दिया और इस निर्णय के तहत पदोन्नत किए गए लोगों को अब पुनः उनके मूल पद पर वापिस जाना पड़ेगा। जब कि इंदिरा साहनी के केस में माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने तब तक की कई पदोन्नतियों को संरक्षण दिया था, हालांकि इसके पूर्व भी एम. नागराज के निर्णय में दी गई व्यवस्था को बाध्य मानते हुए राजस्थान सरकार द्वारा बनाए गए पदोन्नति में आरक्षण से संबंधित कानून को भी माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने अपने एक अन्य निर्णय द्वारा अमान्य व असंवैधानिक घोषित

कर दिया था। अब आगे चल कर उत्तर प्रदेश तथा राजस्थान की ही तरह एम. नागराज के निर्णय के तहत पूरे देश में अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति के सभी कर्मचारी, जो आरक्षण के आधार पर पदोन्नति पाए हुए हैं, उनको अपने मूल पद पर वापिस जाना पड़ेगा, जिसका बहुत ही दूरगामी बुरा परिणाम होगा। इसलिए, अब यह अत्यंत आवश्यक है कि केन्द्र की सरकार संविधान में पुनः संशोधन लाते हुए एम. नागराज, सूरजभान मीणा बनाम राजस्थान सरकार तथा उत्तर प्रदेश से संबंधित माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्णय दिनांक 27.04.2012 में दी गई व्यवस्था को निष्प्रभावी बनाते हुए तथा संविधान में लाए गए 77वें, 81वें, 85वें व 92वें संशोधन की मंशा व नीयत को पूर्ण रूप से लागू करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा जो अब 117वाँ संवैधानिक संशोधन विधेयक लाया गया, उसका मैं अपनी पार्टी की ओर से पुनः स्वागत करती हूँ और समर्थन करती हूँ।

इसके साथ-साथ इस विधेयक की आवश्यकता के बारे में यह जो अमेंडमेंट विधेयक लाया गया है केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा, इसकी जरूरत के बारे में, माननीय उपसभापति, पूरा सदन इस बात से अवगत है कि जब इस मामले को हमारी पार्टी ने राज्य सभा के अंदर उठाया तो पहले एक-दो दिन तो इसको गंभीरता से नहीं लिया गया। लेकिन जब मैंने इसके बारे में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को चिट्ठी लिखी और उस चिट्ठी की कॉपी सभी दलों के नेताओं को भेजी। इसके साथ-साथ एस.सी., एस.टी. के जो मेम्बर्स पार्लियामेंट हैं, उनको भी भेजी, तब माननीय सदस्यों को यह समझ में आया, सम्मानित नेताओं को यह समझ में आया कि एस.सी., एस.टी. वर्गों के लोगों को पदोन्नति में आरक्षण की बहुत ज्यादा आवश्यकता है। इसके बाद पार्लियामेंट के अंदर कई घंटों तक चर्चा हुई। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने सर्वदलीय बैठक भी बुलाई और उस बैठक में भी मैं समझती हूँ कि सभी दलों के नेताओं ने अपनी बात रखी, कुछ उनके सुझाव भी थे, तो कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि एस.सी., एस.टी. को प्रमोशन में रिजर्वेशन की जो अभी जरूरत है, इसके बारे में मैं ज्यादा डिटेल में नहीं जाना चाहती, क्योंकि इसके ऊपर पहले भी सदन में चर्चा हो चुकी है, उस मौके पर भी मैंने डिटेल में अपनी बात रखी है, सर्वदलीय बैठक में भी बात रखी, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री को भी चिट्ठी के जरिए अपनी बात रखी। इसलिए अब अंत में मैं इस विधेयक के संबंध में इस हाऊस के अंदर सभी दलों के माननीय नेताओं से, सभी दलों के सत्ता एवं विपक्ष तथा जो हमारे इंडिपेंडेंट मेम्बर ऑफ पार्लियामेंट हैं, उनसे भी अर्थात् सभी दलों के माननीय नेताओं और सदस्यों से यह अपील करती हूँ अपनी पार्टी की ओर से कि वे जातिवादी मानसिकता व दलगत राजनीति से ऊपर उठकर इन वर्गों के हितों में संशोधन विधेयक का जरूर समर्थन करें। आज मुझे खुशी है कि पूरे हाऊस के अंदर शांति का वातावरण है और सत्ता व विपक्ष दोनों तरफ से अर्थात् बहुत गंभीरता से इस विषय के ऊपर चर्चा हो रही है और मुझे पूरा भरोसा है कि जब इस पर वोटिंग होगा तो यह अमेंडमेंट विधेयक जरूर पास होगा और खास तौर से श्री कमल नाथ जी, जो संसदीय कार्य मंत्री हैं, उनको भी लग रहा है कि उनको बहुत मेहनत करनी पड़ी। अब जब आप संसदीय कार्य मंत्री हैं तो मेहनत तो करनी ही पड़ेगी। अब यह जिम्मेदारी आपकी भी बनती है। फिर भी हमने आपको समझाया। यह मेरे से कई दिन लगातार मिलते रहे। हमने कहा कि यह विधेयक आपको जरूर लाना है और यदि आप विधेयक नहीं लाएंगे तो ठीक नहीं है। लेकिन अच्छी बात है कि इन्होंने इसको गंभीरता से लिया और यह विधेयक लाए। अब इसके ऊपर चर्चा हो रही है। मुझे पूरा भरोसा है कि जब वोटिंग होगी तो अच्छे मतों से यह विधेयक पास होगा।

इन्ही लफ्जों के साथ मैं सभी दलों के सम्मानित नेताओं से, सदस्यों से पुनः अपील करती हूँ कि देश में जो एस.सी., एस.टी. वर्गों के लोग हैं, उनको नौकरियों में, प्रमोशन में रिजर्वेशन की सख्त आवश्यकता है। तो उनकी आवश्यकता को महसूस करते हुए इसके समर्थन में अपनी वोटिंग करें। इस उम्मीद के साथ अब मैं अपनी बात यहीं समाप्त करती हूँ। धन्यवाद।

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, during the Budget Session also, we had discussed this subject. In fact, I had also participated in the discussion on 'reservation in promotions for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes'.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) in
the Chair

This is not a new thing for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. They had already enjoyed reservation from 1955 to 1995. This was discontinued following the judgement that it was beyond the mandate of Article 16(4) of the Constitution of India. Subsequently, the Constitution was amended by the Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act, 1995. Now, we have brought a new amendment. We wholeheartedly support the amendment.

Before coming to amendments, I would like to bring some facts to the notice of the House. One, it is a very important subject to everybody. In this country, we had *Periyan*. We have had so many reformers, but, still, in the 21st Century, we are discussing about *dalits*. This is the tragedy of this nation. I remember, once Vivekananda said, "If a *brahmin* child requires one teacher, a *dalit* child requires ten teachers." Swami Vivekananda had said this. But, we have not been able to provide even one teacher to a *dalit*. That is the tragedy of this nation. Some people who live in the nearest riverbed, they do become IAS officers and they get some promotion, but, Sir, still, 99 per cent of the *dalits* don't have land. They are ill treated. I do not know why there is hesitation in this august House or in the law-makers. Why do we hesitate? We respect Vivekananda, we respect *Periyan*, we respect all reformers, but when it comes to implementing certain things, some thing blocks. That is our feudal approach and high-caste approach. Unless one is prepared to break up or change that feudal approach, the situation cannot change. Sir, this is the only country where the majority people require reservation. Minority people want to give reservation to majority people—backward reservation, OBC reservation and *dalit* reservation. Nowhere in the world is it like that. This is the only country where majority people require reservation and they are begging from the minority. Sir, it is the responsibility of the Government that a caste war is not created among *dalits*, backwards and forwards. This is our responsibility. We have to make a law. We should uplift the *dalits*, who have been cheated for thousands of years, even after we became independent. We are proud of the fact that Dr. Ambedkar presided over the process of framing the Constitution of India. We will respect Dr. Ambedkar, but we won't respect *dalits*. That is the contradiction. Sir, it is our

responsibility that a caste war is not created. That is why, in my last speech, I had suggested, wherever necessary, if there is an upper caste person to be promoted and a *dalit* to be promoted, you create supernumerary posts. There is nothing wrong in that. You create supernumerary posts and allow the *dalits* to be promoted in a place where they could be put. Sir, by creating supernumerary posts, you can avoid the problem.

Secondly, there is already 100 per cent reservation for SCs/STs. You should accept it. In class IV jobs, there is over-representation of *dalits*. But if we talk about Class I posts, there is under-representation or nil representation. As correctly pointed out by our friend, out of 84 Secretaries, only one ST is available. Isn't it a matter of shame? Congress ruled the country, the NDA ruled the country and the UPA is ruling the country, but the *dalits* have not been able to become the First Class Gazetted Officers or a Secretary in the Government. We are inefficient. Article 335 applies only to you. Why do you put article 335 on *dalits*? It is our mistake.

It is because of implementing officer or the Head of the Department who belongs to the upper caste. In my last speech also, I had quoted my experience as a Trade Union leader in BHEL that how an efficient engineer—his name is Kamalnathan; though it happened 20 years ago, yet I still remember—was not given promotion because the panel was a caste Hindu panel. They don't want to select a *Dalit*.

Another latest issue was of Prashant Bhosala, a *Dalit* from Maharashtra. He was ill-treated in IIT Delhi. He would have committed suicide. He came to us. I spoke to him twice, thrice. Finally, he got the admission. That is a very different thing.

Sir, reservation for SCs/STs is a measure of affirmative action. I request Mr. Kamal Nath to also convince the SP people. He is capable. It is an affirmative action. You need not feel shy for that. It is meant to act as spring board for SCs/STs to better their status in life and to achieve constitutional equality that has been historically denied to them.

Sir, the question is whether it has achieved its goal even after seven decades of our having Constitutional provisions. Even today, the status of SCs and STs in the country is appalling. They form the poorest segments of our society, do not own land and face widespread discrimination.

Sir, I am ashamed to inform this august House that a *Dalit* cook in a school in Tamil Nadu who prepares food for Mid Day Meal ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Mr. Rangarajan, your allotted time is going to be over.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Sir, please give me some-more time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : We have to stick to the time so that all the Members can speak.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Sir, I have not come to the core issue yet, which is reservation. The various laws protecting their rights, including the SC/ST Act and the Prevention of Atrocities Act, failed to prevent atrocities against the *Dalits* and the *Adivasis*. In the violence due to inter-caste marriages, *Dalits* are the real victims.

Now, Sir, I am coming to the final point. The Supreme Court judgment in Nagaraj, followed by UP Power Corporation case, requires that to justify reservation in promotions, the State must establish three things. They have given three things. The Minister has also mentioned about it. The hon. Leader of the Opposition also mentioned about that. The first is backwardness; second is inadequate representation; and the third is test of efficiency in administration.

Sir, backwardness of SCs and STs is an obvious social reality and no proof is necessary. The amendment now proposed is therefore necessary and crucial. We fully support it.

Sir, inadequacy of representation in higher levels of administration is a well-known fact, particularly, at the level of governance. Most of the welfare measures meant for depressed classes do not reach them because of administrative apathy among the forward and other higher classes who occupy such posts. Similarly, the failure of the reservation policy to emancipate the *Dalit* is also partly because of utter lack of commitment in the higher bureaucracy in whose hands the administration of reservation policy, including laws relating to prevention of atrocities against *Dalits*, are entrusted. They are inefficient. The present bureaucracy is inefficient. They are not implementing any law which wanted to uplift the *Dalits*.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Mr. Rangarajan, I am sorry to interrupt you. Fifteen more Members have to speak. Kindly cooperate.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Representation of *Dalits* in such higher posts is nil or marginal. Therefore, the test of inadequate representation is satisfied. The third requirement prescribed by the Supreme Court is the test of efficiency. It is very important for our Supreme Court.

This test presupposes that promoting SCs/STs would result in the erosion of efficiency. This is fallacious. Sir, in any case, efficiency is purely a subjective test determined by the goal to be achieved.

Sir, I respectfully differ with our LoP. Arun Jaitleyji, I disagree with you. You should not dilute this Constitution Amendment. If you dilute this, then you are going back to the original position.

Sir, the question is 'efficiency for what' and not merely 'how efficient'. If there is a forward caste officer who performed very well in various matters but yet failed to implement welfare measures meant to protect the oppressed classes, I would consider him inefficient, while the Supreme Court may not consider him so. I would consider him as inefficient. For the past seventy years, the senior bureaucrats did not implement any Act in favour of the *Dalits*. So, they are inefficient, while the Supreme Court may not consider them so. It should be left to the political executive. These types of promotions should be left to the political executive to decide what the level of efficiency would be. That is one thing required for the country's progress.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : You are making very good points, but your time is over. I am sorry, I will have to call the next speaker.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : I am concluding, Sir.

The amendment proposed, therefore, removes this ambiguity that so far gave room to the courts to impose their concepts of efficiency and, thereby, striking down the attempts of the political executive to achieve the constitutional objective and political, social and economic emancipation of SCs and STs who have been deprived of equality for centuries.

Talking of efficiency, I would like to quote the hon. Prime Minister. The Financial Express of September 8th, 2009, said that the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, on Monday expressed shock over low conviction rate in cases of atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and said that he had written to Chief Ministers

[Shri T.K. Rangarajan]

to enforce vigorously the provision of the SCs and STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. "It is shocking that the conviction rate of cases of atrocities against SCs and STs is less than 30 per cent as against the average of 42 per cent for all cognizable offences under the IPC", Dr. Singh declared while inaugurating a conference of State Ministers of Welfare and Social Justice. He said, 'States should conduct meetings of the State and district-level Vigilance Committees regularly and pursue court cases on priority'. The Prime Minister meant that these bureaucrats and upper caste people are inefficient. They don't pursue the cases. They don't bring the culprits to book.

Therefore, I would request the Leader of the Opposition to change his mind. Let us all whole-heartedly support the constitutional Amendment. The CPI(M) supports the Amendment.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अपनी पार्टी की ओर से इस विधेयक का समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि बिहार में जो नीतीश कुमार जी के नेतृत्व में हमारी सरकार चल रही है, उसने इस रिजर्वेशन को सबसे पहले लागू किया। मुझे इस बात की भी खुशी है कि हम लोगों की जो सरकार बिहार में चल रही है, उसने न सिर्फ प्रमोशन में रिजर्वेशन का काम किया, बल्कि उसके पहले OBC में जो EBC हैं, अति पिछड़े लोग हैं, उनके लिए भी उसने आरक्षण दिया। और तो और हमें इस बात की भी खुशी है कि बिहार पहला राज्य है, जिसने महिलाओं को पंचायत के चुनावों में और नगर निगम के चुनावों में पचास प्रतिशत का आरक्षण दिया, इसलिए हमारी पार्टी wholeheartedly इस विधेयक का समर्थन करती है।

महोदय, अभी जब राम गोपाल भाई और समाजवादी पार्टी के लोग सदन का बहिर्गमन कर रहे थे तो उन लोगों ने कहा कि अस्सी परसेंट लोग इसका विरोध करते हैं। कुछ हद तक उनकी बात सही है। अभी कल-परसों हमने एक अंग्रेजी के अखबार में पढ़ा कि जो मिड-डे मील स्कूलों में मिल रही है, उसमें जो Schedules Castes के बच्चे पढ़ने के लिए जाते हैं, उसके साथ किस तरह का दुर्भाव आज के दिन भी हो रहा है। उनको अलग बैठाया जाता है, उसकी थाली में दूर से खाना डाला जाता है, यानी उनकी ऐसी हालत हो जाती है कि स्कूल जाने में उनको संकोच होता है। उनके अभिभावक उनको स्कूल भेजन से परहेज़ करने लगते हैं, लेकिन वे इस मजबूरी में उनको स्कूल भेजते हैं कि कम से कम एक समय का भोजन उनको मिल जाएगा, तो आज भी इस तरह का भेदभाव है।

महोदय, इस जाति व्यवस्था के खिलाफ तमिलनाडु का बहुत पुराना संघर्ष है। Justice Party Ramaswamy Naicker ने कितना संघर्ष किया, लेकिन आज तमिलनाडु की क्या हालत है? अभी कुछ दिन पहले एक लड़की ने दलित समाज के एक लड़के के साथ शादी की, जिसके बाद दलितों के टोले में आगजनी हुई। कितने घर जला दिए गए। हमने यह भी देखा कि वहां दलित समाज का जो टोला है, जो बस्ती है, उसके आगे दीवार खड़ी कर दी गई, आज के दिन भी ऐसी हालत है। इसलिए हमें लगता है कि अभी लम्बे समय तक Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes और OBCs को विशेष अवसर देने की जरूरत है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी मायावती जी जब बोल रही थीं, तो उन्होंने कांग्रेस पार्टी पर छींटाकशी की, जिस पर कांग्रेस पार्टी के लोग बहुत तिलमिलाए। उनका कहना था कि सबसे लम्बे समय तक आप लोगों ने देश पर राज किया है, तो क्यों ऐसी हालत हुई? इस देश में क्लास वन के 84-85 पद हैं, लेकिन आज तक कोई Scheduled Caste का आदमी उस पर काबिज़ क्यों नहीं हो पाया है, अगर इसका जवाब मायावती जी कांग्रेस पार्टी के लोगों से पूछती हैं, तो कोई गलत बात नहीं है। हर आदमी यह सवाल कर सकता है। कांग्रेस पार्टी इस मामले में कभी भी ईमानदार नहीं रही। आप देखिए, संविधान में जो प्रावधान है, उसमें “कास्ट” शब्द नहीं लिखा गया है, सिर्फ “क्लास” लिखा गया है। जब हिंदुस्तान में कास्ट एक सच्चाई है, तो “कास्ट” लिखने में आपने परहेज़ क्यों किया? उसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि आज़ादी के पहले जहां-जहां रिज़र्वेशन मिला था, चाहे कोल्हापुर में शाहूजी महाराज ने 1902 में दिया हो या मैसूर में 1928 में मिला हो Judicial Commission बनाने के बाद, आज़ादी के बाद उन सारे रिज़र्वेशन्स को अदालतों में चुनौती दी गई और वे टूटने लगे। इसलिए कि अदालत का कहना था कि संविधान में “कास्ट” तो है नहीं, “क्लास” लिखा हुआ है और आप कास्ट के आधार पर आरक्षण दे रहे हैं, इसलिए टूटना शुरू हुआ और ज़मींदारी उन्मूलन के संशोधन के बाद पहला जो संशोधन हुआ, वह रिज़र्वेशन को बचाने के लिए हुआ। यह स्थिति रही, कभी भी वे ईमानदार नहीं रहे।

महोदय, हमें तो बड़ा ताज्जुब हुआ, कांग्रेस पार्टी की उत्तर भारत में जो हालत हुई, वह हालत क्यों हुई? आप याद कीजिए, जब मंडल कमीशन लागू हुआ था, विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह सरकार में थे, उस समय कांग्रेस प्रतिपक्ष में थी और उस समय लोक सभा में प्रतिपक्ष के नेता के रूप में स्वर्गीय राजीव गांधी जी ने सवा घंटे तक आरक्षण के खिलाफ भाषण दिया था। पानी पी-पीकर उन्होंने उस आरक्षण का विरोध किया था। पिछड़ों की जो आकांक्षा थी, जो aspiration था, उस aspiration को कांग्रेस पार्टी समझ नहीं पाई और उसका नतीजा हुआ कि उत्तर भारत में कांग्रेस पार्टी को यह दिन देखना पड़ा। हमें तो आश्चर्य हुआ, हम एक प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिल लाए थे, जो कोरम के अभाव में सदन में रखा नहीं जा सका था। 1961 की एक चिट्ठी हमें मिली थी। पंडित जवाहर लाल नेहरू हर पंद्रह दिनों पर देश के हर चीफ मिनिस्टर को चिट्ठी लिखा करते थे। 1961 की वह चिट्ठी हमारे पास घर में है। नेहरू मैमोरियल लाइब्रेरी में नेहरू जी की चिट्ठियों का जो collect volume है, उसमें भी लिखा है कि वे Scheduled Castes के आरक्षण का समर्थन नहीं करते थे। उनका कहना था कि इससे मेरिट दबेगी। हमारे साथी मुणगेकरजी ने मेरिट और बाकी चीजों के बारे में जितने बढ़िया तरीके से बात रखी, उसके लिए मैं उनको बधाई देना चाहता हूँ। इस देश में जाति व्यवस्था के कारण हमें न सिर्फ अंग्रज़ों की गुलामी इतने लम्बे समय तक भोगनी पड़ी...

बल्कि आप इस देश का हजार वर्षों का इतिहास देख लीजिए, जो भी आक्रमणकारी इस देश में आया, उसके आगे इस देश ने घुटने टेकने का काम किया। इस देश की 80 परसेंट आबादी को छोटा बनाकर, यह कहकर कि तुममें मेरिट नहीं है, तुममें काबलियत नहीं है, उसके मन में हीन भावना भरी गयी और नतीजा यह हुआ कि इस देश में जो भी हमलावर आया, उसके सामने इस देश ने घुटने टेकने का काम किया। उस समय देश पर राज करने वाले लोग मेरिट वाले लोग थे, वही लोग राज चलाते थे, वही लोग पढ़ाई-लिखाई करते थे, देश की सुरक्षा और उसको आगे बढ़ाने की जवाबदेही उन्हीं लोगों की थी। तब देश की ऐसी हालत क्यों हो गयी? आज़ादी के बाद भी मेरिट वाले लोग ही देश पर शासन करते रहे, एक नम्बर की कुर्सी पर बैठे रहे। आज देश की क्या दुर्गति हो गयी कि आज़ादी के इतने वर्षों के बाद भी इस देश में आधे बच्चे कुपोषण के शिकार हैं। आज भी, संविधान में आपने जो वादा किया था, उस वादे को आप पूरा नहीं कर रहे हैं। अब तक

[श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी]

मेरिट वालों का ही राज रहा है इसलिए मेरिट का जो बहाना है, वह बिल्कुल गलत है। मैं मायावती जी से इस मामले में सहमत नहीं हूँ, पिछड़ों की आवाज़ इस देश में सबसे पहले अगर किसी ने उठायी तो उस आदमी का नाम था डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया। डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया जी ने 1956 में सोशलिस्ट पार्टी की कॉन्फ्रेंस में सबसे पहले पिछड़ों को आरक्षण देने का प्रस्ताव पारित किया और पूरे उत्तर भारत में यह नारा लगा, जिस नारे को मुणगेकर जी ने कहा कि “संसोपा ने बांधी गांठ, पिछड़ा पावे सौ में साठ।” उन्होंने यह नारा लगाया और पिछड़ों का जो उत्तर भारत में राजनीतिकरण हुआ, उसमें डा. लोहिया का योगदान रहा है। डा. लोहिया चाहते थे, अम्बेडकर साहब जब जिंदा थे, उस समय खतो-खिताबत हुआ। उनकी इच्छा थी कि जो शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं, जो ओबीसी के लोग हैं, ये मिलकर इस देश की व्यवस्था को बदलें। क्या हालत रही? जैसा मुणगेकर जी ने जगजीवन राम जी के बारे में बताया। हमें याद है कि जगजीवन राम जी ने सम्पूर्णानन्द जी की मूर्ति का अनावरण किया था और संस्कृत विद्यालय के ब्राह्मण लड़कों ने जाकर उसे धोने का काम किया था, पवित्र करने का काम किया था। तब जगजीवन बाबू ने गुस्से में बयान दिया था, अखबारों में उनका बयान छपा था कि जो दलित हैं और पिछड़े हैं, ये मिलकर ब्राह्मणवाद को उखाड़ फेंकें। उस समय हमारे नेता किशन पटनायक जिंदा थे। हम लोग पटना में थे और हम लोगों ने जब यह खबर पढ़ी तो हमें बहुत अच्छा लगा। हम लोग जगजीवन बाबू से मिलने के लिए दिल्ली आए। हम जगजीवन बाबू के घर पर उनसे मिलने के लिए गए और हम लोगों ने उनसे कहा कि आपने जो कुछ कहा है, क्या यह सोच-समझकर कहा है या ऐसे ही कहा है? तब जगजीवन बाबू ने कहा कि नहीं, हमने ऐसे ही बोला है। हम लोगों को उम्मीद थी कि जगजीवन बाबू आगे बढ़ेंगे। जो कुछ उन्होंने कहा है, उस रास्ते पर चलेंगे और हम लोग उनका पीछे से साथ देंगे। यह हालत है। कभी भी इस देश में ईमानदारी के साथ जाति व्यवस्था के बारे में लड़ाई नहीं हुई। जहां तक efficiency की बात है, हमारे साथी नेता, विरोधी दल श्री अरुण जेटली जी 335 का जिक्र कर रहे थे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Tiwari ji, you have got only one more minute.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : हम उसको नहीं समझ पाए हैं। श्री वी. नारायणसामी जी बैठे हैं, वे इसको एक्सप्लेन करेंगे। हम यह कहना चाहते हैं कि पिछड़ों और दलितों के साथ हमेशा भेदभाव हुआ है। हमारे यहाँ पटना यूनिवर्सिटी है। हमें याद है, आज से 25-30 वर्ष पहले हमारे पिताजी सोशलिस्ट पार्टी के नेता थे, बिहार की असेंबली में थे। उस समय पटना यूनिवर्सिटी में जाति के आधार पर किसी को फर्स्ट कराया जाता था और किसी को फर्स्ट क्लास फर्स्ट से फर्स्ट क्लास सेकेंड बनाया जाता था। यह सवाल असेंबली में उठा था। यह हमेशा होता रहा है कि पिछड़ों के प्रति, दलितों के प्रति जो पूर्वाग्रह है, जो दुराग्रह है, उसके कारण इम्तिहानों में नम्बर कम किए गए हैं। आज एम्स में दलितों के साथ क्या व्यवहार हो रहा है? वहां मीणा लड़के ने सुसाइड किया, उस पर थोराट कमीशन बना था। थोराट कमीशन ने जांच की और उसने जो रिक्मेंडेशंस दीं, उन पर आपकी सरकार ने कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की। आपने ठीक कहा कि कास्ट के आधार पर जो लड़के देहात से, गांव से शहर आते हैं, जिनको बड़े-बड़े स्कूलों में पढ़ने का मौका नहीं मिला, जिनकी माता-पिता की जेब में यह ताकत नहीं थी कि उनको अच्छी ट्यूशन दिला सकें ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Your time is over. Please conclude.

शिवानन्द तिवारी : सर, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। आपने सबको समय दिया था। मेरे नौ मिनट हैं और अभी नौ मिनट ही हुए हैं। मैं तीन मिनट का समय और चाहूँगा। जिनके माता-पिता में यह सामर्थ्य नहीं है कि वे अपने बच्चों को अच्छी ट्यूशन पढ़ा सकें, वे बच्चे गांव-देहात में रहते हुए, अपने मा-बाप की काम में मदद करते हुए अच्छी डिवीज़न से पास होते हैं, अच्छे नम्बर लाते हैं, देहात में उनकी मांग रहती है, वे लड़के जब रिज़र्वेशन के कोटे में मेडिकल में जाते हैं, इंजीनियरिंग में जाते हैं, आईआईटी में जाते हैं तो उनके साथ किस तरह का व्यवहार होता है? कई लड़कों ने सुसाइड किया, आत्महत्याएं कीं। ऐसे दर्जनों उदाहरण हैं। इस दिशा में आपकी सरकार ने कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की।

वोट के चलते, आप जो करना चाहें, वह करें, लेकिन ईमानदारी के साथ, समाज में जो दबे-कुचले लोग हैं, जो लोग सदियों से वंचित हैं, उनको किस तरह से मुख्य धारा में लाया जाय, उनके अंदर जो क्षमता है, उस क्षमता का इस्तेमाल कैसे देश के विकास में हो, इसकी आपने कभी योजना नहीं बनायी।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Thank you, Tiwariji.

शिवानन्द तिवारी : सर, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। आपने रंगनाथ मिश्र कमीशन बनाया। अभी मुणगेकर जी बता रहे थे कि जाति व्यवस्था की जड़ बहुत जबर्दस्त है। आज धर्म से बड़ी जाति है। आप धर्म बदल लीजिए, लेकिन आपकी जाति नहीं बदलती है। धर्म बदलकर पिछड़े दलित समाज के लोग ईसाई बने, मुसलमान बने, लेकिन वहां भी वे ईसाई और मुसलमान समाज में वैसे ही रहे। क्या कारण है कि रंगनाथ मिश्र ने मुसलमानों के बारे में कहा कि इनमें भी दलित लोग हैं, शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं, लेकिन कांग्रेस पार्टी ने आज तक उनको आरक्षण का लाभ नहीं दिया है। अगर आप सचमुच ईमानदार हैं, तो जो मुस्लिम शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं, उनको भी शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट में शामिल कीजिए, लेकिन आप तो तोल-मोल करके ही अपना सारा काम करते हैं। हमको 335 के बारे में जानकारी नहीं है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन) : थैंक्यु, थैंक्यु।

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : आप क्या संशोधन ला रहे हैं। धारा 335 में लिखा हुआ है कि आप शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के लोगों को प्रमोशन में भी आरक्षण देने के लिए रिलेक्सेशन दे सकते हैं, लेकिन इससे भी अगर कोई खतरा बनता है कि उनका ए.सी.आर. कोई ऊपर वाला हमारी जाति का होगा, वह गड़बड़ लिख देगा, उससे उसका प्रमोशन रुक जायेगा, तो ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए। हम मानकर चलते हैं कि जो गैर-दलित लोग हैं, उनके मन में दलितों के प्रति bias है, उसके चलते उनका जो ए.सी.आर. लिखा जाता है, उसमें ईमानदारी नहीं होती है, उसमें कॉस्ट bias रहता है, इसलिए ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए। आप उसे छोड़ दीजिए और ए.सी.आर. की गड़बड़ी के चलते, उसको प्रमोशन के लाभ से वंचित नहीं करना चाहिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Thank you. I have to call the next speaker now.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करते हुए, अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Sir, while speaking, the hon. Member was referring to Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of this country. He made the observation that Pt. Nehru wrote a letter to the Chief Minister and he was opposed to reservation. I am very sorry, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru was a great democrat of this country and he has been respected all over the country. He upheld that the lower caste people should be given the status. They should come equal. But he is misquoting to the House.

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : मैं चुनौती देता हूँ। मेरे पास जवाहर लाल नेहरू जी की वह चिट्ठी है, जिसमें उन्होंने शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के आरक्षण का विरोध किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं चुनौती देता हूँ, अगर वह कहते हैं, तो मैं वह चिट्ठी दिखाता हूँ। अगर मेरी बात गलत साबित होगी, तो मैं इस सदन से इस्तीफा कर दूंगा, नहीं तो आप इस्तीफा दीजिए। मैं आपको चुनौती देता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार) : यह लिखित में है। यह factual है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Okay, both views are recorded.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (West Bengal) : Sir, I rise to support the Constitution Amendment. I rise to do so mainly because this is an attempt to correct a historical injustice committed to a section of our own community. Affirmative action, Sir, is recognized everywhere in the world as a measure to correct all historical injustices. This is an affirmative action. Therefore, Sir, I rise to support it.

I have a couple of points to make. My colleagues have already mentioned many points. We have the reservation since 1950, but even today, in the higher ranks of the Government of India, at Secretary and equivalent in position in more than 80 positions are there, but only two SC/ST persons in the rank of Additional Secretary, more than 100 positions are there, but only 5 SC/ST people are there; in the rank of Joint Secretary, a little more than 250 positions are there, but only 42 SC/ST people. So, this is the result of what has happened even after reservation given at the initial stage. Reservation at initial stage did give advantage to SC/ST persons.

But because of non-reservation at other stages, this advantage became ineffective. I support the Bill to the extent that it provides for the percentage which they have to

5.00 P.M.

the total population. The will get it up to that. And not more than 22 per cent will be reserved for them in higher positions. I have a different point. The point is that we are amending sub-clause (4A) of Article 16. But clause 2 of Article 16, which lays down the general principle, says, "No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect of, any employment or office under the State." The amendment says, "(4A) Notwithstanding anything contained elsewhere in the Constitution.." But having established a general principle, how would one go away from the general principle by just saying, "Notwithstanding.."? I am afraid. Sir, even this amendment is likely to be struck down on the grounds of discrimination for having violated clause 2 of Article 16. My plea to the Government, through you, Sir, is that they should have a close look at clause 2 and see whether it is compatible with sub-clause (4A). I am making this suggestion because I want that this amendment should not be utilised as a political ploy for saying, "Yes, we have done it for you. But what can we do if the court negates it?" Therefore, we must be very careful to see that this is not negated by the court by using its appellate discretion. If you think it is okay, then I have nothing to say. My plea is that you have a serious look at clause 2 and see whether you can make both compatible, so that there is no possibility of its being struck down by a court of law. Having said that, I would say that I support this Bill only for the purpose of giving justice to the people who have been denied justice.

My last point is on merit. There is nothing called 'inherent merit'. Merit is a function of many sociological factors. A *dalit* malnourished boy, who does not get protein and calcium, will be slightly deficient in certain ways because either his brain does not function or is not developed in that way in his early years. There is no question about it. But the brain power remains the same. If he is given opportunity, he will be as good or as bad as anybody else. Sir, merit should not be taken merely as a physiological phenomenon. Merit is a product of social factors and, therefore, to correct it, you must create conditions of equality and equity among all sections of community. There is no denying that the Hindu society is a fragmented society. It is a fractured society. It is fractured in a very structured way so that nobody can move up from the lower level once the person is born in a particular caste. That is why affirmative action by the state is essential to uplift 22 per cent of our population, to bring them up with other sections of the community. If we could do so, hundred flowers will bloom and the country will flourish. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I thank the hon. Chair for having given me this opportunity to speak on this very important amendment which tries to remove the social inequality that has been persisting in our country for such a long time.

Sir, I welcome the amendment. I stand here to support the Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012.

Sir, no doubt, the reservation in promotion has been provided since 1955. But, it is unfortunate that we have not been able to give effect to it for such a long time. Amendment after amendment, we have been struggling to implement laws to eradicate the social inequality that is persisting in our society. Right from 1955, which was discontinued, and in a famous case of Indira Sawhney versus Union of India, it was struck down. Then, there was an amendment to article 16(4) and there was the 85th Amendment which provided for consequential seniority in promotion and so many other amendments like the 81st and 82nd were there, but still we are not able to implement them. Various speakers who spoke about the court cases quoted about the famous case of M. Nagaraj. The apex court, in fact, has upheld the validity of these amendments but still prescribed certain criteria which I hope the present amendment, which is brought forth by the UPA Government supported by us, will eliminate all those criteria. There are three broad categories. Firstly, the judgment speaks about the backwardness. We all know that the backwardness that has been in existence for many long years need not be quantified. That needs no proof. Second is the adequate representation. In fact, still there was backlog in filling up the reserved vacancies given to SC/ST. So, adequate representation need not be proved and it is amply evident that it is prevailing in the country. Third one is disastrous. It is the criterion of efficiency. Sir, article 17 abolishes untouchability. But, still in our country, the caste structure exists and the structure is not abolished and we are not able to demolish it. It is a social evil. Sir, I hail from a party founded by the late Thanthai Periyar who in his life time, all along, fought for the causes of social inequality.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair)

That is our basic ideology. An ardent supporter of EVR Thanthai Periyar, the late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Anna, and our octogenarian leader, Dr. Kalaignar, have been the champions of removing social evils that are persisting in our society. I come from a party which advocated inter-caste marriages to remove the social inequality. We are the forerunners. We advocated reformist marriages, removing the rituals.

Reformist marriage is the basic ideology of our party. We are the party which introduced that any person hailing from any community can become an *archaka* and do *puja* in a temple which is nowhere in the country except in Tamil Nadu. Dr. Kalaignar advocated it and made it a law that any person hailing from any community, whether lower or upper, with the prescribed qualification can become an *archaka* in a temple. We come from such a rationalistic background. Therefore, we support this amendment to remove the social inequality in our society. But still our hon. Leader of Opposition was again and again harping on the question of efficiency. Sir, I tell you the inherent contradiction that exists in our society is based on this merit which is a subjective concept. Once you take the question of merit, the inequality persists. The caste system is an evil which is the reason why the present amendment is brought forward, which takes away the merit as the criterion for giving promotion. There is another important issue which the Government has to consider. It is the 50 per cent ceiling in reservation.

It is not a basic structure of the Constitution. Even the hon. Leader of the Opposition was talking about the merit and efficiency which are not the basic structure of the Constitution. Therefore, this amendment takes care of that particular impediment which has been given in the judgement of Supreme Court. Therefore, the amendment is welcome.

We have been advocating the cause of the Backward Classes and the Most Backward Classes. The State of Tamil Nadu has provided 69 per cent reservation in total. If 50 per cent ceiling is not taken away there is an impediment in implementing such a reservation there. Therefore, on behalf of the DMK Party, I call upon the Government of India to see that the ceiling of 50 per cent reservation is removed. We will become unpopular if we limit ourselves to the reservation in promotions for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes alone. There should also be a move by the Government of India to provide reservation in promotions to the Backward Classes and the Most Backward Classes which is our basic ideology so that the inequality in the society can be removed faster. Only then all the societies can be uplifted. Therefore, my earnest appeal to the Government of India is we should not become unpopular by limiting ourselves to this reservation which should be extended to the Backward Classes and the Most Backward Classes. I support this Bill. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, I am calling Mr. D. Raja because on Monday morning he will not be available. After Mr. Raja's speech is over, we will adjourn the House for today. We will take up this Bill on Monday.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu) : Thank you very much. I thank my colleagues for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, I rise to support the Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012. In fact, I agree with my previous speakers, particularly the BSP Chief, Ms. Mayawatiji that, reservation policy needs to be protected. It should be made mandatory, it should find a place in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution as the Tamil Nadu Government did it for reservations. The time has come for the Government for extending the reservation policy to the private sector also because the Government is moving, more and more, towards implementing the projects in PPP model. There is a cap on the reservation put by the Supreme Court. The Apex Court said that it should not be more than 50 per cent. But there is a demand from Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims. As long as there is a cap on reservation, it is extremely difficult to provide reservation to Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims. This fact has to be understood; and the Government will have to think over this issue how best they can act in the interest of Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims. It is true that Dalits and Adivasis are coming up in life because of certain affirmative measures taken by the Government since the days of Dr. Ambedkar and galaxy of leaders of that period. But there is an eyesore against their development whenever there is economic empowerment and educational empowerment. There is a problem. They are being undermined. Their status is being questioned. There are instances which have taken place not only in Haryana but in Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu. These incidents have shocked the entire nation. A dalit boy has to right to fall in love with a non-dalit. It becomes an issue; and atrocities against them are on the rise.

In such a background, I think there is a need to give protection to the reservation policy and to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. It is not a small thing. Dr. Ambedkar made a comparison between Buddha and Karl Marx. It has to be taken note of why Dr. Ambedkar tried to compare Buddha and Karl Marx with each other. Two personalities lived in two different times and two different social situations. Why did Dr. Ambedkar compare Buddha and Karl Marx? All the political parties will have to take note of this.

Coming to the Bill, I have a problem with the Statement of Objects and Reasons. The hon. Minister, Shri V. Narayanasamy, should take note of it because the Statement of Objects and Reasons will stand part of the legislation. There are some incorrect positions which need to be corrected. It is wrong to say that reservation in promotion

for SCs and STs was discontinued following the judgement in the Indra Sawhney Vs. Union of India case. This is one thing. The majority judgement says, "It is further directed that wherever reservations are already provided in the matter of promotion, be it Central Services or State Services, or for that matter services under any corporation, authority or body, falling under the definition of 'State' in article 12, such reservation shall continue in operation for a period of five years from this day." This means there was no discontinuance of the constitutional provision of reservation in promotion for SCs and STs in 1992. Within the five year period mentioned in the judgement, the Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act, 1995 inserted a new clause (4A) in Article 16, which was passed by the very same Parliament. Therefore, there could not have been any question of discontinuance of reservation in promotion. Hence, the second and third sentences of that para must be corrected. The Minister should take note of it. It should be as follows, "This was continued even after the judgement in the case of Indra Sawhney Vs. Union of India, wherein it was held that it was beyond the mandate of Article 16(4) of the Constitution of India, because that judgement allowed existing reservation in promotion to continue in operation for a period of five years and within that period, the Constitution was amended by the Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act, 1995 and a new clause (4A) was inserted." This is what I want to underline.

Then para 2 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons contains a serious omission. It forgets to mention that in the case of M. Nagaraj Vs. Union of India and others, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Act, 1995 and also the related Eighty-first, Eighty-second and Eighty-fifth Constitution Amendment Acts. The Minister should take note of this omission because it will be part of the legislation. This omission needs to be rectified by inserting the following words, after the words 'M. Nagaraj Vs. Union of India and others', "upheld the Seventy-seventh Constitution Amendment Act as well as the Eighty-first, Eighty-second and Eighty-fifth Constitutional Amendment Acts and also..." That should be the proper position in the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

Sir, para 3 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons also does not give the full correct picture. For this purpose, the following sentence should be added at the end of para 3, "The aforesaid judgements of the High Courts and the Supreme Courts have not struck down the Constitutional provision of reservation in promotion for SCs and STs, which have, in fact, been upheld in the M. Nagaraj case. They have only struck down specific legislative amendments/Executive Orders of the States of Rajasthan

[Shri D. Raja]

and Uttar Pradesh providing reservation in promotion on the ground of failure of the States to provide certain data.”

Para 6 of the same Statement of Objects and Reasons, that is, the penultimate para of the SoR, also contains a serious mistake. It gives the impression that the demand is for an Amendment of the Constitution to provide, reservation for the SCs and the STs in promotions. This is not correct...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI D. RAJA : I am concluding. Sir. Therefore, the following should be added at the end of the Statement. “The Constitutional provision of reservation in promotions for the SCs and the STs, namely, clause (4A) of article 16 remains intact and has been upheld by the Supreme Court in M. Nagaraj’s case, and reservation in promotions for the SCs and the STs has been in existence continuously from 1995 to this date. Therefore, what is required is not the real amendment to the Constitution to provide reservation in promotions, but only to remove obstacles which make it difficult to reserve posts in promotions for the SCs and the STs, be it legislations or executive orders. This is my position. The Statement of Objects and Reasons must be proper because it will be a part of the legislation. All of us have the same opinion that the S.C. and the S.T. people need justice, and the Preamble of the Constitution says, “We, the people of India, will strive for justice, social, political and economic.”. The S.C. and the S.T. people have been deprived of their due place in the country’s administration. They have been deprived of their due share in the country’s wealth. Somewhere the Government will have to act firmly to protect their interests and the Constitution needs to be properly amended keeping in view the basic thrust of the Constitution. That is what Dr. Ambedkar wanted. Dr. Ambedkar, while drafting the Directive Principles of State Policy, said, “Whatever I have said in the Directive Principles of State Policy are nothing but socialism.” In the Indian context, Dr. Ambedkar proposed such a Constitution in the interests of the downtrodden and the toiling people. And. I strongly support this Constitution (Amendment) Bill, and I wish to make an appeal to all the political parties in the House that we will have to pass it unanimously in the interests of the Dalits and the Adivasis and in the interest of the nation. That is my appeal. Thank you. Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, I had earlier announced that after Shri Raja’s speech, we would adjourn. But I have requests from three Members that

they would like to speak today. Of course, there are 12 speakers more and we will have to continue it on Monday. But let me allow two or three Members more because of their requests. Anyway, the condition is that you should take five minutes

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Constitution (One Hundred Seventeenth Amendment) Bill, 2012. It is with the blessings of late Shri Balasaheb Thackeray and the able guidance of the Executive President, Shri Udhav Thackerayji, I rise to speak on this Bill and express the opinion of my party, the Shivsena.

The Father of the Indian Constitution, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, always propagated four-fold objectives, that is, securing to the people of India, justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. Dr. Ambedkar and fellow statesmen of the highest order did not rest content with evolving the instrument of change, the Constitution of India; they also pointed out the goal and methodology for reaching that goal. India, comprising different religions, communities, castes, races, languages, beliefs and practices, was a country with diverse cultures. There were historic injustices and inequalities afflicting society. These ills of the society had to be addressed by constitutional means.

The founding fathers of the Indian Constitution were aware of nation and its people's conditions infested with ignorance, illiteracy, mass poverty, and, above all social division based on caste system. Liberty, equality and fraternity, being the motto of our Constitution, the concept of justice—social, economic and political—has been added to it. Equality has been and is the single greatest craving of all human beings at all points of time and thus, the provisions to this regard and upholding equality have been made in the Constitution under article 16—equality of opportunity—in matters of public employment and under article 16 (4), reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizen, which in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under State. This reservation was available to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in promotions since long. However, with the spate of cases starting from *Indra Sawhney* and then going for *Virpal Singh Chauhan*, 77th amendment, 85th amendment, 81st and 82nd amendments which came consequently in *S. Vinod Kumar versus Union of India* where 82nd amendment was made to the Constitution whereby a provision was incorporated in Article 335 of the Constitution, enable the State to give relaxation/concession to the SC and ST candidates in the matter of promotion. On the basis of these constitutional amendments, the Supreme Court heard the *M. Nagraj versus Union of India* and others. The Supreme

[Shri Anil Desa]

Court, while ruling that 77th and 85th Constitutional amendments were constitutionally valid, but it came out with some qualifications and after the satisfaction of three conditions, *i.e.*, (1) collecting quantifiable data showing backwardness of class and inadequacy of representation of that class in public employment; (2) ensuring compliance with article 335 which says while making reservations due consideration is to be given in maintenance of efficiency of administration; and (3) ensuring that reservation provision does not cross the ceiling of 50 per cent and does not obliterate the creamy layer and that the reservation does not extend indefinitely. Sir, it can be seen from the facts and till the recent cases, of *Suraj Bhan Meena versus State of Rajasthan* and *UP Power Corporation Limited versus Rajesh Kumar and others*, that large number of writs are being filed by the 'general' category candidates in High Courts of every State to seek redressal done unto them in the promotional exercise at their workplace. Clause 4 of article 16 in the Constitution provides for reservation in appointments or posts in favour of any backward citizen at every stage of entry into the State service, *i.e.* direct recruitment. However, providing for reservation thereafter in the matter of promotion amounts to double reservation and if such a provision is made at each successful stage of promotion, it would be a case of reservation being provided that many times. In fact, providing reservation in the matter of promotion, the member of the 'reserved' category is enabled to leap frog over his compatriots, which is bound to generate acute heart burning and may well lead to inefficiency in administration. The members of the 'open category' would come to think that whatever is their record and performance, the members of 'reserved' category would instead march over them, irrespective of their performance and competence. These would generate a feeling of disheartening which kills the spirit of competition and develops a sense of disinterestedness among the members of open category, frustration creeps in which may affect the psyche and it would affect the output at work and create grave problems on the family front too. It may lead to suicides, instead of one person coming from different sources join a category or class, they must be treated alike, *i.e.*, equal. Thereafter, in all matters, including promotion, and no distinction or reservation or discrimination should be permitted on the basis of caste or creed.

Sir, it should not be so that while addressing the imbalance or inequality in the society, *i.e.* concentrating on pushing up cause of 'reserved' category, the other side of 'open' category or general category members are not put to miseries and pave the way to social divide in the society. There is no doubt that reservation at the entry level in

public employment has shown good results over the years as far as their social and economic development is concerned.

Sir, today all the Government Departments, both Central and State, and also public sector undertakings, have innumerable class-I executives from 'reserved' categories heading the Department and even captaining many State-owned companies. Constitutional provisions on reservation in appointments have borne fruits of social advancement due to the efforts of the Central Government and State Government over the years.

Shivsena Pramukh Shrimaan Bala Saheb Thackeray always ensured equality in our party and never discriminated any member of the party on the basis of religion or caste or creed. He never asked any office-bearer or leader or an ordinary worker of the party about his caste or religion. Shrimaan Bala Saheb always believed that casteism creates hatred among the people of society.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now conclude.

SHRI ANIL DESAI : (hon. Member may fill up the quotation in Marathi). That was his quote.

Sir, Shivsena Pramukh Shrimaan Bala Saheb Thackeray always advocated that reservation in employment should not be on religion or caste basis, but it should be based on economic backwardness. Hence, I would urge upon the Government of India to reconsider the views on reservation and adopt a criterion on economic backwardness which would bring about a real change in the social structure and societal fabric of India would be strengthened in order to become a super-power in the 21st Century.

Sir, with this, my party, Shivsena, opposes the 117th Amendment to the Constitution as it may not serve the cause or purpose for which it is meant for. Thank you.

SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I rise to support the Bill that ensures reservation for the SC and ST in India in promotions and express the wholehearted support of our party—AIADMK—and our beloved leader, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, for any move towards upliftment of millions of dalit brethren of our country.

I must mention, Sir, Madam Jayalalitha has successfully implemented a higher reservation of 69 per cent without any restriction on creamy layer in Tamil Nadu and

[Shri A.W. Rabi Bernard]

she supports a Constitutional Amendment providing mandatory reservation for SCs and STs in promotions, while, at the same time, leaving it to the States to determine the overall percentage of reservation and principle of creamy layer.

My reasons for supporting this Bill are as follows:

There have been several DNA studies, examining casts and tribal population of India. Several reports propose that Indian tribal and caste population samples studied have similar genetic origins. These studies imply that racial differences may not have influenced caste system. And, hence, genetically, one caste cannot claim to be more efficient and more meritorious than any other caste.

The Government of India appoints several hundreds of its officers to socially respectable, economically beneficial and culturally enriching jobs and posts in the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank, UN and its branch organizations year-after-year. If we examine the profile and caste details of all these officials who were sent abroad and posted to these institutions, we can understand and accept the reasons for the present Bill to become law. Very few SC/ST officers are sent by the Government of India to these prestigious positions. Hence, reservation in promotions and postings is an urgent need.

In our country, employers, including the Government, which is the biggest employer, frequently use caste as a cover for exploitative economic arrangement. Social sanction of their status as lesser beings allows their impoverishment to continue. By assuring and enforcing legal measures, exploitation and exclusion of a large section of our society will end and the nation will benefit ultimately.

I term the Indian caste system as hidden apartheid; it is worse than the African apartheid. We cannot stand in an international arena and talk about human rights violations elsewhere with our heads held high as many accusing fingers point to us — Indians. To ensure social equity and equal economic opportunity to all citizens of this country, strong legal measures are required and the current Bill is one such measure.

The reservation system that is in force now has benefited only a small number of *dalits*. This is partly because the system applies only to the Government sector. More generally, it is because the system has proven itself to be flawed, corrupt and lacking

full implementation as a number of positions go unfilled. The present Bill may pave the way for *dalits* to rise to the top of the ladder and ensure corrective measures to the present reservation system.

Finally, Sir, there have been talks that compelling reasons have to be put forward for ensuring this reservation. I would just like to present some data given by the International Presentation Association about the plight of *dalits* in India. One crime is committed against a *dalit* every 15 minutes in India; there are 27 atrocities against *dalits* everyday; 13 *dalits* are murdered every week in India; five *dalit* homes or possessions are burnt down or plundered every week in India; six *dalits* are kidnapped or abducted every week in India, and three *dalit* women are raped every day in India. What more compelling reasons do we need, Sir? Hence, I support this Bill, Sir.

SHRI DEVENDER T. GOUD (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, first of all, we support this Bill. When the Telugu Desham Party was in power in the State of Andhra Pradesh, we had implemented this law in the State, and even at that time there was great resistance. We had implemented it, but the Supreme Court had ultimately put a stay on it.

Sir, we have supported reservation for SCs and STs in promotions. But in the all-party meeting that the Prime Minister had convened, our leader in Lok Sabha and I had mentioned about the plight of OBCs. I wish to bring to the notice of the House that as per data given by the DoPT. amongst the Group 'A' services, their percentage is 5.5 and in Group B, it is 3.9 per cent. I would just read out Supreme Court's observation in the Nagarajan case, the operative part only, which says, "However, if they wish to exercise their discretion and make this provision, the State has to collect quantifiable data showing the backwardness of the class and inadequacy of representation of that class in public employment."

Sir, the OBCs represent 52 per cent of our population. Their representation in public employment at present is, 5.5 per cent in Group 'A' and 3.9 per cent in Group 'B' service. I request that you must bring a separate Bill for the OBCs.

Sir, when Shri Sitaram Kesari was the Minister of Welfare, he had brought the 77th Constitution Amendment Bill before the House for insertion of clause 16(4)A in June, 1995. At that time, hon. Members of Parliament, cutting across party lines, had asked the Government to also include the OBCs and to bring a comprehensive Bill covering SCs, STs and OBCs. In response to that, the then Welfare Minister, Shri Sitaram Kesari, had assured the House, saying, "We shall definitely bring a Bill in this regard."

[Shri Devender T. Goud]

Before concluding, I would like to express my thanks for accommodating me today because on Monday I want to be at my native place. I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity. With these words I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, this discussion is not concluded. We will continue the discussion on Monday. After the discussion is over, there would be voting.

Now, we shall take up Special Mentions. Whoever wants to read can read; those who would like to lay can lay it on the Table. Shri Elavarasan.

SPECIAL MENTIONS (*Contd.*)

**Demand for allocating adequate power to Tamil Nadu, specially from
Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant**

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of this House to the severe power crisis prevailing in Tamil Nadu due to the failure of the South West Monsoon and the constraints in buying power from sources outside the Southern Region due to corridor congestion. The demand and supply gap is 4000 MW. It is the highest in the Southern Region. Due to the shortage in power supply and failure of monsoon, the agricultural sector is severely affected. The Tamil Nadu Government has already taken steps for new power projects in Tamil Nadu to meet the present crisis. Our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu repeatedly requested the hon. Prime Minister that the required quantum of 1000 MW of power transmission capacity is made available to enable Tamil Nadu to receive the power contracted by the TANGEDCO. The Chairman-cum-Managing Director of TANGEDCO has requested the Ministry of Power, Government of India to reallocate the entire quantum of surrendered power by Delhi to Tamil Nadu and arrange to provide the necessary corridor on priority basis for availing of the above power. Moreover, the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant is also ready to be commissioned which will generate 1000 MW from the first unit. I appeal to the Centre, through this House, to consider the demands of our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and to allocate the entire power generated by the Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant to Tamil Nadu to tide *over* the acute power crisis in Tamil Nadu.

Demand for Declaring Hockey the National Game of Country

श्री दिलीप कुमार तिकी (ओडिशा) : उपसभापति जी, हम बचपन से ही सुनते आए हैं कि हॉकी हमारा राष्ट्रीय खेल है। भारत 8 बार ओलंपिक में गोल्ड मेडल और 3 बार ब्रॉज मेडल जीता है और हॉकी से ही अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर खेलों में हमें पहचान मिली है। भारतीय हॉकी टीम ने लगातार 6 बार ओलंपिक गोल्ड मेडल बिना एक मैच गंवाए जीता है, जो ओलंपिक के इतिहास में एक रेकॉर्ड है। इसके अलावा हॉकी एक मात्र ऐसा खेल है, जिसमें ओलंपिक में भारत की भागीदारी 2008 ओलंपिक को छोड़कर हमेशा रही है, लेकिन एक प्रेस रिपोर्ट से मुझे ताज्जुब हुआ कि लखनऊ की एक छात्रा की एक आरटीआई के जवाब में खेल मंत्रालय ने कहा है कि उसने अभी तक हॉकी या किसी अन्य खेल को राष्ट्रीय खेल घोषित नहीं किया है।

उपसभापति महोदय, यह बात बहुत अफसोसजनक है कि हॉकी का खेल, जो हमारी पहचान का हिस्सा रहा है और जिसमें हमारा शानदार इतिहास है, उसके प्रति सरकार ऐसी उपेक्षा का भाव रखती है। ओलंपिक में भारत का हॉकी में 3 बार प्रतिनिधित्व और नेतृत्व करने वाले मेरे जैसे हॉकी खिलाड़ी के लिए तो यह बात और भी ज्यादा दुखद है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि हॉकी को अविलंब राष्ट्रीय खेल घोषित किया जाए और इसकी प्रतिष्ठा तत्काल बहाल की जाए। धन्यवाद।

SHRI A. ELAVARASAN (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI RABINARAYAN MOHAPATRA (Odisha) : Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. member.

Demand to remove anomaly while fixing eligibility criteria for IIT entrance examination

SHRI C.M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, it is a dream of every student to become IITian, but it is life-and-death question for students of Andhra Pradesh and they will put in every effort to 'get into IIT. But, recent notification of HRD Ministry placed students from Andhra Pradesh at disadvantageous position.

From 2013, instead of AIEEE and IIT exam, single exam called JEE-Mains and JEE-Advance will be conducted to select students for admission into IIT. As per existing system, Government fixed 60% as eligibility criteria. Now, it is linked to percentile of marks obtained by students in +2 examination. After JEE-Advance exam, Convener will take into account marks obtained by student in -2 examination. It means, even if student gets IIT seat but has not come within the top 20 percentile marks in Board, he will not get seat.

CBSC analyzed data of +2 marks of different Boards for 2011. As per data, cut-off for A.P. students to be in top 20 percentile is 87.2%, West Bengal 58%, CBSE

[Shri C.M. Ramesh]

77.8%; Nagaland 49%; Uttar Pradesh 65%, Karnataka 67% and Madhya Pradesh 64%. It shows A.P. students have to strive hard to be in top 20 percentile as minimum percentage is much high. Due to this criterion, competition at +2 level in A.P. goes up and experts say that it may touch 92 to 95%. This puts lot of pressure on students against the objective of Government to reduce pressure on students.

Hence. I request the Government of India to conduct JEE-Mains and Advance with existing eligibility criteria and the proposed pattern be introduced once all Boards follow CBSE syllabus. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The House is adjourned till 11.00 A.M. on Friday, the 14th December, 2012.

The House then adjourned at forty-eight minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 14th December, 2012.