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No. 3



Monday,

26 November, 2012

5th Agrahayana, 1934 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT
CONTENTS

Reference by the Chair—

Fourth Anniversary of the Terrorist Attacks in Mumbai on the 26th of November, 2008 (pages 1-2)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 2-47)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 47-292)

Papers Laid on the Table (page 292)

Reports of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes- *Laid on the Table* (page 293)

Report of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests - *Presented* (page 293)

Statement by Minister—

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Twenty-seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests - *Laid on the Table* (pages 293-294)

[P.T.O.]



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Special Mentions - *Laid on the Table*

Concern over inordinate delay in disposal of cases of crores of undertrials in the country (page 294)

Demand for setting up a mechanism for proper utilization of wealth of Ashrams and temples for welfare of poor people in the country (pages 294-295)

Demand to make defamation laws more stringent (pages 295-296)

Need for giving cash benefits to women and children affected by malnutrition (page 296)

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RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 26th November, 2012/5th Agrahayana, 1934 (Saka)

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

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

Fourth anniversary of terrorist attacks in Mumbai on the 26th of November, 2008

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, the 26th of November, 2012, marks the fourth anniversary of the dastardly terrorist attack in Mumbai. Today, we recall the valiant efforts and supreme sacrifices made by our security forces who laid down their lives in the process of defending Mumbai city and the lives and property of its citizens. We also solemnly remember all those innocent citizens who lost their lives in that gruesome terror attack. The indomitable spirit of humankind cannot be subdued by such senseless acts of violence.

I am sure the whole House will join me in reiterating our firm resolve to fight terrorism with determination and rededicate ourselves to protect the sovereignty and integrity of our nation.

I would 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. 41. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, on the 7th of December, 2011, the Government had given an assurance ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we want discussion on FDI in retail. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I had given a notice ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I had given notice saying that on the 7th of December, 2011, the Government had given an assurance for suspending FDI in retail. Now, they are bringing it ...*(Interruptions)*... This is contempt of Parliament ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour. Only questions would be taken up during this time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, this is Question Hour. Please ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, this is a very important matter and the House needs to discuss it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour, please. Question No. 41. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD (Bihar): Sir, this is a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

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

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Rangarajan Committee report on sugar industry

*41. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan on sugar industry has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

The Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan on Sugar Industry has submitted its report to the Government on 5th October, 2012. The Committee has, *inter-alia*, recommended removal of the levy sugar obligation and dispensing with the regulated release mechanism on non-levy sugar; Rationalisation of sugarcane pricing; Abolition of cane area reservation system and bonding; Doing away with the minimum distance norms as States discontinue cane area reservation; liberalisation of sugar trade; market determination of prices of by-products with no earmarked end use allocations; and taking out sugar from the purview of Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Community Radio Projects

*42. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has stopped giving clearances for Community Radio Projects (CRPs);
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of applications for CRPs pending with the Wireless Planning and Coordination Department for clearance at present, State-wise;
- (d) the existing number of CRPs in operation, State-wise; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken by Government for saving this nascent industry which is already struggling for stable financial resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has been issuing permissions to Community Radio Stations (CRS) in accordance with the Policy Guidelines for setting up Community radio Stations in India. Ministry has so far issued 386 Letters of Intent to set up Community Radio Stations. Eligible Institutions can apply at any time to set up community radio stations. Permissions are granted to eligible organisations/institutions subject to the fulfillment of eligibility criteria and clearances received from concerned Ministries.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present 165 applications for setting up Community Radio Stations are pending with the Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology for clearance. State-wise details are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) At present 141 Community Radio Stations are operating in the country. State-wise details are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(e) In order to provide financial support to Community Radio Stations, the Ministry has proposed a Plan Scheme of Rs.100 Crores in the 12th Five Year Plan namely "Supporting Community Radio Movement in India". This scheme envisages providing assistance to new as well as existing CR Stations for setting up studios, purchase of equipments, building capacity, and upgrading technology *etc.* Every year about 100 new Community Radio Stations and 30 existing CRS will be supported.

Policy guidelines allow Community Radio Stations (CRS) to have advertising of 5 (Five) minutes per hour of broadcast to generate funds for operational expenses and capital expenditure of the CRS. To enable CRS to generate revenue through this mechanism, Ministry has simplified guidelines for empanelment of CRS with DAVP. At present 24 CRS are empanelled with DAVP. Ministry has enhanced the DAVP rates for advertisement on CRS from Rs.1 per second to Rs.4 per second. DAVP has so far issued release orders amounting to Rs. 52,46,946/- to empanelled Community Radio Stations for airing various advertisement spots.

Advocacy with various Ministries including Ministry of Health, Panchayati Raj, Consumer Affairs and the Ministry of Women and Child Development *etc.* is also being done, so that they could involve Community Radio Stations for their communication campaigns.

Statement-I

Details of the applications for CRPs pending for clearance

Sl.No.	State	No. of cases pending for identifying availability of frequencies	No. of cases rejected earlier due to non availability of frequencies	Total No. of cases
1	2	3	4	5
1	West Bengal	4	2	6
2	Andhra Pradesh	4	1	5

1	2	3	4	5
3	Tamil Nadu	5	15	20
4	Madhya Pradesh	4	3	7
5	Orissa	19	14	33
6	Assam	1	3	4
7	Bihar	5	5	10
8	Gujarat	3	0	3
9	Kerala	1	4	5
10	Karnatka	5	3	8
11	Punjab	1	2	3
12	Haryana	4	1	5
13	Rajasthan	7	2	9
14	Chandigargh	6	2	8
15	Maharashtra	10	2	12
16	Uttar Pradesh	12	2	14
17	Manipur	2	0	2
18	Jharkhand	2	0	2
19	Meghalaya	1	0	1
20	New Delhi	4	0	4
21	Nagaland	1	0	1
22	Sikkim	1	0	1
23	Jammu and Kashmir	1	0	1
24	Uttarakhand	0	1	1
TOTAL		103	62	165

Statement-II*State-wise number of Community Radio Stations operating at present*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of Operationalised Community Radio Stations
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	2
3.	Bihar	4
4.	Chandigarh	2
5.	Chhattisgarh	2
6.	Delhi	6
7.	Gujarat	5
8.	Haryana	7
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
11.	Jharkhand	1
12.	Karnataka	11
13.	Kerala	6
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8
15.	Maharashtra	16
16.	Orissa	5
17.	Pondicherry	3
18.	Punjab	2
19.	Rajasthan	6

1	2	3
20.	Tamil Nadu	22
21.	Uttar Pradesh	16
22.	Uttarakhand	5
23.	West Bengal	2
GRAND TOTAL		141

Use of solar power for water pumping

*43. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is large scope of using solar power for water pumping by farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of Government's plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) and set a target of 2000 MWp equivalent of Off-grid solar applications including solar water pumping systems by 2022. Government approved the first phase of the JNNSM up to March, 2013 with a target of 200 MWp equivalent of off-grid solar applications. Under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of JNNSM, the Ministry provides a capital subsidy of 30% of the benchmark cost of solar water pumping system having module capacity up to 5kWp, limited to Rs.57/- per watt peak, to individual farmers for irrigation and other uses in the country. Under the Scheme, the Ministry has sanctioned 5323 solar water pumping systems in different states.

Construction of storage facilities

*44. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to construct more storage facilities to reduce wastage of foodgrains; and

(b) the details of the new storage facilities constructed during the past one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Foodgrains are not allowed to be wasted for want of storage facilities. Due to the increased procurement of foodgrains, the Government has formulated the Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of covered storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Under the PEG Scheme, FCI gives guarantee for the storage charges to the private investors for 10 years. A capacity of 181.08 lakh MTs has been approved for construction of godowns in 19 States under PEG Scheme which includes 20 lakh MTs of storage capacity for silos. Besides the PEG Scheme, there is a Plan scheme for creation of total additional storage capacity of 5.40 lakh MTs in the North Eastern States through FCI under which during Eleventh Five Year Plan some other deficit States have also been covered. The FCI has also finalised a scheme for hiring of private godowns through open tenders for one year extendable for another one year, to take care of the short term hiring needs.

Under the PEG Scheme a cumulative capacity of 31.56 lakh tonne has been constructed till 31.10.2012, including the capacity constructed under the scheme in 2011-12. Under the Plan scheme, a capacity of 11255 MTs has been constructed in the year 2011-12 and a capacity of 4570 MTs in the year 2012-13 (upto 31.10.2012). The details are given in Statement.

Statement

*The capacity created during the 2011-12 and 2012-13
(upto 31.10.2012) under Plan Scheme and PEG scheme*

(i) Plan Scheme

Name of State/Centre	Capacity created in MTs	
	2011-12	2012-13 (Position as on 31.10.12)
1	2	3
A. Manipur		
(i) Jiribam	1250	1250
(ii) Senapati	3340	1660

1	2	3
B. Himachal Pradesh		
(i) Gujjar Kala Talab (Noorpur)	3340	1660
C. Lakshadweep/UT	2500	-
D. Jharkhand		
(i) Gumla	825	-
TOTAL	11255	4570

(ii) Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme

Name of State	Capacity created in MTs upto 31.10.2012
(i) Andhra Pradesh	157100
(ii) Bihar	20000
(iii) Chhattisgarh	87350
(iv) Gujarat	4800
(v) Haryana	639950
(vi) Himachal Pradesh	2500
(vii) Jammu and Kashmir	10000
(viii) Karnataka	94770
(ix) Madhya Pradesh	66800
(x) Maharashtra	219140
(xi) Odisha	155600
(xii) Punjab	1493858
(xiii) Rajasthan	35070
(xiv) Tamil Nadu	60000
(xv) Uttar Pradesh	97000
(xvi) West Bengal	11600
TOTAL	3155538

Fuel supply agreement

*45. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's Office has directed the Coal India Limited (CIL) to sign fuel supply agreements with power companies even if they do not have long term power purchase agreements with distribution utilities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Coal had asked Coal India Ltd. (CIL) on 17.2.2012 to sign Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs) for a total capacity of 60,000 MW with the identified power project developers, whose projects have been commissioned/are likely to be commissioned after 1.4.2009 and on or before 31.3.2015, for full quantity of coal mentioned in the Letters of Assurance(LoAs), with trigger level of 80% for levy of disincentive and 90% for levy of incentive, subject to the developers having entered into long term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with State DISCOMs. The Association of Power Producers however brought out difficulties regarding immediate availability of long term PPAs with the project developers. The matter was further deliberated and in a meeting held in the Prime Minister's Office on 5.3.2012, it was *inter-alia* decided that in case of power plants which were yet to be commissioned, FSAs will be signed but supply of coal will commence only after signing of long term PPAs and the quantity of coal supplied will be restricted to the quantity required for generating electricity as per the PPAs. This decision was also noted in the meeting held in the Prime Minister's Office on 10.10.2012.

The decision to sign FSAs with the power plants without waiting for long term PPAs has been taken to expedite the process of signing of FSAs with the power utilities so that both the CIL and the power project developers are enabled to make adequate preparations/arrangements for uninterrupted supply of coal at the appropriate time, once the PPAs are in place.

Irregularities in awarding of offshore mining licences

*46. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious irregularities have been reported in awarding of offshore mining licences to explore minerals in the sea bed of Bay of Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has inquired into the matter and has fixed responsibility in this regard against the guilty;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (e) A total of 63 mineral bearing blocks have been notified *vide* notification dated 7.6.2010 in the offshore areas, out of which 37 blocks were falling under Arabian Sea and 26 blocks in Bay of Bengal. Out of the total of 377 applications received against the said notification from 53 applicants, orders for grant of exploration licences were issued to 16 applicants for 62 blocks on 5.4.2011. However, till date no exploration licence has been executed as the matter is *sub-judice* in High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Madras and Bombay (Nagpur Bench).

Separately the Central Bureau of Investigation has initiated a preliminary enquiry in the alleged irregularities in grant of offshore Exploration Licences.

Export of illegal iron ore in Karnataka

†*47. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of illegal mining as well as export of 35 lakh metric tonnes of iron ore by private sector companies in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the names of such companies and the countries where this export has been made;

(c) the action taken against the guilty companies by Government;

(d) whether Government's permission is not required for the export of iron ore; and

(e) whether Government would impose a blanket ban on the export of iron ore, in view of future requirements of the country?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) As per available information, Forest Department, State Government of Karnataka had seized about 8.06 lakh metric tonnes of ore without valid permits from Belikere Port. As per observations of the Supreme Court on the basis of Report of Central Empowered Committee, there is an illegal extraction of about 50.79 lakh tonnes of iron ore from forest areas of Karnataka during the period from 1.1.2009 till 31.5.2010.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Supreme Court *vide* its order dated 7th September, 2012 has directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to investigate in the matter.

(d) and (e) Export of minerals, including iron ore is guided by Export-Import Policy. At present, the export of iron ore is regulated by fiscal measures and an export duty of 30% on *ad-valorem* basis is levied on all iron ore exports. As on date the Ministry of Mines does not have any proposal to impose a blanket ban on the export of iron ore.

Cancellation of coal blocks

*48. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has cancelled the coal blocks allocated during the period from 2004 to 2009 in the months of September, October and November, 2012;

(b) if so, the details therefor; and

(c) the reasons for cancellation of these coal blocks, coal block-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The details of coal blocks allocated during the period from 2004 to 2009 which have been de-allocated in 2012 and the reasons thereof are given below:

Sl. No.	Name of coal block	Name of company(s)	End Use	Reasons
1	2	3	4	5
1	Lalgarh North	Domco Private Limited	Pig Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block
2	North Dhadu	Electrosteel Castings Limited, Pawanjay Steel & Power Limited, Jharkhand Ispat Pvt. Ltd., Adhunik Alloys and Power Ltd.	Sponge Iron/ Captive Power Plant	No substantial progress in development of coal block
3	New Patrapara	Bhushan Steel Limited, Adhunik Metaliks Ltd., Deepak Steel & Power Ltd., Adhunik Corporation Ltd., Orissa Sponge	Sponge Iron/ Captive Power Plant	No substantial progress in development of coal block

1	2	3	4	5
		Iron Ltd., SMC Power Generation Ltd., Sree Metaliks Ltd. Visa Steel Ltd.		
4	Choritand Tailaya	Rungta Mines Limited, Sunflag Iron & Steel Ltd.	Sponge Iron/ Sponge Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block
5	Macherkunda	Bihar Sponge Iron Limited	Sponge Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block
6	Gondkhari	Maharashtra Seamless Ltd., Dhariwal Infrastructure (P) Ltd., Kesoram Industries Ltd.	Sponge Iron/ Sponge Iron/ Cement	No substantial progress in development of coal block
7	Bhaskarpara	Electrotherm (India) Limited, Grasim Industries Ltd.	Sponge Iron/ Cement	No substantial progress in development of coal block
8	Dahegaon Makardhokra IV	1ST Steel & Power, Gujarat Ambuja Cements Ltd., Lafarge India Pvt. Ltd.	Steel & Sponge Iron/ Cement/ Cement	No substantial progress in development of coal block
9	Gourangdih ABC	Himachal EMTA Power Ltd., JSW	Power/Power	No substantial progress in development of coal block
10	Rawanwara North	SKS Ispat & Power Limited	Sponge Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block

Further, on the basis of the recommendations of the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG), the competent authority has decided to de-allocate 10 more coal blocks. The issue of order in this regard is under process.

Advertisements about food and other items

*49. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made a study of the false or misleading claims about food and other items made through television and print advertisements by certain companies;

(b) if so, the names of such companies and products identified by Government, so far;

(c) the notices sent and prosecutions initiated so far; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been mandated to ensure food safety in the country under the Food Safety and Standards (FSS) Act, 2006, Food Safety Rules 2011 and Food Safety and Regulations 2011.

FSSAI has issued notices in 38 cases of false/dubious claims or misguiding advertisements on food items with respect to Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Food Safety and Standards (Packaging and Labeling) Regulations, 2011. Out of this, prosecution has been initiated in 19 cases as per provisions of FSS Act, 2006. The details of the cases where prosecution has been initiated and their present status are given in Statement-I (*See below*). The details of the cases where only notices have been issued are at Annexure. [*See Appendix 227 Annexure No.1*]

Some other instances of misleading advertisements on private satellite/cable television channels have come to the notice of this Ministry *i.e.*, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. These matters were placed before the Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) for consideration under Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, for violation of the Advertising Code under Rule 7(5) of the Cable Television Networks Rules 1994. A list of such cases where final action has been taken is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

In respect of advertisements in print media, the Press Council of India (PCI) has formed Norms of Journalistic Conduct, of which Norm 36 relating to advertisements should be adhered to by media while accepting advertisements. The PCI has not received any specific complaint against misleading advertisement of food products in print media. However, a list of complaints received by PCI against misleading advertisements of other items along with the action taken thereon as on 20th August 2012 is given in Statement-III.

Statement-I

The details of cases of violation of section 24 of FSS act, 2006 and FSS (packing and labeling) Regulation, 2011, where prosecution has been initiated:

Sl. No.	Name of the product	Name and Address of the producer	Details of violations for which prosecution cases are filed under Section 53 of FSS Act, 2006:	Designated Officer of FSSAI	Present status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Complan	Heinz India Pvt Ltd. 7th Floor, D Shiv Sagar, Dr. Annie Basant Road, Worli, Mumbai 400018	The claim on the advertisement of the product that one can grow two times after taking Complan is misleading and violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006.	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012
2.	Complan Memory	Heinz India Pvt Ltd. 7th Floor, D Shiv Sagar, Dr. Annie Basant Road, Worli, Mumbai 400018	The declaration, viz; (i) Complan with Memory chargers, (ii) 5 Brain chargers, (iii) helps to improve memory are	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012

1	2	3	4	5	6
			misleading and violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006. The product label shows the pictures of students with books which will mislead the public that after taking this health drink they will become good in studies.		
3.	Boost	Glaxo Smithkline Consumer Healthcare ltd. DLF Plaza Tower, DLF Phase 1, Gurgaon, Haryana	The claim that 'Boost provides 3 times more stamina than sadharan chocolate drink' is misleading and violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006. The producer has not submitted any specific study on this product to substantiate their claims.	Chandigarh	Case was filed on 13.07.2012 before ADC Gurgaon. ADC office informed DO that the case is under process
4.	Horlicks	Glaxo Smithkline Consumer Healthcare Ltd., DLF Plaza Tower,	The claim on the advertisement of that after taking Horlicks, children become 'taller, stronger,	Chandigarh	Case was filed on 13.07.2012 before ADC Gurgaon. ADC office

		DLF Phase 1, Gurgaon, Haryana	sharper' which is misleading and deceptive in nature. It violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006.		informed DO that the case is under process.
5.	Emami-Healthy and Tasty Soyabean Oil	Emami Biotech Limited, Emami Tower, 687, Anandapur, E.M Bypass, Kolkata-700107.	The label contains a logo/ picture in which it is written 7 stage european refining technology,'Suraksha Shakti' which are violating Clause 2.3.1.5. of FSS (Packing and Labeling) Regulations, 2011	Kolkata	Prosecution already done. Hearing completed. Affidavit filed. Decision not yet received. (As on 08-11-2012)
6.	Saffola	Marico Ltd. 'Rang Sharda', Krishnachandra Marg, Bandra Reclamation, Bandra (W), Mumbai- 400050 India.	The use of heart symbol and the claim 'the heart of a healthy family'; Saffola encourages you and your family to take care of your heart by using less oil and low saturated fat diet, and 'use of word losorb technology' etc. on the advertisement are misleading in nature.	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Engine Mustard Oil	M/s Hari Vegetable Products Ltd. Bharatpur, Rajasthan.	Claims like 'health and vigour' and 'cholesterol 0g' on the advertisement are misleading in nature.	Delhi	Case was filed on 18.07.2012. Hearing yet to start (As on 09-11-2012).
8.	Nutri Charge Men	Trophic Wellness Pvt. Ltd, 142-AB, Kandivli Industrial Estate, Kandivali West, Mumbai -400067	The claims like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance your energy, stamina and immunity with smart nutrition. • Smart nutrition means nutricharge • Powered by 10 vitamins, 11 minerals, 11 antioxidants and 3 amino acids • Heart and brain health are misleading and deceptive in nature. 	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012
9.	Kellogs Special K	Kellogs India, 2 & 3-L, MIDC District, Raigad, Talaja, Mumbai Maharashtra,	The claim that 'research shows that people, who eat low fat breakfast like Kellogg's Special K, tend to be slimmer than those who don't' is misleading and deceptive in nature.	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012

10.	Britannia Nutri Choice Biscuits	Britannia Indust. Ltd., 5/1/A Hungerford Street, Kolkata-700 017 West Bengal	The claims on advertisements like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No added sugar • Complex carbohydrates • Diabetic friendly are misleading ad violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006. 	Kolkata	Prosecution letter issued to AO, Kolkata on 07-11-2012.
11.	Kellogs Extra Museli	Kellogs India, 2 & 3-L, MIDC District, Raigad, Talaja, Mumbai, Maharashtra	The label of the said product appeared as if it contains a number of fruits. This type of labels is misleading, which gives an idea that the said product contains so many fruits.	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012
12.	Bournvita Little Champs	Cadbury India Limited, 19, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Mumbai-400026	The Producer has claimed presence of DHA in their product and its benefits which are not proved. This is deceptive in nature.	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Today Premium Tea	Today Tea Limited 409-12,4th Floor Roots Tower, District Centre Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092	The claims by the Producer in newspaper ad shows the following which are misleading as per Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% natural • Rich in antioxidants • Thakawat hataye chusti laye 	Delhi	Case filed on 11.07.2012. Hearing yet to start (As on 09-11-2012)
14.	Pediasure	Abbott India Limited 3-4, Corporate Park, Sion-Trombay Road Mumbai	The claim on the product label and advertisement is 'Helps in child's growth and development', which is misleading as per Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006 and FSS (Packaging and labeling) Regulation, 2011.	Mumbai	Case was filed on 6.07.2012
15.	Real Active Fibre+	Dabur India Ltd. Kaushambi Ghaziabad-201010 Uttar Pradesh, India	Advertisements of the said product shows the following which are misleading. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snack healthy • Manages weight and keeps you fit • Keeps digestive system healthy • Maintains heart health 	Lucknow	Case filed on 09.07.2012. Next hearing on 23-11-2012 (As on 09-11-2012)

- | | | | | | |
|-----|------------------------|--|--|---------|---------------------------------|
| 16. | Nutrilite | Amway India Enterprises Claims like:
Pvt. Ltd. 9th Floor,
Tower A&B, Express
Trade Towers 1 Plot No.
15-16, Sector - 16A,
Noida-201301 (Uttar
Pradesh) | "if you are not taking a truly
adequate and well balanced
diet the nutrilitte daily may
be convenient once a day
choice for supplemental
nutrients you have been
looking for""Each tablet
supplies 13 vitamins,
11 minerals and phytofactors
plant compound from nutrilitte's
exclusive plant concentrate.
Nutrilite exclusive nutria lock
makes tablet easier to swallow"
are misleading and deceptive
in nature. | Lucknow | Case was filed on
18.07.2012 |
| 17. | Kissan Cream
Spread | Hindustan Unilever
Limited, Unilever House,
B. D. Sawant Marg,
Chakala, Andheri (E),
Mumbai - 400 099. | Advertisement shows the claim
that 'Kissan creamy spread
contains 3 times more essential
nutrients than sadharan butter'.
This statement is misleading. | Mumbai | Case was filed on
6.07.2012 |

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Rajadhani besan	Rajdhani Flour Mills Ltd. (Delhi), Rajdhani Besan, 5596, Lahori Gate, Delhi-110006	Newspaper advertisement has a heart logo and slogan 'karlo dil se dosti' which are misleading as per Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006	Delhi	Case was filed on 12.07.2012. Next hearing on 16-11-2012 (As on 09-11-2012)
19.	Britannia Vita Marie	Britannia Industries Ltd., 5/1/A Hungerford Street, Kolkata-700 017 West Bengal	Claims like: • Heart friendly • Helps reduce cholesterol are misleading as per section 24 of FSS Act, 2006.	Kolkata	Prosecution letter issued to AO, Kolkata on 07-11-2012.

Statement-II

The cases of misleading advertisements on private satellite TV channels where final action has been taken.

Sl. No.	Advertisements	Action Taken
1	2	3
1.	Advertisement of serious diseases claiming to have special/miraculous cure	A Warning was issued to IBN7 TV channel on 16.4.2010.
2.	Advertisements of products having special or miraculous or supernatural cure	An Advisory dated 13.5.2010 was issued to all the channels.

3. Petition was received from Shri Saurabh Joshi complaining against telecast of alleged misleading advertisements of the products like 'Badha Mukti Yantra', 'Dhan Laxmi Yantra', etc. on TV channels claiming to release oneself from bad spell or give success in life, etc.
4. Telecast of alleged misleading advertisements of (i) Gymnedine as remedy for diabetes and (ii) Power Prash as remedy for sexual impotency on TV channels.

The complaint was referred to Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) for their views. ASCI, *vide* its letters dated 11.10.2011, upheld the complaint against following advertisements:

- i. Divyarishi's Kuber Kunji
- ii. Badha Mukti Yantra,
- iii. Shani Shubh Yantra,
- iv. Sai Darshan Pendant
- v. Maha Dhan Laxmi Yantra

Representative bodies of the broadcasters namely Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) and News Broadcasters Association (NBA) were called upon, *vide* letter dated 17.11.2011, to advise their channels not to carry these advertisements as also similar advertisements which are not in accordance with Rule 7(5) of the Advertising Code.

ASCI intimated *vide* its letter dated 16.12.2011 and 23.1.2012 that the complaints against these advertisements were upheld. Representative bodies of the broadcasters namely Indian Broadcasting Foundation and News Broadcasters Association were called upon, *vide* letter dated 12.3.2012, to advise their channels not to carry these advertisements as also similar advertisements which are not in accordance with Rule 7(5) of the Advertising Code.

1	2	3
5.	Telecast of Advertorial 'Third Eye of Nirmal Baba' on TV channels.	The matter was referred to IBF and NBA. They advised their member channels to stop the programmes relating to Nirmal Baba. IBF and NBA also confirmed that their member channels have stopped the telecast of the programme relating to Nirmal Baba.
6.	Petition from Shri V. Lal against an alleged misleading advertisement of Garnier Fructus Shampoo.	The complaint was referred to Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) for their views. The complaint was not upheld by ASCI.

Statement-III

The details of action taken for showing misleading advertisements in Print Media during last three years and current year (as on 20.08.2012)

A. Misleading Advertisements in Print Media - for the years 2009 -2010

Sl. No.	Complainant	Respondent	Subject	Action Taken/Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Shri Sukh Dev Singh, Pankaj House, Charan Singh Nagar, Sikar (Rajasthan).	The Editor, Rajasthan Patrika, Kesargarh, Nehru Marg, Jaipur	Publication of misleading/ objectionable advertisements for commercial gain	The Council rendered its decision on 30.7.2010. It, keeping in view the statement of respondent newspaper,

				opined that no further action was warranted in the matter.
2.	Shri Rajendra Prasad Tiwari, Village- Jamuniyan, Post-Hirdennagar, Mandala	The Editor, Nai Duniya	Publication of misleading advertisement	Matter has been treated as closed for being outside jurisdiction of the Council.
3.	Shri Kush Kalara, Standard Batteries, Shop No.2, Ambala Road, Near Darpan Cinema, Saharanpur (UP)	The Editor, Hindustan Times,	Publication of false advertisements	Closed for lack of sufficient ground for inquiry.
4-5.	Shri Khushal Singh, 426, IVth Floor, Ganpati Plaza, M.I. Road, Jaipur	The Editor, Rajasthan Patrika	Publication of fake advertisements	Closed for non-pursuance

B. Misleading Advertisements in Print Media-2010-2011

1..	Dr. Gautam, Indore (M.P).	Raj Express, Dainik haskaer, Nai Duniya & Patrika.	Publication of Misleading Advertisement	Counter comments has been received on 7.10.2010.
2.	Shri Iqbal Singh, Punjab.	Media.	- do-	Requirement letter has been sent on 15.04.2011

1	2	3	4	5
C Misleading Advertisements in Print Media - 2011-2012				
1.	Shri Sumit Kumar Ray, Shakti Nagar Bhopal,	Print Media	Regarding Publication of Misleading Advertisement.	Closed for Non-pursuance.
2.	Shri Ramdev; Vishunpur, Chaparan	Prabhat Khabar	Regarding Publication of Misleading Advertisement.	Under process
3.	Shri V. Raju	Dinakaran.	Regarding publication of advertisement.	Closed for non-pursuance
4.	Md. Zahid, Dehleer Woman and Children Welfare Society, Jafrabad, Delhi- 53	Rajnama, Rashtriya Sahara	Regarding publication of false and misleading advertisement	Closed for non-pursuance
5.	Shri Zameer, 1110 Mohalla Kishan Ganj, Teliwara, Delhi-06	The Editor, Daily Rashtriya Sahara	Regarding of Publication of Malicious a defamatory Advertisement	Under Process
6.	Shri V.K.Thakkar, President of 'V' Care Right & Duty NGO, Keval Karodia Road, P.O.- Bajwa-391310	Media	Regarding Publication of Misleading Advertisement.	Requirement sent

7.	District Information Public Relation Inspector, Zgahar.	Media	Regarding of Publication of false Advertisement	Under Process
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D. Misleading Advertisements in Print Media - 2012-2013

Sl. No.	Complainant	Respondent	Subject	Action Taken/Status
1.	Shri Madhuuranthakam Prabhaka Rao, Kukatpally, Hyderabad-72.	The Hindu	Misleading advertisement and editorial regarding Mortien Nature Guard	Under Process
2.	Office Secretary, Consumers India, E-7/16, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi	Delhi Times	Publication of Misleading Advertisement	Under process
3.	Shri A. Ahmed Sonali, Padir Hati, Kolkata-66 (W.B.)	Tathya Kendra	Publication of Misleading Advertisement	Under process

Irrigation projects in Maharashtra

*50. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of spillover irrigation projects of Maharashtra approved and fully or partly funded by the Central Government along with the details of their initial costs and present cost overrun, Five Year Plan-wise;

(b) the reasons for non-completion of each of these irrigation projects of the State; and

(c) the remedial measures Government proposes to take to ensure that these irrigation projects of the State are completed within a time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) 64 No. of Major/Medium Irrigation (MM1) projects of Maharashtra have been provided Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) of Government of India. Presently, 28 projects of Maharashtra are under AIBP, and their latest estimated cost, cost overrun is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Out of the above 28 ongoing projects, 18 projects are delayed. The reasons for non-completion/delay for the projects of Maharashtra are given in Statement-II (*See below*). The delay is mainly due to Non Acquisition of Land required for construction of the project.

(c) Irrigation being a State subject, the irrigation projects are planned, executed and maintained by State Governments from their own resources and as per their priorities. The Union Government provides CA under AIBP to the States as per guidelines for completion of ongoing projects.

Review meetings are held by Central Water Commission (CWC) /Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) with the State Governments to review the physical and financial progress of the projects funded under AIBP. The Monitoring of projects is also conducted by the field offices of CWC to assess the physical and financial progress of the projects and suggestions are given to the State Governments to expedite the completion of the projects. The proposals/suggestions of State Governments are also considered to review the AIBP programme from time to time. The inter-departmental matters such as construction of railway crossings, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) crossings etc are expedited by persuasion. The web based Financial Reporting and Monitoring is proposed in the Twelfth Plan.

Statement-I

Details of the projects of Maharashtra under AIBP alongwith their latest estimated cost and cost overrun

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/Project Name	Year of Inclusion in AIBP	Estimated Cost of AIBP Component at the time of inclusion	Latest Estimated Cost of AIBP Components	% Cost over run
1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra					
1	Gosikhurd	1996-97	461.19	7111.518	1441.993
2	Waghur	1996-97	12.28	1155.28	9307.818
3	Upper Manar	2002-03	26.180	338.242	1191.986
4	Upper Penganga	2004-05	105.950	1511.82	1326.918
5	Lower Dudhna	2005-06	311.970	811.84	160.2302
6	Warna	2005-06	375.000	585	56
7	Punad	2006-07	73.700	161.42	119.0231
8	Lower Wardha	2006-07	323.290	907.096	180.5828
9	Khadakpurna	2006-07	345.390	693.37	100.7499
10	Dongargaon Tank	2005-06	11.180	31.29	179.8748
11	Gul	2005-06	31.610	56.07	77.38058
12	Bembla	2007-08	627.860	1197.83	90.77979
13	Uttermand	2007-08	32.970	32.97	0
14	Sangola Branch Canal	2007-08	183.240	183.24	0
15	Tarali	2007-08	363.270	481.66	32.59008
16	Dhom Balakwadi	2007-08	307.960	451.93	46.74958

1	2	3	4	5	6
17	Morna (Gureghar)	2007-08	68.900	68.9	0
18	Arjuna	2007-08	119.450	259.769	117.4709
19	Lower Pedhi	2008-09	255.970	255.97	0
20	Upper Kundalika	2008-09	45.740	163.735	257.969
21	Wang Project	2008-09	74.660	74.66	0
22	Lower Panzara	2009-10	132.440	132.44	0
23	Aruna	2009-10	210.450	210.45	0
24	Krishna Koyana Lift	2009-10	973.620	973.62	0
25	Naradave	2009-10	211.450	211.46	0.004729
26	Gadnadi	2009-10	139.810	395.17	182.6479
27	Kudali	2009-10	77.000	77	0
28	Nandur Madhmeshwar Ph-II	2009-10	195.410	195.41	0

In addition, the following two projects are inter-state projects

Bawanthadi*	2004-05	113.390	678.81	498.6507
Tillari (Maharashtra Portion)**	2005-06	245.560	409.922	66.93354

* Bawanthadi Inter-State Project with Madhya Pradesh, **Tillari Inter-State Project with Goa

Statement-II

Reasons for non-completion/delay for the ongoing projects of Maharashtra

Sl. No.	State/Project Name	Year of Inclusion in AIBP	Reasons of Delay
1	2	3	4
1.	Gosikhurd	1996-97	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project

1	2	3	4
2.	Waghur (Works)	1996-97	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
3.	Upper Manar(W)	2002-03	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
4.	Upper Penganga	2004-05	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project, agitation of Project Affected Persons (PAP) & delay in construction of railway/ State Highway crossings.
5.	Lower Dudhna (W)	2005-06	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project & agitation of PAP
6.	Warna	2005-06	Non release of funds by State Government in time and non-submission of proposal for release of funds in time
7.	Punad	2006-07	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
8.	Lower Wardha (W)	2006-07	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
9.	Khadakpurna(W)	2006-07	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project

1	2	3	4
10.	Dongargaon Tank	2005-06	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
11.	Gul	2005-06	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
12.	Bembla	2007-08	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
13.	Uttermand	2007-08	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
14.	Sangola Branch Canal	2007-08	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
15.	Tarali	2007-08	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project
16.	Dhom Balakwadi	2007-08	Non release of funds by State Government in time and non-submission of proposal for release of funds in time
17.	Morna (Gureghar)	2007-08	Non release of funds by State Government in time and non-submission of proposal for release of funds in time
18.	Arjuna	2007-08	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project

1

2

3

4

In addition, the following two projects are inter-state projects

Bawanthadi*	2004-05	For want of forest land from the States of Maharashtra & M.P
Tillari (Maharashtra Portion) (W)**	2005-06	State Government is yet to acquire the land for balance works of the project, delay in construction of canal net work, shortage of construction materials non closure of canal due to supply of drinking water and for irrigation to Goa population.

* Bawanthadi Inter-State Project with Madhya Pradesh,

** Tilliari Inter-State Project with Goa

Rehabilitation and employment of persons of minority community released from jails

†51*. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for rehabilitation and employment of persons belonging to minority community who are acquitted by court honourably after remaining in the jail for a long period; and

(b) if not, whether any such scheme is under Government's consideration?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Solar power equipped Government buildings

*52. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government buildings have been brought under solar power, if so, the number thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) how much power is used in Government offices in the country and how much charges are paid therefor; and

(c) how much money would be spent if all the Government offices are brought under the solar power system?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Standalone and Decentralised SPV power plants aggregating to 27.945 MWp capacity have been installed at various places including Central and State Government buildings such as hospitals, tribal hostels, colleges, universities, academic institutions, jails, guest houses, police stations, panchayat buildings, paramilitary forces establishments, army establishments, railways, etc. Under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, the Ministry provides a subsidy of 30% of the project cost limited to Rs.81/- per watt peak (with battery storage) and Rs.57/- per watt peak (without battery storage) for installation of standalone SPV power plants having module capacity upto 100 kWp on various buildings including Central and State Government buildings in General Category States. For Special Category States such as North Eastern States, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, UT Islands and districts with international border, a subsidy of 90% of the project cost limited to Rs.243/- per watt peak (with battery storage) and Rs.171/- per watt peak (without battery storage) is available for installation of Standalone SPV power plants upto 100 kWp unit capacity by Central and State Government Ministries, Departments and their organisations, State Nodal Agencies and local bodies.

(b) Power consumption in Government offices in the country varies from month to month and such information is not maintained centrally.

(c) The benchmark cost for installation of a 100 kWp SPV power plant is approximately Rs.2.70 crore with battery storage and approximately Rs. 1.90 crore without battery storage facility. Therefore, the total amount required will depend on the hours of storage. As a rough estimate for a large office with a load of 1MW, and taking storage into account, around Rs.27 crore would be an one time investment. Thereafter expenditure would be incurred for battery replacement after five years. Day time usage, without battery storage and net metering is however recommended for offices. Total cost estimate for all the offices in the country is not

possible as total requirement for all the offices in the country is not centrally available.

Vacant Posts in High Courts

*53. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in High Courts, State-wise; and

(b) the steps Government is taking to expedite the filling up of the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Details of approved strength, working strength and vacancies thereof as on 01.11.2012 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of the Supreme Court rests with Chief Justice of India and for the appointment of a Judge of the High Court rests with the Chief Justice of that High Court. Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among Constitutional authorities to select suitable candidates for higher judiciary. It is a time consuming process, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges.

As envisaged in the Vision Document, every effort is made to fill the vacancies, including through periodically reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts to initiate proposals in time for filling the existing vacancies of Judges as well as the vacancies anticipated in next six months in the High Courts. It (Government) had written to the Chief Justice of High Courts in April and June, 2011 to fill the vacancies in the High Courts in a campaign mode from 1st July, 2012 onwards for six months. As a result, 85 vacancies of High Courts have been filled in the calendar year 2011 against 43 vacancies filled in the calendar year 2010. The Chief Justices of High Courts have been requested again on 28th February, 2012, 15th May, 2012 and 10th July, 2012. As a result, Government has with it 122 proposals for further consideration as on 12.11.2012. During the current year, 88 proposals have already been cleared upto 12.11.2012.

Statement

*The approved strength, working strength and vacancies
of Judges in the High Courts*

(Position As on 01.11.2012)

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Approved Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies as per Approved Strength
1	2	3	4	5
1	Allahabad	160	87	73
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	32	17
3	Bombay	75	55	20
4	Calcutta	58	41	17
5	Chhattisgarh	18	12	06
6	Delhi	48	35	13
7	Gauhati	24	23	01
8	Gujarat	42	27	15
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	11	-
10	Jammu and Kashmir	14	07	07
11	Jharkhand	20	11	09
12	Karnataka	50	37	13
13	Kerala	38	30	08
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	32	11
15	Madras	60	50	10
16	Orissa	22	13	09
17	Patna	43	36	07

1	2	3	4	5
18	Punjab and Haryana	68	42	26
19	Rajasthan	40	23	17
20	Sikkim	03	02	01
21	Uttarakhand	09	08	01
TOTAL		895	614	281

Coal block allocation

†*54. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had implemented a policy for allocating coal blocks to steel and power producers of the country for their captive use;

(b) if so, when this policy was implemented;

(c) the number of coal blocks allocated under this scheme by December, 2011; and

(d) the number of coal blocks, out of them, which have started coal production along with the quantum of coal being produced?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The objective of allowing private sector, for the purpose of captive end-use as contained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons to introduce Bill to amend Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, is-

"Considering the need to augment power generation and to create additional capacity during the eighth plan, the Government have taken decision to allow private sector participation in the power sector. Consequently, it has become necessary to provide for coal linkages to power generating units coming up in the private sector. A number of projects cannot be taken up in a short span of time. As an alternative, it is proposed to offer new coal and lignite mines to the proposed power stations in the private sector for the purpose

of captive end use. The same arrangement is also considered necessary for other industries who would be handed over coal mines for captive end use."

Accordingly, the allocation of coal blocks for captive use commenced in 1993.

(c) A total of 218 coal blocks have been allocated till date to various public and private Sector companies under Section 3 of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973.

(d) As reported by the Coal Controller's Organisation, Kolkata, out of allocated coal blocks, 30 blocks have started production. Production for the year 2011-2012 was 36.167 million tonnes. Production for the current year 2012-2013 is 16.302 million tonnes (Upto August, 2012) (Provisional).

Release of wheat to flour mills and biscuit manufacturers

*55. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to release additional quantity of wheat to flour mills and biscuit manufacturers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the rates at which wheat has been allocated to them;

(d) whether Government has fixed any profit margin for them and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, sir. Under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS), Government on 10.11.2012 has approved an allocation of 65 lakh tonnes of wheat for tender sale to bulk consumers/traders upto February 2013.

(c) Reserve price for wheat and in surplus states i.e. Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh is fixed at MSP of wheat for RMS 2012-13 (Rs.1285/- per quintal) plus State-wise Statutory charges and levies as applicable on procurement. For other consuming States/UTs except Chandigarh, reserve price for tender sale of wheat and price for sale of wheat to small/private traders is fixed at

MSP of wheat for RMS 2012-13 (Rs.1285/- per quintal) plus Statutory charges and levies as applicable on procurement in Punjab plus freight from Ludhiana to concerned State/UT Capital. For Chandigarh, the reserve price is same as reserve price fixed for Punjab.

(d) and (e) No profit margins have been fixed for bulk users/traders. Under OMSS Government releases wheat to offload surplus stock available in the central pool and to increase supply of wheat in open market to moderate their prices. There is no provision under the scheme to fix profit margins of bulk users/traders.

Protection of old dams

*56. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of dams in the country which are more than hundred years old;
- (b) the steps taken by Government for protection of these old dams;
- (c) the funds allocated and spent for this purpose during the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) whether State Governments have sent any proposal in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Based on the information as compiled in National Register of Large Dams (NRLD) on the basis of information furnished by the State Governments/Dam Owners, there are 143 Large Dams which are more than 100 years old (with year of completion in 1911 or earlier).

(b) The responsibility of protection of the dams rests with dam owners, which are mostly the State Governments. Further Central Government has introduced "Dam Safety Bill" in August, 2010 in Parliament.

(c) to (e) The repair and maintenance of dams comes under the purview of the concerned project authorities/State Governments and they carry out such works from their own resources. During Dam Safety Assurance and Rehabilitation Project (DSARP) taken up by Government of India, during 1991-99, proposals were received from some states for rehabilitation of old dams. A total of 4 dams, that were more than 100 year old were taken up for rehabilitation as part of DSARP as per the details below:

Sl. No.	Name of Dam	Year of Completion	State
1.	Bhanjanagar	1894	Orissa
2.	Soroda	1896	Orissa
3.	Periyar	1897	Tamil Nadu
4.	Pechiparai	1906	Tamil Nadu

Presently, the Government of India has taken up Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project, (DRIP) for which proposals have been received from some states for rehabilitation of old dams. A total of 4 dams, that are more than 100 year old have been included in DRIP as per the details below:

Sl. No.	Name of Dam	Year of Completion	State
1.	Birpur	1908	Madhya Pradesh
2.	Kamera	1910	Madhya Pradesh
3.	Donger bodi	1911	Madhya Pradesh
4.	Pechiparai	1906	Tamil Nadu

Mandatory use of solar energy

†*57. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplates/proposes to make the use of solar energy mandatory in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) The Government of India is trying to encourage the use of solar energy through various policies, regulatory measures and incentives. While there is no law at present that mandates the use of solar energy in buildings, a number of initiatives have been taken by certain municipal authorities. A model regulation/bye-laws for installation of solar assisted water heating systems in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

functional buildings was circulated by the Ministry of Urban Development to all States/Union Territories with a view to make installation of this system mandatory in certain categories of buildings. Based on the model regulation/bye-laws, so far 25 States/UTs, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Andaman and Nicobar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Delhi, Gujarat, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Pondicherry, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal have issued necessary orders to their Urban Local Bodies in this regard.

State electricity regulators have imposed a renewable purchase obligation for solar which makes it mandatory to use a certain percentage of solar power.

Functioning of Doordarshan

†*58. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the functioning of Doordarshan in various States, including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether Government has addressed the matters related to service conditions of the employees working in Doordarshan Kendras; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) As per the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990, the general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs of the Corporation, of which Doordarshan is a part, vest in the Prasar Bharati Board.

Prasar Bharati has informed that they have undertaken a review of its functioning recently through a series of Zonal Coordination Meetings as well as internal committee meetings at the highest level within the organization. Review of the functioning of Doordarshan in Uttar Pradesh was part of these reviews.

In addition, Government regularly reviews the progress of various matters pertaining to Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan and All India Radio) in respect of issues

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

such as progress of Plan Schemes, resolution of personnel matters that have policy implications, quality of programming, overall financial management, etc.

These reviews have resulted in addressing of crucial issues relating to human and financial resources, including filling up of critical vacancies and approval by Government of a financial restructuring package for the public broadcaster, upgradation of management information system for efficient monitoring of court cases, improved financial management, quality improvement in programming and improved coordination between AIR and Doordarshan.

In the recent past, the Government has also taken several important steps to address the matters relating to service conditions of the employees of Prasar Bharati. Some of the important steps include:-

- (i) The Government has recently amended Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 which provides that all the regular employees belonging to the cadres borne on Akashvani and Doordarshan who were recruited before 5.10.2007 shall serve in Prasar Bharati on deemed deputation till retirement and would be entitled to pay and all other benefits admissible to an employee of the Government.
- (ii) It further provides that the employees recruited after 5.10.2007 shall be Prasar Bharati employees.
- (iii) Financial upgradation under Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme has also been granted to the eligible employees.
- (iv) Doordarshan has conducted long over-due Departmental Promotion Committees, thereby giving promotions to the eligible employees.
- (v) Government has also approved filling up of 1150 posts during 2012-13.

Subsidy to producers and consumers of renewable energy sources

*59. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy being given for wind, solar and other renewable energy sources to producers and consumers; and

(b) the details of the steps taken to speed up research and development activities to bring down the prices and to develop technologies in the renewable energy sector?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The details of subsidy available under wind, solar and other renewable energy programmes of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy are given in the Statement (*See* below). In case of electricity generating projects, the subsidy is given to the power producers. For renewable energy systems owned by individuals such as, biogas, solar energy systems etc., the subsidy is given to consumer/owner of the system.

(b) With a view to develop new technologies, the Ministry has a comprehensive scheme to support Research and Development (R&D) in all areas of renewable energy (RE). It provides financial support for the R&D projects taken up by National Research Institutions, Academic Institutions & Universities, Autonomous bodies and Industry. Apart from supporting such projects, the Ministry also supports design, development, field demonstration and performance evaluation of RE systems/devices. Emphasis is on involvement of industry and coordinated research in institutions. The Ministry also provides core support to strengthen R&D institutions/organizations and identify core research areas for support.

Statement

Subsidy available under various renewable energy programmes.

A. Grid-interactive Renewable Power Programmes

1. Wind Power:

Demonstration projects in

Special Category States (NE Region, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand)	Rs.3.00 crore X C ^{0.646}
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Other States	Rs.2.50 crore X C ^{0.646}
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C: Capacity of the project in MW; ^: raised to the power

2. Solar Power:

- i. Generation based incentive linked to CERC/SERC announced tariff guidelines for projects connected at 11kV and below.
- ii. For projects connected at 33kV and above- National Vidyut Vyapar Nigam [NVVN] to purchase power at a rate fixed by CERC through bidding process.

3. Small Hydro Power**Support to new SHP projects in State sector:**

Category	Above 100 KW and up to 1000 KW	Above 1MW-25 MW
Special category and NE States	Rs.50,000/KW	Rs. 5.00 crore for first MW+ Rs.50 lakh/MW for each additional MW
Other States	Rs.25,000/KW	Rs. 2.50 crore for first MW+ Rs.40 lakh/MW for each additional MW

Support to new SHP project in private/co-operative/joint sector:

Category	Up to 1000 KW	Above 1MW-25 MW
Special category and NE States	Rs. 20,000 /KW	Rs. 2.00 crore for first MW+ Rs.30 lakh/MW for each additional MW
Other States	Rs. 12,000/KW	Rs. 1.20 crore for first MW+ Rs.20 lakh/MW for each additional MW

4. Biomass Power Project and Bagasse Cogeneration Projects:**A. Private/Joint/Cooperative/Public Sector Sugar Mills.**

Project Type	Special Category States (NE Region, Sikkim, J and K, HP and Uttaranchal)	Other States
	Capital Subsidy	Capital Subsidy
1	2	3
Biomass Power projects	Rs.25 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}	Rs.20 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}
Bagasse Co-generation by Private sugar mills	Rs.18 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}	Rs.15 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}
Bagasse Co-generation projects by cooperative/ public sector sugar mills 40 bar & above	Rs.40 lakh *	Rs.40 lakh *

1	2	3
60 bar & above	Rs.50 lakh *	Rs.50 lakh *
80 bar & above	Rs.60 lakh *	Rs.60 lakh *
	Per MW of surplus power@ (maximum support Rs. 8.0 crore per project)	Per MW of surplus power@ (maximum support Rs. 8.0 crore per project)

*For new sugar mills, which are yet to start production and existing sugar mills employing backpressure route/seasonal/incidental cogeneration, which exports surplus power to the grid, subsidies shall be one-half of the level mentioned above.

@ Power generated in a sugar mill (-) power used for captive purpose *i.e.* net power fed to the grid during season by a sugar mill.

B. Bagasse Cogeneration projects in cooperative/public sector sugar mills implemented by IPPs/State Government Undertakings or State Government Joint Venture Company/Special Purpose Vehicle (Urja Ankur Trust) through BOOT/BOLT model

Project Type	Minimum Configuration	Capital Subsidy
	60 bar & above	Rs.40 L/MW of surplus power*
Single coop, mill through BOOT/BOLT Model	80 bar & above	Rs.50 L/MW of surplus power* (maximum support Rs.8.0 crore/ sugar mill)

* Power generated in a sugar mill (-) power used for captive purpose *i.e.* Net power fed to the grid during season by a sugar mill.

C. Bagasse Cogeneration Project in existing cooperative sector sugar mills employing boiler modifications:

Project Type	Minimum Configuration	Capital Subsidy
	40 bar & above	Rs.20 L/MW of surplus power*
Existing Cooperative Sugar Mill	60 bar & above	Rs.25 L/MW of surplus power*
	80 bar & above	Rs.30 L/MW of surplus power*

* Power generated in a sugar mill (-) power used for captive purpose *i.e.* net power fed to the grid during season by a sugar mill. CFA will be provided to the sugar mills who have not received CFA earlier from MNRE under any of its scheme.

B. Subsidy under off-grid/decentralized renewable energy programmes

Sl. No.	Programme	Subsidy
5.	Family Type Biogas Plants NE Region States including Sikkim (except plain areas of Assam)	Rs.11,700 to Rs.14,700 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
	Plain areas of Assam	Rs.9,000 to Rs.10,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
	J and K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand (excluding Terai region), Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu, Sadar, Kurseong and Kalimpong sub-divisions of Darjeeling, Sunderbans, A and N Islands	Rs.3,500 to Rs.10,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
	All Others	Rs.2,100 to Rs.8,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
6.	Solar Energy Systems (Photovoltaic/Thermal)	Subsidy of 30% of project cost and/or 5% interest bearing loans. For solar light through NABAAD, RRD and other commercial bank 40% subsidy is available.
7.	Small Aero-Generators and Hybrid Systems	Rs.1.00 lakh and Rs.1.50 lakh per kW for commercial and non-commercial beneficiaries respectively. Higher support of Rs.2.25 lakh per kW for projects in NE Region States Sikkim and Jammu and Kashmir.
8.	Micro-hydel plants/Water mills	Rs.0.35 lakh per watermill for mechanical application
		Rs.1.10 lakh per watermill for electrical application
9.	Biomass GasifierSpecial Category States (NE Region, Sikkim, J and K, HP and Uttarakhand)	Rs. 18,000/kW
	Other States	Rs. 15,000/kW

Proposals for inclusion in the scheme of National Projects

*60. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka has submitted proposals of irrigation projects for inclusion in the Scheme of National Projects;

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

(c) what is the present status of each of the projects submitted by the State?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) No proposal for inclusion of an irrigation project in the scheme of National Projects has been received from Government of Karnataka. However, Government of India has been providing Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the States for approved and eligible projects and CA for 16 Major/Medium Irrigation (MMI) projects of Karnataka has been provided by Government of India under AIBP.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Delay in allocation of coal blocks**

311. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has kept the coal blocks allocation in abeyance for the last several months; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2010 has been notified in Gazette of India (Extraordinary) on 9th September, 2010 to provide for grant of reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence or mining lease in respect of an area containing coal and lignite through auction by competitive bidding, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed. This, would however, not be applicable in the following cases:

- where such area is considered for allocation to a Government company or corporation for mining or such other specified end use;
- where such area is considered for allocation to a company or corporation that has been awarded a power project on the basis of competitive bids for tariff (including Ultra Mega Power Projects).

The Government has notified the Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012 on 2nd February, 2012. Further, the notification on the commencement of the said Amendment Act, 2010 has also been notified by the Ministry of Mines on 13th February, 2012.

The Rules lay down the procedure for allotment of blocks under different dispensations *i.e.* through Auction to the Government Companies and to the companies selected through tariff based bidding in power sector. The Rules provide for notifying the floor price for the mines to be auctioned and fix a reserve price for the blocks to be allotted under other dispensations. The Rules also provide that the Government shall enter into an agreement with the allocatee company.

The Government has decided to appoint a consultant for preparing:

- (i) Methodology for calculation of floor price/reserve price tag for the captive coal blocks;
- (ii) Preparation of Model Tender Document for selection of successful coal block allocatee;
- (iii) Preparation of model agreement between MoC and the successful coal block allocatee.

The Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) was asked to appoint consultant for this purpose through open tender. M/s CRISIL has been appointed as Consultant accordingly. M/s CRISIL has been given 3 months time for the report. M/s CRISIL has submitted an inception report as to their approach towards the allotted work. The progress of the work is being monitored from time to time by Secretary (Coal). As M/s CRISIL was asked to seek views of the stake holders and incorporate the same in the report, time has been extended by 5 weeks. M/s CRISIL has submitted a draft report. An Inter-Ministerial meeting was held on 16.10.2012 to discuss the draft report of CRISIL. M/s CRISIL was further advised to consult Planning Commission and other Ministries for finalizing their

report. The matter was discussed again on 09.11.2012 wherein provisions of model tender documents were discussed.

In the meanwhile, the Ministry has been proceeding to finalize the terms and conditions of allotment to the Government companies for the purpose of mining as well as specified end uses. A draft terms conditions were prepared and were circulated to the State Government for their comments. Thereafter a meeting for consultation was held with State Governments on 10.05.2012. After taking into account the views expressed and also to ensure additional safeguards especially with regard to transparency and objectivity to be brought in the linkages, which will be granted by the State Governments from the allocated coal blocks for the purpose of mining, the draft terms and conditions are further modified. The modified terms and conditions have been circulated again to the State Governments and the concerned ministries of Central Government seeking their comments. A meeting with all the stake holders was again held on 15th October 2012 for further consultations in the matter. The terms and conditions have been revised the consultations and the same will be placed on the website inviting comments of the stakeholders. The Government shall be in a position to initiate the process of allocation of blocks once the terms and conditions are finalized. It is proposed to invite application from the Central Government companies & State Government companies thereafter.

The Government has identified 54 coal blocks with total Geological Reserves of about 18.22 Billion Tonnes (BT) and earmarked for allocation. Out of the above, 16 blocks with 7.27 BT reserves for Government companies, 16 blocks with 8.16 BT for power sector including Government companies and companies selected through tariff based bidding and 22 blocks with 2.79 BT for companies selected through auction. It has been decided to allocate the blocks after detailed exploration through auction and for power sector.

Cancellation of coal blocks

312. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal blocks allotment cancelled during the last two years;

(b) what are the reasons for the cancellation;

(c) whether the Ministry has any plans to cancel the allotment of coal blocks which have not started any activity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) 15 coal blocks have been de-allocated based on the recommendations of Review Committee which monitors the development of the coal block by the allocatee companies during the last two years *i.e.* 2010 & 2011 on account of lack of progress in the development of the block. In addition to above 3 blocks have been surrendered by the companies due to geo-mining difficulties and other reasons.

(c) and (d) The responsibility of developing the coal block as per the prescribed guidelines and milestone chart attached with the allocation letter rests entirely with the allocatee company. Further, the allocatees have to submit Bank Guarantee which remains valid at all the times till the production from the coal block reaches its peak rated capacity. The Coal Controller's office monitors on regular basis the achievement of different milestones. Government periodically monitors and reviews the development of allocated blocks as well as end use plants by the allocatee companies in the Review Meetings. Further, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) with representatives from the Ministries of Power, Steel, Law & Justice and Departments of Economic Affairs and Industrial Policy and Promotion has been constituted on 21.06.2012 which *inter-alia* would undertake periodic review and monitor the progress of allocated coal/lignite blocks and make recommendations on action to be taken including de-allocation, if required. Based on the recommendation of the above Committee action as deemed fit is taken by the Government.

Allocation of coal mines

†313. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Comptroller and Auditor General has reported that Government exchequer has suffered a loss of 1.86 lacs of crore of rupees in allocation of coal mines in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that after this report Government agencies started probe into this matter; and

(c) if so, the facts found out by these investigating agencies, so far?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Comptroller & Auditor General of India (C&AG) in its report has stated, "The process of bringing in transparency and objectivity in the allocation process of coal blocks, which commenced from 28th June 2004, got delayed at various stages and the same is yet to materialize (February 2012) even after a lapse of seven years. In the meantime, 194 net coal blocks with aggregate GR of 44,440 million tonne were allocated to different Government and private parties up to 31 March 2011. The financial impact of the benefit to the private allottees has been estimated to the tune of Rs. 1,85,591.34 crore as on 31 March, 2011 for Opencast (OC) mines/OC reserves of Mixed mines. The Government could have tapped a part of this financial benefit by expediting decision on competitive bidding for allocation of coal blocks."

(b) and (c) CBI has registered Preliminary Enquiry cases to investigate the alleged irregularities in allocation of coal blocks to private companies from 2006 to 2009 and from 1993 to 2004. In addition, a Preliminary Enquiry has also been registered to investigate irregularities in allocation of coal blocks to Public Sector Companies. As informed by CBI, in respect of 9 companies 9 FIRs have been registered.

Allocation of coal blocks

314. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the details of the coal blocks allocated to different Private/Government companies and other dispensation route in the mineral rich States like Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): The details of the coal blocks located in the States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Odisha allocated as on 22.11.2012 to different Private/Government companies are as under:

Sl. No.	State	No. of coal blocks allocated to different Government companies	No. of coal blocks allocated to different Private companies	No. of coal blocks allocated under tariff based competitive bidding/ Ultra Mega Power Project
1.	Jharkhand	20	26	02
2.	West Bengal	13	05	-
3.	Odisha	15	14	04
4.	Chhattisgarh	16	21	02

Production of coal for power generation

315. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has been re-allocated some coal blocks for production of coal for power generation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what steps are being taken by NTPC to increase production of coal from these blocks;

(d) whether there is a stipulated time when NTPC needs to develop these coal blocks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The request of Ministry of Power for withdrawal of deallocation of Chattibariatu, Chattbariatu (South) and Kerandari coal blocks is under consideration of the Government.

(c) NTPC has submitted a revised schedule for exploitation of the above blocks.

(d) and (e) As per the guidelines, coal production from captive coal block should commence within 36 months (42 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of open cast mines and in 48 months (54 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of underground mine, from the date of allocation. If the coal block is not explored, additional two years are allowed for detailed exploration and three months for preparation of geological report.

Coal mining in Assam

316. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage increase in coal production in Assam;

(b) the provisions for the benefit of people and development of the areas where coal mining is being carried out and the details of facilities being provided to the people, so far; and

(c) the names and the details of companies which have been given, permission for mining of coal in Tinsukia and Dibrugarh districts at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Production of coal in Assam during the last five years is given below:-

(million tones)		
Year	Production	%age increase over previous year
2007-08	1.101	(+4.86
2008-09	1.009	(-)8.36
2009-10	1.113	(-)10.31
2010-11	1.101	(-)1.08
2011-12 (P)	0.602	(-)45.32

(b) Development works in the peripheral area of coal mining in Assam are being carried out regularly under CSR scheme of Coal India Limited. Types of jobs which facilitated the people are as under:-

- (i) Construction of Roads, Culverts and Drains.
- (ii) Construction of Community Hall and Schools.
- (iii) Construction of deep well and water reservoir for water supply.
- (iv) Electrification.
- (v) Free medical camp at a regular interval.

(c) North Eastern Coalfields, Coal India Ltd. (CIL) is doing mining of coal in Tinsukia District in Assam.

De-allocation of coal blocks

317. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the companies which have been examined by the Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) for de-allocation of coal blocks; and

(b) the number of them which have been recommended de-allocation of coal blocks along with other punitive actions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The IMG took up for review, the 58 cases where the show cause notices were issued consequent to the Review/recommendations by the Review Committee held on 11th & 12 January, 2012. In addition the cases where a decision was taken, on the basis of earlier reviews, to deduct Bank Guarantee (BG) and were pending were also taken up. The IMG has held 17 meetings so far. With respect to the allocations made to the Private Companies, the IMG has recommended de-allocation of 13 coal blocks allocated to 29 companies, deduction of Bank Guarantee in the cases of 14 blocks allocated to 19 companies and imposition of BG in case of 1 coal block. No action has been recommended in cases of 3 coal blocks allocated to 2 companies. The recommendations of the IMG have been accepted by the Competent Authority and action is initiated accordingly. Further, the IMG took up the cases of Public Sector Undertakings and after hearing the allocatees, the IMG recommended de-allocation of 11 blocks, deduction of BG in 5 cases, imposition of BG in 11 cases and no action in 6 cases including 3 cases on account of Court orders.

Mining contract awarded by NTPC

318. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has launched an investigation into the mining contract awarded by NTPC in Pakadhi Burdwan mine;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) whether the role of Minacs Finvest has been investigated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (d) As informed by the Ministry of Power the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has forwarded a complaint regarding alleged irregularities in award of contract of Pakri Barwadih coal mine to M/s Thiess Minecs, which was investigated by the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). The report of CVC, NTPC is under examination in consultation with the CVC.

Deduction of bank guarantees of coal companies

319. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has initiated the deduction of bank guarantees of non performing companies which were allocated coal blocks; and

(b) the details of the deductions of such nature made as yet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the announcement of the Hon'ble Finance Minister in the budget speech for the year 2012-13, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) headed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal has been constituted on 21.06.2012 to undertake periodic review of the development of coal/lignite blocks allotted by the Government. The terms of reference (TOR) of the IMG are:

- (i) The IMG shall undertake periodic review and the progress of allocated coal mines/blocks and make recommendations on action to be taken including de-allocations, if required.
- (ii) The IMG may consider the replies where the show cause notices have been given and recommend action against the allocate companies including de-allocation, wherever necessary.
- (iii) The IMG may make its own assessment and recommend action as to deduction of Bank Guarantee, if required.
- (iv) Any matter where a reference is made by the Competent Authority.

The IMG took up for review, the 58 cases where the show cause notices were issued consequent to the Review/recommendations by the Review Committee held on 11th & 12 January, 2012. In addition the cases where a decision was taken, on the basis of earlier reviews, to deduct BG and were pending were also taken up.

The IMG has held 17 meetings so far. The IMG has discussed and finalized the guidelines/modalities for conduct of its business and also regarding computation of deduction of BG. The IMG has also decided to give an opportunity of giving personal hearing to all the allocatee companies of coal blocks before giving its

recommendations. With respect to the allocations made to the Private Companies, the IMG has recommended de-allocation of 13 coal blocks allocated to 29 companies, deduction of Bank Guarantee in the cases of 14 blocks allocated to 19 companies and imposition of BG in case of 1 coal block. No action has been recommended in cases of 3 coal blocks allocated to 2 companies. The recommendations of the IMG have been accepted by the Competent Authority and action is initiated accordingly. Further, the IMG took up the cases of PSUs and after hearing the allocatees, the IMG recommended deallocation of 11 blocks, deduction of BG in 5 cases, imposition of BG in 11 cases and no action in 6 cases including 3 cases on account of Court orders. The recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Allocation of coal blocks

320. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some rigged up firms, which were not conforming to the rules and regulations at the time of allotment, were given preferential allotment of coal blocks;

(b) if so, names and the details of each of such firms which have been made allocations during the last eight years, year-wise and company-wise;

(c) whether any enquiry has been instituted on such allotments;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (e) The allocations were made on the basis of recommendations of the Screening Committee. The Screening Committee was a broad based body with representation from State Governments, concerned Ministries of the Central Government and the coal companies. The procedure adopted for allocation involved wide consultations with all stakeholders. All applicants were called for making a presentation before the Screening Committee. The comprehensive details about the applicant, the group, performance of the

group, financial strength, readiness of the end-use plant etc. were placed before the committee so as to enable it to make appropriate recommendations.

Since September, 2005, the coal blocks used to be advertised calling for applications from interested parties. The application was to be filed in five sets. One set was to be sent to the concerned State Government, one set to the concerned line Ministry in the Central Government, viz., Power, Steel, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, one set to CIL/CMPDIL for their examination and furnishing comments. Then, the applicants used to be called for presenting their case to the Screening Committee. Thereafter, the Screening Committee used to deliberate and give recommendations regarding allocation of coal blocks to the eligible applicants.

As per the minutes, the Screening Committee assessed the applications having regard to the matters such as techno-economic feasibility of the end use project, status of preparedness to set up the end use project, past track record in execution of projects, financial and technical capabilities of the applicant companies, recommendations of the State Governments and the Administrative Ministry concerned.

As per information given by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), FIRs have been filed in 9 cases for falsification/misrepresentation of facts while making applications for allocation of coal blocks by the companies.

Allocation of coal blocks

‡321. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Auditor General of India has reported the loss of rupees one lakh eighty five thousand crore to the public exchequer due to wrong policy of coal allocation;

(b) whether the Ministry is considering upon any scientific policy of coal allocation after comprehensive study of this report;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Ministry has been misused by some parties in coal blocks allocation; and

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) if so, the action being taken by Government against those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Comptroller & Auditor General of India (C&AG) in its report has stated, "The process of bringing in transparency and objectivity in the allocation process of coal blocks, which commenced from 28th June 2004, got delayed at various stages and the same is yet to materialize (February 2012) even after a lapse of seven years. In the meantime, 194 net coal blocks with aggregate GR of 44,440 million tonne were allocated to different Government and private parties up to 31 March 2011. The financial impact of the benefit to the private allottees has been estimated to the tune of Rs.1,85,591.34 crore as on 31 March, 2011 for Opencast (OC) mines/OC reserves of Mixed mines. The Government could have tapped a part of this financial benefit by expediting decision on competitive bidding for allocation of coal blocks."

(b) and (c) The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2010 has been notified in Gazette of India (Extraordinary) on 9th September, 2010 to provide for grant of reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence or mining lease in respect of an area containing coal and lignite through auction by competitive bidding, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed. This, would however, not be applicable in the following cases:—

- where such area is considered for allocation to a Government company or corporation for mining or such other specified end use;
- where such area is considered for allocation to a company or corporation that has been awarded a power project on the basis of competitive bids for tariff (including Ultra Mega Power Projects).

The Government has notified the Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012 on 2nd February, 2012. Further, the notification on the commencement of the said Amendment Act, 2010 has also been notified by the Ministry of Mines on 13th February, 2012. 54 coal blocks have been identified and earmarked for allocation.

(d) and (e) As per information given by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), FIRs have been filed in 9 cases for falsification/misrepresentation of facts while

making applications for allocation of coal blocks by the companies. Show cause notices have been issued in 8 cases and in 1 case the coal blocks has been de-allocated.

De-allocated coal blocks

322. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of de-allocated coal blocks, this year;
- (b) what are the parameters considered by Government for reviewing captive coal blocks; and
- (c) the action taken against non serious players who acquired captive coal blocks but failed to make desired progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) 12 coal blocks have been de-allocated during this year till date. The details are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) As per the guidelines, coal production from captive coal block should commence within 36 months (42 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of open cast mines and in 48 months (54 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of underground mine, from the date of allocation. If the coal block is not explored, additional two years are allowed for detailed exploration and three months for preparation of geological report. The allocatees of coal blocks, who have not started production so far, are in various stages of obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease, preparing mining plan, acquisition of land, procuring machinery and equipment etc. for both mining as well as end-use project. Monitoring of progress of allocated coal blocks is done through a Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal). The review is undertaken on periodic basis with all the coal block allocatees to assess the development/progress achieved by them on the basis of milestone chart attached with allocation letter. Action is taken against the companies where delay is found on their part by issuing necessary advisory and show cause notices. In case of willful delays on the part of allocatees, appropriate action is initiated for de-allocation of the block & deduction of Bank Guarantee.

*Statement**Details of 12 Coal Blocks De-allocated during this year till date*

Sl. No.	Name of coal block	Name of company(s)	End Use	Reasons
1 &2	Chinora and Warora Southern Part	Fieldmining and Ispat Limited	Sponge Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block
3	Lalgarh North	Domco Private Limited	Pig Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block
4.	North Dhadu	Electrosteel Castings Limited, Pawanjay Steel & Power Limited, Jharkhand Ispat Pvt. Ltd., Adhunik Alloys and Power Ltd.	Sponge Iron/Captive Power Plant	No substantial progress in development of coal block
5	New Patrapara	Bhushan Steel Limited, Adhunik Metaliks Ltd., Deepak Steel & Power Ltd., Adhunik Corporation Ltd., Orissa Sponge Iron Ltd., SMC Power Generation Ltd., Sree Metaliks Ltd., Visa Steel Ltd.	Sponge Iron/Captive Power Plant	No substantial progress in development of coal block

6	Choritand Tailaya	Rungta Mines Limited, Sunflag Iron & Steel Ltd.	Sponge Iron/Sponge Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block
7	Macherkunda	Bihar Sponge Iron Limited	Sponge Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block
8	Gondkhari	Maharashtra Seamless Ltd., Dhariwal Infrastructure (P) Ltd., Kesoram Industries Ltd.	Sponge Iron/Sponge Iron/ Cement	No substantial progress in development of coal block
9	Bhaskarpara	Electrotherm (India) Limited, Grasim Industries Ltd.	Sponge Iron/Cement	No substantial progress in development of coal block
10	Dahegaon Makardhokra IV	1ST Steel & Power, Gujarat Ambuja Cements Ltd., Lafarge India Pvt. Ltd.	Steel & Sponge Iron/ Cement/Cement	No substantial progress in development of coal block
11	Gourangdih ABC	Himachal EMTA Power Ltd., JSW	Power/Power	No substantial progress in development of coal block
12	Rawanwara North	SKS Ispat & Power Limited	Sponge Iron	No substantial progress in development of coal block

Food supply agreement

323. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd (CIL) has sought permission to import coal for its consumers on a cost-plus basis under the new fuel supply agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the largest consumer NTPC and other consumers are ready to buy imported coal from CIL if it is cheaper than the current imports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Coal being under Open General License (OGL), no permission is required for import of coal. Coal India Limited (CIL) has however sought the consent of the power utilities for supply of imported coal on cost plus basis under the modified Fuel Supply Agreement during September 2012.

(c) and (d) NTPC is yet to give consent for acceptance of imported coal.

Supply of imported coal at subsidized prices

324. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has proposed that the Coal India Ltd (CIL) should import around 20 million tonnes of coal in 2012-13 and supply the same at a subsidized prices to independent power producers (IPP) at the cost of public money;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the expected loss to the exchequer thereby;

(c) whether the independent directors of CIL have opposed this proposal as it would benefit only the independent power producers at the cost of public money; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Power (MoP) and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) had mooted a proposal that Coal India Limited (CIL) import coal to fulfil its Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) obligations towards power stations, for supplies at Gross Calorific Value (GCV) parity price of domestic coal. Supply of such coal would be decided on the basis of the location of the plants, irrespective of the plants being in public or in private sector, provided such plants have Long Term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with DISCOMs. The burden of supplying imported coal to power stations at GCV parity price of domestic coal is to be loaded on the price of the domestic coal so that there is no revenue loss for CIL.

(c) The Independent directors of CIL had expressed their reservations on the proposal. The Board of CIL has *inter-alia* opined that there should be unanimity in the matter amongst all power stations, both users and non-users of imported coal and asked CIL to write to the power stations accordingly. CIL has done the needful.

(d) CEA and CIL are jointly reworking the scheme of price pooling and will submit it to the Ministry of Power for consideration. The Government would formulate its views upon receipt of the revised scheme.

Irregularities in coal blocks allocation

325. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) to find out irregularities in coal blocks allotment scam and who are the members of this IMG;

(b) the number and dates of meetings conducted by IMG since its notification;

(c) the outcome of these meetings and whether any reports have been submitted to Government by IMG so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (d) In pursuance of the announcement of the

Hon'ble Finance Minister in the Budget speech for the year 2012-13, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) headed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal has been constituted on 21.06.2012 with the following terms of reference.

- (i) The IMG shall undertake periodic review and the progress of allocated coal mines/blocks and make recommendations on action to be taken including de-allocations, if required.
- (ii) The IMG may consider the replies where the show cause notices have been given and recommend action against the allocate companies including de-allocation, wherever necessary.
- (iii) The IMG may make its own assessment and recommend action as to deduction of Bank Guarantee, if required.
- (iv) Any matter where a reference is made by the Competent Authority.

The IMG took up for review, the 58 cases where the show cause notices were issued consequent to the Review/recommendations by the Review Committee held on 11th & 12th January, 2012. In addition the cases where a decision was taken, on the basis of earlier reviews, to deduct BG and were pending were also taken up.

The IMG has held 17 meetings so far details of which are given below. The IMG has discussed and finalized the guidelines/modalities for conduct of its business and also regarding computation of deduction of BG. The IMG has also decided to give an opportunity of giving personal hearing to all the allocatee companies of coal blocks before giving its recommendations. With respect to the allocations made to the Private Companies, the IMG has recommended de-allocation of 13 coal blocks allocated to 29 companies, deduction of Bank Guarantee in the cases of 14 blocks allocated to 19 companies and imposition of BG in case of 1 coal block. No action has been recommended in cases of 3 coal blocks allocated to 2 companies. The recommendations of the IMG have been accepted by the Competent Authority and action is initiated accordingly. Further, the IMG took up the cases of Public Sector Undertakings and after hearing the allocatees, the IMG recommended de-allocation of 11 blocks, deduction of BG in 5 cases, imposition of BG in 11 cases and no action in 6 cases including 3 cases on account of Court orders. The recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Meeting	Date
1st	03.07.2012
2nd	25.07.2012
3rd	08.08.2012
4th	03.09.2012
5th	6th, 7th, 8th Sept., 2012
6th	12.09.2012
7th	14.09.2012
8th	15.09.2012
9th	17.09.2012
10th	18.09.2012
11th	19.09.2012
12th	20.09.2012
13th	24.09.2012
14th	9th and 10th Oct., 2012
15th	05.11.2012
16th	06.11.2012
17th	20.11.2012

Cancellation of coal blocks

326. SHRI N. BALAGANGA:

SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL:

SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to cancel the coal blocks allocated during the last eight years;

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

(c) whether courts have expressed any opinion about cancellation of coal blocks, in the light of the observations made by the C&AG in its report; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government periodically monitors and reviews the development of allocated blocks as well as end use plants by the allocatee companies in the Review Meetings. Further, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) with representatives from the Ministries of Power, Steel, Law & Justice and Departments of Economic Affairs and Industrial Policy and Promotion has been constituted on 21.06.2012 which *inter-alia* would undertake periodic review and monitor the progress of allocated coal/lignite blocks and make recommendations on action to be taken including de-allocation, if required. Based on the recommendation, the Government takes action from time to time as deemed fit.

(c) and (d) In a W.P. (Criminal) No. 120 of 2012, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has given order on 14.09.2012 directing Secretary, Ministry of Coal to submit counter-affidavit on the following aspects:

- (i) The details of guidelines framed by the Central Government for allocation of subject coal blocks.
- (ii) The process adopted for allocation of subject coal blocks.
- (iii) Whether the guidelines contain inbuilt mechanism to ensure that allocation does not lead to distribution of largesse unfairly in the hands of few private companies?
- (iv) Whether the guidelines strictly followed and objectives of the policy have been realized?
- (v) What were the reasons for not following the policy of competitive bidding adopted by the Government of India way back in 2004 for allocation of coal blocks?
- (vi.) What steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken against the allottees who have not adhered to the terms of allotment or breached the terms thereof?

Government will be filing an affidavit on the above issues.

Allocation of coal blocks and coal linkage

327. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the projects being executed by the Central Sector/State Sector PSUs attract priority in the matter of Coal Blocks/Coal linkages allocation/allotment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) still enjoys the status of the Public Sector Undertaking;

(d) whether the Government has allocated any coal block to BALCO on the basis of the Public Sector Undertaking resulting in loss to Government exchequer in crores;

(e) if so, the action taken/being taken by Government against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Coal blocks are separately earmarked for allocation to eligible Central Sector/State Sector PSUs under Government company dispensation route. Under this process the list of blocks identified is circulated to all the Central Ministries/State Governments. Applications are invited from the State Governments/Central Government for Government Companies. Under this route, only Government Companies are allocated coal blocks both for specified end use and for commercial mining where there is no restriction of captive use.

Standing Linkage Committee (Long-Term) recommends for issuance of "Letter of Assurance" (LoA) based on the recommendations of Ministry of Power and taking into account other relevant factors. No priority is given to the projects being executed by the Central Sector/State Sector PSUs for grant of Letter of Assurance for coal allocation.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) has been disinvested on 2nd March 2001 along with management control in favour of a Strategic Partner (SP) namely M/s Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd. As such, BALCO is no longer a Government Company.

(e) Does not arise in view of the answer given in parts (c) and (d) above.

Import of coal

328. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has sought permission to import coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that power companies are not ready to purchase coal from CIL;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) No, Sir. Import of coal is presently under Open General License (OGL). Therefore no permission is required to import coal by any organization including CIL.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) The supply of imported coal is now an integral part under the modified FSA models. The power projects which do not choose to get imported coal on cost plus basis from CIL would be free to meet the shortfall between the indigenous coal supplied by CIL and their requirement from other available sources including imports.

Selling of coal blocks and coal linkage

329. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power sector is being given priority in allotment of coal linkage and coal blocks across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any complaints against the power companies for selling coal blocks/linkage to some foreign power companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has put in place any regulation in order to prevent misuse of coal blocks/linkage; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Identified coal blocks are earmarked end-usewise and dispensation-wise based on grade of coal and reserves available in the block for allocation under various dispensation routes.

Standing Linkage Committee (Long-Term) recommends for issuance of "Letter of Assurance" (LoA) based on the recommendations of Ministry of Power and taking into account other relevant factors. No priority is given to the projects being executed by the Central Sector/State Sector PSUs for grant of Letter of Assurance for coal allocation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of the answer given to part (c).

(e) and (f) The use of coal is permitted as per the terms and conditions of the allocation letter in case of coal blocks and the provisions of Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) which is signed between the Coal Company and the consumes in case of linkages.

Strengthening of initiatives on market intervention

330. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted any committee to strengthen the initiatives on market intervention and to eliminate hoarding of commodities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has not constituted any committee to strengthen the initiatives on market intervention and to eliminate hoarding of commodities. However, the Department of Agriculture is implementing the Market Intervention Schemes (MIS) for procurement of horticultural and agricultural commodities which are generally perishable in nature and not covered under Price Support Scheme (PSS) to provide remunerative prices to the growers and protect

their interest. To ensure availability of essential commodities to the consumers and to protect them from exploitation by unscrupulous traders, the Government of India has enacted the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. The enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 lies with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been delegated powers to take necessary action under the provisions of both "The Essential Commodities Act, 1955" and "The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980", to prevent hoarding and blackmarketing of essential commodities. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been repeatedly requested to strictly enforce both the Acts and also monitor enforcement of these Acts.

Prices of essential commodities

331. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) what concrete steps Government has taken, so far, to monitor and check the price rise;
- (b) whether Government has formed any panel to deliberate on the root-cause of rising prices and suggest measures to control the same;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the recommendations made by the said panel and the action taken thereon;
- (d) whether Government proposes to regulate forward trading, impose a ban on export and allow imports to check prices of essential commodities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) There is a mechanism in place to monitor the prices of essential commodities. Government closely monitors the wholesale/retail prices of select essential commodities from select centres across the country. The prevailing price situation as well as other factors which have impact on prices, both in domestic and international markets are studied and brought to the notice of high level committees, such as Committee of Secretaries (COS), Cabinet Committee on Prices (CCP), through agenda notes

prepared for their meetings, for appropriate action at the policy level. The steps taken to contain the prices of essential commodities are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) A Core Group comprising State Chief Ministers and the Central Ministers concerned was constituted on 15th March, 2010 regarding prices of essential commodities. This Core Group decided to constitute three working groups on (i) Agriculture Production (ii) Consumer Affairs (iii) Food and Public Distribution. These Working Groups have subsequently submitted their reports and action initiated by the respective Departments on the agreed points which emerged out of recommendations of the Working Groups. The agreed points *inter-alia* include (i) adoption of micro planning approach to improve agriculture (ii) reforming APMC legislations (iii) preparation of framework on research in Agriculture (iv) estimating the financial implication of implementing the national food security bill, (v) examining the recommendations of establishment of a dedicated central body for collecting, disseminating and analyzing information on markets (vi) end to end computerization of PDS operation with full integration with Unique Identification.

(d) and (e) The Forward Markets Commission (FMC), is already in existence to regulate the commodity futures markets under the provisions of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952. The Regulator monitors the volatility in the movement of prices of all commodities traded on the Exchange platform and makes use of various regulatory tools such as daily price limit (circuit limit) to prevent abrupt upswing or downswing in prices, open position limits at the member and client level to prevent over trading, special margins on buyers and/or sellers to control excessive volatility and to prevent excessive speculation or cornering of the market by any individual or a group in the market.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to contain price rise in essential commodities

The Steps taken by the Government to contain price rise in essential commodities *inter-alia* include the following:

- Reduced import duties to zero - for wheat, onion, pulses, crude palmolein and to 7.5% for refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils.
- Duty-free import of white and raw sugar was extended up to 30.6.2012; presently the import duty has been kept at 10%.

- Banned export of edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and edible oils in blended consumer packs upto 5 kg with a capacity of 20,000 tonnes per annum and pulses (except Kabuli chana and organic pulses and lentils up to a maximum of 10000 tonnes per annum).
- Imposed stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities such as pulses, edible oil, and edible oilseeds and in the case of paddy and rice for specific seven States upto 30.11.2012.
- Ban on export of onion was imposed for short period of time whenever required. Exports of onion were calibrated through the mechanism of Minimum Export Prices (MEP).
- Maintained the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat (at Rs 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs 2 per kg for AAY) since 2002.
- Suspended Futures trading in rice, urad, tur, guar gum and guar seed.
- To ensure adequate availability of sugar for the households covered under TPDS, the levy obligation on sugar factories was restored to 10% for sugar season 2011-12.
- Government allocated rice and wheat under OMSS Scheme.
- Decided to resume the scheme for subsidized imported pulses through PDS in a varied form with the nomenclature "Scheme for Supply of Imported Pulses at Subsidized rates to States/UTs for Distribution under PDS to BPL card holders" with a subsidy element of Rs. 20/- per Kg for the residual part of the current year and extended the scheme for subsidized imported edible oils to 30.9.2013 with subsidy of Rs.15/- per Kg for import of upto 10 lakh tonnes of edible oils for this period.

Food Guarantee Scheme

332. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to roll out the Food Guarantee Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the recommendations made by Kelkar Committee on subsidy cuts; and

(e) Government's stand in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The then President of India in her address to the Joint Session of Parliament on 4th June, 2009, *inter-alia*, announced that a new Act—the National Food Security Act—will be enacted to provide a statutory basis for a framework which assures food security for all and entitle by law, every BPL family to 25 kg per month of rice or wheat @ Rs. 3/kg. In pursuance of this announcement, Government has introduced the National Food Security Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha on 22nd December, 2011. Salient features of the Bill are given in the Statement (*See* below). The Bill is presently under examination by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.

(d) and (e) The recommendations of the Kelkar Committee mainly emphasize on adjusting the price of petroleum products on regular basis in incremental steps towards eventual deregulation of diesel and an affordable level of subsidy on LPG and Kerosene, increase the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of Urea, efficient system of foodgrain delivery and linking of increases in Central Issue Price (CIP) of foodgrains to increases in Minimum Support Price (MSP). Government has broadly accepted the recommendation of the Committee with some reservations.

Statement

Salient features of the National Food Security Bill, 2011

- Upto 75% of the rural population (with at least 46% from priority category) and upto 50% of urban population (with at least 28% from priority category) to be covered under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).
- 7 kg of foodgrains per person per month to be given to priority category households at Rs. 3, 2 and 1 per kg for rice, wheat and coarse grains, respectively.

- At least 3 kg of foodgrains per person per month to be given to general category households, at prices not exceeding 50% of Minimum Support Price.
- Women to be made head of the household for the purpose of issue of ration cards.
- Nutritional support to women and children.
- Maternity benefit to pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- End-to-end computerisation of TPDS.
- Three-tier independent grievance redressal mechanism.
- Social audit by local bodies such as Gram Panchayats, Village Councils etc.
- Meals for special groups such as destitute, homeless persons, emergency/disaster affected persons and persons living in starvation.
- Food Security Allowance in case of non-supply of foodgrains or meals.

Criterion for FPS

333. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the criterion for establishing a Fair Price Shop (FPS) in an area;
- (b) whether geographical distribution is taken into account to establish an FPS; and
- (c) what are the measures being taken by Government to re-organise PDS in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations wherein States/UTs are responsible for licensing, regulation and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

Some of the key criteria prescribed in the guidelines laid down by the Central Government for opening of new FPSs relating to the geographical distribution, coverage of rural areas, etc. are as follows:

- (i) New FPSs may be opened wherever necessary to provide easy physical access to consumers. States and UTs are required to identify district-wise gaps and set targets to fill up the same.
- (ii) A norm of one FPS for every 2000 persons has been suggested to the States and Union Territories. However, there may be exceptions in view of the population density, terrain of the area, etc. Nevertheless, it needs to be ensured that no consumer/card-holder has to travel more than 3 Kms. to reach the FPS.
- (iii) In areas which cannot be covered by static FPSs, mobile vans may be introduced to cover the consumers residing in hilly, remote, far-flung, desert, tribal and inaccessible areas.
- (iv) In some rural areas, particularly in Tribal Areas, sale centers may be opened at weekly Haats to provide essential commodities at fixed prices.

Production cost of sugar

334. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the production cost of sugar in different parts of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the States having highest cost of production;
- (c) the reasons therefor and its effect on the price of sugar; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to bring down the production cost of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The production cost of sugar depends upon various factors like availability of adequate raw material, recovery from sugarcane, duration of the season, plant size, efficiency of plant, technological up-gradation and diversification towards production of ethanol and power etc., State Advised Price of sugarcane, cost of working capital, managerial efficiency etc. Besides, the factors like State Advised Price of sugarcane, control of molasses etc. which affects cost of production substantially, are decided by the State Governments concerned. Therefore, the production cost varies from

factory to factory as also from State to State. As such, it is not possible to indicate the State-wise production cost of sugar and the Central Government does not maintain the data in this regard.

(d) It is the responsibility of the entrepreneur concerned to take necessary steps to reduce production cost in respect of private sector sugar mills and that of the State Governments/UT Administrations in the case of the public and cooperative sugar mills. The Central Government extends concessional loans from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) to sugar mills for (i) modernization/rehabilitation of plant and machinery (ii) sugarcane development (iii) production of ethanol from molasses and (iv) Bagasse-based cogeneration projects.

Prices of essential commodities

335. SHRI CP. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any steps to monitor the prices of all essential commodities and also to regulate them;

(b) if so, what action plan has been prepared for the same; and

(c) the steps taken by Government against persons who are violating provisions of Essential Commodities Act and to maintain supplies of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) There is a mechanism in place to monitor the prices of essential commodities. Government closely monitors the wholesale/retail prices of select essential commodities from select centres across the country. The prevailing price situation as well as other factors which have impact on prices, both in domestic and international markets are studied and brought to the notice of high level committees, such as Committee of Secretaries (COS), Cabinet Committee on Prices (CCP) through agenda notes prepared for their meetings, for appropriate action at the policy level.

(c) Steps taken by the Government against persons who are violating provisions of Essential Commodities Act and to maintain supplies of essential commodities are given in Statement.

Statement*Steps taken to check hoarding and Black Marketing and maintain supplies of essential commodities*

Steps taken by the Government of India to check hoarding and black marketing of essential commodities and to maintain supplies of essential commodities are given as under:

1. Organisation of special drives against hoarding.
2. Enabled State Governments/UT Administrations to impose stockholding limits by keeping in abeyance some provisions of the Central Order dated 15.02.2002 in respect of pulses, edible oils, edible oilseeds, rice and paddy.
3. State Governments/UT Administrations empowered to detain such persons under the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, whose activities are found to be prejudicial to the maintenance of supplies of commodities essential to the community. Details of detention orders issued under the said Act and as reported to the Central Government by the State Governments/UT Administrations during the year 2009, 2010 and 2011 are given below:-

Name of the State	2009	2010	2011
Tamil Nadu	112	120	198
Gujarat	31	79	67
Orissa	02	02	-
Maharashtra	02	02	05
Chhattisgarh	-	01	-
Andhra Pradesh	-	01	-
TOTAL :	147	205	270

- Reduced import duties to zero - for wheat, onion, pulses, crude palmolein and to 7.5% for refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils.
- Duty-free import of white and raw sugar was extended up to 30.6.2012; presently the import duty has been kept at 10%.

- Banned export of edible oils (except coconut oil and forest based oil) and edible oils in blended consumer packs upto 5 kg with a capacity of 20,000 tonnes per annum and pulses (except Kabuli chana and organic pulses and lentils up to a maximum of 10000 tonnes per annum).
- Imposed stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities such as pulses, edible oil, and edible oilseeds and in the case of paddy and rice for specific seven States upto 30.11.2012.
- Ban on export of onion was imposed for short period of time whenever required. Exports of onion were calibrated through the mechanism of Minimum Export Prices (MEP).
- Maintained the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice (at Rs 5.65 per kg for BPL and Rs 3 per kg for AAY) and wheat (at Rs 4.15 per kg for BPL and Rs 2 per kg for AAY) since 2002.
- Suspended Futures trading in rice, urad, tur, guar gum and guar seed.
- To ensure adequate availability of sugar for the households covered under TPDS, the levy obligation on sugar factories was restored to 10% for sugar season 2011-12.
- Government allocated rice and wheat under OMSS Scheme.
- Decided to resume the scheme for subsidized imported pulses through PDS in a varied form with the nomenclature "Scheme for Supply of Imported Pulses at Subsidized rates to States/UTs for Distribution under PDS to BPL card holders" with a subsidy element of Rs. 20/- per Kg for the residual part of the current year and extended the scheme for subsidized imported edible oils to 30.9.2013 with subsidy of Rs.15/- per Kg for import of upto 10 lakh tonnes of edible oils for this period.

Village Grain Banks in Assam

336. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Grain Banks established in Assam during the last three years, district-wise and year-wise; and

(b) the amount sanctioned and released for setting up of such banks in the State during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Based on the proposals received from State Governments for establishment of Village Grain Banks, the Department of Food and Public Distribution sanctions Village Grain Banks to such States. Since, no request for setting up of Village Grain Banks in Assam has been received from the State Government during the last three years, the Department has not sanctioned/released any amount during the said period to the State.

Wheat and paddy procurement

‡337. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of purchase of wheat and paddy during the last one year and the current procurement season, State-wise;

(b) whether the complaints regarding exploitation of farmers by the middlemen during procurement in various States have been received;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether the complaints of selling foodgrains at throw away prices by the farmers at less than the minimum support price have also been received; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, along with the steps taken by Government to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The State-wise details of the procurement of wheat and paddy are given in Statements-I and II respectively.

(b) to (e) Complaints are received from time to time from various quarters regarding alleged irregularities in foodgrains. On receipt of such complaints, these are forwarded to respective State Governments and Food Corporation of India for appropriate action and corrective action is taken wherever required. The specific details of complaints regarding exploitation of farmers by the middlemen during procurement and selling of foodgrains by the farmers at throw away prices below the Minimum Support Price and action taken thereon, are being collected.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I*Wheat procurement for Central pool for last two years**(Marketing Season-wise)*

(Fig. in lakh tons)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2011-12	2012-13
1	Punjab	109.57	128.34
2	Haryana	69.28	86.65
3	Uttar Pradesh	34.61	50.63
4	Madhya Pradesh	49.65	84.93
5	Bihar	5.56	7.72
6	Rajasthan	13.03	19.64
7	Uttarakhand	0.42	1.39
8	Chandigarh	0.07	0.17
9	Delhi	0.08	0.31
10	Gujarat	1.05	1.56
11	Jharkhand	-	-
12	Maharashtra	-	0.02
13	Himachal Pradesh	-	0.01
14	Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.09
15	West Bengal	-	0.01
TOTAL :		283.34	381.48

Statement-II*State-wise Paddy Procured during the last and current procurement season*

(Fig. in lakh tons)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2011-12*	2012-13*
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	21.23	1.54
2	Assam	0.34	0.00
3	Bihar	22.87	0.00
4	Chandigarh	0.19	0.18
5	Chhattisgarh	59.71	2.15
6	Delhi	0.00	0.00
7	Gujarat	0.05	0.00
8	Haryana	29.67	37.94
9	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00
10	Jharkhand	4.11	0.00

1	2	3	4
11	Jammu and Kashmir	0.02	0.02
12	Karnataka	2.29	0.00
13	Kerala	5.54	0.00
14	Madhya Pradesh	9.39	0.00
15	Maharashtra	2.60	0.10
16	Nagaland	0.00	0.00
17	Orissa	42.10	0.00
18	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00
19	Punjab	115.39	125.25
20	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00
21	Tamil Nadu	23.82	0.02
22	Uttar Pradesh	23.24	1.03
23	Uttaranchal	0.19	0.19
24	West Bengal	14.43	0.00
TOTAL :		377.18	168.44

* as on 22.11.2012

Theft of foodgrains from FCI godowns

†338. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of FCI's godowns where from thefts of foodgrains have been reported;

(b) the quantum of grains recovered, so far, along with the number of persons arrested; and

(c) if answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Theft cases have been reported from four FCI godowns namely FSD, Ladhuka (Punjab.), Roja (Uttar Pradesh), Cover and Plinth (CAP) Storage, Alwar (Rajasthan) and CAP Storage Jaigurudev(Rajasthan) during the period of 01.04.11 to 30.06.12. A Statement showing the details of theft cases and quantum of grain recovered during the said period is given in Statement (*See below*). No one has been arrested.

(c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*The details of theft cases period from 1.4.2011 to 30.06.2012*

Sl. No.	Name of the Zone/ Region/Depot	Date of occurrence	Nature of loss Commodity/Quantity	Amount involved (Rs.)	Remarks
North Zone Punjab Region					
1.	FSD Ladhuka, Ferozpur	17.5.2011	Theft of 10 bags of wheat (5 Qtl)	Rs. 7000/-	The full amount has been recovered from Manager (Depot) and the Punjab Home Guard.
2.	FSD Roja, Shahjhan Pur	2/3.11.2010 and 7/8.11.2010	Theft of 195 katta of Wheat and Rice 97.50 Qtl.	Rs. 2,88,075/-	An amount of Rs.2,51,475/- has been recovered from Security Agency. Also Shri R.P. Sharma, Assistant Grade-II (Depot) has been chargesheeted in this case.
3.	Cap Alwar	24.11.2011	42 Katta (21.00 Qtl.)	Rs. 57,036.34	Full recovery has been done and the foodgrain has been deposited in the godown. Also Sh. Badlu Ram, Head Watchman has been censured.
4.	Distt Office, Udaipur Cap, (Jai gurudev) Banswara	3.01.2012	Theft of 35 Katta of wheat (17.65 Qtl.)	Rs. 24,180/-	FIR Lodged with PS Banswara.

Issue of smart cards replacing ration cards

‡339. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued smart cards instead of ration cards in some States to provide foodgrains through Public Distribution System (PDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the details of benefits accrued thereby;
- (c) whether Government proposes to extend this scheme in other States too;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of allocations made under PDS during the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Government has approved implementation of a pilot scheme on Smart Card based delivery of essential commodities under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in Chandigarh Union Territory (UT) and State of Haryana. Under the scheme, the existing ration cards will be replaced by Smart Cards which will have biometric features of adult members of beneficiary families, based on which verification of genuineness of the beneficiary family will take place and only thereafter the essential commodities will be issued to them from the fair price shops.

A scheme on Computerization of TPDS Operations in all States/UTs is being undertaken during Twelfth Five Year Plan. Component-I of the Plan Scheme has been approved to be implemented, which comprises activities, namely, Digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, Computerization of Supply-Chain Management, Setting up of Transparency Portal and Grievance Redressal Mechanisms.

Use of bar-coded ration cards, smart cards etc. could be chosen as per the requirements of States/UTs during Component-II of the Plan Scheme.

(e) State-wise details of allocation of foodgrains under TPDS during the current year is given in Statement.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*Allocation of foodgrains under TPDS for the year 2012-13**(in thousand tons)*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3822.816
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	101.556
3.	Assam	1886.856
4.	Bihar	3703.872
5.	Chhattisgarh	1244.112
6.	Delhi	598.92
7.	Goa	63.036
8.	Gujarat	2085.108
9.	Haryana	756.012
10.	Himachal Pradesh	527.94
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	756.804
12.	Jharkhand	1358.652
13.	Karnataka	2449.728
14.	Kerala	1472.688
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2736.516
16.	Maharashtra	4759.044
17.	Manipur	170.952
18.	Meghalaya	188.58
19.	Mizoram	70.14

1	2	3
20.	Nagaland	126.876
21.	Orissa	2194.266
22.	Punjab	827.976
23.	Rajasthan	2179.5
24.	Sikkim	44.28
25.	Tamil Nadu	3722.832
26.	Tripura	303.24
27.	Uttarakhand	511.992
28.	Uttar Pradesh	7268.52
29.	West Bengal	3857.196
30.	A and N Islands	34.02
31.	Chandigarh	36.78
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10.464
33.	Daman and Diu	5.652
34.	Lakshadweep	4.62
35.	Pudducherry	60.312
TOTAL		49941.858

Warning to sugar mills for advance sale invoices

340. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has warned sugar millers against issuing sale invoices towards the end of the month while the actual financial and physical transactions are done subsequently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the mills are supposed to make the sale of their allocated free sale quota within the period allocated by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the violations made by each mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The sugar mills are required to complete sale and delivery/dispatch of the released non-levy quota within the validity period mentioned in the release order, unless the validity period of the quota is extended by the Government. It came to the notice of the Directorate of Sugar that some of the sugar mills are resorting to the practice of issuing sales invoices towards the end of the month while the actual financial and physical transactions were happening subsequently. Directorate of Sugar *vide* its letter dated 29th August, 2012 has advised these sugar mills to stop any practice which is against the existing rules and regulations issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955/Sugar (Control) order, 1966.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. After issue of the above said advisory, no complaint of any such violation has been received by the Directorate of Sugar.

Supply of millet

341. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has offered supply of millet to the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that none of the States have responded to the offer made by the Central Government for supply of millet; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) Considering the availability of coarse grains in the Central Pool, Government has requested the States/Union Territories (UTs) to indicate their requirement of coarse grains during 2012-13 under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Other concerned Ministries of Government of India have also been requested to send requirement of coarse grains in respect of schemes/programmes implemented by them.

Based on the requests received from the States, allocation of 1157 tons of ragi to Karnataka and 17413 tons of maize and 17385 tons of bajra to Gujarat have been allocated under TPDS during 2012-13. Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu have been allocated 1866 tons, 135 tons and 3650 tons of maize respectively under the Wheat Based Nutrition Programme (WBNP) of the Government during the current year so far.

Foodgrain production and storage facilities

342. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foodgrain production and storage facilities during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that the storage facilities are in poor condition and also inadequate and lead to extensive damage to crops;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) reasons for the same;

(e) whether Government has done anything to add and improve these storage facilities;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The details of State-wise production of rice (Crop Year) during the last three years are given in Statement-I (*See* below). The details of State-wise production of wheat (Crop Year) during the last three years are given in Statement-II (*See* below). The storage capacity available with FCI during the last three years as on 31st March is given in Statement-III, IV and V respectively (*See* below). The storage capacity with FCI and State Agencies for Central Pool stock of foodgrains as on 31.10.2012 is given in Statement-VI (*See* below).

(b) to (f) Foodgrains are not allowed to be wasted for want of storage facilities. The storage capacities available are also properly maintained. The total storage capacity, Covered and Cover and Plinth (CAP) available with the Food Corporation of India was 374.55 lakh MTs as on 31.10.2012. The total storage capacity both covered and CAP, available with the State agencies for storage of

Central stock of foodgrains was 341.35 lakh MTs. Thus, a total of about 716 lakh MTs of storage capacity is available for storage of Central pool stock of foodgrains against a stock of 695.29 lakhs MTs as on 31.10.2012.

However, due to the increased procurement of foodgrains, the Government has formulated the Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of covered storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Under the PEG Scheme, FCI gives guarantee for the storage charges to the private investors for 10 years. A capacity of 181.08 lakh MTs has been approved for construction of godowns in 19 States under PEG Scheme. A capacity of 20 lakh MTs will also be constructed in Silos within the overall storage requirements of FCI. Besides the PEG Scheme, there is a Plan scheme for creation of total additional storage capacity of 5.40 lakh MTs in the North Eastern States through FCI under which during Eleventh Five Year Plan some other deficit States have also been covered. The FCI has also finalised a scheme for hiring of private godowns through open tenders for one year extendable for another one year, to take care of the short term hiring needs.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement-I

State-wise production of Rice during the last three years

State	Production (Crop Year) In Lakh tonnes		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12*
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	105.38	144.18	128.88
Assam	43.36	47.37	40.09
Bihar	35.99	31.02	72.01
Chhattisgarh	41.1	61.59	60.28
Gujarat	12.92	14.97	17.64
Haryana	36.25	34.72	37.59
Himachal Pradesh	1.06	1.29	1.32
Jharkhand	15.38	11.10	34.18
Karnataka	36.91	41.88	40.38

1	2	3	4
Kerala	5.98	5.23	5.55
Madhya Pradesh	12.61	17.72	18.38
Maharashtra	21.83	26.96	28.06
Orissa	69.18	68.28	58.15
Punjab	112.36	108.37	105.42
Rajasthan	2.28	2.66	2.53
Tamil Nadu	56.65	57.92	68.94
Uttar Pradesh	108.07	119.92	140.25
Uttarakhand	6.08	5.50	5.99
West Bengal	143.4	130.46	148.53
Others	24.11	28.66	29.05
ALL INDIA TOTAL :	890.93	959.80	1043.22

*As Per 4th Advance Estimates.

Statement-II

State-wise production (Crop Year) of wheat during last three years

State	Production (Crop Year) In Lakh tonnes		
	2009-10	2010-11*	2011-12*
Bihar	46.23	40.98	47.87
Gujarat	26.48	40.20	41.00
Haryana	105	116.30	126.84
Madhya Pradesh	78.46	76.27	105.8
Maharashtra	17.57	23.01	13.13
Punjab	152.63	164.72	172.06
Rajasthan	68.27	72.15	93.19
Uttar Pradesh	278.1	300.01	302.93
Uttarakhand	8.37	8.78	8.74
West Bengal	8.37	8.74	8.84
Others	17.62	17.58	18.63
ALL INDIA TOTAL	808.0	868.74	939.03

*As per 4th Advance Estimates (16.07.2012).

Statement-III*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2009*

Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered				
		F.C.I. Owned	State Government	Hired C.W.C.	From S.W.C.	Private Parties
1	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.66	0.79	0.48
2	Jharkhand	0.66	0.02	0.13	0.17	0.2
3	Orissa	2.93	0	0.9	2.94	0.15
4	West Bengal	8.59	0.2	0.88	0	0.61
5	Sikkim	0.1	0.01	0	0	0
TOTAL (E. Zone)		15.94	0.26	2.57	3.9	1.44
6	Assam	2.07	0	0.17	0.1	0.39
7	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.02	0	0	0
8	Meghalaya	0.14	0	0.07	0.05	0
9	Mizoram	0.22	0.01	0	0	0
10	Tripura	0.27	0.05	0.17	0	0
11	Manipur	0.2	0	0	0	0
12	Nagaland	0.2	0	0.12	0	0
TOTAL (N.E.Z)		3.28	0.08	0.53	0.15	0.39
13	Delhi	336	0	0	0	0
14	Haryana	7.68	3.84	1.92	3.99	2.55
15	Himachal Pradesh	0.14	0.06	0.05	0	0
16	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	0.16	0	0	0.1
17	Punjab	21.84	0.04	3	27.27	3.67

Statement-III*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2009*

(Figure in lakh tonnes)

Total Hired	Total Covered	Cap Owned	(Open) Hired	Total	Grand Total
1.96	5.62	0	0	0	5.62
0.52	1.18	0	0	0	1.18
3.99	6.92	0	0	0	6.92
1.69	10.28	0	0	0	10.28
0.01	0.11	0	0	0	0.11
8.17	24.11	0	0	0	24.11
0.66	2.73	0	0	0	2.73
0.02	0.2	0	0	0	0.2
0.12	0.26	0	0	0	0.26
0.01	0.23	0	0	0	0.23
0.22	0.49	0	0	0	0.49
0	0.2	0	0	0	0.2
0.12	0.32	0	0	0	0.32
1.15	4.43	0	0	0	4.43
0	3.36	0.34	0	0.34	3.7
12.3	19.98	3.18	0	3.18	23.16
0.11	0.25	0	0	0	0.25
0.26	1.29	0	0	0	1.29
33.98	55.82	6.31	0	6.31	62.13

Statement-III*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2009*

Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered				
		F.C.I. Owned	State Government	Hired C.W.C.	From S.W.C.	Private Parties
18	Chandigarh	0.4	0	0.37	0.2	0
19	Rajasthan	7.06	0	0.36	0.17	0.79
20	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	0.07	2.22	4.51	0.23
21	Uttaranchal	0.66	0.27	0.39	0.56	0.05
	TOTAL (N.Z.)	57.12	4.44	8.31	36.7	7.39
22	Andhra Pradesh	12.66	0	3.1	15.09	0.45
23	Andaman and Nicobar	0.07	0	0	0	0
24	Kerala	5.17	0	0	0	0
25	Karnataka	3.78	0	1.13	1.24	0
26	Tamil Nadu	5.8	0	2.04	0.53	0
27	Pondicherry	0.44	0	0	0.02	0
	TOTAL (S.Z.)	27.92	0	6.27	16.88	0.45
28	Gujarat	5	0.19	0.79	0	0.02
29	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
30	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
31	Maharashtra	11.77	0.13	1.96	2.03	0.88
32	Goa	0.15	0	0	0	0
33	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.23	1.49	1.56	0.89
34	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.13	0.12	0.99	0.07
	TOTAL (W.Z.)	25.41	0.68	4.36	4.58	1.86
	GRAND TOTAL :	129.67	5.46	22.04	62.21	11.53

Statement-III*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2009*

(Figure in lakh tonnes)

Total Hired	Total Covered	Cap Owned	(Open) Hired	Total	Grand Total
0.57	0.97	0.08	0	0.08	1.05
1.32	8.38	1.58	0.07	1.65	10.03
7.03	21.98	4.15	0	4.15	26.13
1.27	1.93	0.09	0.08	0.17	2.1
56.84	113.96	15.73	0.15	15.88	129.84
18.64	31.3	2.85	0	2.85	34.15
0	0.07	0	0	0	0.07
0	5.17	0	0	0	5.17
2.37	6.15	0.92	0	0.92	7.07
2.57	8.37	0.58	0	0.58	8.95
0.02	0.46	0.08	0	0.08	0.54
23.6	51.52	4.43	0	4.43	55.95
1	6	0.3	0	0.3	6.3
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
5	16.77	0.92	0	0.92	17.69
0	0.15	0	0	0	0.15
4.17	7.54	0.35	0	0.35	7.89
1.31	6.43	0	0	0	6.43
11.48	36.89	1.57	0	1.57	38.46
101.24	230.91	21.73	0.15	21.88	252.79

Statement-IV*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2010*

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered			
			FCI Owned	State Government	Hired CWC	SWC
East	1	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.62	0.97
	2	Jharkhand	0.66	0.03	0.13	0.15
	3	Orissa	2.93	0.00	0.67	2.68
	4	West Bengal	8.59	0.19	0.85	0.00
	5	Sikkim	0.10	0.01	0.00	0.00
		TOTAL (E.Zone)	15.94	0.26	2.27	3.80
N.E.	6	Assam	2.07	0.00	0.18	0.11
	7	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.04	0.00	0.00
	8	Meghalaya	0.14	0.00	0.07	0.05
	9	Mizoram	0.22	0.01	0.00	0.00
	10	Tripura	0.29	0.05	0.17	0.00
	11	Manipur	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
	12	Nagaland	0.20	0.00	0.14	0.00
		TOTAL (N.E.Z)	3.30	0.10	0.56	0.16
North	13	Delhi 1	3.36	0.00	0.00	0.00
	14	Haryana	7.68	4.07	2.22	4.96
	15	Himachal Pradesh	0.14	0.06	0.05	0.00
	16	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	0.15	0.00	0.00
	17	Punjab	21.17	0.34	3.45	34.74

Statement-IV*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2010*

(Figure in lakh tonnes)

Private Parties	Total Hired	Total Covered	Cap			Grand Total
			Owned	Hired	Total	
0.47	2.09	5.75	0.97	0.00	0.97	6.72
0.20	0.51	1.17	0.02	0.00	0.02	1.19
0.15	3.50	6.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.43
0.92	1.96	10.55	0.51	0.00	0.51	11.06
0.00	0.01	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11
1.74	8.07	24.01	1.50	0.00	1.50	25.51
0.37	0.66	2.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.73
0.00	0.04	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22
0.00	0.12	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26
0.00	0.01	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23
0.00	0.22	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51
0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20
0.00	0.14	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34
0.37	1.19	4.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.49
0.00	0.00	3.36	0.31	0.00	0.31	3.67
2.18	13.43	21.11	3.33	0.01	3.34	24.45
0.00	0.11	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
0.13	0.28	1.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.31
4.31	42.84	64.01	6.35	2.97	9.32	73.33

Statement-IV*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2010*

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered			
			FCI Owned	State Government	Hired CWC	SWC
	18	Chandigarh	1.07	0.00	0.71	0.84
	19	Rajasthan	7.06	0.00	1.32	2.69
	20	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	0.07	2.26	4.06
	21	Uttarakhand	0.66	0.30	0.50	0.56
		TOTAL (N.Z.)	57.12	4.99	10.51	47.85
South	22	Andhra Pradesh	12.66	0.07	5.30	16.39
	23	Andaman and Nicobar	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
	24	Kerala	5.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
	25	Karnataka	3.78	0.00	1.76	1.42
	26	Tamil Nadu	5.80	0.00	2.27	0.50
	27	Pondicherry	0.44	0.00	0.05	0.05
		TOTAL (S.Z.)	27.92	0.07	9.38	18.36
West	28	Gujarat	5.00	0.14	1.39	0.00
	29	Maharashtra 3	11.77	0.13	2.41	2.42
	30	Goa	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
	31	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.41	1.63	1.79
	32	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.18	0.70	2.31
		TOTAL (W.Z.)	25.41	0.86	6.13	6.52
		GRAND TOTAL	129.69	6.28	28.85	76.69

Statement-IV*The State-wise storage capacity with F.C.I. as on 31.03.2010*

(Figure in lakh tonnes)

Private Parties	Total Hired	Total Covered	Cap		Total	Grand Total
			Owned	Hired		
0.00	1.55	2.62	0.18	0.16	0.34	2.96
1.88	5.89	12.95	1.82	1.31	3.13	16.08
0.23	6.62	21.57	5.20	0.10	5.30	26.87
0.05	1.41	2.07	0.16	0.14	0.30	2.37
8.78	72.13	129.25	17.35	4.69	22.04	151.29
1.07	22.83	35.49	2.62	0.00	2.62	38.11
0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07
0.00	0.00	5.17	0.20	0.00	0.20	5.37
0.25	3.43	7.21	1.16	0.00	1.16	8.37
0.57	3.34	9.14	0.56	0.00	0.56	9.70
0.00	0.10	0.54	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.59
1.89	29.70	57.62	4.59	0.00	4.59	62.21
0.00	1.53	6.53	0.27	0.00	0.27	6.80
2.23	7.19	18.96	1.02	0.00	1.02	19.98
0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15
1.95	5.78	9.15	0.35	0.00	0.35	9.50
0.12	331	8.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.43
4.30	17.81	43.22	1.64	0.00	1.64	44.86
17.08	128.90	258.59	25.08	4.69	29.77	288.36

Statement-V*The State-wise storage capacity with FCI as on 31.03.2011*

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered			
			FCI Owned	Hired State Government	CWC	SWC
East	1	Bihar	3.66	0.03	0.80	1.02
	2	Jharkhand	0.66	0.03	0.19	0.21
	3	Orissa	3.02	0.00	0.80	2.19
	4	West Bengal	8.59	0.19	0.91	0.00
	5	Sikkim	0.10	0.01	0.00	0.00
		TOTAL (E. Zone)	16.03	0.26	2.70	3.42
N.E.	6	Assam	2.07	0.00	0.23	0.11
	7	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.05	0.00	0.00
	8	Meghalaya	0.14	0.00	0.07	0.05
	9	Mizoram	0.22	0.01	0.00	0.00
	10	Tripura	0.29	0.05	0.14	0.00
	11	Manipur	0.20	0.01	0.00	0.00
	12	Nagaland	0.20	0.00	0.13	0.00
		TOTAL (N.E.Z)	3.30	0.12	0.57	0.16
North	13	Delhi	3.36	0.00	0.00	0.00
	14	Haryana	7.68	4.17	3.08	5.60
	15	Himachal Pradesh	0.14	0.06	0.05	0.00
	16	Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	0.15	0.00	0.00
	17	Punjab	21.17	0.59	4.72	38.61

Statement-V*The State-wise storage capacity with FCI as on 31.03.2011*

(Figure in lakh tonnes)

Private Parties	Total Hired	Total Covered	Cap			Grand Total
			Owned	Hired	Total	
0.47	2.32	5.98	1.00	0.00	1.00	6.98
0.20	0.63	1.29	0.05	0.00	0.05	1.34
0.15	3.14	6.16	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.16
0.90	2.00	10.59	0.51	0.00	0.51	11.10
0.00	0.01	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11
1.72	8.10	24.13	1.56	0.00	1.56	25.69
0.37	0.71	2.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.78
0.00	0.05	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23
0.00	0.12	0.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26
0.00	0.01	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23
0.00	0.19	0.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.48
0.00	0.01	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21
0.00	0.13	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33
0.37	1.22	4.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.52
0.00	0.00	3.36	0.31	0.00	0.31	3.67
2.27	15.12	22.80	3.33	0.11	3.44	26.24
0.00	0.11	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
0.03	0.18	1.21	0.10	0.00	0.10	1.31
4.27	48.19	69.36	7.14	3.28	10.42	79.78

Statement-V*The State-wise storage capacity with FCI as on 31.03.2011*

Zone	Sl. No.	Region/U.T.	Covered			
			FCI Owned	Hired State Government	CWC	SWC
	18	Chandigarh	1.07	0.17	0.83	1.08
	19	Rajasthan	7.06	0.00	1.68	3.12
	20	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	0.07	4.71	12.30
	21	Uttarakhand	0.66	0.27	0.46	0.60
		TOTAL (N.Z.)	57.12	5.48	15.53	61.31
South	22	Andhra Pradesh	12.66	0.05	7.08	19.98
	23	Andaman Nicobar	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
	24	Kerala	5.17	0.00	0.00	0.00
	25	Karnataka	3.78	0.00	1.58	1.61
	26	Tamil Nadu	5.80	0.00	2.35	0.51
	27	Pondicherry	0.44	0.00	0.08	0.06
		TOTAL (S.Z.)	27.92	0.05	11.09	22.16
West	28	Gujarat	5.00	0.14	1.62	0.00
	29	Maharashtra	11.90	0.00	2.63	3.17
	30	Goa	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
	31	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	0.07	1.36	0.98
	32	Chhattisgarh	5.12	0.06	0.87	2.71
		TOTAL (W.Z.)	25.54	0.27	6.48	6.86
		GRAND TOTAL	129.91	6.18	36.37	93.91

Statement-V*The State-wise storage capacity with FCI as on 31.03.2011*

(Figure in lakh tonnes)

Private Parties	Total Hired	Total Covered	Cap			Grand Total
			Owned	Hired	Total	
0.00	2.08	3.15	0.17	0.12	0.29	3.44
1.89	6.69	13.75	1.85	1.72	3.57	17.32
0.22	17.30	32.25	5.19	0.00	5.19	37.44
0.05	1.38	2.04	0.21	0.11	0.32	2.36
8.73	91.05	148.17	18.30	5.34	23.64	171.81
2.09	29.20	41.86	2.62	0.00	2.62	44.48
0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07
0.00	0.00	5.17	0.20	0.00	0.20	5.37
0.25	3.44	7.22	1.16	0.00	1.16	8.38
0.56	3.42	9.22	0.61	0.00	0.61	9.83
0.00	0.14	0.58	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.64
2.90	36.20	64.12	4.65	0.00	4.65	68.77
0.00	1.76	6.76	0.27	0.00	0.27	7.03
2.31	8.11	20.01	1.02	0.10	1.12	21.13
0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15
1.87	4.28	7.65	0.36	0.00	0.36	8.01
0.23	3.87	8.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.99
4.41	18.02	43.56	1.65	0.10	1.75	45.31
18.13	154.59	284.50	26.16	5.44	31.60	316.10

Statement-VI

*Storage Capacity with FCI as on 31.10.12 and
State Government/Agencies as on 31.05.2012*

Zone	Sl. No.	FCI Region	Total Storage Capacity with			
			Covered		CAP	
			Owned	Hired	Owned	Hired
East	1	Bihar	3.66	2.57	1.00	-
	2	Jharkhand	0.67	0.63	0.05	-
	3	Orissa	3.02	3.20	-	-
	4	West Bengal	8.69	2.00	0.51	-
N.E.	6	Assam	2.12	0.74	-	-
	7	Arunachal Pradesh	0.18	0.04	-	-
	8	Meghalaya	0.14	0.12	-	-
	9	Mizoram	0.25	0.01	-	-
	10	Tripura	0.33	0.15	-	-
	11	Manipur	0.20	0.07	-	-
	12	Nagaland	0.20	0.13	-	-
	North	13	Delhi	3.36	-	0.31
14		Haryana	7.68	20.75	3.33	0.10
15		Himachal Pradesh	0.19	0.16	-	-
16		Jammu and Kashmir	1.03	0.28	0.10	-

Statement-VI

*Storage Capacity with FCI as on 31.10.12 and
State Government/Agencies as on 31.05.2012*

(Figures in LMT)

FCI (Owned/Hired)		Total Storage Capacity with State Agencies including SWCs (excluding capacities given to FCI) for storage of foodgrains		Grand Total	
Total		State Agencies			
Covered	Cap	Covered	Cap	Covered	Cap
6.23	1.00	6.58	-	12.81	1.00
1.30	0.05	0.18	-	1.48	0.05
6.22	-	5.36	-	11.58	-
10.69	0.51	3.32	-	14.01	0.51
2.86	-	2.55	-	5.41	-
0.22	-	-	-	0.22	-
0.26	-	0.15	-	0.41	-
0.26	-	0.56	-	0.82	-
0.48	-	0.43	-	0.91	-
0.27	-	0.13	-	0.40	-
0.33	-	0.07	-	0.40	-
3.36	0.31	-	-	3.36	0.31
28.43	3.43	26.60	51.61	55.03	55.04
0.35	-	-	-	0.35	-
1.31	0.10	1.26	-	2.57	0 10

Statement-VI

*Storage Capacity with FCI as on 31.10.12 and
State Government/Agencies as on 31.05.2012*

Zone	Sl. No.	FCI Region	Total Storage Capacity with			
			Covered		CAP	
			Owned	Hired	Owned	Hired
	17	Punjab	22.24	59.32	7.31	2.89
	19	Rajasthan	7.06	12.12	1.85	5.37
	20	Uttar Pradesh	14.95	36.87	5.19	4.19
	21	Uttarakhand	0.66	1.09	0.21	0.02
South	22	Andhra Pradesh	12.73	35.42	2.62	-
	24	Kerala	5.17	-	0.20	-
	25	Karnataka	3.81	3.59	1.36	-
	26	Tamil Nadu	6.24	4.01	0.67	-
West	28	Gujarat	5.00	3.27	0.27	-
	29	Maharashtra	12.05	9.75	1.02	-
	31	Madhya Pradesh	3.37	4.31	0.36	-
	32	Chhattisgarh	5.12	4.89	0.01	-
		TOTAL	130.12	205.49	26.37	12.57
				335.61		38.94

Note: 1. Information as provided by Zonal offices/Regional Offices of FCI.

2. In r/o Assam, Shillong, HP and UP regions, the position of storage capacity of State Agencies is as on 31.3.2012.

Statement-VI

*Storage Capacity with FCI as on 31.10.12 and
State Government/Agencies as on 31.05.2012*

(Figures in LMT)

FCI (Owned/Hired)		Total Storage Capacity with State Agencies including SWCs (excluding capacities given to FCI) for storage of foodgrains		Grand Total	
Total		State Agencies			
Covered	Cap	Covered	Cap	Covered	Cap
81.56	10.20	34.46	95.57	116.02	105.77
19.18	7.22	2.48	-	21.66	7.22
51.82	9.38	1.37	-	53.19	9.38
1.75	0.23	2.59	-	4.34	0.23
48.15	2.62	16.07	-	64.22	2.62
5.17	0.20	-	-	5.17	0.20
7.40	1.36	5.85	-	13.25	1.36
10.25	0.67	10.09	-	20.34	0.67
8.27	0.27	3.97	-	12.24	0.27
21.80	1.02	15.21	-	37.01	1.02
7.68	0.36	44.34	-	52.02	0.36
10.01	0.01	10.55	-	20.56	0.01
335.61	38.94	194.17	147.18	529.78	186.12
374.55		341.35		715.90	

Import of pulses

343. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the wholesale and retail prices of moong, masur, urad etc. during 2010-11 and 2011-12;

(b) the quantum of above pulses imported during that period; and

(c) the targeted quantity of import and sale of pulses during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The month end wholesale and retail prices of pulses namely moong dal, masur dal, urad dal, gram dal and tur dal as observed in the four metros *viz.* Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata during 2010-11 and 2011-12 are given at Statement (*See* below).

(b) The quantum of pulses imported during 2010-11 and 2011-12 was 26.99 lakh tonnes and 33.65 lakh tonnes respectively.

(c) Import of pulses are generally done as per the domestic requirements and availability and a large part of import is made by the private operators.

Statement*Details of wholesale and retail prices of dals during the year 2010-11 and 2011-12*

Department of Consumer Affairs

Month End Retail Prices of Moong Dal

Unit: (Rs./Kg.)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12											
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Delhi	88	86	88	84	80	74	73	72	69	68	73	72	73	73	71	71	74	74	73	74	71	69	71	67
Mumbai	90	89	91	84	79	86	80	78	76	74	75	78	78	77	77	77	81	81	78	79	76	71	72	73
Kolkata	88	88	90	85	80	75	70	70	75	80	75	76	75	70	70	70	70	70	70	75	75	80	75	78
Chennai	90	94	90	78	77	72	65	65	68	72	70	70	70	70	67	65	65	70	70	68	68	68	65	64

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Department of Consumer Affairs

Month End Retail Prices of Masoor Dal

Unit: (Rs./Kg.)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12											
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Delhi	58	58	57	55	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	52	53	56	55	53	53	54	52	52	47

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Mumbai	52	51	52	51	51	58	57	57	56	57	56	57	57	56	54	55	61	59	56	57	54	53	54	57
Kolkata	50	50	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	46	46	45	45	44	42	42	44	44	44	44	45	44	45
Chennai	50	52	50	48	45	46	48	46	46	50	50	48	50	45	45	45	45	48	46	45	44	44	45	45

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Department of Consumer Affairs
Month End Retail Prices of Urad Dal

Unit: (Rs./Kg.)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12											
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Delhi	68	68	73	74	72	73	73	74	69	68	74	73	74	73	71	71	76	75	73	75	74	71	70	67
Mumbai	68	71	78	76	73	81	80	78	75	76	77	77	76	76	75	74	79	82	77	79	74	65	68	70
Kolkata	60	62	68	68	68	72	65	62	58	60	60	60	62	60	60	58	58	65	64	60	60	58	62	58
Chennai	70	78	80	78	78	78	72	72	70	68	68	70	72	70	68	68	68	72	71	68	64	64	65	60

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Department of Consumer Affairs
Month End Retail Prices of Gram Dal

Unit: (Rs./Kg.)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12											
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Delhi	33	34	34	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	39	39	38	37	37	38	44	55	55	56	54	51	49	49
Mumbai	33	32	34	34	34	38	38	38	38	40	39	39	38	39	41	43	47	57	55	55	55	53	55	60
Kolkata	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	35	38	38	38	38	35	35	35	38	38	48	46	48	48	46	50	50
Chennai	32	32	32	34	34	34	35	38	38	38	38	38	34	35	38	42	44	56	54	55	55	52	52	52

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Department of Consumer Affairs
Month End Retail Prices of Tur Dal

Unit: (Rs./Kg.)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12											
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Delhi	75	71	72	71	70	70	69	69	69	70	74	71	71	71	69	69	72	72	74	74	71	68	68	69
Mumbai	66	67	66	65	65	70	70	71	68	72	62	66	66	70	69	69	72	71	69	71	71	69	70	72
Kolkata	65	65	63	62	58	58	56	55	56	65	62	65	62	56	55	54	54	65	64	64	62	60	65	62
Chennai	72	72	72	68	67	65	65	60	60	75	72	68	68	65	62	62	62	68	65	65	62	65	65	64

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Department of Consumer Affairs
Month End Wholesale Prices of Moong Dal

Unit: (Rs./quintal)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12											
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan		
Delhi	7350	7800	7700	7500	7150	6700	6450	6300	6100	5750	5840	5900	5900	5900	5925	6000	5650	6000	6200	6300	6100	5200		
Mumbai	8500	8225	8325	7475	7025	6400	5850	5750	5600	6400	6300	6200	6250	6250	6000	5850	5750	6000	6000	5733	5733	5200		
Kolkata	NR	NR	7900	7600	6300	6300	5800	5600	5500	5700	6000	6000	6200	5200	5100	5100	5100	5700	5500	5600	5500	5400		
Chennai	8600	9000	8600	7400	7000	6800	6000	5900	6200	6800	6800	6600	6600	6500	6200	6200	6000	6400	6000	NR	6000	5800		

Centre	Feb	Mar
Delhi	5700	5700
Mumbai	5200	5200
Kolkata	5300	5000
Chennai	5600	5600

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

*NR-Not reported

Department of Consumer Affairs

Month End Wholesale Prices of Masoor Dal Unit: (Rs./ quintal)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12									
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Delhi	4800	4550	4450	4500	4475	4415	4375	4350	4275	4325	4350	4250	4225	4100	4050	4000	4250	4300	4350	4500	4400	4300
Mumbai	4550	4400	4325	4300	4225	4200	4375	4050	4150	4350	4300	4200	3900	3850	3500	3385	3550	3950	3800	3733	3766	3700
Kolkata	NR	NR	4100	4000	4000	3900	3650	3600	3500	4000	3750	3850	3750	3500	3400	3400	3400	3800	3600	3400	3500	3500
Chennai	4500	4850	4700	4400	4100	4100	4200	3850	3700	4200	4400	4200	4600	3800	3800	3600	3800	4200	3650	NR	3700	3800

Centre	Feb	Mar
Delhi	4100	3800
Mumbai	3750	3750
Kolkata	3550	3850
Chennai	3800	3800

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

* NR - Not reported

Department of Consumer Affairs (Price Monitoring Cell)

Month End Wholesale Prices of Urad Dal

Unit: (Rs./quintal)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12									
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Delhi	5500	5550	6250	6450	6375	6360	6225	6150	5975	5700	5875	5675	5725	5600	5600	5450	5850	6200	6350	6350	6050	5750
Mumbai	6508	6808	7175	7450	7075	7400	6750	5900	6200	6350	6150	6150	6150	6050	5850	6150	5900	5950	5900	5533	5500	5500
Kolkata	NR	NR	6300	6300	6130	6600	5500	5500	5000	5400	5100	5200	5300	5100	4900	4900	4900	5100	5000	4700	4700	4400
Chennai	6700	7600	7400	7400	7200	7400	6500	6400	6100	6300	6000	6600	6500	6400	6400	6200	6200	6700	6000	NR	5600	5400

Centre	Feb	Mar
Delhi	5650	5600
Mumbai	5500	5500
Kolkata	4450	4000
Chennai	5300	5000

* NR - Not reported

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Department of Consumer Affairs
Month End Wholesale Prices of Gram Dal

Unit: (Rs./quintal)

Centre	2010-11												2011-12											
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan		
Delhi	2625	2600	2650	2750	2700	2715	2685	2740	2825	2850	3075	3025	2950	2950	2950	3000	3500	4500	4500	4550	4500	4350		
Mumbai	2675	2650	2825	2925	2963	3000	3000	3225	3150	3200	3150	3150	3000	3000	3700	3750	3350	4900	4600	4633	4566	4300		
Kolkata	NR	NR	2500	2600	2770	2680	2880	3300	3200	3325	3220	2900	2800	2900	2900	2900	2900	4300	4200	4300	4200	4200		
Chennai	2800	2880	2800	3000	3000	3100	3200	3500	3500	3500	3600	3500	3100	3200	3500	3800	4000	5000	4700	NR	4800	4700		

Centre	Feb	Mar
Delhi	4200	4100
Mumbai	4300	4300
Kolkata	4200	4550
Chennai	4500	4500

* NR - Not reported

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Department of Consumer Affairs
Month End Wholesale Prices of Tur Dal

Unit: (Rs./quintal)

Centre	2010-11											2011-12										
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Delhi	6050	6050	6050	6200	6050	5850	5800	5775	5715	5825	6040	5925	5925	5900	5800	5750	5900	6100	6500	6450	6300	6000
Mumbai	6033	5875	5775	5650	5750	5700	5850	5850	5300	6100	5900	5850	5650	5525	5500	5100	5500	5650	5500	5300	5366	5200
Kolkata	NR	NR	5700	5500	4950	5100	4850	4600	4800	5200	5400	5700	5200	4500	4400	4400	4400	4800	4900	4900	4800	4200
Chennai	6800	6850	6600	6400	6000	6000	5800	5600	5500	6800	6520	6400	6100	5800	5600	5600	5520	6000	6000	NR	5500	6000

Centre	Feb	Mar
Delhi	6000	6150
Mumbai	5200	5200
Kolkata	4300	4300
Chennai	6000	5800

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

*NR-Not reported

Procurement of wheat vis-a-vis its MSP

344. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the hike in MSP for wheat would increase the procurement cost of the grain and food subsidy bill by an additional Rs.4,000 crore to Rs.5,000 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to curtail the procurement of wheat in the event the MSP on wheat is hiked; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Cost of procurement of foodgrains includes Minimum Support Price (MSP), State-specific taxes as applicable/statutory levies and other procurement incidentals. Any increase in MSP, therefore, adds to the procurement cost and consequently the food subsidy bill. The total impact on food subsidy will depend upon the extent of increase in MSP and other associated costs of procurement.

(d) No, Sir.

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

Paddy procurement

345. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that FCI's paddy procurement has reached around five lakh tonnes during the first week of October;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has set a target of procuring 40 million tonnes of the staple in 2012-13 marketing season; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) The procurement of paddy by Government Agencies, including Food Corporation of India, had reached 8.72 lakh tons during the first week of October, 2012.

(b) The State-wise break-up of the paddy procured during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2012-13, upto 7.10.2012, is as under:

(Fig. in lakh tons)

State	Quantity
Chandigrah	0.01
Haryana	5.94
Punjab	2.77
TOTAL	8.72

(c) Yes, Sir. As per estimates given by State Food Secretaries, during a meeting held on 1.8.2012, rice procurement during KMS 2012-13 is estimated to be 401.31 lakh tons.

(d) State-wise break-up of estimated procurement of rice during KMS 2012-13 is given in Statement.

Statement

State-wise estimate of procurement of rice during KMS 2012-13

(In lakh tons)

Sl. No.	States	Estimated Quantity of rice to be procured during KMS 2012-13
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96
2.	Assam	1.0
3.	Bihar	20.1
4.	Chhattisgarh	43.5
5.	Haryana	16.75
6.	Karnataka	3.5
7.	Madhya Pradesh	13
8.	Maharashtra	3
9.	Odisha	30

1	2	3
10.	Punjab	85
11.	Tamil Nadu	17
12.	Uttar Pradesh	41
13.	Uttarakhand	4
14.	West Bengal	20
15.	Kerala	4
16.	Jharkhand	3.40
17.	Others	0.06
TOTAL		401.31

Priority category in FSA

†346. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 67 per cent people of the country, included in the priority category, would be benefited under the Food Security Act (FSA);

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the details of the criteria Government has adopted for selection of people for inclusion in the priority category alongwith the justification therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) The National Food Security Bill, 2011, introduced by the Government in the Lok Sabha on 22nd December, 2011, provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population (with at least 46% population belonging to priority households) and upto 50% of the urban population (with at least 28% population belonging to priority households) for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The Bill provides that within the State-wise number of persons belonging to the priority households and general households, determined by the Central Government, identification of households shall be done by the State Governments or such other agency, in accordance with the guidelines prescribed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

by the Central Government. The Bill is presently under examination by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.

Lifting of grains by Bihar

347. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar Government has lifted only 45 per cent of PDS grains during the last few years against their allocation from the Central Pool of PDS;

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

(c) the details of general average of States lifting PDS grains during that period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The year-wise details of allocation, Offtake and offtake percentage during last three years for Bihar from the Central Pool is as under:

(Quantity in thousand tons)

Year	Allocation	Offtake	Per cent Offtake
2009-10	3675.06	2274.01	61.9
2010-11	4361.61	3340.75	76.6
2011-12	4847.04	3512.71	72.5

(c) The year-wise details of allocation, Offtake and offtake percentage during last three years by all States/Union Territories(UTs) including Bihar from the Central Pool is as under:

(Quantity in thousand tons)

Year	Allocation	Offtake	Per cent Offtake
2009-10	51210.24	43324.55	84.6
2010-11	58113.74	50083.89	86.2
2011-12	56246.09	48924.63	87.0

Containing prices of essential commodities

†348. SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that during the last few months, the prices of pulses, foodgrains, edible oils, sugar and other commodities of common consumption have witnessed an exorbitant increase;

(b) if so, the month-wise details of the average wholesale and retail prices of essential commodities from January, 2012 to till date;

(c) the steps being taken by Government for controlling the prices of essential food items; and

(d) the details of the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The monthly average retail prices from January, 2012 onwards show an upward trend in the case of rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils, sugar and vegetables. The increase was considerable in the prices of gram dal, groundnut oil and sugar whereas the prices of milk remained more or less steady during this period. In the case of vegetables, the retail prices of onion registered a steady trend till June, 2012 and started rising from July, 2012 onwards whereas the prices of potato and tomato which were showing upward trend started declining from August, 2012 onwards. The details of monthly average retail and wholesale prices as reported from major centres are given in Annexure [See Appendix 227 Annexure No.2]

(c) and (d) The Government has initiated several steps which would be effective in controlling the prices of essential commodities. The steps taken to contain the price rise are given in Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USQ 331 (d) and (e)]

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Shortage of warehouses/godowns

349. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of warehouses/godowns in the country for storing the foodgrains;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to increase the number of warehouses/godowns so that foodgrains are preserved properly;

(c) whether Government has launched the Private Entrepreneur Scheme to increase the storage capacity of foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The storage capacity, Covered and Cover and Plinth (CAP) available with the Food Corporation of India was 374.55 lakh MTs as on 31.10.2012. The storage capacity both covered and CAP, available with the State agencies for storage of Central stock of foodgrains was 341.35 lakh MTs. Thus, a total of about 716 lakh MTs of storage capacity is available for storage of Central pool stock of foodgrains against a stock of 695.29 lakhs MTs as on 31.10.2012.

However, due to the increased procurement of foodgrains, the Government has formulated the Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of covered storage godowns through private entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs). Under the PEG Scheme, FCI gives guarantee for the storage charges to the private investors for 10 years. A capacity of 181.08 lakh MTs has been approved for construction of godowns in 19 States under PEG Scheme. The details State-wise are given in Statement (*See below*). A capacity of 20 lakh MTs will also be constructed in Silos within the overall storage requirements of FCI. Besides the PEG Scheme, there is a Plan scheme for creation of total additional storage capacity of 5.40 lakh MTs in the North Eastern States through FCI under which during XIth Five Year Plan some other deficit States have also been covered. The FCI has also finalised a scheme for hiring of private godowns through open tenders for one year extendable for another one year, to take care of the short term hiring needs.

Statement*Status of construction of Godowns under
PEG Scheme as on 31.10.2012*

Sl. No.	Agency	Total capacity approved	Total capacity allotted/sanctioned	Work completed
1	Andhra Pradesh	451,000	401,000	157,100
2	Bihar	940,000	120,000	20,000
3	Chhattisgarh	542,600	542,600	87,350
4	Gujarat	80,000	50,000	4,800
5	Haryana	4,006,000	2,713,396	639,950
6	Himachal Pradesh	142,550	34,180	2,500
7	Jammu and Kashmir	361,690	194,840	10,000
8	Jharkhand	175,000	65,000	-
9	Karnataka	416,500	324,850	94,770
10	Madhya Pradesh	2,387,000	1,049,760	66,800
11	Kerala	15,000	5,000	-
12	Maharashtra	655,500	599,900	219,140
13	Odisha	300,000	300,000	155,600
14	Punjab	4,999,000	4,492,738	1,493,858
15	Rajasthan	250,000	250,000	35,070
16	Tamil Nadu	345,000	155,000	60,000
17	Uttarakhand	25,000	-	-
18	Uttar Pradesh	1,860,000	1,519,700	97,000
19	West Bengal	156,600	29,600	11,600
TOTAL		18,108,440	12,847,564	3,155,538

Prices of essential food items

350. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of essential food items have risen drastically after increase in price of diesel by Government;

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

(c) whether retail food inflation has once again touched the double digit figures in recent months;

(d) if so, the details thereof, month-wise for the last three months;

(e) whether Government would take some concrete and fresh measures to ease food inflation;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) by when Government would be able to bring food articles under reach of poor and middle class of the society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Government had taken a decision on 13.9.2012 and accordingly, the retail selling price of diesel was increased by Rs.5/- per litre. The full impact of the above mentioned policy decision on the overall headline inflation will only be reflected in the subsequent months.

(c) and (d) The year-on-year inflation measured by monthly Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) stood at 9.14 per cent for September, 2012 as compared to 10.31 per cent for the previous month of August, 2012 and stood at 9.84 per cent for the month of July, 2012. During September, 2012, the point-to-point rate of food inflation stood at 11.00 per cent as against 12.20 per cent for the previous month and the same was 11.27 per cent for the month of July, 2012.

(e) to (g) The steps taken by the government to contain the prices of essential commodities are given in Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USQ No. 331 (d) and (e)]

(h) It is the constant endeavor of Government to bring food articles within the reach of poor and middle class of society. In order to provide foodgrains to the people at affordable prices, Government is making substantial allocation of foodgrains under TPDS to 6.52 crore BPL (including AAY) families in the States/UTs @ 35 kg per family per month at a highly subsidized central issue price (CIP). During the current year so far Government has made a total allocation of 623.72 lakh tonnes of foodgrains from the central pool for ensuring sufficient availability of foodgrains to the general public at highly subsidized prices.

Improvement in Distribution System

351. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as per the United Nations' recent report, rising food prices during 2010-11 kept 8 million Indians chained to poverty;

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

(c) whether, as per the UN report, the distribution and not the lack of food is the main cause of hunger in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government would take concrete steps to improve the distribution system;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) A report has been brought out in October 2012 by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, (UN-ESCAP) regarding 'Regional Cooperation

for Inclusive and Sustainable Development: South and South-West Asia Development Report, 2012-13'. Amongst various issues, the report discusses food security and sustainable agriculture in South and South-West Asia.

The report *inter-alia* mentions that rising food prices during 2010-11 may have kept 8 million people from exiting poverty in India. The report also mentions that food prices have increased due to various factors like pressure on agriculture sector, increase in population, rising consumption, increasing cost of fertilizers, competition for arable land and water sources, etc.

This Ministry on its part has been taking several steps to contain price rise in essential commodities, which includes reduction of import duties on wheat, onion, pulses, edible oils, sugar etc.; ban on export of edible oils and certain pulses; imposing stock limits from time to time in case of select essential commodities; maintaining the Central Issue Price under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for rice (at Rs.5.65 per kg. for Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Rs.3 per kg. for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and wheat (at Rs.4.15 per kg. for BPL and Rs.2 per kg for AAY), suspending futures trading in specified commodities; restoring levy obligation @10% on sugar factories for 2011-12 season; allocation of rice and wheat under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) and resumption of the scheme for subsidised imported pulses through PDS, which includes a subsidy element to be paid to the designated importing agencies.

(c) and (d) The report also makes a comparison of food production versus consumption in the 10 South and South-West Asian countries including India. Using the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)'s data regarding food production in terms of calories per person per day and the estimated dietary requirements, the report suggests that the caloric content of food production far outweighs the dietary requirements. Based on this, the report states that the root cause of hunger is not the lack of food but the economic and social distribution of food.

(e) to (g) In June, 1997, the Government launched the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) with a view to successfully target poor sections of society for distribution of foodgrains. Under TPDS, Government allocates foodgrains (wheat and rice) to States/UTs @ 35 kg per family per month to the accepted number of 6.52 crore BPL families, including about 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. Considering the availability of foodgrains in Central pool

and past offtake, allocation is also presently being made for Above Poverty Line (APL) families between 15 kg and 35 kg per family per month.

Further, strengthening and streamlining of the TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly requesting State/UT Governments for continuous review of lists of BPL and AAY families, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at Fair Price Shops (FPSs), ensuring greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, adoption of revised Model Citizen's Charter, and introduction of new technologies such as Computerisation of TPDS operations at various levels and improving the efficiency of FPS operations.

Futures Trade in Agricultural Products

352. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the agricultural products where futures trade is banned;
- (b) whether the Ministry has found price fluctuation in some of the agricultural products which are under futures trade;
- (c) if so, the details of such fluctuations during the last two years, month-wise and commodity-wise;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to ban futures trade on some of the agricultural products; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) As of now, no agricultural product has been banned from futures trading. Futures trading in three commodities Urad, Tur and Rice is suspended.

(b) Price fluctuation or price volatility in the market is a normal phenomenon. Prices fluctuate in the market depending on the fundamentals of demand and supply which is irrespective of whether futures trade is done or not in those commodities.

(c) The details of price fluctuation in 19 agricultural commodities which are mainly traded in futures market during the last two years are given in Annexure [See Appendix 227 Annexure No.3]

(d) and (e) No Sir, there is no proposal to ban futures trading in any agricultural commodity.

Distribution of foodgrain through NGOs

353. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a scheme to provide foodgrains through NGOs to the poor people not covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of foodgrains allocated under the said scheme during the last three years and the current year;

(d) the names of NGOs and other agencies involved in the distribution of foodgrains;

(e) whether Government has any mechanism in place to monitor such agencies to prevent the misuse of foodgrains; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Decontrolling Sugar

354. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panel has suggested to decontrol sugar by stopping supply of levy sugar and suggested to sell it in the open market by mills;

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

(c) the views of cane farmers and State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) The Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan, Chairman, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, has *inter-alia* recommended removal of levy obligation on sugar mills. The Committee has further recommended that the States which want to provide sugar under PDS may henceforth procure it from the market directly according to their requirement and may also fix the issue price. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

(c) Some cane farmers have supported the proposal. The views of State Governments have been invited.

Kelkar Committee's Recommendations to prune Subsidy Bill

355. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has indicated that it will oppose Kelkar Committee's recommendations to prune the subsidy bill and has conveyed its opposition to the report to the Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Kelkar panel painted a grim picture on fiscal front and recommended drastic cut in subsidy bill;

(d) whether the Ministry's opposition had forced Government to abandon a move to hike the price of PDS sugar for BPL families from Rs.13.50 to Rs.24; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Ministry of Finance *vide* Office Memorandum dated 25th October, 2012 has forwarded a copy of the actionable points of Kelkar Committee's Recommendations relating of Department of Food & Public Distribution and same is being examined.

(c) Kelkar Committee in its report has mainly emphasized on the need for adjusting price of petroleum products on regular basis as incremental steps towards eventual deregulation of diesel and on affordable level of subsidy on LPG and kerosene, increase in the Maximum Retail Price of urea, efficient system of foodgrains delivery and linking of Central Issue Price increases to Minimum Support Price increases.

- (d) No Sir.
- (e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Expenditure on CSR

356. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made it mandatory for corporate sector to spend two per cent of the companies' net profit under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the corporate sector has expressed their reservations/objections in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) Clause 135 of the Companies Bill, 2011, *inter-alia*, provides for the Boards of specified companies to spend atleast 2% of the average net profits (of last 3 years) in pursuance of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR) policy and in case of failure, to specify the reasons for not spending such amount in the Board's Report.

The provisions on CSR in the Companies Bill, 2011 were formulated also keeping in view the suggestions received from various stakeholders. The Hon'ble Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance which examined the Companies Bill, 2009 and the Companies Bill, 2011 has also recommended inclusion of these provisions in the Bill. The Ministry has not received any communication from any company expressing reservations/objections about the provision referred above.

Vanishing Companies

357. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to make stringent provisions against those vanishing companies which were incorporated before the passing of Companies Bill, 2011 and are spread throughout the country, cheating the small investors by promising extremely high returns under various schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to punish such erring companies;

(c) whether any study for getting feedback has been conducted and subsequently any committee is proposed to be constituted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) Provisions in laws and Rules have been made to ensure that companies function/raise money in a manner which is transparent, accountable and is in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act and other enactments like SEBI Act and the Prize Chits & Money Circulation (Banning) Act etc.

The Government has also been taking action against companies (and their directors), which disappear after raising money from public. A Central Coordination and Monitoring Committee (CMC), co-chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) monitors efforts to identify 'vanishing companies' and take stock of action taken against them.

The Committee identified 238 companies as 'vanishing companies'; 151 such companies have been traced (including 32 under liquidation). As on 31.3.2012 there were 87 companies which remained untraced after having raised funds through IPOs.

Action against such companies has been initiated for violation of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 by filing complaints u/s 159/220 of the Companies Act, 1956 apart from filing of prosecutions u/s 63/68 and 628 of the Companies Act, 1956 besides seeking assistance of police authorities and filing FIRs. The Committee also receives feedback from all the stakeholders and makes suitable procedural adjustments on a continuing basis and carries out.

Business Index

358. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to develop a business index that would reflect the country's overall corporate environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has started preliminary discussions with various stakeholders for developing the index; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has taken up a pilot study to see the feasibility of the concept. This is still at a preliminary stage and further details will emerge after completion of the pilot study and sharing its finding with other Ministries concerned with the subject-matter.

Funds for SCSP and TSP

359. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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

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

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

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) administers the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. It does not have any Scheme relating to Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). Hence, the funds are not provided for these Sub Plans.

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

Time taken to open business

360. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the average time taken to open a business in the country;

(b) whether a recent World Bank report ranked India 165th out of 183 countries when it comes to opening businesses and if so, the reasons for such a low rank; and

(c) the major initiatives, if any, taken by Government to simplify the process of opening business and spur entrepreneurial growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) The time taken to register a company has been reduced to 48 hours. Similarly, issue of Director's Identification Number (DIN) and name availability of company can now be done online within 24 hours.

(b) As per the Report of World Bank titled "Doing Business 2012: Doing Business in a more Transparent World", India is ranked 166th. The report maintains that for starting business 29 days are required. The report also identifies factors like Sales Tax, Registration, purchase of office/lands/buildings etc., which are under the State Governments as responsible for delays in initiating business.

(c) To further improve the process of opening business and spur entrepreneurial growth, the Ministry has set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Damodaran on 23.08.2012 to conduct an in-depth study into the existing regulatory framework for doing business in India and to suggest a comprehensive policy framework for its improvement within 6 months.

Availability of drinking water in hilly States

361. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that a number of villages in many hilly States do not have drinking water facilities;

(b) whether it is a fact that the water sources have dried up due to excessive digging for laying of roads;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the womenfolk have to walk down about half-a-kilometer to fetch a can of water; and

(d) the details of remedial steps that would be taken to supply safe drinking water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Some habitations in the States including the hilly States are partially covered in terms of having less than adequate drinking water supply.

(b) The water sources dry up because of a number of reasons including excessive extraction of ground and surface water mainly for irrigation and industrial purposes, inadequate recharge of water in the sources, both surface water and ground water based, due to insufficient rains, depletion of tree cover and undergrowth in forests and catchment areas etc. However, the Ministry does not have any information regarding the water sources having dried up due to excessive digging for laying of roads.

(c) As per Census 2011, 22.10% of rural households in the country have to travel more than half a kilometer for fetching drinking water in rural areas.

(d) Under the centrally sponsored scheme, the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), the Government of India provides financial and technical assistance to States to supplement their efforts to provide adequate safe drinking water to the rural population. A budgetary allocation of Rs. 10,500 crores has been provided for NRDWP in 2012-13. Under NRDWP, the Government of India has given priority to cover partially covered habitations and quality affected habitations with safe drinking water schemes like handpumps, piped water supply schemes etc. In the Twelfth Five year plan period, the focus is on providing drinking water through piped water supply, either by household connections or public standposts.

Shortage of sanitation facilities

362. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is facing serious shortage of sanitation facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) As per Census 2011, there are

16.78 crore rural households in the country and 5.15 crore households have toilet within premises. Also 32.53 lakh households have access to public latrine. There are 11.30 crore rural households without access to toilets.

(b) State-wise details of total rural households, households with toilets within premises, households have access to Public Latrine and Households without access to toilets is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) To accelerate the progress of sanitation in rural areas, Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in TSC that is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the XIIth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with 'Nirmal Grams' as outcomes. The new strategy is to transform rural India into 'Nirmal Bharat' by adopting community saturation approach. The provision of incentive for individual household latrine units has been widened to cover all APL households who are SC/ST, small and marginal farmer, landless labourer with homesteads, physically challenged and women headed households along-with all BPL households to attain community outcomes. Financial incentive for construction of toilets has been raised for all eligible beneficiaries.

Conjoint approach with the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been adopted to address the issue of availability of water in the Gram Panchayats for sustaining the sanitation facilities created. Funds for capacity building of all stakeholders including Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and field level implementers have been earmarked under the revised strategy. Convergence with other State Departments like Health, Women & Child Development and Panchayati Raj is being focused upon. Provision has been made for incentivizing Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHAs) & Anganwadi workers for promoting sanitation. Self Help Groups, Women's Groups & NGOs of repute are to be encouraged by States to participate in sanitation promotion. The component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) has been prioritized by developing a roster of options and focussed funding.

The Government has increased the allocation for NBA from Rs.1500 crore in 2011-12, the last year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan to Rs.3500 crore as Budget Estimate during 2012-13, the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

Statement

Details of total rural households with toilets, those having access to public latrine and households without access to toilet

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total households	Households with toilet within premises	Households access to public latrine	Households without access to toilet
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	A and N Islands	59030	35540	517	22973
2	Andhra Pradesh	14246309	4585620	383046	9277643
3	Arunachal Pradesh	195723	103139	5968	86616
4	Assam	5374553	3201625	105929	2066999
5	Bihar	16926958	2978607	171411	13776940
6	Chandigarh	6785	5970	429	386
7	Chhattisgarh	4384112	636991	13853	3733268
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	35408	9389	979	25040
9	Daman and Diu	12750	6550	1840	4360
10	Goa	124674	88423	2094	34157
11	Gujarat	6765403	2235623	80616	4449164
12	Haryana	2966053	1663159	48691	1254203
13	Himachal Pradesh	1310538	872545	11427	426566
14	Jammu and Kashmir	1497920	578924	45904	873092
15	Jharkhand	4685965	357289	32864	4295812
16	Karnataka	7864196	2234534	272968	5356694
17	Kerala	4095674	3818327	48244	229103

1	2	3	4	5	6
18	Lakshadweep	2523	2474	7	42
19	Madhya Pradesh	11122365	1459201	50926	9612238
20	Maharashtra	13016652	4946854	807153	7262645
21	Manipur	335752	288713	5831	41208
22	Meghalaya	422197	227487	12926	181784
23	Mizoram	104874	88698	2645	13531
24	Nagaland	284911	197223	24125	63563
25	NCT of Delhi	79115	60355	8076	10684
26	Odisha	8144012	1146552	101308	6896152
27	Puducherry	95133	37130	1318	56685
28	Punjab	3315632	2333985	49779	931868
29	Rajasthan	9490363	1864447	46062	7579854
30	Sikkim	92370	77694	946	13730
31	Tamil Nadu	9563899	2220793	335708	7007398
32	Tripura	607779	495053	19082	93644
33	Uttar Pradesh	25475071	5545881	279272	19649918
34	Uttarakhand	1404845	759392	12743	632710
35	West Bengal	13717186	6411152	269205	7036829
INDIA		167826730	51575339	3253892	112997499

Shortage of toilets

†363. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- the details of the shortage of toilets in the country;
- the steps being taken to address this shortage; and

(c) by when this shortage is likely to be addressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) As per Census 2011, there are 16.78 crore rural households in the country and 5.15 crore households have toilet within premises. Also 32.53 lakh households have access to public latrine. There are 11.30 crore rural households without access to toilets.

(b) To accelerate the progress of sanitation in rural areas, Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in TSC that is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with 'Nirmal Grams' as outcomes. The new strategy is to transform rural India into 'Nirmal Bharat' by adopting community saturation approach. The provision of incentive for individual household latrine units has been widened to cover all APL households who are SC/ST, small and marginal farmer, landless labourer with homesteads, physically challenged and women headed households along-with all BPL households to attain community outcomes. Financial incentive for construction of toilets has been raised for all eligible beneficiaries.

Conjoint approach with the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been adopted to address the issue of availability of water in the Gram Panchayats for sustaining the sanitation facilities created. Funds for capacity building of all stakeholders including Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and field level implementers have been earmarked under the revised strategy. Convergence with other State Departments like Health, Women & Child Development and Panchayati Raj is being focused upon. Provision has been made for incentivizing Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHAs) & Anganwadi workers for promoting sanitation. Self Help Groups, Women's Groups & NGOs of repute are to be encouraged by States to participate in sanitation promotion. The component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) has been prioritized by developing a roster of options and focussed funding.

The Government has increased the allocation for NBA from Rs.1500 crore in 2011-12, the last year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan to Rs.3500 crore as Budget Estimate during 2012-13, the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(c) Government of India has set a target to achieve 100% access to sanitation for all rural households by 2022.

Scarcity of drinking water in Maharashtra

†364. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the extreme scarcity of potable water in most of the villages of Jalgaon, Dhule, Nasik, Aurangabad, Pune and other districts of Maharashtra due to scant rainfall;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any appropriate steps to overcome the crisis;

(d) whether the State Government has requested the Central Government for any special package to handle the situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Maharashtra has declared 209 talukas in 15 districts of the State viz. Dhule, Nasik, Nandurbar, Ahmednagar, Latur, Osmanabad, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Solapur, Nagpur, Gondia, Gadchiroli, Amrawati and Buldana as drought affected.

(c) to (e) The Ministry had written to all State Governments, including Maharashtra, in June, 2012 informing them about the forecast by India Meteorological Department (IMD) and advising them to take steps for preparedness and response in order to tackle drought like situations and also to ensure preparedness for any such situation that may develop during South-West monsoon 2012. The States were requested to prepare a Contingency Plan for the same. As per Standard Operating Procedure, the State prepared a Contingency Plan which included the activities of deepening of wells; rejuvenation, repair, replacement of pumping machinery; augmentation of source; rejuvenation/repair of hand pumps; construction of new wells and water supply through tankers. The Ministry had also requested the States to send regular reports on the various activities taken up by them to mitigate drinking water problems.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Minister of Agriculture and Food Processing Industries and Minister of Rural Development and Drinking Water and Sanitation along with a team of Central officials visited Maharashtra on 1st August, 2012 to assess the drought situation including scarcity of drinking water. The State had submitted a demand for Rs. 25 cr. for groundwater recharge measures, Rs. 75 cr. for strengthening of source and restoration of regional pipe water supply and Rs. 106 cr. for special repairs to drinking water supply schemes *i.e.* a total of Rs. 206 cr. Subsequent to the visit, the Ministry after obtaining approval from the Empowered Group of Minister on Drought, has released the full first instalment and 50% of the second instalment of total funds allocated to Maharashtra under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in advance of schedule, in view of the drought situation in the State. Under NRDWP (Calamity Component) Rs. 15 crore has also been released to Maharashtra for providing drinking water in the 15 affected districts.

The Ministry has so far released the following funds to Maharashtra in 2012-13.

(In Rs. crore)		
NRDWP (Program) Release	NRDWP (Calamity) component Release	Total release
459.423	15.00	474.423

Total Sanitation Campaign

365. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of DRINKTNG WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) initiated in 1999 seeks to ensure construction of pour-flush toilets across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including implementation timeline and the allocation of funds, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes Madam, Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), a comprehensive programme was started in 1999 to ensure sanitation facilities in rural areas with the main goal of eradicating the

practice of open defecation and ensuring clean environment. The main components were incentive for Individual Household Latrines (IHHL) for BPLs, School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE), assistance for Community Sanitary Complex, Anganwadi toilets and Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM).

To accelerate the progress of sanitation in rural areas, Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in TSC that is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with 'Nirmal Grams' as outcomes. The new strategy is to transform rural India into 'Nirmal Bharat' by adopting community saturation approach. The provision of incentive for individual household latrine units has been widened to cover all APL households who are SC/ST, small and marginal farmer, landless labourer with homesteads, physically challenged and women headed households along-with all BPL households to attain community outcomes. Financial incentive for construction of toilets has been raised for all eligible beneficiaries.

Conjoint approach with the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been adopted to address the issue of availability of water in the Gram Panchayats for sustaining the sanitation facilities created. Funds for capacity building of all stakeholders including Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and field level implementers have been earmarked under the revised strategy. Convergence with other State Departments like Health, Women & Child Development and Panchayati Raj is being focussed upon. Provision has been made for incentivizing Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHAs) & Anganwadi workers for promoting sanitation. Self Help Groups, Women's Groups & NGOs of repute are to be encouraged by States to participate in sanitation promotion. The component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM) has been prioritized by developing a roster of options and focused funding.

Government of India has set a target to achieve 100% access to sanitation for all rural households by 2022.

The Government has increased the allocation for NBA from Rs.1500 crore in 2011-12, the last year of the Eleventh Five Year Plan to Rs.3500 crore as Budget Estimate during 2012-13, the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

The State-wise fund release till date is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) Does not arise.

Statement*State-wise funds released till date under TSC*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total Projects Outlay	Approved Share			Release of funds			
			Center	State	Beneficiary	Center	State	Beneficiary	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	178187.67	114766.51	43841.36	19579.80	78691.96	36554.52	14460.15	129706.63
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6700.94	4662.35	1562.98	475.61	3121.10	927.83	165.77	4214.70
3	Assam	92814.80	65248.07	20582.96	6983.77	46448.63	9834.76	3482.52	59765.91
4	Bihar	293380.80	197840.73	71151.11	24388.96	95128.26	29947.31	4243.71	129319.28
5	Chhattisgarh	67877.81	45596.64	16475.61	5805.56	28348.60	15238.83	2760.68	46348.11
6	D and N Haveli	91.00	80.69	0.00	10.31	3.15	0.00	0.00	3.15
7	Goa	1059.43	634.96	292.25	132.22	172.32	112.86	0.00	285.18
8	Gujarat	70231.96	43924.90	17352.98	8954.08	34803.45	14390.30	9295.96	58489.71
9	Haryana	23087.84	13922.67	5687.00	3478.17	11136.10	5194.24	4184.88	20515.22
10	Himachal Pradesh	19632.55	13118.40	4997.33	1516.82	8748.19	2766.05	820.36	12334.61
11	Jammu and Kashmir	40598.74	28374.07	9628.36	2596.31	11754.80	3298.76	2125.65	17179.21
12	Jharkhand	90728.43	60485.48	22185.77	8057.18	34362.22	19088.85	2343.53	55794.60
13	Karnataka	108474.68	70077.23	26898.26	11499.19	40326.59	16381.71	17739.83	74448.14

14	Kerala	22189.92	11873.91	5544.08	4771.93	10297.81	4765.53	7571.00	22634.34
15	Madhya Pradesh	170288.99	113086.85	41987.69	15214.45	83667.22	29988.80	14978.05	128634.07
16	Maharashtra	148969.04	97771.77	36414.52	14782.75	68124.10	28900.34	12645.40	109669.84
17	Manipur	11274.03	7908.73	2579.50	785.80	4349.06	934.01	753.48	6036.54
18	Meghalaya	14008.99	9562.87	3411.07	1035.05	7814.86	2402.20	209.85	10426.91
19	Mizoram	6302.14	4331.58	1521.50	449.06	2903.48	793.50	343.96	4040.94
20	Nagaland	7957.58	5607.04	1759.75	590.79	3512.77	1032.95	175.77	4721.49
21	Orissa	156204.83	104509.10	37841.95	13853.78	51676.92	17268.90	5503.57	74449.39
22	Puducherry	572.56	481.72	0.00	90.84	94.84	0.00	0.00	94.84
23	Punjab	24134.47	15139.89	6532.40	2462.18	2921.86	822.21	106.29	3850.36
24	Rajasthan	102243.17	69096.73	25759.93	7386.51	33963.37	9352.21	3007.96	46323.54
25	Sikkim	2053.82	1338.56	440.74	274.52	1192.94	1051.82	729.45	2974.21
26	Tamil Nadu	114367.01	69366.01	28683.56	16317.44	54224.33	26342.36	12412.10	92978.79
27	Tripura	9838.52	6120.24	2400.50	1317.78	5479.14	2179.23	1051.59	8709.96
28	Uttar Pradesh	294726.00	192171.80	71925.16	30629.04	159093.09	121676.28	35921.58	316690.95
29	Uttarakhand	15091.07	9993.12	3641.26	1456.69	7040.89	2251.07	856.04	10148.00
30	West Bengal	174147.94	111799.51	43820.36	18528.07	65937.91	19561.67	32149.15	117648.73
TOTAL		2267236.73	1488892.12	554919.95	223424.66	955339.96	423059.12	190038.28	1568437.35

Assistance under Total Sanitation Campaign

366. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provides assistance for baseline survey in rural areas for preparation of district project under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC);

(b) if so, the details of assistance provided during each of the last three years; State-wise;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the habitations/villages covered under TSC, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the sanitation condition in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes Sir, Government of India before sanctioning of district projects, provides Rs. 10 lakh for Start-up activities including conducting baseline survey in rural areas for preparation of district project under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) earlier known as Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC).

(b) In the last three years, no assistance has been provided for Start-up activities including baseline Survey.

(c) Under Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA) projects are sanctioned taking district as a unit. Till date, NBA Projects have been sanctioned in 607 rural districts of the country. All villages in the district are covered under the programme. State-wise number of districts covered under NBA is given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) To accelerate the progress of sanitation in rural areas, Government of India has designed a paradigm shift in TSC that is now called the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The objective of NBA is to achieve sustainable behavior change with provision of sanitary facilities in entire communities in a phased, saturation mode with "Nirmal Grams" as outcomes. The new strategy is to transform rural India into 'Nirmal Bharat' by adopting community saturation approach. The provision of incentive for individual household latrine units has been widened to cover all APL households who are SC/ST, small and marginal farmer, landless labourer with homesteads, physically challenged and women headed households along-with all BPL households to attain community

outcomes. Financial incentive for construction and usage of toilets has been raised for all eligible beneficiaries as under:

- (i) Centre share of Rs.3200 (Rs.3700 in case of hilly and difficult areas)
- (ii) State Government share of Rs. 1400/-
- (iii) Maximum upto Rs. 4500/- per Individual households under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS)
- (iv) Beneficiary share of Rs.900/-

Conjoint approach with the scheme of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) has been adopted to address the issue of availability of water in the Gram Panchayats for sustaining the sanitation facilities created. Funds for capacity building of all stakeholders including Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and field level implementers have been earmarked under the revised strategy. Convergence with other State Departments like Health, Women & Child Development and Panchayati Raj is being focussed upon. Provision has been made for incentivizing Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHAs) & Anganwadi workers for promoting sanitation. Self Help Groups, Women's Groups & NGOs of repute are to be encouraged by States to participate in sanitation promotion. There is now a provision of social audit and active people's participation in the implementation process of NBA through Gram Sabhas. The component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management has been prioritized through focussed funding.

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

Statement

State-wise number of districts covered under NBA

Sl. No.	State/UT Name	No. of Project Sanctioned
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	16
3	Assam	26

1	2	3
4	Bihar	38
5	Chhattisgarh	16
6	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
7	Goa	2
8	Gujarat	25
9	Haryana	20
10	Himachal Pradesh	12
11	Jammu and Kashmir	21
12	Jharkhand	24
13	Karnataka	29
14	Kerala	14
15	Madhya Pradesh	50
16	Maharashtra	33
17	Manipur	9
18	Meghalaya	7
19	Mizoram	8
20	Nagaland	11
21	Orissa	30
22	Puducherry	1
23	Punjab	20
24	Rajasthan	32
25	Sikkim	4
26	Tamil Nadu	29

1	2	3
27	Tripura	4
28	Uttar Pradesh	71
29	Uttarakhand	13
30	West Bengal	19
GRAND TOTAL		607

Working of Tsunami warning system

367. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tsunami Warning System has been installed and is fully functional in the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the extent of data collection from this system; and

(c) what is the reaction time to alert people in the country about any imminent danger of Tsunami or earthquake?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre (ITEWC) is established after the deadly Tsunami on 26 December, 2004 at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Sciences (INCOIS - ESSO), autonomous body under Ministry of Earth Sciences, located at Hyderabad and is made fully functional to cover the entire Indian Ocean Region.

(b) The Indian Tsunami Early Warning System comprises a real-time seismic monitoring network of 17 broadband seismic stations to detect tsunamigenic earthquakes, a network of real-time sea-level sensors with 4 Bottom Pressure Recorders (BPR) in the open ocean and 25 tide gauge stations at different coastal locations monitor tsunamis and a 24×7 operational tsunami warning centre to provide timely advisories to vulnerable community. It also receives earthquake data from all other global networks to detect earthquakes of $M > 6.5$. The state-of-the-art early warning centre at INCOIS - ESSO is operational since October 15, 2007 with all the necessary computational and communication infrastructure that enables

reception of real-time data from seismic & sea-level sensors, analysis of the data, tsunami modeling, and dissemination of tsunami advisories guided by a comprehensive standard operating procedure (SOP).

A host of all available communication technology options have been employed for timely dissemination of advisories to various designated authorities to deal with effective emergency response actions as appropriate. The centre is capable of detecting tsunamigenic earthquakes occurring in the whole of Indian Ocean region as well as in the Global Oceans within 10 minutes of their occurrence and disseminates the advisories to the concerned authorities within 20 minutes through various modes of communication like email, fax, SMS, GTS and website. Since its inception in October 2007 to till date, ITEWC has monitored 339 earthquakes of $M > 6.5$ out of which 63 are in the Indian Ocean region.

ITEWC in its capacity as National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) for India disseminates tsunami bulletins to various national contacts like the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) control room, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Battalions of National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF), Coastal State disaster relief commissioners, Indian Navy, Administration of Nuclear Power plants in the coastal states, Disaster Management Administrators from Andaman and Nicobar Islands etc. ITEWC also acts as one of the Regional Tsunami advisory Service Provider (RTSP) along with Australia and Indonesia for the Indian Ocean region.

(c) The tsunamis generated by the under-sea earthquakes in the two known subduction zones of Andaman-Sumatra and Makran in Indian Ocean, can potentially affect entire Indian coastal States and Island regions. The tsunami wave arrival time to different coastal locations depends upon the location of the under-sea earthquake. In general the tsunami reaction time will be around 2 hours for the Indian mainland if the earthquake has occurred in the above mentioned subduction zones. While for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands there is an exception where the reaction time will be less than half an hour if the earthquake occurs Off the Andaman and Nicobar Islands region.

Causes of smog in Northern India

368. SHRI H.K. DUA: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has studied the cause of the recent smog which enveloped many parts of Northern India, particularly Delhi, for several days in early November;

(b) what are the findings of the expert studies and whether the smog has been caused by natural factors or it was a man-made phenomenon;

(c) the steps Government proposes to take so that this kind of smog does not occur again; and

(d) whether Government has studied the side-effects of the smog on the health of the people in Delhi and other affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) As per our scientific analysis, the recent "*Extreme Pollution Episode*" lasted for 12 days (October, 26-November 8, 2012) was due to short range transport of smoke from Punjab/Haryana as indicated by satellite imagery which got directed towards Delhi region due to favourable northerly winds as determined from back trajectory analysis and air quality forecasting model. Local meteorological conditions in and around Delhi were highly stable that prevents the dispersion of suspended particulate matter (SPM) viz. smoke particles in this case. Once supportive wind regime changed, the pollution came back to pre-episode level. It was hence caused by a mix of man-made activities associated with field level biomass burning supported by a favourable upwind natural phenomenon.

(c) The period being the harvesting season of kharif-2012, the open burning of the biomass residue in the paddy fields of rural Punjab/Haryana, options for taking any steps are limited as this typically happens in the backdrop of unfavorable stable atmospheric conditions that traps SPM in the boundary layer above the ground. Incrementally, diesel operated urban transport also adds to the air pollution that reduces the visibility further. Government is already undertaking possible steps for discouraging diesel run public transport and encouraging utilization of CNG widely part from imposing emission norms (Bharat IV now for new vehicles getting registered).

(d) Increased frequency of respiratory related asthmatic troubles to the vulnerable segment of the society (elderly and children) is the well known impact for which reduced exposure can minimize the adverse effects during the periods of smog.

Scheme for conversion of sea water into drinking water

†369. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme to install large number of plants in the coastal areas of the country for producing drinking water from sea water;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the per litre cost of drinking water so produced from these plants; and

(c) by when these schemes are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) an autonomous body of the Ministry of Earth Sciences has indigenously designed, developed and demonstrated desalination technology for conversion of sea water into potable water based on Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) technology. The LTTD is a process under which the warm surface sea water is flash evaporated at low pressure and the vapour is condensed with cold deep sea water. This technology is efficient and suitable for island territories of India. Till date, 4 LTTD plants have been successfully commissioned in the country, one each at Kavaratti, Minicoy, Agatti, Lakshadweep and at North Chennai Thermal Power Station (NCTPS), Chennai. The capacity of each of these LTTD plants is 1 lakh liter per day of potable water. Six LTTD plants funded by Lakshadweep Administration, one each in the islands of Lakshadweep *viz.*, Amini, Chetlet, Kadamath, Kalpeni, Kiltan and Andrott are proposed to be set up. Also, it is proposed to set up a LTTD plant with a capacity of generating 2 million litres of potable water per day (2 MLD) at Tuticorin Thermal Power station, Tamil Nadu.

The cost per liter of desalination would depend on the technology used and cost of electricity which varies from place to place. According to the cost estimates made recently by an independent agency for LTTD technology, the operational costs per litre of desalinated potable water is about 19 paise for island based plants.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Six LTTD plants at Lakshadweep Islands and one LTTD plant at Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu are proposed to be implemented during the Twelfth plan period.

National mission on monsoon

370. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the National Mission on Monsoon;
- (b) to what extent the Mission would help in accurately providing the data relating to monsoon, floods, etc;
- (c) whether the proposal has been included in the Twelfth Five Year Plan for implementation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The aims and objectives of the National Monsoon Mission are:

- (i) To set up a state-of-the-art dynamical prediction system for a) improved prediction of monsoon rainfall on extended range to seasonal time scale (16 days to one season) and b) improved prediction of temperature, rainfall and extreme weather events on short to medium range time scale (up to 15 days).
 - (ii) To build a working partnership between the academic and research organizations, both national and international and the operational agencies in the country to improve the skill of operational monsoon forecasts over the country.
- (b) The proposed program after its implementation will lead to more accurate prediction of monsoon weather and climate in all time scales, short range to seasonal time scale at appropriate spatial scales. The forecasts based on this dynamical prediction system will cater to the needs of various sectors like agriculture, water resources management, power generation, disaster management, tourism, and transport.

At present operational extended range to seasonal forecasts are prepared using statistical methods which have constraints and limitations. The monsoon mission will help us to implement a state-of-the-art dynamical prediction system with more accuracy and fidelity for extended range to seasonal forecasts in the country.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Concerted effort is being made by the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM - ESSO), Pune to improve the adopted coupled ocean-atmospheric Climate Forecast System (CFS) model in collaboration with USA towards improving extended range and seasonal scale monsoon forecasts. The National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF - ESSO), NOIDA is putting efforts to improve the adopted unified model in collaboration with UK for medium range scale monsoon rainfall forecasts including extreme weather phenomena. Identified national and international academic and R&D groups will be involved to address associated scientific issues in the overall pursuit. Government has approved the scheme with an allocation of Rs. 400.00 crores.

(e) Not applicable.

Weather information to farmers by SMS and IVRS

371. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to provide weather and climatic details through SMS and Integrated Voice Response System (IVRS) to the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the components of the information proposed to be so provided;

(c) whether the said services would be provided free of cost to the farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has prepared the list of service providers for the said purpose; and

(f) if so, the details of the agencies selected therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes Sir. India Meteorological Department (IMD - ESSO) in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes /Indian Institutes of Technologies (IITs) is already generating agro-meteorological advisories including weather and climate information and communicating to the farmers in 18 States through SMS and IVRS on pilot mode.

(b) Medium range weather forecast (5 days) for 7 parameters, viz., rainfall,

maximum temperature, minimum temperature, total cloud cover, relative humidity (maximum and minimum), wind speed and wind direction and cumulative weekly rainfall along with weather based crop advisories at district level are provided through this system.

(c) Yes Sir. IMD - ESSO as on today is providing this service free of cost to the farmers with all the crop specific inputs through designated service providers (*viz.* government and private agencies).

(d) In the pilot phase, to understand the credibility and rendering feasibility of the service through SMS and IVRS, few service providers like IFFCO Kisan Sanchar Limited, Handygo, Nokia Life Tools, Reuter, State Dept. of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra etc. have been identified for routing the advisories to the registered 3-4 million farmers currently.

(e) No Sir. Such an exercise will have to wait until remaining States are covered in a gradual manner.

(f) Does not arise.

Vacancies in Ministry

372. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of posts of Officers, Executives and the Employees are lying vacant in the Ministry; and

(b) what is the time-frame for filling up of those posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) No Sir. Occurrence of vacancies due to retirement, promotion, death etc. in the various grades of Central Government offices is a continuous process. Appointing authorities take necessary action to fill up such vacancies as per the provisions of the relevant recruitment rules/ service rules, and also, keeping in view other instructions/guidelines issued by Government of India from time-to-time.

FM Radio broadcasts in Rajasthan

†373. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities in Rajasthan where FM radio broadcasts are on air, at present;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government has any proposals to start FM radio broadcasts from the cities that are not yet covered by FM radio; and

(c) if so, the steps Government is going to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) At present FM Radio Stations of All India Radio are functional at 13 places in Rajasthan as per details given in Statement-I (*See below*).

As regards private FM stations, at present 17 channels in 6 cities/towns are functioning in the State of Rajasthan under existing phase-II Policy guidelines on expansion of FM radio broadcasting services through private agencies. The details are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As regards All India Radio, at present FM service is provided from 246 places and FM Transmitters are being installed at 232 more places in the country including 9 places in Rajasthan.

FM expansion in the country is being taken up in a phased manner depending upon availability of funds under Five Year plans and inter-se priority. Proposal for setting up of FM Transmitters at additional cities all over the country has also been made in the Twelfth Plan subject to allocation of funds and approval by competent authority.

As per approved policy guidelines on expansion of FM radio broadcasting services through private agencies in Phase-III, Government proposes to extend FM radio service to about 227 new cities, in addition to the present 86 cities, with a total of 839 new private FM radio channels in 294 cities. Phase-III policy will result in coverage of all cities with a population of one lakh and above.

Statement-I

List of Existing FM Stations of AIR in Rajasthan

Sl. No.	Place	Power in kW
1	2	3
1.	Alwar	10
2.	Banswara	10
3.	Bikaner	10
4.	Chittorgarh	10
5.	Churu	6

1	2	3
6.	Jaipur	6
7.	Jaisalmer	10
8.	Jhalawar	6
9.	Jodhpur	6
10.	Mount Abu	6
11.	Nagaur	6
12.	Sawaimadhapur	6
13.	Udaipur	1

Statement-II

*List of operational pvt. FM radio stations under
Phase-II Policy in Rajasthan*

Sl. No.	Place	No. of Chennai
1	Ajmer	2
2	Bikaner	1
3	Jaipur	5
4	Jodhpur	3
5	Kota	3
6	Udaipur	3
	TOTAL	17

Implementation of CCS rules in Prasar Bharti

374. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has directed the Prasar Bharati to implement the Central Civil Services (Recognition of Service Association) Rules, 1993 for the employees of AIR and Doordarshan;

(b) whether Prasar Bharati has started the process for recognition by deducting the subscription towards associations from the salary of the employees;

(c) whether some of the associations got requisite strength for recognition, as per CCS (RSA) Rules;

(d) if so, the names of those associations who got sufficient members for recognition; and

(e) what is the time required for granting recognition to those associations who obtained the necessary strength in membership as per CCS (RSA) Rules?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (e) Yes Sir. The details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Violation by channels

†375. SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of news, entertainment, religious, sports and health television channels in India alongwith the number of applications pending for new channels and the license fee and terms and conditions for broadcasting such channels;

(b) whether some television channels are violating the objectives for which they were given permission;

(c) the details of the complaints received by Government, so far, channel-wise and the action taken against them; and

(d) if no action has been taken so far, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting grants permissions for two categories of private satellite TV channels *i.e.* News & Current Affairs and Non-News & Current Affairs in accordance with the Uplinking and Downlinking Guidelines. So far, the Ministry has permitted 405 satellite channels under News & Current Affairs category and 440 Non-News & Current Affairs channels. 171 applications for new channels are pending at various stages of inter-ministerial clearances. The details of fee and terms and conditions for TV channels are available in the Uplinking & Downlinking Guidelines available on the Ministry's website at www.mib.nic.in.

(b) to (d) The details of the violations committed by the channels since January 2011 along with the action taken, channels-wise, are given in Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Details of the violations committed by Channels since January 2011 and the Action taken channel-wise.

Sl. No.	Name of the Channel	Date of Show Cause Notice issued	Reasons for issue of Show Cause Notice	Action Taken/Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1	News Live	12.01.2011	Telecast of a news item defaming an individual.	A Warning issued to the channel on 28.05.2012.
2	Ten Cricket	25.01.2011	The Channel violate the Rule 7(10) of Advertising Code while showing live telecast of cricket match between South Africa and India	The channel assured IMC that they would not telecast advertisements within the screen and programming area.
3	Bindass	22.02.2011	Telecast of the programme 'Emotional Atyachar - Season 2' containing obscene visuals and indecent and vulgar language.	An Order dated 26.07.2011 issued to the channel directing them to run apology scroll for 7 days. The channel complied with the direction.
4	ESPN	16.03.2011	Telecast of advertisements interfering with the programmes.	The channel assured IMC that they would not telecast advertisements within the screen and programming area.

1	2	3	4	5
5	Star Cricket	16.03.2011	Telecast of advertisements interfering with the programmes.	The channel assured IMC that they would not telecast advertisements within the screen and programming area.
6	India TV	19.04.11	Telecast of programme "TV PER SAKSHAT LAXMI" showing superstition.	An Advisory issued to the channel on 23.9.2011
7	Bindass	19.04.2011	Telecast of programme "Dadagiri-Revenge of the Sexes" showing indecent content.	A Warning issued to the channel on 03.08.2011.
8	TLC	19.04.2011	Telecast of different programmes such as 'Get Out', "Bridget's Sexiest Beaches" <i>etc.</i> showing obscene content.	An Advisory issued to the channel on 9.8.2011.
9	Sony TV	20.04.2011	Telecast of reality show 'Comedy Circus Mahasangram' showing indecent and child denigrating content.	An Advisory issued to the channel on 25.07.2011.
10	Bindass	05.05.2011	Telecast of indecent Reality Show titled 'Love Lock UP'	A Warning issued to the channel on 28.07.2011.
11	Channel [V]	05.05.2011	Telecast of reality show 'Full Toss Vella Boys' showing obscene and indecent content.	A Warning issued to the channel on 25.07.2011.

12	PEOPLE TV	19.05.2011	Telecast programme 'Aazhcha Kazhcha' showing obscene content	A Warning issued to the channel on 19.08.2011.
13	Bindass	27.05.2011	Telecast programme 'Meri Toh Lag Gayi Naukari' appears vulgar, obscene and indecent.	A Warning issued to the channel on 20.9.2011.
14	News 9	01.06.2011	Telecast programme 'Sheyla's Size Problems'. appears vulgar, obscene and indecent. The visuals appear to degrade and denigrate women.	An Order dated 23.9.2011 issued to the channel to run apology scroll on the channel.
15	Sony Pix	11.07.2011	Telecast of some English feature films, certain content of which appeared to offend good taste and decency.	A Warning issued to the channel on 16.05.2012.
16	FX Channel	18.07.2011	Telecast of programme 'Harper's Island', 'Crash', 'Mad Men Sutra', 'Frasier', 'Saving Grace' and 'Scoundrels' showing obscene visuals.	A Warning issued to the channel on 18.04.2012.
17	NDTV Good Times	26.07.2011	Telecast of programme 'Life's a Beach' showing obscene and indecent visuals	A letter has been sent to Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) to keep a watch

1	2	3	4	5
				on the programme. Vide its minutes issued on 21.5.12, Screening Committee had recommended to refer this case to BCCC. It has been decided to place the matter in the next IMC meeting.
18	Star World	27.07.2011	Telecast of programmes 'Dexter', 'the Bold and the Beautiful', 'Las Vegas', 'Two and a half man' and 'How I met Your Mother' showing obscene visuals	An Advisory issued to the channel on 14.12.2011.
19	Fox Crime	28.07.2011	Telecast of programme 'Sleeper Cell" and '1000 ways to die' showing obscene visuals.	A Warning issued to the channel on 08.05.2012.
20	Channel [V]	12.09.2011	Telecast of programme 'Love Net 2' containing indecent, vulgar and obscene content	A Warning issued to the channel on 28.05.2012.
21	Zee Trendz	12.09.2011	Telecast of programme 'Bikini Destination' containing obscene, indecent and vulgar visuals	An Advisory issued to the channel on 05.11.2012

22	Star Cricket	13.09.2011	Telecast of advertisements violation Rule 7 (10) of the Cable Rules, 1994	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration in consultation with Electronic Media Monitoring Centre.
23	MTV	14.09.2011	Telecast of programme 'Rodies 8 - Shortcut to Hell' containing obscene, vulgar, indecent portrayal.	Violation not established
24	Sony	29.09.2011	Telecast of promotional trailer of the film "The Dirty Picture", certified 'A' by CBFC.	The channel apologized for its mistake and assured that such incident will not recur in future. The matter is closed.
25	Times Now	29.09.2011	Telecast of promotional trailer of the film "The Dirty Picture" certified 'A' by CBFC.	The channel apologized for its mistake and assured that such incident will not recur in future. The matter is closed.
26	FTV	03.11.2011	Telecast of programmes "Designers in high definition", 'Chantellie Ligerie, Paris' and 'Lingerie' which were obscene.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. A personal hearing was granted by IMC on 24.7.2012. The representative of FTV attended the meeting and submitted an interim reply. He requested for another personal hearing giving notice for at least 20 days in advance. Once

1	2	3	4	5
				they were called for a meeting on 21.8.2012 but the meeting had to be postponed due to some administrative reasons. A fresh date for meeting is under finalization.
27	Sahara Samay	11.11.2011	Telecast of a news item which contained obscene visuals	A letter sent to the channel on 21.11.2011 directing them to run apology scroll on the channel. The channel complied with the direction.
28	P7	11.11.2011	Telecast of a news item which contained obscene visuals	A letter sent to the channel on 21.11.2011 directing them to run apology scroll on the channel. The channel complied with the direction.
29	Enterr 10	27.01.2012	Telecast of Hindi feature film 'Musafir' and 'Plan' - 'A' certified films.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. IMC has recommended to take the channel off air for one day. The matter is under consideration.
30	Zing	18.04.2012	Telecast of Hindi feature film "Hawas" - A' certified film.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. IMC has recommended to take the channel off air for one day. The matter is under consideration.

31	Manoranjan TV	18.04.2012	Telecast of Hindi feature film "Topless" - "A" certified film.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. IMC has recommended to take the channel off air for one day. The matter is under consideration.
32	MTV	24.04.2012	Telecast of the advertisement of "Axe Shower Gel"	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
33	Enterr 10	24.04.2012	Telecast of Hindi feature film "Ashiq Banaya Aapne"	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
34	SS TV	25.04.2012	Telecast of Trailer of the film "Friends with Benefits" which was not certified by CBFC for telecast on TV channels.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
35	Bindass	10.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Clean & Dry Intimate Wash" appearing indecent, vulgar, suggestive and obscene.	Matter was referred to ASCI, which found the advertisement objectionable and has taken appropriate action for withdrawal or modification of the advertisement. The advertisement has been withdrawn by the Channel.

1	2	3	4	5
36	India TV	10.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Clean & Dry Intimate Wash" appearing indecent, vulgar, suggestive and obscene.	Matter was referred to ASCI, which found the advertisement objectionable and has taken appropriate action for withdrawal or modification of the advertisement. The advertisement has been withdrawn by the Channel.
37	Zee TV	10.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Clean & Dry Intimate Wash" appearing indecent, vulgar, suggestive and obscene.	Matter was referred to ASCI, which found the advertisement objectionable and has taken appropriate action for withdrawal or modification of the advertisement. The advertisement has been withdrawn by the Channel.
38	MTV	10.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Clean & Dry Intimate Wash" appearing indecent, vulgar, suggestive and obscene.	Matter was referred to ASCI, which found the advertisement objectionable and has taken appropriate action for withdrawal or modification of the advertisement. The advertisement has been withdrawn by the Channel.
39	Star Plus	10.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Clean & Dry Intimate Wash" appearing indecent, vulgar, suggestive and obscene.	Matter was referred to ASCI, which found the advertisement objectionable and has taken appropriate action for withdrawal or

				modification of the advertisement. The advertisement has been withdrawn by the Channel.
40	Zing	10.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Clean & Dry Intimate Wash" appearing indecent, vulgar, suggestive and obscene.	Matter was referred to ASCI, which found the advertisement objectionable and has taken appropriate action for withdrawal or modification of the advertisement. The advertisement has been withdrawn by the Channel.
41	ET Now	16.05.2012	Telecast of a promotional programme (advertisement) showing direct promotion of "Kingfisher Beer".	A warning issued to the channel on 12.09.2012.
42	Star Cricket	16.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "VB Best Cold Bear"	A warning issued to the channel on 12.09.2012.
43	IBN7	28.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Axe Shower Gel"	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
44	VH-1	28.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Axe Shower Gel"	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.

1	2	3	4	5
45	Colors	28.05.2012	Telecast of advertisement of "Axe Shower Gel"	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
46	Manoranjan TV	28.05.2012	Telecast of A' certified Hindi feature film "Ek Chatur Naar".	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
47	FTV	05.06.2012	Telecast of programme "15th Anniversary-Top Designers"	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
48	Comedy Central	22.06.2012	Telecast of programme "Stand Up Club"	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
49	NEO Prime Channel	11.7.2012	Telecast of advertisement of 'Carlsberg' Beer	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
50	TCM TV Channel	18.7.2012	Telecast of 'A' certified film "Rich and Famous" without displaying CBFC certificate	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.

51	Sadhna TV	03.08.2012	Telecast of programme "Adhyatamik Gyan Charcha" on 03.12.2011 and 04.12.2011	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
52	Jaya Max	12.09.12	Telecast of an obscene film song "Engaeyum Eppodum Aangeetham santhosham" on 6.11.2011	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
53	AXN	20.09.12	Telecast of Hindi feature film 'Darkness Falls' - 'A' certified film.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
54	Movies Ok	20.09.12	Telecast of Hindi feature film 'Dil Jale'-'A' certified film.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
55	World Movies	20.09.12	Telecast of Hindi feature film 'The Good Girls' and 'La Zona' - 'A' certified films.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
56	Mahua	20.09.12	Telecast of Hindi feature film 'Aulaad' and 'Ek Aur Kurukshetra' - 'A' certified films.	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.
57	Comedy Central	10.10.12	Telecast of obscene and vulgar programme 'Popcorn' on 04.7.12	Show Cause Notice issued to the channel. Reply of the channel received. The matter is under consideration.

Control room for monitoring digitisation of cable TV networks

376. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up control room to monitor digitisation of cable TV network in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objectives for setting up of such control room;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to bring awareness among the people about the said control room;

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

(e) the number of persons, so far, assisted by the said control room since its inception and extent to which their requests have been readdressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (e) As part of implementation of Digital Addressable System (DAS) Phase-I which ended on 31.10.2012, the Ministry set up a Control Room with Toll Free Telephone Number 1-800-180-4343 in the office premises of the Ministry. During intensive awareness campaign, the Toll Free Number was publicized. This Control Room functioned on all days from 15th October, 2012 to 9th November, 2012 in two shifts from 8.00 AM to 10.00 PM.

The objective of setting up of the Control Room was to provide clarifications to the people and answer their queries relating to acquisition of Set Top Boxes, various schemes regarding purchase of Set Top Boxes and package rates offered by Multi System Operators etc. Besides representatives of the Ministry, Control Room was assisted by representatives of 5 National level Multi System Operators viz. DEN Network, In Cable, Hathway, Digi Cable, and Siti Cable. Around 5000 calls were received from the consumers which were addressed adequately.

Telecasting decent programmes

†377. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government have taken or propose to take any concrete steps regarding telecast of programmes on TV channels within the limits of decency; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) The telecast of programmes by private satellite/cable television channels is regulated by the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. The Act does not provide for pre-censorship of the programmes telecast by such TV channels. However, it provides that all programmes telecast by these TV channels should be in accordance with the Programme Code, which has been laid down in the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994. The said Programme Code is applicable to all private satellite/cable television channels including news channels.

The Programme Code lays down a whole range of principles that are required to be strictly followed by these TV channels. Whenever any instance of telecast of programmes including news programmes by private satellite/cable TV channels is noticed, appropriate action as per the said Act is taken. The Government has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into the specific complaints or suo motu take cognizance against the violation of Programme and Advertising Codes and action is taken as per the said Act and Rules framed thereunder, if any violation is established.

The Indian Broadcasting Foundation and News Broadcasters Association, the respective representative bodies of certain private broadcasters of non-news and news satellite TV channels, have also set up self-regulatory mechanisms to consider content-related complaints received against their member channels.

Emoluments of casual assignees

378. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that casual assignees employed in Regional Units of News Service Division of All India Radio in Delhi are paid only Rs. 340/- per duty;
- (b) whether Government is of the view that it is sufficient in the era of sky rocketing prices of essential commodities; and

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the emoluments of casual assignees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (c) The Prasar Bharati has reported that the casual assignees employed in Regional Units of News Service Division of All India Radio were being paid Rs.340/- for split shift and Rs. 675/- per day for the full shift, with effect from 01.10.2008. Prasar Bharati has further reported that the fee of such casual assignees has been enhanced with effect from 21.11.2012. The new rates for casual news readers for half shift are Rs. 650/- for freshers and Rs. 800/- for persons having three years' experience and for full shift are Rs. 1250/-for freshers and Rs. 1600/- for persons having three years' experience.

Re-appointment in CBFC

†379. DR.YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to section 3(3) of Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983, a member of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) or panel member is eligible for re-appointment after the completion of his/her tenure;

(b) if so, the basis on which the officers of the CBFC, Mumbai, misguide such members by saying that they can not be re-appointed to the Board;

(c) whether the Ministry has empowered these officers to do so; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) The Section 3(4) and Section 8(3) of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983 related to Board members and Advisory Panel members of CBFC respectively provide that a Board member or a Advisory Panel member is eligible for re-appointment after completion of his/her tenure.

(b) to (d) The view of the Ministry is that in the interest of equity, the tenure of an individual in regional advisory panels of CBFC may be limited to two consecutive terms.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Travelling allowances for members of CBFC

†380. DR. YOGENDRA P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government thinks to increase the travelling allowance of the members of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC), Mumbai;

(b) whether the amount of Rs. 800 on TA/DA is too meagre in the present time of price rise;

(c) whether Government would make an increase in the TA/DA in accordance with price escalation;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI) : (a) to (e) At present, a consultancy fee is paid to CBFC members @ Rs.800/- per day. No separate TA/DA is paid. A proposal has been received from CBFC for enhancing this consultancy fee from Rs.800/- to Rs.1200/-. However, whenever, the CBFC Board members have to travel outside Mumbai, their travel expenses are duly met.

Growth of advertisement industry

†381. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the indications of continuous growth in advertisement industry have been received in the country during the last years;

(b) if so, the details of assessment of rate of growth from 2009 to 2012, so far;

(c) whether it is also a fact that newspapers and television have the largest share in advertisement industry in the country; and

(d) if so, the rate of growth of advertisement industry in these sectors from 2009 to 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. As per the Report on Media and Entertainment Industry, 2012 by Federation of Indian Chambers of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Commerce and Industry (FICCI)-KPMG, the growth rate in advertising/broadcasting industry and the total value of business transacted during the period 2007 to 2011 are given in Statement (*See below*).

As per FICCI-KPMG Report 2012, print and television sector have the largest share in the advertisement industry in the country. The details are given in Annexure.

Statement

Growth of advertising/broadcasting industry

Overall Industry Size (INR Billion)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Growth in 2011 over 2010
TV	211.0	241.0	257.0	297.0	329.0	10.8%
Print	160.0	172.0	175.2	192.9	208.8	8.3%
Film	92.7	104.4	89.3	83.3	92.9	11.5%
Radio	7.4	8.4	8.3	10.0	11.5	15.0%
Music	7.4	7.4	7.8	8.6	9.0	4.7%
OOH	14.0	16.1	13.7	16.5	17.8	7.6%
Animation & VFX	14.0	17.5	20.1	23.6	31.0	31.2%
Gaming	4.0	7.0	8.0	10.0	13.0	30.0%
Digital Advertising	4.0	6.0	8.0	10.0	15.4	54.0%
TOTAL	514	580	587	652	728	11.7%

Advertising Revenue (INR Billion)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Growth in 2011 over 2010
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
TV	71.0	82.0	88.0	103.0	116.0	12.6%
Print	100.0	108.0	110.4	126.0	139.4	10.6%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Radio	7.4	8.4	8.3	10.0	11.5	15.0%
OOH	14.0	16.1	13.7	16.5	17.8	7.6%
Digital Advertising	4.0	6.0	8.0	10.0	15.4	54.0%
TOTAL	196.0	220.0	228.0	266.0	300.0	13.1%

E-auctioning of FM channels

382. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had announced e-auctioning of 839 FM channels in 227 cities in the third phase;

(b) if so, the reasons for inordinate delay in e-auctioning of these channels; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to evolve a clear cut policy for e-auctioning of FM channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) The policy on expansion of FM Radio broadcasting services through private agencies (Phase-III), was approved by the Cabinet on 7th July, 2011. Under the policy, 839 FM channels will be permitted in 294 cities through e-auction, on the lines followed by Department of Telecommunication (DOT) in the auction 3G & BWA spectrum. Subsequently, certain issues that are either not covered by the existing Cabinet decision or are beyond the competence of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, have arisen during the implementation of Phase-III policy. These issues are:

- (i) TRAI's recommendations to reduce inter-channel spacing to 400 KHz. from the existing 800 KHz;
- (ii) Deviation in the 'Request for Proposal' (RFP) used by Department of Telecommunication (DOT) for appointment of an e-auctioneer.
- (iii) Fee chargeable, if any, for migration of Phase-II FM licensees to Phase-III.

(c) Recently, Government have reconstituted the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM), to which the issues mentioned in part (a) and (b) above have been referred for a decision.

Vacancies in AIR, DD, etc.

383. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that many of the posts in AIR, DD and all other allied services are lying vacant due to system failure of co-ordination between Prasar Bharati, DoPT, UPSC, and the Ministry; and

(b) if so, what are the number of vacancies at various levels and years of delay in filling the vacancies due to non-application of reservation policy and anomaly at various levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) No Sir, there is no failure of co-ordination between Prasar Bharati, DoPT, UPSC and the Ministry. There are approximately 14389 posts vacant in All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD) in various categories. These vacancies have arisen due to retirement, resignation and death of officers and employees and matching direct recruitment not having taken place. Some of the promotional vacancies are unfilled due to prolonged and multiple litigations. However, the delay in filling vacancies is not due to non-application of the reservation policy and is due to other factors as mentioned below:

Direct recruitment could not be undertaken due to the following major factors:

1. UPSC has stopped undertaking direct recruitments for Prasar Bharati upon its creation as an autonomous corporation;
2. Non-finalization of Recruitment Regulations; and
3. Delay in setting up of Prasar Bharati Recruitment Board (PBRB) as envisaged in the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990.

The finalization of Recruitment Regulations and setting up of PBRB could not be taken up till 2010 due to resistance of employees against absorption in the corporation and consequent uncertainty in the status of employees.

Subsequently based on the recommendations of the Group of Ministers on Prasar Bharati (GoM), the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 has been amended in January, 2012 thereby settling the status of employees of Prasar Bharati. Both the proposals

of framing Recruitment Regulations for Prasar Bharati employees and setting up the PBRB are at advanced stage of inter-ministerial consultations. The Government has also recently permitted Prasar Bharati to fill 1150 essential vacancies in relaxation of austerity guidelines.

The instructions of the Government on reservation policy are being followed. Moreover, whenever any complaint is received relating to non-observance of these orders scrupulously, appropriate remedial action is taken.

Digitalization of cable TV networks

†384. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 146 million homes are using television in the country, at present;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 51 per cent viewers are using cable TV and 25 per cent out of the remaining homes are using DTH and 25 per cent are using DTH in Government sector;

(d) if not, the fact in this regard;

(e) whether Government has made the digitalization compulsory by removing the current cable operation system by 31 December, 2014; and

(f) if so, the possible outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (d) As per the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) KPMG Indian Media Entertainment Industry Report 2012, there are a total of 146 million TV households in India in 2011. Out of which, Cable TV Networks covers 74 million households i.e. about 51%, Private Direct to Home (DTH) covers 37 million homes i.e. about 25%, Doordarshan Direct to Home covers 8 million homes i.e. about 6%, remaining 27 million homes are covered by the terrestrial coverage of Doordarshan which is around 18%.

(e) As per this Ministry's Notification dated 11th November 2011, following the amendment of Cable Act by Parliament, it shall be obligatory for every cable

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

operators to transmit or re-transmit programmes of any channel in an encrypted form through a Digital Addressable System (DAS). The implementation of DAS is to be completed across the country by 31.12.2014.

(f) Digitalization of Cable TV Network will benefit all stakeholders including the Government. The Government would stand to gain significantly as transparency in the subscriber base through digitalization would lead to multi fold increase in the tax collection. For broadcasters it would lead to enhanced revenue generation through transparency in the subscriber base. The Cable Operators will also be able to provide advanced high quality services to their consumers and be competitive *vis-a-vis* the DTH operators. Viewers will be able to get superior picture quality, availability of choice to select channels, value added services - video and games on demand and triple play etc. Digitisation is poised to revolutionize the broadcasting industry as it has begun to make the broadcasting landscape dynamic, transparent and accountable.

Installation of transmitters

385. SHRI N. BALAGANGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is slow progress with respect to installation of High Power Transmitters/Low Power Transmitters/Very Low Power Transmitters in the country, since the inception of Prasar Bharati;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to relay/telecast DD/AIR programmes all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that since its inception in November 1997, 493 additional TV transmitters (High Power Transmitters 122, Low Power Transmitters-173, Very Low Power Transmitters-198) have been commissioned by Doordarshan.

As regards All India Radio, at the time of formation of Prasar Bharati there were 297 AIR AM/FM Transmitters in the AIR Network, by the end of Eleventh Plan the figure has gone upto 431. At present, AIR has a network of 461 AM/FM Transmitters.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The broadcast service of AIR provided through 461 AM/FM transmitters installed all over the country has got terrestrial coverage of 91.87% area and 99.19% population of the country. Apart from this, 21 satellite radio channels (Programmes) for AIR available through DD Direct plus DTH platform (Ku band) are available all over the country except Andaman and Nicobar Islands. AIR Plans to provide coverage to 100% population of the country. In order to further augment the terrestrial coverage in the country, the power of 12 transmitters of AIR is being upgraded and 244 additional MW/FM Transmitters of various capacities are being installed throughout the country and the schemes are likely to be completed by 2013. Proposal for setting up of additional FM Transmitters of various capacities all over the country has also been made in the Twelfth Plan.

Regarding Doordarshan, all the areas uncovered by terrestrial transmitters, alongwith rest of the country, have been provided with multi channel TV coverage through Doordarshan's free-to-air DTH service "DD Direct Plus". New transmitters for expansion of terrestrial coverage are, now, not envisaged except a few in border areas.

Standard of Hindi news aired on AIR

†386. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standard of Hindi news aired on All India Radio has been declining as compared to earlier broadcasts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the newsreading standard of the regular newsreaders recruited here is put to testing ever again;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps being taken to improve Hindi pronunciation of newsreaders and to broadcast standard news bulletins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) to (e) Prasar Bharati has informed that the voice quality and pronunciation of Hindi News Readers are regularly monitored. They are advised from time to time about mistakes, if any, in their reading. Regular circulars/advisories related to pronunciation of names of places, persons etc in different languages are issued from time to time. Workshops are also conducted to improve their reading skills.

Monitoring of baseless and provocative news reports

387. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of baseless and provocative news reports published/telecast through the print and the electronic media in the recent past;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to formulate any policy prescription to contain such menace;

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when such policy is likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the other corrective measures taken/likely to be taken by Government in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MANISH TEWARI): (a) to (e) In pursuance of its policy to uphold the freedom of the press, the Government does not interfere in functioning of the press. However, Press Council of India (PCI), a statutory autonomous body has been set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in the country and also to inculcate the principles of self regulation among the press. In furtherance of its objective, the PCI has formulated 'Norms of Journalistic Conduct' for adherence by the media. Under the Norm 1 titled 'Accuracy and Fairness' it has been mentioned that the Press shall eschew publication of inaccurate, baseless and misleading material. In this respect PCI has registered 532 complaints on charges of baseless and provocative news reports published in print media since April 1, 2012.

The Press Council of India monitors and takes cognizance, *suo motu* or on complaints, of contents in print media which *prima facie*, are violative of Norms of

Journalistic Conduct. The Council may warn, admonish or censure the newspaper, the news agency, the editor or the journalist or disapprove the conduct of the editor or the journalist.

So far as private satellite TV channels are concerned, there is no provision for pre-censorship of the content telecast on such channels. However, all programmes and advertisements telecast on TV channels, transmitted/retransmitted through the cable TV networks, are required to adhere to the Programme Code and Advertising Code prescribed under Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. Action is taken against the defaulting channels by the Government whenever any violation of the aforementioned codes is brought to the notice of the Government regarding any specific programme.

Further, as part of self-regulating Complaints Redressal mechanism, News Broadcasters Association (NBA) - a representative body of news and current affairs channels - has set up News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA) to consider complaints against or in respect of broadcasters in so far as these relate to the content of any broadcast. The NBSA is headed by a retired Chief Justice of India. Similarly, Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF), which is a representative body of non-news & current affairs TV channels, has set up Broadcasting Content Complaints Council (BCCC) to examine the complaints about television programmes. The BCCC is headed by a retired Chief Justice of Delhi High Court. The complaints can be sent directly to BCCC and NBSA about the television programmes for appropriate action by them.

Cases pending in metrocities

388. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the number of cases related to divorce, suicide, road accidents, murder and robbery pending in the metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Hyderabad?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): No data giving classification of pending court cases in metro-cities is maintained centrally. However, based on the information available with National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), number of suicide and accidental death cases in metro-cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Hyderabad and murder and robbery cases in Union Territory of Delhi during 2011 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Number of cases of 'Suicide', 'Accidental Deaths', 'Murder' and 'Robbery' in metro-cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Hyderabad during the year 2011

Sl. No.	Metro city	Suicides	Accidental Deaths	Murders	Robberies
1	Delhi	1385	7576	543	562
2	Mumbai	1162	7814	NA*	NA*
3	Chennai	2438	4271	NA*	NA*
4	Kolkata	268	858	NA*	NA*
5	Bengaluru	1717	4499	NA*	NA*
6	Hyderabad	704	1360	NA*	NA*

*NA—Not Available

Progress of e-courts project

389. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action plan to cover the legal system through e-courts in the country;

(b) what is its current status *i.e.* coverage of all courts with e-courts system;

(c) the status of this system in Odisha; and

(d) what is the time-frame by when the entire legal system in the country would be developed into e-courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Government has been implementing the e-courts project for computerization of district and subordinate courts since 2007. The objective of the Project is to make the courts ICT enabled which involve several steps starting from site readiness to installation of LAN/hardware and software deployment. The Project has been conceptualized and configured for implementation based on the National

Policy and Action Plan for implementation of ICT in Indian judiciary, prepared by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India in 2005. The Project is expected to enhance judicial productivity, make justice delivery system more cost effective and bring greater transparency by hosting number of citizen centric services.

The first phase of the Project envisages ICT enablement of 14,249 court complexes by March, 2014. 11,165 courts have been computerized/ICT enabled in the country as on 31st October, 2012. The balance 3084 courts would be computerized/ICT enabled by 31st March, 2014. State-wise details of computerization/ICT enablement of courts are given in Statement (*See below*).

As for Odisha, out of 399 courts, 378 courts have been computerized/ICT enabled as on 31st October, 2012.

The target for completion of 14,249 courts in the first phase was approved by the competent authority after taking into account the number of courts in the country as they existed on 20th July 2010. A number of new courts have been added at the district/subordinate level in the country since then. They would be computerized after completion of the first phase of the Project in March, 2014.

Statement

Statewise details of computerization/ICT enablement of courts

Sl. No.	High Court	No. of Court	
		Approved Courts for Computerisation	Courts Computerised
1	2	3	4
1	Allahabad	2,053	1,918
2	Andhra Pradesh	937	582
3	Mumbai	1,843	1,979
4	Calcutta	759	770
5	Chhattisgarh	313	182
6	Delhi*	303	-
7	Gauhati	378	318

1	2	3	4
8	Gujarat	800	708
9	Jammu and Kashmir	172	131
10	Jharkhand	532	350
11	Karnataka	773	568
12	Kerala	402	252
13	Madhya Pradesh	1,018	780
14	Madras	779	463
15	Orissa	399	378
16	Patna	1,060	156
17	Punjab and Haryana	589	664
18	Rajasthan	789	691
19	Shimla	108	100
20	Sikkim	10	8
21	Uttarakhand	232	167
TOTAL		14,249	11,165

*Courts computerised through State Government funded project

Judicial reforms

390. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that judicial reforms is the need of the hour in the country;

(b) whether it is proposed to make a start in this direction;

(c) whether keeping in with the global practices, it is proposed to raise the retirement age of the judges of the Supreme Court;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other far-reaching reforms that are proposed to be made to dispense justice to the needy?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a), (b) and (e) With a view to address the huge backlog and pendency of cases in courts, the Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration which, *inter-alia*, involve better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development. The judiciary has joined in this endeavour of the Government by setting up of National Court Management System to address issues not only of case and court management but also setting standards for measuring performance of the courts and a national system of judicial statistics in the country.

The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 has been enacted for the purpose of providing access to justice to the citizens at their door steps and to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of social, economic or other disabilities. So far 168 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified by seven States.

A sum of Rs. 5,000 crore has been awarded to the State Governments by the 13th Finance Commission for improving delivery of justice through a number of initiatives which, *inter-alia*, include setting up of special courts, promoting Alternative Dispute Redressal mechanism, investment in human resource management and empowering marginalised sections of society for access to justice.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to raise the retirement age of judges in the Supreme Court.

Disposal of pending cases

‡391. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether a large number of cases are still pending despite various steps like establishment of Fast Track Courts and Village Courts being taken by Government;

(b) if so, the number of the pending cases disposed of by Fast Track Courts and Village Courts since their establishment along with the number of pending cases, as on date.

(c) whether Government proposes to establish more courts and appoint more judges in the existing courts for quick disposal of the pending cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) As per the information made available by the High Courts, 2.69 crore cases were pending in subordinate courts as on 31.12.2011. Fast Track Courts were set up on the recommendation of Eleventh Finance Commission, and 1192 Fast Track Courts were functioning in the country as on 31.03.2011. These Fast Track Courts have disposed a total of 32.92 lakhs cases, out of 38.98 lakh cases transferred to them. The scheme of the Fast Track Courts has been discontinued with effect from 31.03.2011. However, the State Governments can continue the Fast Track Courts, from out of their own funds, if they so desire.

The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 has come into operation with effect from 02nd October, 2009. Out of 168 Gram Nyayalayas notified by seven State Governments, 151 are functional at present.

The research study undertaken by Indian Law Institute (ILI) in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan where majority of functional Gram Nyayalayas are located has found that number of cases disposed of by Gram Nyayalayas are not many at present and they have not made much difference to the overall pendency of cases in subordinate courts.

Under the constitutional provisions, primary responsibility to set up subordinate courts rests with the respective State Governments. However, the Advisory Council of National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms has passed a Resolution at a meeting held on 15th May 2012 *inter-alia* recommending that the number of subordinate courts in the country would need to be increased to double the present number in the next five years in a gradual manner. The recommendations of the Advisory Council have been forwarded to State Governments/High Courts for appropriate action at their end.

Tamper-proof EVMs

392. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Election Commission has envisaged measures to make Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) more secure in order to prevent tampering during the time of elections;

(b) by when such measures would be put into effect, and whether the new EVMs would be ready for use by the 2014 general elections; and

(c) if not, what steps are being contemplated to ensure fair voting by the time of elections?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Election Commission of India has informed that Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) used by the Commission are fully secure and non-tamperable. Development of new models of EVMs with changing technology is a continuing process. No time limit can be set for development of new models of EVMs. The Commission has put in place elaborate administrative mechanism to ensure full transparency, complete security and non-tamperability of EVMs.

(c) Does not arise.

Use of regional languages in High Courts

393. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by the Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Supreme Court to allow use of regional languages of concerned States for judicial proceedings of concerned High Courts of the State, as on date; and

(b) by when Central Government would grant permission to the request of the State Government of Gujarat in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Government has received proposals from State Governments regarding use of Tamil, Gujarati and Hindi in the proceedings of the Madras, Gujarat and

Chhattisgarh High Courts respectively. Under Article 348(2) of the Constitution, Governor of the State can authorize the use of Hindi or any other language in proceedings of the High Courts having its principal seat in that State but with the previous consent of the President.

As per the decision of the competent authority in its meeting held on 21.5.1965, comments of the Chief Justice of India are necessary before the Department of Official Language in Ministry of Home Affairs could consider such proposals. Accordingly, the Chief Justice of India was requested for his views on the three proposals. The Chief Justice of India has intimated that the proposals regarding use of Hindi, Tamil and Gujarati in the High Courts of Chhattisgarh, Madras and Gujarat respectively have been considered by the Full Court of Supreme Court of India in the meeting held on 11.10.2012. The Full Court, after due deliberations, has decided not to accept the proposals and have reiterated the earlier Resolutions of the Full Court of the Supreme Court adopted on 07.05.1997 and 15.10.1999 which were on these lines. The decision of Supreme Court has been conveyed to Department of Official Language in Ministry of Home Affairs.

Setting up of e-Courts

394. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has studied the proposal for setting up of e-Courts to reduce the pendency of cases in courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any plan has been prepared for setting up of e-Courts during the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The Government has been implementing e-Courts Mission Mode Project for computerization of district and subordinate courts in the country and upgrading the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure of the Supreme Court and the High Courts. The Project has been conceptualized and based on The National Policy & Action Plan for Implementation of ICT in the Indian Judiciary, prepared by the e-Committee of Supreme Court of India in 2005. The

project is expected to enhance the judicial productivity both qualitatively and quantitatively; make justice delivery system more cost effective and bring greater transparency with optimum use of ICT. The efficiency in the court processes following computerisation/ICT enablement and process re-engineering should contribute to pendency reduction eventually.

The e-Courts project envisages the computerization of 14,249 district and subordinate courts in 3,069 court complexes by March 2014. A budget of Rs. 935 crore has been approved for the project, of which Rs. 487.89 crore has been utilised by 31st March 2012. 11,165 courts have been computerized in the country as on 31st October, 2012 by way of installation of hardware, LAN and deployment of software. e-Courts Project also envisages provisioning of laptops, computers, printers, scanners, servers, networking equipments, network cabling, and uninterrupted power supply and Wide Area Network Connectivity at all the targeted courts. After the courts are ICT enabled, they would provide eServices to the citizens, litigants, advocates and other stakeholders.

The current phase of the project will continue for the first two years of the Twelfth Five Year Plan, i.e. until 2013-14. For this, Rs. 390 crore has been proposed for the project.

In Andhra Pradesh 937 courts are to be computerised by 31st March, 2014 of which, 582 district & subordinate courts have been made ICT enabled/computerised by 31st October 2012.

Prevention of judges from post retirement jobs

395. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to prevent judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts from taking up post retirement jobs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Electoral reforms

396. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to bring about some major electoral reforms for a long time;

(b) if so, the details of the steps being taken in this regard and at what stage is the proposal at present; and

(c) whether Government intends to finalise the electoral reforms before the next general elections in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) With a view to carrying out comprehensive electoral reforms, a Core-Committee was constituted on 1st October, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Shri Vivek K. Tankha, Additional Solicitor General. The talking points of the Committee included (i) De-criminalisation of Politics; (ii) Funding of Elections; (iii) Conduct and better Management of Elections; (iv) Regulation of Political Parties; (v) Audit and Finances of Political Parties; and (vi) Review of Anti-Defection Law. The Committee under the aegis of Legislative Department and in co-sponsorship of the Election Commission of India conducted seven regional consultations at Bhopal, Kolkata, Mumbai, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Bengaluru and Guwahati, wherein the stakeholders have been consulted, who *inter-alia* included leaders and workers of the political parties, legislators, legal luminaries, representatives of NGOs, eminent persons, civil servants (serving and retired), students etc. and views have been gathered. The details of these consultations have been put on the website of the Ministry of Law and Justice *i.e.* www.lawmin.nic.in. On the basis of the inputs received in these consultations, discussion with all political parties is contemplated. In view of the complexity of the subject, it is not possible to lay down any rigid time-frame in this regard.

Reasons for pending cases

397. DR T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government is aware that non-implementation of court orders and judgments promptly are the main reasons behind second round of litigations pending in the country;

- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to address the issue;
- (c) whether Government and its various agencies are the predominant litigants in courts in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to cut down on Government litigation in avoidable cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) No such data is maintained by the Government.

(c) and (d) The 10th Law Commission headed by Hon'ble Justice K. K. Mathew in its 100th Report entitled "Litigation by and against the Government: Some Recommendations for Reform" (May 1984) observed that "a pretty bulk of litigation in the courts, including, in particular, writ petitions in the Supreme Court and the High courts, consists of cases to which the Government is a party." Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India introduced "National Litigation Policy 2010" based on the recognition that Government and its various agencies are the pre-dominant litigants in courts and Tribunals in the country. Accordingly, the Policy declared "Government must cease to be a compulsive litigant. The philosophy that matters should be left to the courts for ultimate decision has to be discarded. The easy approach, "Let the court decide," must be eschewed and condemned."

Funds for improving court infrastructure in Maharashtra

398. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the Central funds provided to Maharashtra for developing infrastructure in the subordinate courts of the State during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the results achieved with these funds in the State during the said period;
- (c) whether Government proposes to provide funds to the State for construction of buildings for the subordinate courts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The details of year-wise funds provided to the Government of Maharashtra during the last three years under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of infrastructure facilities for subordinate judiciary are as follows:

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Funds released by Government of India
1.	2009-10	1890.00
2.	2010-11	1458.52
3.	2011-12	12915.00

(b) As per information received from the State Government, the year-wise details of Courts buildings and Residential quarters constructed are as follows:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Courts Buildings Constructed	Residential Quarters Constructed
1.	2009-10	15	12
2.	2010-11	22	12
3.	2011-12	24	9

(c) and (d) The development of infrastructure facilities for judiciary is the primary responsibility of the State Governments. However, in order to augment the resources of the State Governments for development of infrastructure facilities for judiciary, a centrally sponsored scheme (CSS) has been in operation since 1993-94.

Funds are released under CSS to the State Governments/UTs on the basis of projected requirement of funds for the current year and utilization of grants previously given to them subject to budgetary provision available with the Central Government. An amount of Rs. 3587 lakhs has been released during 2012-13 to the Government of Maharashtra under CSS.

Withdrawal of cases by Government

399. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines framed by the Central Government or Supreme Court exist for withdrawal of cases by the Central and State Governments from various courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative whether Government proposes to frame guidelines for withdrawal of cases from courts by Governments; and

(d) if not the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The field relating to withdrawal of cases from the courts, if any such situation arises, is occupied by the statutory provisions contained in section 321 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and Order XXIII of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. There is no proposal pending consideration with the Government to frame guidelines for withdrawal of cases from courts, as it is not considered desirable.

Cooling-off period for post retirement jobs by judges

400. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a clamour for post-retirement jobs among judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details of judges appointed to various Commissions or Tribunals; and

(c) whether Government is considering to have a two year cooling-off period after retirement to become eligible for appointments to Commissions or Tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) As per information available, there are sixty two (62) Tribunals, Commissions and Authorities constituted under the provisions of Articles 323A and 323B of the Constitution of India. These Tribunals, Commissions and Authorities have been set up under various legislations and are under the administrative control of twenty four (24) Ministries and Departments of the Government of India. The Chairpersons and Members in many of these Tribunals, Commissions and Authorities are required to be appointed from amongst the retired judges of the High Courts/ Supreme Court or by Judges retired from the State Judicial Services. Details of Tribunals, Commissions and Authorities in which judges of High Courts and Supreme Court are appointed will be collected and laid on the table of the house.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Upliftment of MSMEs

401. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of funds Government has invested for the upliftment of micro, small and medium entrepreneurs during the last three years;

(b) the number of people who are employed in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs);

(c) the contribution for micro, small and medium entrepreneurs to the GDP of the country;

(d) the names of top five States who have taken maximum benefit of the schemes for micro, small and medium entrepreneurs; and

(e) which States are not taking enough action for the promotion of MSMEs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Sir, the plan funds allotted to Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises during the last three years *i.e* 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 were Rs.1794 crore, Rs.2400 crore and Rs. 2700 crore respectively.

(b) Information on the number of persons employed in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country is collected by conducting All India Census of the sector periodically. The latest census (Fourth Census) was conducted with reference year 2006-07, wherein the data was collected till 2009 and results published in 2011-12. Number of persons employed in MSMEs in the country, as per the Fourth All India Census of MSMEs: 2006-07 and Economic Census 2005 conducted by Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation for activities excluded from Fourth All India Census of MSMEs: 2006-07, namely wholesale/retail trade, legal, educational & social services, hotel & restaurants, transports and storage & warehousing (except cold storage), is 805.24 lakhs.

(c) The contribution of Micro and Small Enterprises to Gross Domestic Product of the country during 2008-09 is 8.72% which is based on the data of gross domestic product published by the Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

(d) and (e) Under the flagship programme, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme of the Ministry, the top five States who have taken maximum benefit in setting up of units are West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Bihar and Tamil Nadu during the year 2011-12. Under the Credit Guarantee Scheme, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are the top five States in terms of number of proposals approved till the end of October, 2012. All States are taking appropriate steps to promote MSMEs.

Protection of MSMEs

402. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is aware that a large number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have either downed their shutters or are struggling for survival due to expensive credit, non-availability of funds, increasing power shortages, etc;

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

(c) whether the Central Government has since contemplated any measures to protect MSMEs across the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Sir, based on the Fourth All India Census of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), with reference year 2006-07, wherein the data was collected till 2009, 4.96 lakh registered units were found closed. As per the data compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), as at the end of March, 2012, there were 89,642 sick MSMEs in the country, of which banks found 10,596 as viable, 72,964 as non-viable and for 6,082 units viability was to be decided.

(c) and (d) The Government has been facilitating the promotion and development of MSMEs through implementation of various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructure development, technology upgradation, etc. The major schemes include Credit Guarantee Scheme, Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme, Performance and Credit Rating Scheme, Cluster Development Programme, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme and Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme.

Programme launched by NSIC for women entrepreneurs

403. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) has launched a programme for women entrepreneurs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including Andhra Pradesh and the response received, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of this Ministry conducts training programmes *viz.*, Entrepreneurs Development Programme (EDP) and Entrepreneurs Skill Development Programme (ESDP) for both men and women trainees. Some of the programmes such as 'beauty & healthcare', fashion designing' boutiques & soft toy making' etc., are women oriented programmes.

State-wise details of women entrepreneurs trained by NSIC under its various training programme during 2011-12 including in the State of Andhra Pradesh are as under:

Name of the States	No. women entrepreneurs trained
Uttar Pradesh	547
Tamilnadu	1208
West Bengal	121
Andhra Pradesh	859
Delhi	768
Gujarat	113
Punjab	548
Assam	404

Investment in MSMEs

404. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the investment made in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in various States in the country including Karnataka during each of the last three years and the current year, sector-wise and State-wise;

(b) the employment opportunities created in each sector during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the number of enterprises owned by the tribal people, sector-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve investment in each sector particularly in the tribal regions in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Sir, information on investment in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country is collected by conducting All India Census of the sector periodically. The latest Census (Fourth Census) was conducted with reference year 2006-07, wherein the data was collected till 2009 and results published in 2011-12. Total investment made in MSMEs in various States in the country including Karnataka as per the Fourth All India Census of MSMEs: 2006-07 is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The number of persons employed by MSMEs, as per the Fourth All India Census of MSMEs: 2006-07 and Economic Census 2005 conducted by Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation for activities excluded from Fourth All India Census of MSMEs: 2006-07, namely wholesale/retail trade, legal, educational & social services, hotel & restaurants, transports and storage & warehousing (except cold storage), sector-wise and State-wise is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The number of MSMEs owned by the Scheduled Tribe, as per the Fourth All India Census of MSMEs: 2006-07 and Economic Census 2005 conducted by Central Statistics Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation for activities excluded from Fourth All India Census of MSMEs: 2006-07, namely wholesale/retail trade, legal, educational & social services, hotel & restaurants,

transports and storage & warehousing (except cold storage), sector-wise and State-wise is given in Statement-III (*See* below).

(d) In order to improve the investment in MSME Sector, Ministry has been implementing various schemes for prospective entrepreneurs by facilitating collateral free credit flow under Credit Guarantee Scheme, access to market under Market Development Assistance Programme, technology upgradation under Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme etc.. For promoting entrepreneurs in Tribal region, ministry has increased its outlay under Tribal Sub-plan. The outlay under Tribal Sub-plan during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 was Rs.122.48 crores, Rs.156.74 crores, and Rs.221.70 crores respectively.

Statement-I

*State-wise Distribution of Investment of Micro, Small
and Medium Enterprises by Sector, 2006-07*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Market value of Fixed Assets (Rs. in Crore)*		
		Rural	Urban	All
1	2	3	4	5
1	Jammu and Kashmir	3875.67	4599.61	8475.28
2	Himachal Pradesh	4710.96	888.29	5599.25
3	Punjab	14309.65	22817.03	37126.68
4	Chandigarh	63.12	543.92	607.04
5	Uttarakhand	2587.23	3427.74	6014.98
6	Haryana	7089.85	18908.95	25998.80
7	Delhi	205.65	9958.89	10164.55
8	Rajasthan	12928.90	12523.99	25452.90
9	Uttar Pradesh	25600.41	30560.63	56161.03
10	Bihar	5703.60	2701.86	8405.46

1	2	3	4	5
11	Sikkim	44.90	27.25	72.16
12	Arunachal Pradesh	402.68	534.81	937.49
13	Nagaland	778.01	495.66	1273.67
14	Manipur	363.03	283.00	646.03
15	Mizoram	80.79	322.35	403.14
16	Tripura	397.23	264.50	661.73
17	Meghalaya	318.02	150.53	468.55
18	Assam	3395.35	3545.80	6941.15
19	West Bengal	12964.76	26468.46	39433.22
20	Jharkhand	2723.84	2296.87	5020.72
21	Odisha	9561.27	2723.62	12284.89
22	Chhattisgarh	1475.60	1827.81	3303.41
23	Madhya Pradesh	3420.18	7110.22	10530.40
24	Gujarat	23254.00	143499.67	166753.68
25	Daman and Diu	1861.79	19.76	1881.54
26	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	138.36	91.23	229.59
27	Maharashtra	22534.73	45406.50	67941.24
28	Andhra Pradesh	15412.03	17345.59	32757.62
29	Karnataka	9163.31	17997.80	27161.11
30	Goa	2803.95	1016.24	3820.19
31	Lakshadweep	2.52	14.78	17.30
32	Kerala	31670.75	12682.78	44353.53

1	2	3	4	5
33	Tamil Nadu	20534.48	57289.86	77824.34
34	Puducherry	744.92	390.36	1135.29
35	A and N Islands	52.56	44.40	96.95
ALL INDIA		241174.13	448780.75	689954.88

*Excludes activities under wholesale/retail trade, legal, educational & social services, hotel & restaurants, transports and storage & warehousing (except cold storage)

Statement-II

State-wise Distribution of Employment of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises by Sector, 2006-07

Sl. No.	State/UT	Employment (Numbers in Lakh)		
		Rural	Urban	All
1	2	3	4	5
1	Jammu and Kashmir	2.98	2.76	5.75
2	Himachal Pradesh	3.62	1.06	4.68
3	Punjab	8.77	18.02	26.79
4	Chandigarh	0.14	1.09	1.23
5	Uttarakhand	3.97	2.99	6.96
6	Haryana	7.54	11.30	18.84
7	Delhi	0.49	19.32	19.81
8	Rajasthan	16.85	13.94	30.79
9	Uttar Pradesh	57.38	34.98	92.36
10	Bihar	20.82	7.43	28.26
11	Sikkim	0.65	0.14	0.79
12	Arunachal Pradesh	0.91	0.28	1.19

1	2	3	4	5
13	Nagaland	1.07	0.64	1.71
14	Manipur	1.43	0.93	2.36
15	Mizoram	0.19	0.62	0.81
16	Tripura	1.00	0.75	1.75
17	Meghalaya	1.19	0.73	1.92
18	Assam	9.62	4.63	14.25
19	West Bengal	37.85	47.92	85.78
20	Jharkhand	6.22	6.70	12.91
21	Odisha	26.67	6.57	33.24
22	Chhattisgarh	5.94	3.59	9.52
23	Madhya Pradesh	15.53	18.13	33.66
24	Gujarat	12.81	34.91	47.73
25	Daman and Diu	0.31	0.07	0.37
26	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.27	0.14	0.41
27	Maharashtra	25.28	44.76	70.04
28	Andhra Pradesh	38.54	32.15	70.69
29	Karnataka	23.16	23.55	46.72
30	Goa	1.17	0.71	1.88
31	Lakshadweep	0.04	0.02	0.06
32	Kerala	34.94	14.68	49.62
33	Tamil Nadu	28.42	52.55	80.98
34	Puducherry	0.36	0.65	1.01
35	A and N Islands	0.27	0.11	0.38
ALL INDIA		396.41	408.83	805.24

Statement-II*State-wise Distribution of Enterprises of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises by Sector, 2006-07*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Enterprises owned by Scheduled Tribe (Number in thousands)		
		Rural	Urban	All
1	2	3	4	5
1	Jammu and Kashmir	7.94	6.07	14.01
2	Himachal Pradesh	18.87	2.13	21.00
3	Punjab	36.23	22.57	58.81
4	Chandigarh	0.30	1.71	2.00
5	Uttarakhand	16.38	3.11	19.49
6	Haryana	22.41	11.11	33.52
7	Delhi	0.96	32.07	33.03
8	Rajasthan	86.27	19.64	105.91
9	Uttar Pradesh	106.03	57.01	163.04
10	Bihar	32.29	9.88	42.17
11	Sikkim	0.76	0.41	1.17
12	Arunachal Pradesh	20.83	1.93	22.76
13	Nagaland	12.48	6.05	18.53
14	Manipur	16.63	1.52	18.15
15	Mizoram	0.88	5.99	6.87
16	Tripura	10.87	3.60	14.47
17	Meghalaya	36.17	11.10	47.26
18	Assam	55.72	17.30	73.02
19	West Bengal	161.81	55.35	217.16

1	2	3	4	5
20	Jharkhand	55.25	19.89	75.14
21	Odisha	190.48	11.95	202.42
22	Chhattisgarh	63.25	7.23	70.48
23	Madhya Pradesh	118.12	22.88	141.00
24	Gujarat	142.27	81.51	223.79
25	Daman and Diu	0.04	0.04	0.09
26	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.04	0.02	0.06
27	Maharashtra	75.19	65.64	140.83
28	Andhra Pradesh	54.81	25.14	79.95
29	Karnataka	72.47	16.95	89.42
30	Goa	0.20	0.26	0.45
31	Lakshadweep	0.15	0.01	0.16
32	Kerala	19.38	7.38	26.75
33	Tamil Nadu	50.16	70.59	120.75
34	Puducherry	0.41	0.49	0.90
35	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.01	0.00	0.02
ALL INDIA		1486.06	598.53	2084.59

Exploration of minerals in sea bed of Bay of Bengal

405. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI is inquiring the issue of licence to private firms to explore minerals in the sea bed of Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea even when the private firms were not eligible; and

(b) if so, the details of those private firms and what is the status of enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Offshore Areas Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 provides for grant of operating rights to a person who is an Indian national or a company as defined in section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956. The said Act does not restrict grant of operating rights to private companies. As per available information, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has initiated a Preliminary Enquiry to investigate alleged irregularities in grant of Exploration Licence in the offshore waters of Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea. The matter is still under investigation of CBI.

Ban on export of iron ore

406. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to State:

- (a) whether Government has decided to ban export of iron ore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the long term view of Government on this issue on the basis of preserving natural resources and exporting for profits?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to ban export of iron ore. Considering the fact that the country has sufficient resources of iron ore at 28.4 billion tonnes and the fact that iron ore Fines has limited use in the country, the export of iron ore is allowed with a levy of 30% export duty on advalorem basis.

(c) As per National Mineral Policy 2008, mineral continue to be an important source of foreign exchange earnings. The policy of export shall keep in view the dynamics of mineral inventories as well as the short, medium and long term needs of the country. Efforts shall be made to export minerals in value added form as far as possible. The indigenous mineral industry shall be attended to the international economic situation in order to derive maximum advantage from foreign trade by carefully anticipating technology and demand changes in the international markets for the minerals.

Auction or leasing of mines to private parties

407. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has adopted any long term policy to auction or lease out mines to private parties to subserve common good;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The Government has amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 in the year 2010 to provide for allocation of blocks for coal minerals through auction by competitive bidding.

Complaints received from minority communities

408. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various types of complaints received by Government and the National Commission for Minorities from members of the various minority communities during the last three years and the current year, so far;

(b) the nature of complaints;

(c) the action taken in each case;

(d) whether it is a fact that in most of the cases, adequate and befitting action was not taken; and

(e) the action being taken to streamline the mechanism and working of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING) : (a) The complaints on discrimination and other issues are dealt by National Commission for Minorities (NCM). During the last three years and the current year, the total number of various nature of complaints received and disposed off by the National Commission for Minorities are as under:

Sl.No.	Year	No. of complaints received	No. of complaints disposed off
1	2009-10	2268	2268
2	2010-11	2378	2378
3	2011-12	2439	2439
4	01.04.2012 to 31.10.2012	1143	Under process

(b) The nature of complaints received in the Commission relate to education, service, law and order, economic, cultural and religious, wakf and other Miscellaneous matters.

(c) to (e) Action on the complaints received are taken as per the procedure laid down by the Commission for the redressal of the grievances.

Strengthening of NCM

409. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

SHRI SABIR ALI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to strengthen and empower the National Commission for Minorities;

(b) if so, what is the latest status thereof; and

(c) by when the Commission would be given the power and the role as envisaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI NINONG ERING) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Constitution (One Hundred and Third amendment) Bill, 2004, to confer constitutional status on the National Commission for Minorities and the National Commission for Minorities (Repeal) Bill were introduced in the Lok Sabha in December, 2004. The former Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment. After examination of the recommendations of the Standing Committee, notice for moving official amendments, and for consideration and passing of these Bills, was given to the Lok Sabha on 11.05.2007.

In the meantime representations were received on the proposed official amendments to the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Bill, 2004 and after examination of these representations, notice for consideration and passing of these Bills, was once again given to the Lok Sabha on 05.02.2009. However, with the dissolution of the 14th Lok Sabha, these matters could not be taken up and both these Bills together with the official amendments lapsed.

The matter was further examined by Government and it was felt that granting constitutional status to the National Commission for Minorities was of doubtful utility for imparting effectiveness to this body.

In July 2011 the NCM informed the Government that it did not want to pursue the grant of constitutional status to the Commission but wanted powers of inquiry and investigation as accorded to the National Human Rights Commission be given to it. The matter is under examination by the Government. As the powers sought will entail consultations and amendment of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, no time frame can be fixed for completing the exercise.

Progress of MsDP

410. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) in all the identified districts of the country;

(b) details of physical targets set and achieved during the last five years, year wise and district wise, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) what plans Ministry has during the Twelfth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING) : (a) Out of the total allocation of Rs. 3780 crore for Multi-sectoral Development Programme during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, approvals to the projects amounting to Rs. 3733.90 crore have been given and Rs.2935.93 crore has been released till 31.3.2012 to 90 identified Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) in the country. The programme has been continued in the current year (2012-13). District Plans worth Rs. 680.94 crore have been approved and Rs.345.04 crore has been released till date.

(b) The district-wise details of physical targets and achievement during the last five years of the programme are enclosed at Annexure [See Appendix 227 Annexure No. 4]. No district of Andhra Pradesh was eligible as MCD under Multi-sectoral Development Programme during Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(c) The Ministry will continue to implement the programme with more focus on minority concentration areas with a focus on blocks rather than districts and to expand the programme to cover other deserving areas like minority concentration towns/cities and cluster of minority concentration villages for implementation during Twelfth Five Year Plan depending on the availability of requisite fund. The programme would aim at improving the socio-economic conditions of minorities and

providing basic amenities to them for improving the quality of life of the people and reducing imbalances in the identified minority concentration areas during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period. The projects related to the provision of better infrastructure for education, health, sanitation, pucca housing, drinking water, besides beneficiary oriented schemes for creating income generating opportunities, connecting roads, ICDS centres, skill development and marketing facilities, would be considered.

Timely disbursement of scholarships to minority students

411. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism exists to ensure the timely disbursement of scholarships to students under the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any instance of delay in disbursing the scholarship to students had been reported from Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements three Scholarship Schemes *viz.* Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit-cum-Means Based through the State Governments/UT Administrations and one Fellowship Scheme *viz.* Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme through University Grants Commission (UGC). These Scholarships/Fellowship are disbursed through States/UTs and University Grants Commission respectively. As per existing Scheme guidelines the States/Union Territories implementing the Scholarship schemes are required to monitor the financial and physical performance of the scheme at State/Union Territory level for which an I.T. enabled mechanism has been mandated to be in place. The States/Union Territories are also required to furnish quarterly financial and physical progress reports to the Ministry and maintain year-wise details of the students receiving scholarship, indicating school/institute, location of school/institute, government or private, class, gender, new or renewal, permanent address and parents' income, besides placing relevant physical and financial details on their official website.

As per the guidelines of MANF Scheme, UGC is required to send quarterly physical and financial progress report to Ministry of Minority Affairs, provide a list of minority students who have been awarded the Fellowship, University, minority community and State/UT-wise, for Ministry's information and follow-up actions, if any, apart from displaying the same on its website.

At the Ministry level time line of important activities under all Scholarship Schemes are drawn and reviewed for effective implementation of the Scheme.

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

Funds for development of minorities in Uttarakhand

†412. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount sanctioned under different heads by Government for timely development of the minorities in Uttarakhand;
- (b) the institution through which all types of assistance is provided to the minorities along with the maximum limit; and
- (c) the different heads under which assistance by the Ministry is provided for development of minorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING) : (a) to (c) The Ministry sanctions funds for development of the minorities against the following heads through various schemes, the details are as under:

A. Area Development:

Multi-sectoral Development Programme:

There are two minority concentration districts (MCDs) in the State of Uttarakhand *viz.* Haridwar and Udham Singh Nagar where Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) is being implemented to address the identified development deficits.

The total allocation for these two districts during Eleventh Five Year Plan was Rs. 5950.00 lakh. Out of this, the project proposals worth Rs. 5862.23 have been sanctioned. An amount of Rs. 3412.34 lakh of the total sanctioned amount have been released to the State till date for construction of Polytechnic (2), ITI building (1), Primary Health Centre/sub-centre (24), anganwadi centres (455), hand pumps (914), additional classrooms (69), school building (2), toilet and drinking water in high schools (17) for implementation of MsDP in the two MCDs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

MsDP is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and, hence, funds are released to the States/UTs for disbursement to the implementing agencies/district authorities for execution of the projects under various sectors such as education, health, housing, drinking water, skill development etc.

B. Econominc Empowerment:

National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) provides concessional loans to the members of minority communities living below double the poverty line for their economic development through State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) and NGO's. In Uttarakhand, Uttarakhand Minorities Welfare & Wakf Development Corporation (UMWWDC) is the SCA of NMDFC.

The amount allocated vis-a-vis the drawls by the SCA for the last three years and the current financial year are as given below:

(Amount Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Funds allocated by NMDFC for UMWWDC	Funds drawn by UMWWDC
2009-10	150.00	20.00
2010-11	150.00	0.00
2011-12	150.00	0.00
2012-13	150.00	0.00

Under the Term Loan scheme, loan limit for an individual is Rs. 5.0 Lakhs, whereas under the Micro Financing Scheme an amount of Rs. 25,000 per member of SHGs can be considered. Under the Educational Loans an amount of Rs. 2.50 Lakhs per person can be considered @ Rs. 50,000 per year for course of maximum 5 years duration.

C. Educational Empowerment:

(i) Scholarship Schemes:

In respect of Scholarship Schemes *i.e.* Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit-cum-means based Scholarship the amount sanctioned to the State of Uttarakhand during last three years and the current year for educational empowerment of minorities is as under (as on 22.11.2012):

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme	Post-matric Scholarship Scheme	Merit-cum-means based Scholarship Scheme
2009-10	0.07	0.06	0.30
2010-11	0.23	0.08	0.35
2011-12	0.43	0.19	0.67
2012-13	2.95	1.64	0.00

The amount sanctioned for above schemes is under the Budget Head "3601". No State-wise fund has been released under Maulana Azad National Fellowship Scheme.

(ii) Free Coaching:

The amount sanctioned under the Scheme for Free Coaching and Allied Scheme for the candidates belonging to minority communities in the State of Uttarakhand during the last three years and the current year is given below:-

Year of release	Name of the institute	Fund released (in Rs.)
1	2	3
2010-11	Brilliant Education Welfare Society, 7, Cement Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand	348750
2011-12	Brilliant Education Welfare Society, 7, Cement Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand	348750
	Career Plus Educational Society, H.No. 14/18, Govindpura, Behind Bhotiyapadav Police Station Street, Haldwani, Nainital, Uttarakhand	310025
2012-13	Career Plus Educational Society, H.No. 14/18, Govindpura, Behind Bhotiyapadav Police Station Street, Haldwani, Nainital, Uttarakhand	179350

1	2	3
	Career Plus Educational Society, H.No. 14/18, Govindpura, Behind Bhotiyapadav Police Station Street, Haldwani, Nainital, Uttarakhand.	489375
	TOTAL	1676250

The above mentioned amount under the Scheme is sanctioned under the Budget Head '2225' and released to the selected institutes/NGOs.

D. Institutional Strengthening:

Under Computerization of records of State Wakf Boards an amount of Rs. 27.10 lakh has been released to the State Wakf Board of Uttarakhand for implementation of the scheme.

Conditions of minority women

413. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Central Government for effective implementation of various schemes in order to improve the condition of minority women in the country;

(b) whether any success has been achieved in meeting the requisite targets; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING): (a) The Ministry of Minority Affairs is implementing "Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women" with the objective to empower and instill confidence among minority women including their neighbours from other communities living in the same village/locality, by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, Banks and other institutions at all levels. The implementation of the scheme has started from current financial year 2012-13. The physical target under the scheme during 2012-13 includes providing training to 40,000 (forty thousand) women belonging to notified minority communities with a mix of women from non-minority communities not

exceeding 25% of the project proposal. The Ministry has taken action in terms of selection of organizations, allocation of targets and development of training modules to meet the targets. Implementation of the programme at the field level is yet to begin.

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

Popularising solar equipments for domestic purposes

414. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Essmart Global', a new technology start-up is trying to bridge the gap between supply and demand for solar household equipments to enable optimum use of solar energy for heating, cooking and lighting purposes;

(b) if so, the details of efforts made by Government to popularise the use of solar energy for household purposes, and the quantum of subsidy given for purchase of such gadgets by household consumers; and

(c) whether any cost benefit analysis has been made whereby domestic consumers could be encouraged towards use of this renewal source of energy so as to augment supply of conventional energy?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) M/s Essmart Global so far is not working with MNRE under any of its Scheme for providing solar household equipment

(b) Under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM), the Ministry is providing a subsidy of 30% of the project cost limited to Rs.81/- per watt peak for installation of solar lanterns, home lights and SPV power plants upto 1 kWp capacity to individuals through State Renewable Energy Development agencies and other Channel Partners. The Ministry is also providing a subsidy of 40% of the cost of the system limited to Rs.108/- per watt peak for installation of solar lanterns, home lights and small capacity PV systems through NABARD, Regional Rural Banks and other nationalised banks.

For solar water heating systems, the Ministry provides a subsidy of 30% of the cost of the system limited to Rs.3000/- per square meter for evacuated tube based solar water heaters and Rs.3,300/- per square meter for flat plate collector based systems in General Category States. In Special Category States, including

North-Eastern States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, UT Islands, subsidy of 60% of the project cost limited to Rs.6000/- per square meter for evacuated tube based solar water heaters and Rs.6,600/- for flat plate based solar water heaters is available.

The Ministry, State Nodal Agencies, Banks, NGOs etc. are regularly organising exhibitions and awareness programmes.

(c) Solar lanterns, home lights and off-grid power plants are expensive compared to the grid based electric supply. However, in areas where the grid electric supply is not available or is erratic these PV systems provide light and electricity for meeting the essential loads in a household. A solar water heater saves about 1500 units of electricity per annum depending upon place of installation and hot water use.

Contribution of renewable energy in power sector

415. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the contribution of renewable energy sources in power sector;
- (b) whether Government plans to increase the share of renewable energy sources in power generation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) As on 31.10.2012, the total installed capacity of power generation in the country is 2,10,544 MW. This includes 26,267 MW from various renewable energy sources. The contribution of renewable energy is about 12.45% in the total installed capacity.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) A target of 29,800 MW grid interactive renewable power capacity addition, comprising 15,000 MW from wind, 10,000 MW from solar, 2,100 MW from small hydro, 2,000 MW from biomass and 700 MW from urban and industrial waste, has been proposed for the Twelfth Five Year plan period.

Funding for renewable energy based DDGs

416. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government proposes to make renewable energy evacuation a high transmission priority in providing electricity through decentralized distribution systems;

(b) whether there is dedicated funding for renewable energy based Decentralized Distribution Grids (DDGs);

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds that have been released for renewable energy based DDGs and the number of households that have been covered through such projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Power generated from grid connected renewable power projects is currently evacuated through existing grid system in the respective States where these projects are set up. State transmission utilities from time-to-time, strengthen/create grid system required for evacuation of power from renewable energy projects as well. The Ministry of Power has constituted a Task Force for looking into various aspects of integration of electricity from renewable energy sources in the grid system.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. There is no dedicated funding for renewable energy based Decentralized Distribution Grid. However, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is supporting renewable energy systems based projects to meet unmet demand of electricity in rural areas. So far, 70 biomass gasifier systems have been setup covering about 250 villages/hamlets in Bihar through local distribution grid. 2 mini grid Solar Photovoltaic power projects of 120kWp have been installed in Jharkhand.

Problems of excess power

417. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken by the Ministry to resolve the issue of excess electricity generated from non-conventional energy resources more than the renewable purchase obligations in consultation with the Ministry of Power and the State Governments; and

(b) how many States have approached the Ministry in this regard and the details of action taken, so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Section 86(1) (e) of the Electricity Act 2003 and Tariff Policy notified by the Government of India on 6 January 2006 inter-alia provide that the appropriate commission shall fix minimum percentage for the purpose of electricity from renewable sources taking into account availability of such resources in the region and its impact on retail tariffs. The Act and policy do not apply any restriction on procurement of power by any obligated entity in excess of the minimum Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) fixed by the appropriate commission.

(b) Gujarat has made a representation to make distribution companies entitled for Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) for purchase of renewable energy more than RPO requirement. The regulations for REC have been framed by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC). Amendment to the regulations is quasi judicial process and the Commission takes a view on the need for amendments following due process of law including public hearing.

Progress of solar power generation

418. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that solar power generation has gone up from mere 20 MW in 2010-11 to 940 MW in 2011-12;

(b) if so, whether it is because of crash in the prices of PV panel or otherwise;

(c) what efforts the Ministry is making to bring solar power price at grid parity; and

(d) to what extent the JNNSM helps in achieving the above additional power?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The grid-connected solar power generation capacity in the country was 35.93 MW at the end of FY 2010-11 and has gone up to 932.30 MW at the end of FY 2011-12.

(b) The increase has come about primarily because of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) launched by the Government in January 2010 and initiatives taken in some States.

(c) One of the prime objectives of the JNNSM is to create policy conditions for diffusion of solar energy across the country quickly and achieve a scale to drive down costs to levels required to achieve grid parity by 2022. In this regard, focus is being laid on, besides deployment, creation of favorable conditions for developing solar manufacturing capability and increased R&D and capacity building activities in the country.

(d) The additional capacity referred to in part (a) above has come about mainly due to the initiatives taken under the JNNSM supplemented with those taken at the States level.

Status of implementation of JNNSM

419. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is implementing the Jawahar Lal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of JNNSM;

(c) whether Government is implementing a Generation Based Incentive Scheme to attract private investment in solar power generation in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what is the present status of implementation of JNNSM and the Generation Based Incentive Scheme in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) is being implemented by the Government since January, 2010 when it was launched.

(b) The salient features of the Mission are as under:

- Deployment of:
 - 20,000 MW of grid connected solar power by 2022
 - 2,000 MW of off-grid solar applications including 20 million solar lights by 2022
 - 20 million sq. m. solar thermal collector area
- Creation of favorable conditions for developing solar manufacturing capability in the country; and
- Supporting R&D and capacity building activities to achieve grid parity by 2022.

The Mission is to be implemented in three phases: 2010-2013, 2013-2017 and 2017-2022.

(c) The Government is implementing through IREDA a Generation Based Incentive Scheme under Rooftop and other Small Solar Power Generation Programme (RPSSGP) covering solar power projects connected to distribution network at voltage level below 33 kV envisaged under the JNNSM.

(d) The RPSSGP scheme was initiated in June 2010 limited to a total capacity of 100 MW, 20 MW per State and 2 MW per project. The projects were registered with IREDA through a web-based process, and 78 projects with 98 MW aggregate capacity were selected from 12 States. A fixed Generation Based Incentive (GBI) is provided to the developers of the eligible projects through concerned State utilities at a rate equal to the difference between the CERC tariff for 2010-11 (Rs. 17.91/unit) or SERC tariff, whichever is lower and a reference rate of Rs. 5.50/unit, with annual escalation @ 3%, for 25 years.

(e) There is no project in Karnataka under the GBI scheme. However, a 5 MW project has been commissioned in the State under another scheme of first phase of JNNSM being implemented through NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Limited.

Solar and wind power generation in Kerala

420. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for massive generation of power from solar and wind energy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of estimated quantum of power generation in the State from solar and wind energy sources?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir, such a proposal has been received in respect of solar energy.

(b) The proposal has been submitted by the State Nodal Agency ANERT for installation of 10,000 Solar PV Power plants of 1kWp capacity each at individual households in the State. The total estimated project cost is Rs.271 cr., of which Rs.30 crore will be met by the Government of Kerala, Rs.81 crore by the Ministry as Central Financial Assistance and the balance has to be met by the beneficiaries.

(c) The installed wind power generation capacity in the State is 35 MW which produced about 70 million units of electricity during FY2011-12. The installed solar power capacity in the State is 25 kW which is estimated to produce 40,000 units of electricity per annum.

Solar energy generation in Rajasthan

421. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of renewable solar energy generated in Rajasthan;

(b) how Rajasthan's performance compares with other States;

(c) its cost per unit, as compared to other sources of energy;

(d) whether there is still significant potential to increase this;

(e) the incentives given to the State to take up renewable energy generation initiatives; and

(f) the number of remote villages of the State electrified by solar energy?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Grid-connected solar power generation capacity totaling 201.15 MW has been established in Rajasthan as on 31 October 2012. The annual electricity generation from the same is estimated at 333 million units.

(b) Rajasthan ranks 2nd in the country in terms of installed solar power capacity.

(c) The average bidded tariff for solar PV plants selected under JNNSM Phase-I is Rs.12.16/ unit for batch-I projects and Rs.8.77/unit for batch-II projects and that for solar thermal plants is Rs. 11.48 per unit. Majority of these projects are in the State of Rajasthan.

In comparison, the power purchase tariff from other sources of energy in the State ranges from Rs. 0.45 (from shared hydro projects) to Rs. 4.98 (from biomass projects) as per latest Annual Revenue Requirement (ARR) filed by state distribution companies to the state regulator.

(d) The State of Rajasthan is endowed with good solar radiation and has the potential for solar power generation of around 30-50 MW per square km of open area depending on the availability of power evacuation/ transmission infrastructure.

(e) The Ministry has several programmes/ schemes to promote setting up of projects for power generation from renewable energy sources throughout the country including Rajasthan. These cover private as well as government sector projects. Details of financial incentives available under these programmes for different project categories, capacities and regions are furnished in the Statement (*See below*).

Support is also available to State agencies for HRD/training, information, publicity and awareness creation activities.

(f) A total of 430 remote villages and hamlets have been covered with renewable energy systems, mainly solar lighting, under the Ministry's Remote Village Electrification programme as on 31.10.2012.

Statement

Subsidy available under various renewable energy programmes

A. Grid-interactive renewable power programmes:

1. Wind Power:

Demonstration projects in

Special Category States

(NE Region, Sikkim, J&K, HP and Uttarakhand) Rs.3.00 crore X C^{0.646}

Other States Rs.2.50 crore X C^{0.646}

C: Capacity of the project in MW; ^: raised to the power

2. Solar Power:

- i. Generation based incentive linked to CERC/SERC announced tariff guidelines for projects connected at 11kV and below.
- ii. For projects connected at 33kV and above- National Vidyut Vyapar Niagam (NVVN) to purchase power at a rate fixed by CERC through bidding process.

3. Small Hydro Power**Support to new SHP projects in State sector:**

Category	Above 100 KW and up to 1000 KW	Above 1MW-25 MW
Special category and NE States	Rs.50,000/KW	Rs. 5.00 crore for first MW + Rs.50 lakh/MW for each additional MW
Other States	Rs.25,000/KW	Rs. 2.50 crore for first MW + Rs.40 lakh/MW for each additional MW

Support to new SHP project in private/co-operative/joint sector:

Category	Up to 1000 KW	Above 1 MW - 25 MW
Special category and NE States	Rs. 20,000/KW	Rs. 2.00 crore for first MW + Rs.30 lakh/MW for each additional MW
Other States	Rs. 12,000/KW	Rs. 1.20 crore for first MW + Rs.20 lakh/MW for each additional MW

4. Biomass Power Project and Bagasse Cogeneration Projects**A. Private/Joint/Cooperative/Public Sector Sugar Mills**

Project Type	Special Category States (NE Region, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal)	Other States
	Capital Subsidy	Capital Subsidy
1	2	3
Biomass Power projects	Rs.25 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}	Rs.20 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}
Bagasse Co-generation by Private sugar mills	Rs.18 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}	Rs.15 lakh X (C MW) ^{0.646}

1	2	3
Bagasse Co-generation projects by cooperative/public sector sugar mills		
40 bar & above	Rs.40 lakh *	Rs.40 lakh *
60 bar & above	Rs.50 lakh *	Rs.50 lakh *
80 bar & above	Rs.60 lakh *	Rs.60 lakh *
	Per MW of surplus power@ (maximum support Rs. 8.0 crore per project)	Per MW of surplus power@ (maximum support Rs. 8.0 crore per project)

*For new sugar mills, which are yet to start production and existing sugar mills employing backpressure route/seasonal/incidental cogeneration, which exports surplus power to the grid, subsidies shall be one-half of the level mentioned above.

@ Power generated in a sugar mill (-) power used for captive purpose *i.e.* net power fed to the grid during season by a sugar mill.

B. Bagasse Cogeneration projects in cooperative/ public sector sugar mills implemented by IPPs/State Government Undertakings or State Government Joint Venture Company/Special Purpose Vehicle (Urja Ankur Trust) through BOOT/BOLT model

Project type	Minimum configuration	Capital subsidy
Single coop. mill through BOOT/BOLT	60 bar & above	Rs.40 L/MW of surplus power *
Model	80 bar & above	Rs.50 L/MW of surplus power* (maximum support Rs.8.0 crore/sugar mill)

* Power generated in a sugar mill (-) power used for captive purpose *i.e.* net power fed to the grid during season by a sugar mill.

C. Bagasse Cogeneration Project in existing cooperative sector sugar mills employing boiler modifications:

Project type	Minimum configuration	Capital subsidy
1	2	3
Existing Cooperative Sugar Mill	40 bar & above	Rs.20 L/MW of surplus power *

1	2	3
	60 bar & above	Rs.25 L/MW of surplus power*
	80 bar & above	Rs.30 L/MW of surplus power*

* Power generated in a sugar mill (-) power used for captive purpose *i.e.* net power fed to the grid during season by a sugar mill. CFA will be provided to the sugar mills who have not received CFA earlier from MNRE under any of its scheme.

B. Subsidy under Off-grid/Decentralized renewable energy programmes

Sl. No.	Programme	Subsidy
1	2	3
5.	Family Type Biogas Plants NE Region States including Sikkim (except plain areas of Assam) Plain areas of Assam	Rs.11,700 to Rs.14,700 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
	J and K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand (excluding Terai region), Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu, Sadar, Kurseong and Kalimpong sub-divisions of Darjeeling, Sunderbans, A and N Islands	Rs.9,000 to Rs.10,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
	All Others	Rs.3,500 to Rs.10,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
6.	Solar Energy Systems (Photovoltaic/Thermal)	Rs.2,100 to Rs.8,000 per plant depending on capacity of plant and CDM benefits availed
		Subsidy of 30% of project cost and/ or 5% interest bearing loans.
		For solar light through NABAAD, RRD and other commercial bank 40% subsidy is available.
7.	Small Aero-Generators and Hybrid Systems	Rs.1.00 lakh and Rs.1.50 lakh per kW for commercial and non-commercial beneficiaries respectively.

1	2	3
		Higher support of Rs.2.25 lakh per kW for projects in NE Region States Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir.
8.	Micro-hydel plants/ Water mills	Rs.0.35 lakh per watermill for mechanical application Rs.1.10 lakh per watermill for electrical application
9.	Biomass Gasifier Special Category States (NE Region, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand)	Rs. 18,000/kW
	Other States	Rs. 15,000/kW

Subsidy to Rajasthan for rural electrification

422. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals have been received from Rajasthan to provide subsidy for rural electrification under various renewable energy schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Central Government thereon; and

(c) the subsidy being provided to the State, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir. There is no pending proposal.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Under the Off-grid Solar Applications Scheme of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, the Ministry released a central financial assistance amounting to Rs. 34.93 crores to Rajasthan for stand-alone SPV power plants, water pumping systems and solar home lights during 2011-12.

Solar plants in Tamil Nadu

423. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to encourage the investors to put massive solar plants in the southern part of Tamil Nadu such as Sivaganga, Ramanathapuram, Pudukkottai, Virudhunagar Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts with co-operation of the State Government to discourage the negative propaganda by Kundakulum Nuclear Power Plant agitation sponsors; and

(b) if so, the details of initiatives to further Tamil Nadu Solar Energy Policy, 2012?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The Government is encouraging private investment in setting up solar power generation plants under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission that covers the entire country including Tamil Nadu.

(b) The Central Government has put in place a conducive policy and regulatory framework which complement/ supplement State level policies in solar energy sector. This includes solar specific RPOs (0.25% in Phase 1 (2013) to increase to 3% by 2022) under National Tariff Policy, State-wise RPO Orders by Regulators, REC Mechanism, etc. Fiscal incentives in the form of accelerated depreciation in specific cases and concessional/ nil customs and excise duties, etc. are also being provided.

Progress of solar power

424. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the solar power is catching up with conventional energy by 2014 in all respects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Solar power is gradually catching up with conventional energy but the time-scale cannot be determined exactly at this juncture, being dependent on several factors, national as well as global.

(b) Does not arise.

Electrification of villages with solar power

425. SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of villages electrified through renewable energy systems in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the funds sanctioned and released for its implementation during that period, State-wise;

(c) whether it is fact that Government has commissioned renewable energy based Mini-Grids; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) The Ministry had been implementing Remote Village Electrification Programme for providing financial support for lighting/basic electrification using renewable energy sources in those remote unelectrified census villages and unelectrified hamlets of electrified census villages where grid extension was not found feasible by the State governments and hence were not covered under the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana. Details of such villages/hamlets covered through renewable energy sources in the country during the last three years are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

Ministry of Power, Government of India accorded approval for a capital subsidy of Rs. 540 crore for Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) during XI plan period under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY). DDG can be from conventional or renewable sources such as Biomass, Biofuels, Biogas, Mini hydro, Solar etc. for villages where grid connectivity is either not feasible or not cost effective. 13 hamlets have been electrified through DDG projects based on renewable energy systems in the state of Andhra Pradesh during 2010-11 to 2012-13.

(b) State-wise details of funds sanctioned and released to various states during the last three years under the RVE programme are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

State-wise details of the funds sanctioned and disbursed under DDG scheme are given in Statement-III (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Ministry is promoting distributed/off grid power programme for meeting unmet demand of electricity in rural areas through biomass gasifier systems in association with State governments, NGOs, village level organizations,

institutions, entrepreneurs etc. Central Financial Assistance of Rs. 15,000 per kilowatt is being provided for installation of biomass gasifier with 100% producer gas engines besides support for laying local distribution network after successful installation and commissioning of the system.

So far, 70 gasifier systems of 32kWe with 100% producer gas engines using rice husk and other agriculture residues have been set up for providing unmet demand of electricity through local distribution network in various villages/hamlets in Bihar.

Under the off grid solar application scheme of the Ministry, 2 mini grid SPV power projects of 120 kWp of aggregate capacity have been installed in Jharkhand.

Under the DDG scheme of Ministry of Power, 13 projects covering 13 hamlets based on renewable energy systems have been commissioned in Andhra Pradesh.

Statement-I

State-wise Details of villages/hamlets covered under Remote Village Electrification Programme during last three years

Sl. No.	State	No. of villages & Hamlets covered
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	51
3.	Assam	1571
4.	Chhattisgarh	169
5.	Haryana	92
6.	Himachal Pradesh	20
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	30
8.	Jharkhand	44
9.	Kerala	49
10.	Madhya Pradesh	220

1	2	3
11.	Maharashtra	82
12.	Manipur	49
13.	Meghalaya	122
14.	Nagaland	8
15.	Orissa	528
16.	Rajasthan	73
17.	Tripura	374
18.	Uttar Pradesh	105
19.	West Bengal	6

Statement-II

State-wise Details of funds released under Remote Village Electrification Programme during last three years

Sl. No.	State	Funds released (Rs. in Lakh)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.53
2.	Assam	2062.30
3.	Chhattisgarh	510.83
4.	Delhi	24.96
5.	Goa	9.74
6.	Haryana	12.86
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	4263.58
8.	Jharkhand	1972.08
9.	Karnataka	9.82
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2194.96
11.	Maharashtra	501.257

1	2	3
12.	Meghalaya	117.86
13.	Nagaland	76.047
14.	Orissa	4654.70
15.	Rajasthan	1291.74
16.	Sikkim	8.04
17.	Tamil Nadu	66.76
18.	Tripura	1033.49
19.	Uttarakhand	252.485
20.	Uttar Pradesh	1969.19
21.	West Bengal	2785.24

Statement-III

*State-wise Details of funds released and disbursed under DDG
Programme of Ministry of Power during last three years*

FY 2012-13			(Rs. in crore)
Name of State	Sanction	Disbursement	
Andhra Pradesh	5.47	4.98	
Uttarakhand	2.10	Nil	
FY 2011-12			(Rs. in Cr)
Name of State	Sanction	Disbursement	
Andhra Pradesh	21.07	Nil	
Bihar	37.85	Nil	
Uttar Pradesh	64.10	Nil	
Madhya Pradesh	28.83	Nil	
FY 2010-11			(Rs. in Cr)
Name of State	Sanction	Disbursement	
Chhattisgarh	10.53	Nil	
West Bengal	5.95	Nil	
Uttarakhand	2.74	Nil	

Solar plants in Uttarakhand

†426. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has received a proposal for establishment of power plant operated by solar energy in Haridwar district of Uttarakhand;
- (b) if so, by when this proposal is likely to be sanctioned;
- (c) whether Government would also consider the proposals of other districts of the state; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal has been received from the State of Uttarakhand seeking special financial assistance in the form of capital subsidy @ 90% of project cost for the installation of a 5 MW Solar Power Plant over the upper Ganga canal in Haridwar at a total cost of Rs.88 crore.

- (b) At present this Ministry does not have a scheme to support such large projects.
- (c) As mentioned in reply to part (b) above.
- (d) Does not arise.

Use of solar energy in Government offices/establishments

†427. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether solar energy is being used in Government offices/Government establishments by Government; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Solar energy is being used for meeting electricity requirements and hot water needs of a number of State and Central Government buildings. Standalone and Decentralised SPV power plants aggregating to 27.945

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

MWp capacity have been installed at various places including government buildings such as Government hospitals, hostels, colleges, universities, academic institutions, jails, guest houses, police stations, panchayat buildings, paramilitary forces establishments, army establishments, etc. Solar water heating systems have also been installed in government guest houses, hospitals, hostels, colleges, universities, academic institutions and other government buildings in the country.

Power generation capacity in Uttar Pradesh

†428. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of increase in the power generation capacity through the renewable energy in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the number of proposals cleared for the development of energy resources in that State;
- (c) the funds allocated to this sector; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government for optimum utilization of its capacity?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) So far 724.98 MW power generation capacity through various renewable energy sources has been installed in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) During the current year, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has approved subsidy of Rs.9.27 crores for 16 proposals received from the State in solar, biomass and waste to energy, aggregating an installed capacity of to 4.3 MWe.

(d) For optimum utilization of capacity from renewable energy sources, the Government is providing various fiscal and financial incentives, including generation based incentives, for deployment of renewable energy projects and systems.

Solar powered street lights

429. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether there is any proposal to make it mandatory to set up solar powered street lights to lit public places where the people throng in large numbers like bus stations, commercial places, markets and also in areas where the streets were lonely to reduce dependency on grid and also to promote tapping clean sources of energy; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The investment required to provide solar powered street lights to lit public places in one go will be very high and grid power is still cheaper than solar power. The Government is encouraging use of solar power through various schemes and incentives especially in areas where grid power is not available.

Fall in wind power capacity addition

430. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether installation of wind power capacity in the country during the first six months of the current financial year has fallen by 40 percent compared with capacity addition in the same period during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the fall has been attributed mainly to the removal of two key incentives that were available to those who put up wind mills, accelerated depreciation and generation based incentives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A wind power capacity of 1403 MW was installed in the country during April-September, 2011 whereas a capacity of 839 MW has been installed during the same period of current financial year. The capacity installed during April-September, 2012 is 59.8% of the capacity installed during corresponding period of last financial year.

(c) and (d) Capacity addition in the wind power sector in any particular region in any period of time is dependent on a number of factors including the investment climate, macro-economic situation and the overall outlook for the sector including the incentives announced by the authorities from time to time. Therefore, it is not possible to explain the change in figures for installed capacity by any one factor.

Comparison of temples and toilets

431. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recent remarks "Toilets more important in India than temples" made by the Minister have irked many people;

(b) whether it is a fact that it makes little sense to compare temples and toilets; and

(c) what measures Government is taking to sooth feelings of those who visit temples?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development have not received any report in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Rural roads in Bihar

†432. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the length of kutcha roads in villages in Bihar in Kilometer and target for making them pakka; and

(b) the details of amount provided by the Central Government, under different heads, for the construction of rural roads during the last five years along with the amount spent, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

scheme envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations by way of an All-weather Road (with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures operable throughout the year) as per Core-Network with a population of 500 persons (as per 2001 census) and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in hill States, the Tribal (Schedule V) areas, the Desert areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) and in the 82 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts in 9 States under Integrated Action Plan (IAP), as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission. Up-gradation of selected rural roads to provide full farm to market connectivity is also an objective of the scheme, though not central to it. Therefore, only such kutchra roads that lead to eligible unconnected habitations as per Core Network can be considered for making pakka under PMGSY, subject to programme guidelines.

(b) Amount released to the State of Bihar (including Central Agencies working in the State) and expenditure incurred by them during the last five years under PMGSY is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Amount Released	Expenditure Incurred
2007-08	701.15	580.68
2008-09	1022.62	1067.54
2009-10	1692.88	1874.51
2010-11	3366.43	2694.91
2011-12	3336.32	2847.08

Extra Man days under MGNREGA in Monsoon Deficient Areas

433. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government provided extra days of employment under MGNREGA in villages that were impacted by the poor monsoon in 2012;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the impact thereof;

(c) the details of additional expenses incurred to the exchequer as a result thereof;

- (d) whether these expenses would substantially impact the fiscal deficit; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the proposed action plan to mitigate this impact?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The provisions of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are effected as demand driven Schemes by the State Governments. Being aware of the fact that rainfall has been lower than normal in some parts of the country and that this may lead to an increased demand for employment under MGNREGA, the Union Rural Development Ministry has already written to the Chief Ministers of States to prepare a contingency plan for meeting increased demand for employment under MGNREGA. The States have been assured that in drought like conditions, the Central Government will be open to revision in the Labour Budget for the current financial year to meet the increased demand for employment. The State Governments have also been advised to prepare supplementary shelf of projects to meet increased demand for work with emphasis on water and soil conservation works so as to mitigate the impact of deficient rainfall. For this purpose, the Ministry has allowed funding the State Governments in accordance with the provisions of Section 22 of MGNREGA for providing up to 50 days of additional employment under MGNREGA in the financial year 2012-13 to households registered in drought notified Talukas/Blocks.

(c) The MGNREGA is a demand driven programme and no earmarking of funds is made. So far, no claim towards expenditure on the additional persondays over and above 100 days have been received from the States/UTs, based on which central share of funds would be provided.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Implementation of PMGSY in Goa

434. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is being implemented in Goa;

- (b) if so, the targets achieved under the scheme since its implementation;
- (c) the financial assistance received by the State, so far; and
- (d) the connectivity achieved, if any, village-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) since the year 2000. Under the Scheme, as per the information last furnished by the State, 72 road works measuring length of 158.70 km have been completed.

(c) Under PMGSY, an amount of Rs. 10 crore has been released to Goa.

(d) The unit for the programme is a Habitation and not a Revenue Village. Project proposals for providing connectivity for 20 habitations have been cleared by the Ministry and as per the information last furnished by the State, 2 habitations have been connected.

Inclusion of agriculture under MGNREGA

435. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to include agriculture within the ambit of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) The provisions in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) are effected through Schemes formulated by States under Section 4(1) of the Act. The Schemes made by the States are required to provide for the minimum features specified in Schedule I of the Act for which guidelines are issued by the Central Government. Schedule-I of MGNREGA as amended from time to time lists the category of works that any Scheme prepared by a State Government under Section 4 (1) of MGNREG Act shall focus upon. The list of activities at present included in Schedule-I of the Act is given in Statement (*See* below). With the objective of expanding and deepening the positive synergy between MGNREGA and agriculture, especially in the context of

small and marginal farmers, Ministry has permitted new works under MGNREGA relating to NADEP composting, vermi-composting and liquid bio-manures, livestock related works, irrigation command related works (rehabilitation of minors, sub-minors and field channels), *etc.*

Statement

List of activities included in Schedule-I (Para IB) of MGNREG Act.

- (i) water conservation and water harvesting including contour trenches, contour bunds, boulder checks, gabion structures, underground dykes, earthen dams, stop dams and springshed development;
- (ii) drought proofing including afforestation and tree plantation;
- (iii) irrigation canals including micro and minor irrigation works;
- (iv) provision of irrigation facility, dug out farm pond, horticulture, plantation, farm bunding and land development;
- (v) renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of tanks;
- (vi) land development;
- (vii) flood control and protection works including drainage in water logged areas including deepening and repairing of flood channels, chaur renovation, construction of storm water drains for coastal protection;
- (viii) rural connectivity to provide all weather access, including culverts and roads within a village, wherever necessary;
- (ix) construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra as Knowledge Resource Centre at the Block level and as Gram Panchayat Bhawan at the Gram Panchayat level;
- (x) agriculture related works, such as, NADEP composting, vermi-composting, liquid bio-manures;
- (xi) livestock related works, such as, poultry shelter, goat shelter, construction of pucca floor, urine tank and fodder trough for cattle, azolla as cattle-feed supplement;
- (xii) fisheries related works, such as, fisheries in seasonal water bodies on public land;
- (xiii) works in coastal areas, such as, fish drying yards, belt vegetation;
- (xiv) rural drinking water related works, such as, soak pits, recharge pits;
- (xv) rural sanitation related works, such as, individual household latrines, school toilet units, anganwadi toilets, solid and liquid waste management;

- (xvi) any other work which may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government.

Activities mentioned in items (iv), (x), (xi) and items (xiii) to (xv) are allowed on land or homestead owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes or below poverty line families or the beneficiaries of land reforms or the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana of the Government of India or that of the small or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008, or the beneficiaries under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (2 of 2007).

Status of Land Acquisition Bill

436. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Land Acquisition Bill has been referred to a Group of Ministers;
- (b) if so, whether the Group of Ministers has completed their scrutiny of the Bill;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of recommendations made by the said group;
- (e) whether Government proposes to introduce the Land Acquisition Bill in the Winter Session of Parliament;
- (f) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (g) if not, by when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) to (g) The LARR Bill, 2011 was approved by the Cabinet on 5th September, 2011. It was introduced in the Parliament on 7th September, 2011. The Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development by the Hon'ble Speaker Lok Sabha on 13th September, 2011. The Committee after detailed examination has submitted its 31st Report on the above Bill to the Lok Sabha on 17th May, 2012 which was laid in the Rajya Sabha on the same day. The recommendations contained in the 31st Report had been examined in the Department. Based on the recommendations or otherwise, note for the Cabinet for the official amendments to the LARR Bill, 2011 was prepared and sent to the Cabinet Secretariat. The Cabinet Note for the official amendments to the LARR Bill, 2011 was considered by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 28th August,

2012. As per the decision taken by the Cabinet, the matter was considered by a Group of Ministers (GoM) in its three meetings held on 27th September, 2012, 8th and 16th October, 2012 at J.C. Bose Hall (Room No. 142) Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

The GoM has finalized its report and the matter is in the process of being placed before the Cabinet. This Department intends to introduce the Official amendments to the LARR Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha in the Winter Session of the Parliament.

Implementation of schemes under MGNREGA

‡437. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated for the implementation of schemes under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) have not been utilised fully;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and names of the States which have not fully utilised the allocated funds during the years 2010-11, 2011-12 and first six months of the 2012-13; and

(c) the quantum of funds underspent *vis-a-vis* allocated funds during each of the above mentioned period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is a demand driven wage employment programme backed by legislation. State Governments are obliged to provide up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every rural household for doing unskilled manual work, if demanded, at any time of the year, as mandated in the Act. All State Governments are required to provide employment and make wage payment to the beneficiaries in accordance with the provisions of the Act. As employment is to be provided on demand and payment made as specified in the Act, it would be required to maintain adequate funds at different levels of the implementing agencies and unspent balances with States/UTs serve this purpose.

As employment is provided on demand, households provided employment under MGNREGA and expenditure incurred depends on demand for employment, there is no allocation, State-wise, for implementation of the scheme.

(c) The details of central release and unspent amount available with States/UTs under MGNREGA during the last two years and current year as reported by States/UTs are given in Statement.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Details of the Amount released to States/UTs under MGNREGA and the Unspent Amount during the last 2 years and current year

Sl. No.	State	Central Release (Rs. In lakh)			*Unspent Amount (Rs. in lakh)		
		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (as on 02.11.2012)	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (till 02.11.2012)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	741807	147757.89	222488.52	367800	144985.6	77565.91
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3528.47	6078.58	2654.39	263	748	3453.61
3	Assam	60928.65	42685.8	36346.58	37100	8593.54	20722.76
4	Bihar	210365.46	130073.42	70000	58100	62164	83173.29
5	Chhattisgarh	168504.95	163855.88	203136.31	60300	42698.4	153203.87
6	Gujarat	89486.13	32429.03	22152.62	43000	16545.33	7962.44
7	Haryana	13100.11	27512.23	33685.09	1855	1873.9	19584.7
8	Himachal Pradesh	63625	31138.16	32136.64	30500	15108.09	26833.48

9	Jammu and Kashmir	31359.89	78130.96	33890.78	4700	12766.48	35228.09
10	Jharkhand	96286.92	123733.08	37500.35	32400	44138.45	31327.77
11	Karnataka	157305	66256.92	95000	109500	39834.39	63165.28
12	Kerala	70423.24	95105.43	105373.04	14200	14269.32	60341.21
13	Madhya Pradesh	256576.96	296851.28	54580.36	189400	193000	96848.18
14	Maharashtra	20471.11	104043.62	87456.67	22600	16847	21157.33
15	Manipur	34298.83	62496.73	45099.13	2348	2717	39239
16	Meghalaya	20980.84	28498.33	13198.97	1380	2210.23	4602.49
17	Mizoram	21602.83	32956.72	16187.44	1238	463.49	6845.25
18	Nagaland	51156.84	67346.57	21700.97	5630	4890	18813.47
19	Odisha	156186.38	97821.72	76937.53	22400	33800	65426.03
20	Punjab	12879.17	11429.36	8997.03	6500	4296.93	5564.02
21	Rajasthan	278882	161969.6	166027.59	261900	190471	172729.2
22	Sikkim	4448.55	10079.77	5326.91	228	448.7	3552.9
23	Tamil Nadu	202489.77	281552.22	354605.42	50279	66039	372880.82
24	Tripura	38260.7	95932.57	76799.05	726	5616.97	94768.31

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25	Uttar Pradesh	526658.86	424048	88884	188200	146899	129110.51
26	Uttarakhand	28980.93	37351.42	19750.83	2525	2291.88	11333.22
27	West Bengal	211761	259703.16	265518.05	26600	19091	91774.57
28	Andaman and Nicobar	768.63	1643.85	753.78	182.58	211.76	679.31
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	47.73	100	39.56	383	1492	1551.56
30	Goa	507.76	259.64	241.16	475.69	216.56	407.84
31	Lakshadweep	233.58	35	117.55	300	140	229.88
32	Pondicherry	2982.05	100	480.93	2000	900	306.97
TOTAL		3576895.33	2918976.9	2197067	1545013.27	1095768	1720383.27

* Unspent amount = Total fund available (-) total expenditure. Total fund available includes Opening Balance, Central Release, State share and Misc receipts. Unspent amount is OB of next financial year as reported by States.

Incentive to States under MGNREGA

438. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a provision for giving Rs.100 crores incentives to States on achieving a specific target under MGNREGA;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) how many States have claimed this incentive; and
- (d) the claims of how many States are still pending with Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No, sir. MGNREGA is a Demand Driven Programme and no specific targets are assigned to the States.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Rural roads under PMGSY

439. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) had been launched to provide all weather road connectivity to unconnected rural habitations;
- (b) if so, the number of unconnected rural habitations in the country, yet to be provided all weather roads, State-wise;
- (c) the details of targets set under the PMGSY during the Twelfth Five Year Plan for different States;
- (d) whether any special attention is being paid for construction of roads in Jharkhand under this scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations as per programme guidelines by way of an All-weather Road (with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures operable throughout the year) as per Core-Network with a

population of 500 persons (as per 2001 census) and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in hill States, the Tribal (Schedule V) areas, the Desert areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) and in the 82 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts in 9 States under Integrated Action Plan (IAP), as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission. Accordingly, the projects for connecting the eligible unconnected habitations as per Core Network of PMGSY are being sanctioned by the Ministry.

(b) and (c) 'Rural Roads' is a State subject and the responsibility of the execution of works to provide connectivity to all habitations is that of the State Governments. PMGSY is a one-time special Central intervention as part of a poverty reduction strategy. As per mandate of the Scheme in para-(a) above, total 1,58,849 habitations are estimated for providing All-weather Road connectivity. Against this target, Ministry has sanctioned projects for connecting 1,21,875 eligible habitations as per PMGSY guidelines and as reported by the States, 87,761 habitations have been connected till Sept, 2012. The details as received from the States is given in Statement (*See* below). The balance roads are targeted to be completed during Twelfth Five Year Plan. However, some States are facing constraints for non-completion of projects like limited institutional and contracting capacity, non-availability of sufficient qualified technical personnel, calamities like floods, law and order problem in some parts of the State, non-availability of land, non-receipt of forest clearance etc.

(d) and (e) As the State of Jharkhand is having a large area as Left Wing Extremism affected and tribal area, Government of India is taking additional measures to implement the Scheme in the IAP districts of the State, some of which are as under:

- (i) Permission to the State of Jharkhand to engage Central PSUs
- (ii) Sanctioning cost of bridges upto 75 metre length by Government of India
- (iii) Eligibility for habitations with population 250 persons and above (as per 2001 census) for new connectivity
- (iv) Relaxation in bid capacity of bidders
- (v) Provision of Insurance premium in DPRs for plant & machinery
- (vi) Reducing minimum tender package size to Rs. 50 lakhs

- (vii) Assistance in forest clearance
- (viii) Inclusion of Left-out habitations in original Core Network
- (ix) Sanctioning 90% of the additional cost of Cement Concrete road in critical areas
- (x) Permitting construction of pre-fabricated bridges

Statement

Details of Habitation under PMGSY

No.	States	Eligible Habitations as intimated by the State including under State Schemes (Estimate)	Habitations cleared upto September, 2012	Habitations connected upto September, 2012
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	1,864	1,564	1,365
2	Arunachal Pradesh	802	350	297
3	Assam	10,869	8,647	6,780
4	Bihar (RWD & NEA)	20,772	20,892	9,337
5	Chhattisgarh	10,518	8,539	6,208
6	Goa	20	20	2
7	Gujarat	2,985	3,024	2,493
8	Haryana	1	1	1
9	Himachal Pradesh	3,699	2,408	1,896
10	Jammu and Kashmir	2,724	1,864	1,086
11	Jharkhand	9,144	6,637	3,588
12	Karnataka	269	269	269
13	Kerala	435	435	363

1	2	3	4	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	20,767	13,330	11,068
15	Maharashtra	1,755	1,369	1,172
16	Manipur	1,004	448	247
17	Meghalaya	756	215	156
18	Mizoram	245	162	133
19	Nagaland	113	91	92
20	Odisha	20,445	11,413	6,814
21	Punjab	418	425	406
22	Rajasthan	16,600	11,926	10,441
23	Sikkim	318	296	178
24	Tamil Nadu	2,203	1,942	1,934
25	Tripura	1,731	1,773	1,436
26	Uttar Pradesh	13,954	11,906	11,136
27	Uttarakhand	2,435	1,025	651
28	West Bengal	12,003	10,904	8,212
GRAND TOTAL		158,849	121,875	87,761

Preference to drinking water related works under MGNREGA

†440. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to the consumption of contaminated water many people, including lakhs of children, in various villages of the country fall prey to numerous diseases every year and many of them die due to their inability to afford expensive treatment;

(b) whether preference to the renovation and cleaning of old wells, step wells (bavadis) and reservoirs necessary for providing clean drinking water to the villages suffering from drinking water crisis is given under MGNREGA; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Consumption of contaminated drinking water may cause water borne diseases like Cholera, Acute Diarrheal Diseases, viral hepatitis and Typhoid. As per data available with the National Centre for Disease Control (Directorate General of Health Services) around 4400 deaths were reported due to various water borne diseases during the last two years.

(b) and (c) The provisions in MGNREGA are effected through Schemes formulated by States under Section 4(1) of the Act. Schedule-I of MGNREGA as amended from time to time lists the category of works that any Scheme prepared by a State Government under Section 4 (1) of MGNREG Act shall focus upon. Creation of durable assets and strengthening the livelihood resource base of the rural poor is also an important objective of the Act. Based on the suggestions and feedback received from various stakeholders including State Governments, changes and modifications to the Schedule and guidelines are carried out from time to time and this is a continuous process. Vide notification dated 4.5.2012, Schedule I has been substantially expanded to include a large number of additional activities. Rural drinking water related works, such as, soak pits and recharge pits as well as creation of water harvesting structure etc are included as permissible activities under Schedule I of the MGNREG Act. Gram Panchayats, in meetings of the *Gram Sabha* and Ward Sabha are to determine the order of priority of works to be taken up.

Protection of agricultural land

†441. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that land acquisition affects agricultural sector the most;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether Government has made a provision to save agricultural land in the new Land Acquisition Bill; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) to (d) The Land and its management falls within the legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments as provided under Entry No. 18 of the State List (List II) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The acquisition of land for various projects is done by the concerned State Government's/UT Administrations under the provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1894. The salient features of the policy of the Government for acquiring land for development purposes, including industry is reflected in National Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy (NRRP), 2007. The policy aims to minimize large-scale displacement, as far as possible. Only the minimum area of land commensurate with the purpose of the project has to be acquired. Also, as far as possible, projects may be set up on wastelands, degraded or un-irrigated land. Acquisition of agriculture land for non-agriculture use in the project may be kept to the minimum, multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land if un-avoidable may be kept to the minimum. The Policy also provides comprehensive rehabilitation & resettlement benefits to the displaced families.

To give legal backing to the above Policy, the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement (LARR) Bill, 2011 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 7th September, 2011. Clause 10 of the LARR Bill provides that 10(1) Save as otherwise provided in sub-section (2), no irrigated multi-cropped land shall be acquired under this Act.

(2) Such land may be acquired subject to the condition that it is being done under exceptional circumstances, as a demonstrable last resort, where the acquisition of the land referred to in sub-section (1) shall, in aggregate for all projects in a district, in no case exceed five per cent, of the total irrigated multi-crop area in that district.

(3) Whenever multi-crop irrigated land is acquired under sub-section (2), an equivalent area of cultivable wasteland shall be developed for agricultural purposes.

(4) In a case not falling under sub-section (1), the acquisition of the land in aggregate for all projects in a district in which net sown area is less than fifty per cent, of total geographical area in that district, shall in no case exceed ten per cent, of the total net sown area of that district:

Provided that the provisions of this section shall not apply in the case of projects that are linear in nature such as those relating to railways, highways, major district roads, irrigation canals, power lines and the like.

Funds allocated for PMGSY

442. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated to the four southern States under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether Karnataka Government has submitted any proposal for developing and improving rural roads in the State under PMGSY; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when Government would approve the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) since the year 2000. Under PMGSY, an amount of Rs. 5423.56 crore has been released to all the four southern States namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu during the last three years. State wise details regarding funds released to the four southern States is given below.

State	Fund released to State (in crore)		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Andhra Pradesh	872.46	667.15	607.48
Karnataka	764.87	917.68	0
Kerala	100.11	144.27	200
Tamil Nadu	520	469.54	160

(b) and (c) Karnataka has sent the following proposals during the year 2012-13 under PMGSY and the status of the proposal is also given below.

Category of work	No. of works / Habitations	Road length (in km)	Status
Upgradation	408 works	2479.62	The State has already been sanctioned their full entitlement under upgradation of roads and New Connectivity as per the Core Network under PMGSY. As regards New Connectivity, the population of unconnected habitations as per 2001 census is taken as eligibility for New Connectivity and accordingly Core Network prepared. The proposed habitations were shown as 'Connected' in the Core Network and change of status of connectivity would result in revision of Core Network. Accordingly, the aforesaid proposals received from the State do not come under the purview of PMGSY Guidelines.
New	1497	5179.67	
Connectivity	habitations		

National Land Reforms Policy

‡443. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to chalk out any National Land Reforms Policy for landless farmers of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide land to such landless farmers/people at some other places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) to (d) This Department has constituted a Task

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Force on Land Reforms under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development on 22.10.2012. The term of reference of the Task Force *inter-alia* includes to suggest and recommend appropriate dialogue process with State Governments regarding giving statutory backing to (a) providing agricultural land to the landless poor in the backward districts (b) providing Homestead Rights to the landless & shelter less poor of rural area and to prepare a draft National Land Reform Policy for land less farmers of the Country and suggest and recommend appropriate advisories exhorting the States to focus on the effective implementation of various laws by legislature aimed at protecting the land rights of dallits adivasis and all other weaker and marginalized sections of society.

Targets under PMGSY in Uttar Pradesh

‡444. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the length of roads targeted for construction in Uttar Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and the amount already allocated therefor; and

(b) the length of roads requested to be covered under PMGSY by the State Government and the actual length of roads approved by the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) and (b) (i) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) scheme envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations by way of an All-weather Road (with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures operable throughout the year) as per Core-Network with a population of 500 persons (as per 2001 census) and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in hill States, the Tribal (Schedule V) areas, the Desert areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) and in the 82 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts in 9 States under Integrated Action Plan (IAP), as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission.

(ii) Accordingly, till date, projects for connecting 13,299 habitations have been sanctioned to the State as per PMGSY guidelines. As informed by the State in recent Empowered Committee meeting that there are no further proposals from the State under new-connectivity except for left-out habitation cases pertaining to IAP district.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) The State of Uttar Pradesh has a target of 34,244 Kms of roads under upgradation. Ministry has already cleared proposals for 27,109 Kms. of road for Upgradation. The proposals for 7,007 kms. of road for upgradation has also been considered by the Empowered Committee in the Ministry.

(iv) Total projects amounting to Rs. 11,237 crore have been sanctioned to the State of Uttar Pradesh till date.

Release of funds under DRDA Administration Scheme

445. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would release balance funds of Rs. 2537.43 lakh under District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) Administration Scheme for 2011-12;

(b) if so, when it would be released; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Under the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) Administration Scheme, against a Budgetary Estimate of Rs. 461.00 crores, an amount of Rs. 550.00 crores (including additional allocation Rs. 89.00 crores provided through reappropriation) was released during 2011-12.

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

SC/ST beneficiaries under MGNREGA

†446. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes getting benefits under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) during the last two years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the persons of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given any special concession under this scheme;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The details of participation of SC/ST beneficiaries in terms of persondays generated under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) from 2010-11 onwards as reported by the States/UTs are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) The primary objective of MGNREGA is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households, by providing on demand up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every rural household including SC/ST households for doing unskilled manual work. Schedule-I of MGNREGA as amended from time to time lists the category of works which shall be included in the Schemes formulated by the State Governments under Section 4(1) of the Act for giving effect to the provisions of the Act. There is also provision in Schedule-I of the Act to take up the following activities under MGNREGA on land or homestead owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes:

- (i) provision of irrigation facility, dug out farm pond, horticulture, plantation, farm bunding and land development;
- (ii) agriculture related works, such as, NADEP composting, vermi-composting, liquid bio-manures;
- (iii) livestock related works, such as, poultry shelter, goat shelter, construction of pucca floor, urine tank and fodder trough for cattle, azolla as cattle-feed supplement;
- (iv) works in coastal areas, such as, fish drying yards, belt vegetation;
- (v) rural drinking water related works, such as, soak pits, recharge pits;
- (vi) rural sanitation related works, such as, individual household latrines etc.

The above works shall be taken up subject to the following conditions, namely:-

- (i) the households shall have the job card; and
- (ii) the beneficiaries shall work on the project undertaken on their land or homestead.

Statement*Details of SC/ST Beneficiaries under MGNREGA*

Sl. No.	State	%age of SC Persondays			%age of ST Persondays		
		2010-11	2011-12 (Provisional)	2012-13 reported till 2nd November, 2012	2010-11	2011-12 (Provisional)	2012-13 reported till 2nd November, 12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	24.32	26.84	24.24	16.02	18.44	14.35
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.03	0.01	0.01	90.26	99.86	84.32
3	Assam	11.00	5.57	5.85	27.26	22.72	19.31
4	Bihar	45.40	24.61	24.31	2.14	1.74	1.80
5	Chhattisgarh	14.57	9.62	9.98	36.51	37.47	31.51
6	Gujarat	14.54	7.82	9.23	41.17	40.43	36.86
7	Haryana	48.93	49.74	53.19	0.00	0.01	0.05
8	Himachal Pradesh	32.58	30.00	30.05	8.19	6.11	6.53
9	Jammu and Kashmir	7.21	6.92	4.29	25.09	15.51	12.08

10	Jharkhand	13.44	12.73	12.32	42.08	39.30	40.38
11	Karnataka	16.16	15.72	16.93	9.36	8.29	9.79
12	Kerala	16.22	14.68	15.22	3.10	2.39	2.90
13	Madhya Pradesh	19.34	21.00	19.71	43.45	27.59	28.81
14	Maharashtra	22.01	6.08	6.22	25.56	16.76	12.68
15	Manipur	2.58	0.58	1.34	70.64	69.77	30.08
16	Meghalaya	0.38	0.65	0.64	94.51	92.94	93.35
17	Mizoram	0.00	0.14	0.01	99.84	99.55	99.79
18	Nagaland	0.00	0.61	0.03	100.00	92.61	90.89
19	Odisha	18.13	17.49	18.61	35.55	38.18	31.94
20	Punjab	78.29	77.40	78.88	0.01	0.04	0.05
21	Rajasthan	25.50	16.79	18.34	23.28	24.50	24.90
22	Sikkim	12.03	4.53	4.51	39.90	36.09	29.55
23	Tamil Nadu	57.71	28.88	29.04	2.19	1.28	1.27
24	Tripura	17.95	18.00	16.84	43.45	42.00	46.09
25	Uttar Pradesh	53.96	32.53	33.38	2.10	1.25	1.04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26	Uttarakhand	26.37	18.44	18.70	4.24	2.88	2.62
27	West Bengal	36.92	33.55	33.88	13.41	10.31	9.01
28	Andaman and Nicobar	0.00	0.00	0.02	13.65	3.70	12.90
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	NR	NR	100.00	NR	NR
30	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
31	Goa	4.05	3.33	5.52	24.32	21.17	7.73
32	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.16	0.00	100.00	98.72	96.96
33	Puducherry	32.83	34.50	34.01	0.09	0.09	0.07
34	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
AVERAGE		30.63	22.05	22.76	20.85	18.30	15.35

NR - Not Reported

Sharing of expenditure on land acquisition

‡447. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government also shares expenditure incurred on acquisition of farmers' land by the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) to (c) Section 27 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 provides that every award by the Collector shall also state the amount of cost incurred on acquisition and by what person and in what proportions, they are to be paid. Further, in case of acquisition of land for companies, Section 41 provides that the appropriate Government will enter into an agreement with the company which shall inter-alia also provide for payment to appropriate Government the "Cost of Acquisition". So, the cost of acquisition of the farmers' land will be borne by the respective appropriate Governments or acquiring agency/company etc.

Employment under MGNREGA

‡448. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts where Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is being run as on date;

(b) whether through this scheme it was envisaged to give 100 days employment to the labourers and whether those labourers have been provided with the employment who had been indentified in the country;

(c) if so, the number of labourers working, State-wise and district-wise along with the total number of labourers given employment since 2010 to October, 2012; and

(d) whether the Minister is aware that the labourers, particularly in Madhya Pradesh, have not been given wages for many days and if so, the details thereof?

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) was initially notified in 200 most backward districts of the country w.e.f. February 02, 2006 and subsequently extended to all over India in two phases. As of now, rural areas of 632 districts of the country have been brought within the ambit of the Act.

(b) and (c) MGNREGA is demand based wage employment programme. Para 1 of Schedule-II of MGNREGA stipulates that adult members of every household who reside in rural areas and are willing to do unskilled manual work may apply for registration of their household for issuance of a job card to be eligible to apply for work under MGNREGA. However, under the Act, mere issuance of a job card does not entitle a household to receive employment. Under Para 9 of Schedule II of the Act, the household also has to submit application for work to be entitled to receive employment and employment is provided on demand. The details of the households provided employment since 2010 to October 2012 as reported by States/UTs, under MGNREGA are given in Statement-I (*See* below). As per Section 3 (1) of the Act, it is for the concerned State Government to provide to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work up to one hundred days of such work in a financial year in accordance with the Scheme made under the Act. Demand for employment under MGNREGA is dependent upon several external factors including availability of alternate employment opportunities.

(d) The Ministry receives a large number of complaints about implementation of MGNREGA in the country. The complaints also relate to under payment of wages, non-payment of wages, delay in payments etc. 258 cases, including 39 complaints from the State of Madhya Pradesh related to non-payment and delayed payments of wages have been received in the Ministry as on 23.08.2012. The State-wise details of such cases are given in Statement-II (*See* below). Information regarding number of persons whose wages are delayed is not maintained separately. As implementation of the Act is done by the State Governments in accordance with the Schemes formulated by them as per the provisions of the Act, all such complaints/cases received in the Ministry are forwarded to the concerned State Governments for taking appropriate action as per law.

Statement-I*Number of HHs provided employment*

(In Nos)

State	2010-11	2011-12 (Provisional)	2012-13 reported till October 2012
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	6200423	4980822	5213734
Arunachal Pradesh	134527	3306	28731
Assam	1798372	1348958	668431
Bihar	4738464	1716603	1280405
Chhattisgarh	2485581	2724228	1977576
Gujarat	1096223	822039	551045
Haryana	235281	277834	178540
Himachal Pradesh	444247	503102	350351
Jammu and Kashmir	492277	421185	173104
Jharkhand	1987360	1573677	985546
Karnataka	2224468	1652116	503349
Kerala	1175816	1416444	1461023
Madhya Pradesh	4407643	3817389	2183676
Maharashtra	451169	1465398	1089447
Manipur	433856	357649	208340
Meghalaya	346149	333715	228505
Mizoram	170894	168560	148261
Nagaland	350815	367173	184672
Odisha	2004815	1378597	1244051
Punjab	278134	245443	143792

1	2	3	4
Rajasthan	5859667	4519270	3842154
Sikkim	56401	54642	26692
Tamil Nadu	4969140	6347303	6176064
Tripura	557055	566770	560823
Uttar Pradesh	6431213	7316757	3847276
Uttarakhand	542391	466663	174105
West Bengal	4998239	5502371	4354772
Andaman and Nicobar	17636	18890	4486
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2290	NR	NR
Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR
Goa	13897	11167	2737
Lakshadweep	4507	3855	738
Puducherry	38118	42546	40842
Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR
TOTAL	54947068	50424472	37833268

NR=Not Reported

Statement-II*State-wise details of Complaints under MGNREGA*

Report as on 23.08.2012

Sl. No.	State	Wages not paid	Delay in Payment	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	3	1	4
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3	Assam	4	0	4
4	Bihar	8	4	12
5	Chhattisgarh	7	3	10

1	2	3	4	5
6	Goa	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	3	3	6
8	Haryana	7	1	8
9	Himachal Pradesh	2	0	2
10	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
11	Jharkhand	11	2	13
12	Karnataka	3	0	3
13	Kerala	2	0	2
14	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
15	Madhya Pradesh	33	6	39
16	Maharashtra	4	1	5
17	Manipur	2	0	2
18	Meghalaya	0	0	0
19	Mizoram	0	0	0
20	Nagaland	0	0	0
21	Orissa	4	3	7
22	Punjab	1	1	2
23	Puducherry	0	0	0
24	Rajasthan	12	5	17
25	Tamil Nadu	1	0	1
26	Tripura	0	0	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	88	14	102
28	Uttrakhand	5	2	7
29	West Bengal	9	3	12
30	Sikkim	0	0	0
TOTAL		209	49	258

Proposals for road connectivity in Gujarat

449. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has requested the Government of Gujarat to submit proposals for new connectivity by roads;

(b) whether the State Government has submitted pre-proposal of Rs. 185.91 crore for new connectivity in Dahod and Panchmahal districts of Gujarat;

(c) if so, by when Government intends to approve the proposal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development had issued a Circular no. 2/2012 dated the 15th February, 2012 relaxing the conditions for consideration of proposals of New Connectivity and allowed the States to submit proposals for eligible unconnected habitations having a population of 500 and above persons (as per 2001 census) in plain areas and above 250 persons (2001 census) in Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand) Desert Areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) and Tribal (Schedule V) areas other than Selected Tribal and Backward districts covered under Integrated Action Plan (IAP) under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Copy is given in Statement-I and II (*See* below).

(b) to (d) The State Government of Gujarat had sent proposals amounting to Rs. 185.91 Crores under Engineering Procurement and construction (EPC) through Public Private Partnership (PPP) for rural roads under PMGSY during June, 2011, which have been returned to the State. Subsequently, in response to Ministry's circular no. 2/2012 dated the 15th February, 2012, Government of Gujarat had sent project proposals for New Connectivity under PMGSY for Rs.345.85 Crores, including proposals of Dahod and Panchmahal districts amounting to Rs 241.79 crores. These Project proposals have been sanctioned by the Ministry vide sanction letter dated the 28th August, 2012.

Statement-I

No. P-17025/6/2010-RC

Government of India

Ministry of Rural Development

Department of Rural Development

Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-I

Dated: 15th Feb, 2012

CIRCULAR No. 2/2012**Subject: Proposals of New Connectivity for Habitations eligible under PMGSY.**

Ministry of Rural Development had issued an Advisory letter No. H-12013/1/2009-RC dated 12th June, 2009 regarding proposals under PMGSY and the Circular No. 14/2011 of 12th December, 2011, relaxing the same. This Circular aims at to provide further relaxations.

2. It may be recalled that as per the above advisory, dated 12th June, 2009 only the following categories of proposals were to be considered for clearance under PMGSY:

- (a) Residual new connectivity coverage envisaged under Phase-I of Bharat Nirman.
- (b) Projects to be taken up with the assistance of World Bank and Asian Development Bank.
- (c) New habitation connectivity in the 33 identified LWE affected Districts.
- (d) Special road connectivity packages announced for the border areas.

Later on, relaxation given to the 33 identified LWE districts as at (c) above was extended to 60 Selected Tribal and Backward districts covered under integrated Action Plan (IAP), for which proposals of New Connectivity for eligible unconnected habitations of population of 250 and above (2001 census) are already being considered.

3. In view of progress made in clearance of aforesaid categories of proposal, the aforesaid advisory had been revisited and the Circular No. 14/2011, dated 12th December 2011 was issued, which is also being further relaxed through this Circular and comprehensive mechanism to forward proposals is covered in ensuing paragraphs.

4. The following course of action would be adopted for consideration of proposals for eligible unconnected habitations having a population of 500 and above persons (as per 2001 census) in plain areas and above 250 persons (2001

census) in Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand). Desert Areas (as identified in the Desert Development Programme) and Tribal (Schedule V) areas other than Selected Tribal and Backward districts covered under Integrated Action Plan (IAP).

(i) In respect of Plain Areas:

- (a) Such States which furnish a certificate that works have been awarded for over 90% of their eligible unconnected habitations having population of 1,000 persons and above (as per 2001 census) under PMGSY, can send proposals for eligible unconnected habitations having population between 800-999 persons (2001 census).
- (b) Once work is awarded for above 90% of eligible unconnected habitations having population between 800-999 persons (as per 2001 census) under PMGSY, then States after furnishing such certificate, can send proposals for eligible unconnected habitations having population between 600-799 persons (as per 2001 census).
- (c) Once work is awarded for over 90% of eligible unconnected habitations having population between 600-799 persons (as per 2001 census) under PMGSY, then States after furnishing such certificate, can send proposals for eligible unconnected habitations having population between 500 to 599 persons (as per 2001 census).

(ii) In respect of Hill States (North-East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand), Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and Tribal (Schedule V) areas other than Selected Tribal and Backward districts covered under Integrated Action Plan (IAP).

- (a) Such States which furnish a certificate that works have been awarded for over 90% of their eligible unconnected habitations having population of 500 persons and above (as per 2001 census) under PMGSY, can send proposals for eligible unconnected habitations having population between 400-499 persons (as per 2001 census).
- (b) Once work is awarded for over 90% of eligible unconnected habitations having population between 400-499 persons (as per 2001 census) under PMGSY, then States after furnishing such certificate, can send proposals for eligible unconnected habitations having population between 300-399 persons (as per 2001 census).
- (c) Once work is awarded for over 90% of eligible unconnected habitations having population between 300-399 persons (as per

2001 census) under PMGSY, then States after furnishing such certificate, can send proposals for eligible habitations having population between 250-299 persons (as per 2001 census).

Works dropped, works covered under other schemes, works in the Selected Tribal and Backward districts covered under Integrated Action Plan (IAP), works pending for completion due to court cases, forest clearance, Stage-I sanctions and for any other specific reason (to be given) may be deducted from the total works sanctioned while calculating the percentage of works awarded as required in para 4 (i) and (ii).

States having areas covered under para 4(i) and (ii) above, can send proposals under both the above categories, along with the relevant certificates.

5. The following information should also be sent in formats with the proposals as per Annexure:

- (i) Number of SQM inspections due and carried out since April 2011, till the last quarter, in Part A of Annexure.
- (ii) Information about the amount of maintenance funds required, credited to the Bank Account of SRRDA and actual expenditure made by SRRDA during 2010-11 and subsequent years as per Part B of Annexure.
- (iii) Details of completed roads out of the total sanctioned works till period ending 12 months ago (excluding the works dropped works covered under other schemes, works in the Selected Tribal and Backward districts covered under Integrated Action Plan (IAP) works pending for completion due to court cases, forest clearance, Stage-I sanctions and for any other specific reason (to be given) in Part C of Annexure.

6. All data relating to roads, habitations and expenditure should tally with the OMMAS, which may accordingly be updated as per procedure.

7. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Sd/

(S.R. Meena)

Director (RC)

Enclosed: Annexure as above

To

All State Principal Secretaries/Secretaries dealing with PMGSY in States.

Statement-II

Table to be enclosed with new proposals under PMGSY from the States

Part A

No. of SQM inspections due (Quarter wise)	No. of SQM inspection carried out (Quarter wise)	No. of SQM inspection Reports uploaded on the Website (Quarter wise)	No. of digital Photographs uploaded on the Website (Quarter wise)
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Part B

Year	Maintenance amount due as per contracts (Rs Crores)	Amount credited to SRRDA Bank account for maintenance (Rs Crores)	Expenditure by SRRDA on maintenance (Rs Crores)
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2010-11

2011-12

2012-13

Part C

Total No. of sanctioned works	New Connectivity			Upgradation			
	Works justified to be excluded @	No. of completed works	% Completion	No. of sanctioned works	Works justified to be excluded @	No. of completion	% completion
a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
			$(c*100/(a-b))$				$(c*100/(a-b))$

@ Works dropped, works covered under other schemes, works in the 60 Selected Tribal and Backward districts covered under Integrated Action Plan (IAP), works pending for completion due to court cases, forest clearance, Stage-I sanctions and for any other specific reason (to be given)

In case of any shortfall in respect of any of the aforesaid Parts, proposed corrective action be also added underneath.

Performance of MGNREGA

450. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the targets set under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), State-wise in the country during 2010-11 and 2011-12;
- (b) how far these targets have been achieved;
- (c) whether Government proposes to conduct an evaluation of the scheme to ensure its effective implementation;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The primary objective of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) is to enhance the livelihood security of the rural households by providing up to 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to every household on demand for doing unskilled manual work. MGNREGA is demand driven and funds are released to States/Districts on the basis of advance projection of labour demand and it is not allocation based. The details of persondays generated and expenditure incurred by the States/Union Territories during 2010-2011 and 2011-12 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Ministry of Rural Development organizes concurrent evaluation/assessment of all its programmes/Schemes including MGNREGA on periodic basis through independent and reputed agencies and organizations. The Ministry of Rural Development has engaged Institutions like Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), National Sample Survey organization (NSSO) and other professional institutions to conduct studies and surveys on the implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). Some major findings of such Studies are given below:

- i. Increase in Agriculture Minimum Wages and wage earned per day due to impact of MGNREGA has given a bargaining power to the labour (*IIM Lucknow, NDUAT Faizabad*).
- ii. Reduction in distress migration: Studies report reduction in distress migration (council for Social Development, Centre for Science and Environment, Indian Institute of Management, Shillong).

- iii. Creation of "Green Jobs": nearly 70% works relate to water conservation, water-harvesting, restoration, renovation and desilting of water bodies, drought-proofing, plantation & afforestation (Indian institute of Science Bangalore and IIFM, Bhopal).
- iv. Improvement in ground water, improved agricultural productivity & cropping intensity, mono crop to two crops (Administrative Staff college of India (ASCI).
- v. Reduction in water vulnerability index, agriculture vulnerability, livelihood vulnerability index (Indian institute of Science Bangalore).
- vi. No gender differential in wage rates for MGNREG works. (NSSO 64th Round).

Statement

Details of Persondays Generated and Expenditure

Incurred by States/UTs during 2010-2012

Sl.No.	State	Persondays generated (in Lakhs)		Total Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs)	
		2010-11	2011-12 (Provisional)	2010-11	2011-12 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	3351.61	2884.75	543938.55	418014.43
2	Arunachal Pradesh	31.12	0.53	5057.31	96.87
3	Assam	470.52	352.55	92104.35	74781.61
4	Bihar	1602.62	656.52	266425.17	167286.18
5	Chhattisgarh	1110.35	1206.85	163397.81	207875.47
6	Gujarat	491.84	312.93	78822.00	65974.64
7	Haryana	84.20	109.38	21470.43	31388.07
8	Himachal Pradesh	219.46	266.77	50196.38	50949.66

1	2	3	4	5	6
9	Jammu and Kashmir	210.68	201.85	37776.70	51593.57
10	Jharkhand	830.90	609.12	128435.40	117092.87
11	Karnataka	1097.85	701.24	253716.51	187619.32
12	Kerala	480.34	633.15	70434.07	99582.87
13	Madhya Pradesh	2198.18	1642.64	363724.90	343545.04
14	Maharashtra	200.00	734.21	35811.97	165785.45
15	Manipur	295.61	223.97	44070.51	33048.99
16	Meghalaya	199.81	166.94	31902.39	29756.07
17	Mizoram	165.98	125.43	29315.12	23978.76
18	Nagaland	334.34	259.50	60537.48	51445.45
19	Odisha	976.57	453.75	153314.26	104567.38
20	Punjab	75.40	64.51	16584.21	16068.64
21	Rajasthan	3026.22	2119.14	328907.14	321719.73
22	Sikkim	48.14	32.85	8525.72	7104.33
23	Tamil Nadu	2685.93	3015.79	232331.96	292497.30
24	Tripura	374.51	489.74	63186.85	94599.01
25	Uttar Pradesh	3348.97	2664.45	563120.10	510367.57
26	Uttarakhand	230.20	197.45	38019.88	41445.26
27	West Bengal	1553.08	1484.74	253246.13	291455.33
28	Andaman and Nicobar	4.03	8.17	903.66	1574.27

266 <i>Written Answers to</i>		[RAJYA SABHA]		<i>Unstarred Questions</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6
29	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.47	NR	123.00	NR
30	Daman and Diu	NR	NR	NR	NR
31	Goa	3.70	3.11	993.28	706.44
32	Lakshadweep	1.34	1.64	251.70	284.11
33	Puducherry	11.27	10.79	1082.11	1265.07
34	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR
TOTAL		25715.24	21634.43	3937727.05	3803469.77

Funds for research work

451. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the research area in science and technology in the country is suffering due to lack of funds and less fund being allocated to research institutes in the country; and

(b) what has been the incremental increase in the budget for research purposes during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY):
 (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no shortage of funds allocated to research institutes in the country. The incremental increases in annual budget allocated to Ministry of Science & Technology for research and development during the Eleventh Plan (2007-2012) are 35.4%, 19.2%, 7.2%, 25% and 12.7 % respectively.

These investments have resulted in enhanced global visibility in research publications in peer reviewed journals. India's position globally in the field of scientific research and development, as measured by the number of research papers published, has improved from 10th position in 2006 to 9th position in 2010 as per the Scopus International database. In areas such as Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, the promotional efforts of the Government have resulted more than 18,000 publications. In 2010 India was ranked at 6th in terms of publications

in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. In case of research in chemistry, India ranks 5th in the world with respect to scientific publications.

Participation of women in S & T

452. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of women scientists working in the various research institutions and science and technology departments/agencies of Government;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to improve the participation of women scientists in the science and technology sector; and
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY):
(a) to (c) Government has taken steps to ensure participation of women in the field of science and technology by enhancing the scope of gender enabling programmes. In the Twelfth Plan the Department of Science and Technology has formulated a scheme "Disha" to ensure the participation of women in the S&T sector by restructuring existing schemes and adding new component to address mobility of women scientists due to family reasons. The existing initiatives of the Department of Science and Technology include the Women Scientists Scholarship Scheme which provides opportunities to women scientists and technologists who desire to return to mainstream science after a break in career. The scheme supports women scientists for research in basic and applied sciences, provide S&T solutions to issues of societal relevance and internship in the area of Intellectual Property Rights. 2500 women have been awarded scholarships under this scheme during the period 2003-11. The Department of Biotechnology has been supporting women scientist by providing R&D grants under its various Programmes. 428 women bioscientists have been provided research grant since 2009. The Department has launched a new scheme, Bio-CARE, for women under the Biotechnology Career Advancement and Reorientation programme to extend support for women bioscientists, both employed and unemployed so as to help them undertake independent R&D projects in the field of life sciences to include agriculture, veterinary science and medicine. The scheme was started in 2010 and since then 65 women scientists have been awarded. The scholarships schemes have been availed of by women scientist in 20 states of the country. Scholarship schemes

have been availed of by women scientists in 20 states of the country. Government is continuously working to expand the scope of opportunities for women scientists.

Quality and quantity of research work in the country

453. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new analysis of comparative science research, that takes into account both quality and quantity shows that India is now left far behind and slip to a fourth position as China grows steadfastly since 2002 in terms of scientific work;

(b) if so, the reasons that repeated Government promises to focus on research are yet to show results; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to focus on research work and to avoid further risk of losing out to China and East Asia in innovation?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY):

(a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Department of Science and Technology commissioned a bibliometric study on India's research output based on SCI data base. According to the report brought out in July, 2012, India is behind China in terms of scientific research. China has been investing significant national resources in scientific research during the last decade. East Asian countries such as Japan and Korea also invest significantly into Research and Development (R&D). The Government has taken note of China's higher performance in R&D relative to India. However, there is no significant gap between India and China in critical technology areas. In areas such as space, software, vaccines, renewable energy etc., India is ahead of China in technology strength. India's strategy is to accord equal emphasis on both affordable and globally competitive innovations. Technological self reliance in areas of developmental needs of the country has been accorded high priority in our R&D plans. In principle, a decision to increase national R&D expenditure from current level of 0.9% to 2% of GDP has been taken together with enhanced participation from private sector by 2017. This is more than double the expenditure over the past years and represents a significant allocation of resources considering the overall resources of the country.

Depletion of ground water level

454. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the measures undertaken to remedy the situation of significant rates of non-renewable depletion of groundwater level over large areas as indicated by NASA's Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment Satellites;

(b) whether there is any Centrally sponsored scheme towards promoting local irrigation projects;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) Studies carried out by various agencies including the Central Ground Water Board indicate significant decline in ground water level across the country. For improving the ground water levels, remedial measures are undertaken by the State Governments. Ministry of Water Resources also promotes rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water through implementation of pilot/demonstrative projects on water harvesting and artificial recharge and implementation of Farmers' Participatory Action Research Programme with a view to improving the water use efficiency in agriculture sector. Besides, Central Ground Water Authority issues advisories to various Central and State Government authorities for adoption of rain water harvesting and artificial recharge measures in all the government buildings, group housing societies, National Highways, State Highways, airports and industries.

(b) No such Centrally sponsored Scheme exists. The irrigation projects including Minor Irrigation (MI) projects are undertaken by the respective State Governments as per their own priorities. However, with a view to encourage the completion of ongoing projects and help States in creation of irrigation potential, Government of India provides financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) which is a State Sector Scheme.

(c) State-wise details of Minor Irrigation schemes included, part-funded under AIBP, completed and potential created are given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) In view of replies to parts (a), (b) and (c), question does not arise.

Statement*Details of minor irrigation schemes under AIBP since inception upto 19.11.2012*

Sl.No	State	Total Nos. of Schemes included	Estimated Cost (Rs. in crores)	Potential Planned ('000 ha)	Nos. of schemes completed upto 31.10.2012	Potential Created ('000 ha) upto 31.10.2012	Total CLA/ grant released upto 19.11.2012 (Rs.in Crores)
A.	Special category States						
1	Arunachal Pradesh	2052	435.49390	72.3490	1960	64.6140	312.0013
2	Assam	1376	4244.3902	474.23390	546	192.2780	1898.5509
3	Manipur	843	303.4305	43.652	828	42.0140	249.0895
4	Meghalaya	263	380.11244	43.4309	169	35.44744	283.69150
5	Mizoram	317	311.9010	30.042	317	30.0420	258.1791
6	Nagaland	1524	483.96195	65.463	1404	59.1340	366.0336
7	Sikkim	658	80.0345	14.9131	437	6.5582	64.1681
8	Tripura	1221	338.7192	59.2408	1169	46.2340	236.5470
9	Himachal Pradesh	428	347.6185	77.1010	260	55.91300	222.7265

10	Jammu and Kashmir	749	1574.0349	243.9970	478	161.9564	881.0625
11	Orissa (KBK)	78	209.8922	26.375	43	17.1447	153.5835
12	Uttarakhand	2519	1866.05600	222.30388	2032	180.074070	1412.0008
A	TOTAL	12028	10575.6453	1373.1015	9643	891.4097	6337.6343
B. Non-Special Category States							
1	Andhra Pradesh	100	692.2268	55.5558	43	10.3760	400.410
2	Chhattisgarh	274	892.4627	93.6690	144	35.8030	548.3187
3	Madhya Pradesh	365	1529.254	129.83	217	56.2280	1128.3471
4	Maharashtra	186	1227.3130	121.5340	100	52.4870	934.5087
5	Bihar	221	340.6732	84.631	60	23.4660	96.0027
6	West Bengal	57	23.873	5.12640	56	5.0420	20.676
7	Rajasthan	7	39.722	4.411	1	0.448	14.170
8	Karnataka	493	628.6061	51.0681	229	19.5600	255.3128
9	Jharkhand	456	640.3277	78.7400	141	26.0000	456.0632
B	TOTAL	2159	6014.4585	624.56533	991	229.4100	3853.8093
GRAND TOTAL		14187	16590.1038	1997.6669	10634	1120.8197	10191.4436

Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme

455. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the planned allocation for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for previous plan and the details of fund utilized, State-wise;
- (b) the criterion of selecting an irrigation project under AIBP;
- (c) the number of irrigation projects have been taken under AIBP;
- (d) whether it is a fact that work on some projects has not been started so far; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and by when these pending projects are likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The allocation for Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during Eleventh Plan was Rs.39850 crore, out of which Central Assistance (CA) of Rs.32610.6276 crore has been released to the States as per the details given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The Irrigation projects are selected for inclusion in AIBP according to the AIBP guidelines in force from time to time. The salient norms of modified guidelines of AIBP effective from December, 2006 are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Total 293 major and medium irrigation projects and 13223 Surface Minor Irrigation (MI) projects have been included in the AIBP since 1996-97 to 31.3.2012.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement-I

*Central assistance released under AIBP during Eleventh Plan
Period (2007-08 to 2011-12)*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Grant						
1	Andhra Pradesh	987.7692	855.1800	1300.7280	22.7920	397.8810

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Arunachal Pradesh	47.1800	33.9580	30.7800	48.6346	33.7880
3	Assam	77.3380	405.9540	589.9760	406.4030	424.7100
4	Bihar	62.2400	109.7029	77.9130	55.7535	15.5300
5	Chhattisgarh	96.9640	193.0402	60.8853	174.8106	201.4660
6	Goa	32.4800	39.2300	20.2500	20.0000	20.2500
7	Gujarat	585.7200	258.6100	6.0797	361.4200	0.0000
8	Haryana	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
9	Himachal Pradesh	114.0500	119.3178	90.6797	43.5213	129.7050
10	Jammu and Kashmir	199.2251	393.0661	171.7276	156.0341	225.1180
11	Jharkhand	9.2244	3.7200	0.0000	242.8874	559.9560
12	Karnataka	349.9000	442.4190	823.8280	567.7593	511.4040
13	Kerala	0.0000	0.9045	3.8120	10.0172	0.0000
14	Madhya Pradesh	500.3450	473.7824	758.7458	658.6918	473.4640
15	Maharashtra	972.2500	2257.8318	1395.3946	2069.0559	1199.8920
16	Manipur	103.9870	221.6733	42.5403	249.9965	44.5500
17	Meghalaya	1.1600	24.8009	22.5018	110.1947	81.3002
18	Mizoram	34.3434	50.7176	36.4500	51.0923	42.1100
19	Nagaland	40.5100	48.5979	57.2860	70.0000	72.6470
20	Orissa	624.3590	724.4387	871.5717	591.6811	614.9420
21	Punjab	13.5000	9.5400	22.0500	140.4760	43.6300
22	Rajasthan	156.5300	178.6200	157.5770	41.9200	3.3750

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	Sikkim	3.2400	0.0000	2.6049	14.3639	33.7144
24	Tripura	8.1000	43.1750	36.2088	47.9999	34.8751
25	Tamil Nadu	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
26	Uttar Pradesh	150.6900	315.4732	238.0820	432.5382	279.8440
27	Uttarakhand	265.6500	371.6580	127.0063	160.0600	232.7513
28	West Bengal	8.9500	22.8100	0.9144	89.1000	107.0020
TOTAL		5445.7051	7598.2213	6945.5929	6837.2033	5783.9050

Statement-II*Salient norms of modified guidelines for the accelerated irrigation benefits programme effective from December, 2006*

1. Major, medium and Extension, Renovation & Modernization (ERM) irrigation projects (a) having investment clearance of Planning Commission (b) are in advanced stage of construction and can be completed in the next four financial year (c) are not receiving any other form of financial assistance can be considered for inclusion in the programme. Components of the projects not receiving any other form of financial assistance can also be considered for inclusion in the programme. The eligibility criteria as per prevailing guidelines for selection of ERM project will continue. New project could be included in programme only on completion of an ongoing project under AIBP on one to one basis EXCEPT FOR projects benefiting (a) drought-prone areas; (b) tribal areas; (c) states with lower irrigation development as compared to national average; and (d) districts identified under the PM's package for agrarian distress districts.
2. Surface minor irrigation (MI) schemes (both new as well as ongoing) of states of North-East, Hilly states (Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttaranchal) and drought prone KBK districts of Orissa which are approved by State TAC/State Planning Department will be eligible for assistance under the programme provided that (i) individual schemes are benefiting irrigation potential of at least 20 ha. and group of schemes (within a radius of 5 km) benefiting total ultimate irrigation potential of at least 50 ha. (ii) proposed MI schemes have benefit cost

ratio of more than 1 and (iii) the development cost of these schemes per ha. is less than Rs.1.00 lakh*.

For Non-special category states**, only those minor irrigation schemes with potential more than 50 hectare which serve tribal areas and drought prone areas could be included under AIBP. The schemes to be taken up will be decided in consultation with Planning Commission.

3. As per Dec 2005 AIBP Guidelines, the guidelines for inclusion of ERM projects are as follows:

ERM projects can be included subject to following conditions:

- I. Can be permitted in States which have no major or medium projects to pose under AIBP and have thus not been availing AIBP.
- II. Can be permitted:
 - (i) in States which have agreed to reform in water sector i.e. step up water rates to enable meeting full O&M cost over 5 years.

OR

- (ii) in States which have enacted Participatory Irrigation Management legislation.

OR

- (iii) for ERM projects where new potential is also envisaged with water saved and not merely restoration of lost potential.

To ensure that funds do not flow only to ERM projects, not more than 10% of aggregate annual allocation under AIBP will be for ERM and 90% will thus be for completion of major and medium projects.

4. The central assistance will be in the form of central grant which will be 90% of project cost in case of special category States, projects benefiting drought prone area, tribal area and flood prone area and 25% of project cost in case of Non-special category States. The balance cost of the project as the State's share is to be arranged by the State government from its own resources.

* Since October, 2007, the funding eligibility has been raised to Rs. 1.50 Lakh

** The Special Category States covers the North Eastern States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Uttaranchal. The projects in the undivided Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi (KBK) districts of Orissa will also be treated at par with Special Category States. All other States not covered in special category shall be Non-Special Category States.

Prevention of wastage of water

456. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the quantity of wastage of water owing to the condition of irrigation canals in the major irrigation projects;

(b) whether measures are undertaken towards upgradation and repair of the canal system to prevent large scale wastage of water; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The canals are designed taking into account some wastage of water. The wastage of water allowed varies from type of design and soil conditions. It also depends on maintenance and proper upkeep of canals by project authorities. Due to poor maintenance of canals, the conveyance loss increases.

(b) and (c) The operation and regulation of quantity of water in canals, branch canals, distributaries, etc. are carried out by the project authorities under the respective State Governments. Government of India provides financial assistance under AIBP for Extension, Renovation & Modernization (ERM) projects to the States Governments on their request which help in proper distribution of water through canal network. Further, it is proposed to improve the water use efficiency by 20% under National Water Mission.

High power committee on inter-linking of rivers

457. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a High Power Committee has been constituted for planning and implementation of inter-linking of rivers by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The High Power Committee to be set up for interlinking of rivers as per the

direction of the Supreme Court is yet to be constituted. The nomination from the States involved in the Inter-linking of rivers have been called for as per the direction of the Supreme Court.

Supply of clean drinking water

‡458. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether clean drinking water is a necessity of human life;
- (b) whether lakhs of people and children die untimely after falling ill by taking contaminated water in absence of clean drinking water; and
- (c) if so, the details of the plan prepared by Government to save the people from this severe problem who are incapable of purchasing mineral water or equipment like RO or Acquaguard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) For improving water quality, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has earmarked 20% of the allocated funds under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). Further, it is indicated that the States may utilize upto 67% of funds released under NRDWP for improving water quality of ground and surface water.

Ministry of Urban Development is supplementing the efforts of State Governments/Urban Local Bodies in providing water supply in Urban areas/Metropolitan cities under the schemes/ programme of Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, North Eastern Region Urban Development Programme, Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme in Satellite Towns.

Stay order against the construction of Kishanganga dam

459. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the International Court of Arbitration has issued a stay order against the construction of the Kishanganga dam;

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

(c) the details of the response and the steps taken by Government for this development;

(d) whether this construction is in violation of the 1960 Indus Water Treaty signed by India and Pakistan;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether an environmental impact assessment was carried out by Government before the start of the project; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In its order of 23rd September 2011 a Court of Arbitration has ruled, pending the rendering of its award and without going into the merits of the case, that it is open to India to continue with all works relating to the project, except for the construction of any permanent works on or above the Kishenganga riverbed at the dam site that may inhibit the restoration of the full flow of that river to its natural channel.

(c) The order is being complied with.

(d) and (e) The construction is in full compliance of the Treaty.

(f) and (g) NHPC Ltd. had an environmental impact assessment study of the project carried out in 2002 through The Centre for Inter-disciplinary Studies of Mountain & Hill Environment (CISMHE), University of Delhi.

Implementation of judgement and direction in inter linking rivers

460. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has declined to entertain a petition filed by the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) seeking review of the inter linking rivers (ILR) judgement; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is the stand of Government regarding the implementation of the judgement and direction to the Central Government to set up a special committee to carry out the implementation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has not filed any petition seeking review of the interlinking of Rivers (ILR) judgement.

(b) The High Powered Committee for implementation is yet to be constituted by the Central Government, as nominations are yet to be received from the State Governments.

Depletion in ground water levels

461. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's first aquifer atlas points to a sharp depletion in ground water levels in several parts of Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The first aquifer atlas "The Aquifer Systems of India", has a map on "Categorization of Ground Water Assessment Units" which indicates over exploitation of ground water in several parts of Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The State-wise details of categorization of ground water assessment units as over-exploited, critical and semi-critical is given in Statement (*See below*). This categorization has been done by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) in association with respective State Governments, which is based on the stage of ground water development and water level trends. Sharp depletion in the ground water levels is mainly due to excessive withdrawals of ground water to meet the increasing demand of water for agriculture, industrial and drinking purposes and also rapid urbanization resulting in lower recharge.

(c) The present position of depletion of ground water levels in different States/Union Territories is as per assessment of the ground water resources carried out by the Central Ground Water Board in association with the State Governments during 2009 as the base year.

Statement*Categorization of ground water assessment units in India*

(As on 2009)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Total No. of Assessed Units	Over-exploited		Critical		Semi-critical	
			Nos.	%	Nos.	%	Nos.	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
States								
1	Andhra Pradesh	1108	84	8	26	2	93	8
2	Arunachal Pradesh	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Bihar	533	0	0	0	0	4	1
5	Chhattisgarh	146	0	0	0	0	14	10
6	Delhi	27	20	74	0	0	5	19
7	Goa	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Gujarat	223	27	12	6	3	20	9
9	Haryana	116	68	59	21	18	9	8
10	Himachal Pradesh	8	1	13	1	13	0	0
11	Jammu and Kashmir	14	0	0	0	0	0	0

12	Jharkhand	208	4	2	2	1	2	1
13	Karnataka	270	71	26	11	4	34	13
14	Kerala	152	1	1	3	2	22	14
15	Madhya Pradesh	313	24	8	4	1	61	19
16	Maharashtra	353	9	3	1	0	19	5
17	Manipur	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Meghalaya	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Mizoram	22	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Nagaland	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Orissa	314	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Punjab	138	110	80	3	2	2	1
23	Rajasthan	239	166	69	25	10	16	7
24	Sikkim	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	Tamil Nadu	386	139	36	33	9	67	17
26	Tripura	39	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	Uttar Pradesh	820	76	9	32	4	107	13
28	Uttarakhand	17	0	0	1	6	5	29
29	West Bengal	269	0	0	0	0	38	14
TOTAL STATES		5792	800	14	169	3	518	9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Union Territories								
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Chandigarh	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Daman and Diu	2	1	50	0	0	1	50
5	Lakshdweep	9	0	0	0	0	4	44
6	Pondicherry	4	1	25	0	0	0	0
TOTAL UTs		50	2	4	0	0	5	10
GRAND TOTAL		5842	802	14	169	3	523	9

Criteria for categorization

Over-Exploited: Stage of Ground water development - > 100%, Significant decline in long term water level trend in either pre-monsoon or post-monsoon period or both;

Critical: Stage of Ground Water Development - >90% and <=100%, Significant decline in long term water level trend in both pre-monsoon and post-monsoon period;

Semi-Critical: Stage of Ground Water Development - > 70% and <=100%, Significant decline in long term water level trend in either pre-monsoon or post-monsoon period

Irrigation projects in Madhya Pradesh

‡462. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects being run by the Central Government in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the details of the amount demanded by State Government and the amount allocated and issued thereof by the Central Government during the last five years;

(c) whether any proposal/demand of Madhya Pradesh Government related to irrigation projects is pending with the Central Government;

(d) if so, by when a decision is likely to be taken on the concerned proposal; and

(e) the action plan for betterment of irrigation system in Madhya Pradesh and whether advise of State Government is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No irrigation projects are being run by the Central Government in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The Union Government provides Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the approved projects satisfying AIBP Guidelines to States on demand. The details of CA demanded by State Government and the CA released during the last five years to Major/Medium Irrigation (MMI) projects of Madhya Pradesh is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) No proposal of MMI projects for release of CA during 2012-13 is under consideration in this Ministry.

(e) Irrigation being a State Subject, the irrigation projects are planned, executed and maintained by the State Governments themselves as per their resources and priorities. However, Government of India provides CA to the States under AIBP on the request of the State Government as per the eligibility.

Statement

*Details of CA demanded by State Government and the CA released during the last five years
(2007-08 to 2011-12) to Major/Medium Irrigation (MMI) projects of Madhya Pradesh*

Sl. No.	State/Project Name	(Rs. in Crore)					(Rs. in Crore)				
		Grant demanded by State					Grant released				
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Madhya Pradesh											
1.	Indira Sagar Unit I						0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
	Indira Sagar Unit II	95.710	226.540	62.770			94.770	0.000	42.640	95.469	
C2	Bansagar Unit-I	40.725	33.890	completed during 2010-11			13.240	0.000	7.367	0.000	
	Bansagar Unit-II	222.714	151.695	78.680	60.020	403.690	56.600	26.860	59.610	54.016	40.520
3.	Sindh Phase II	31.977	411.200	25.000	25.510	24.500	6.310	45.847	6.975	22.955	19.010
4.	Mahi	48.789	27.000	43.610	61.100	45.750	49.470	37.186	0.000	87.625	39.393
5.	Bariarpur LBC	15.410	8.370				12.040	7.530	6.570	0.000	
6.	Bawanthadi	11.140	12.500	15.260		20.560	10.830	5.281	0.000	20.615	6.053
7.	Mahan	5.000	9.000	26.000		93.600	6.640	2.700	0.000	0.000	
8.	Omkareshwar Ph-I	77.080	48.540	63.130	58.500	49.590	26.780	11.560	10.920	0.000	12.398
9.	Bargi Diversion Ph-I	47.130	7.500	12.250			0.000	6.750	10.317	0.000	
	Bargi Diversion Ph-II	12.360	11.250	10.040			25.950	10.130	11.070	0.000	
	Barai Diversion Ph-III	10.000	12.300	41.230	19.787		23.630	11.070	21.294	0.000	

10.	Pench Div-I	12.540	46.020		22.500		3.300	3.360	9.718	0.000	
	Omkareshwar, Ph.-II		99.000	72.000	76.500	60.000	16.110	49.600	0.000	0.000	46.143
	Omkareshwar, Ph.-III	44.550	133.190	96.606	88.900	117.000	16.040	24.060	41.986	0.000	
	Indira Sagar Canal Ph.-III	68.031	54.230	65.020	76.500	90.000	24.490	61.770	0.000	0.000	
11.	Upper Beda	15.930	28.890	25.770	27.950	32.200		14.340	49.198	24.810	
12.	Punasa lift			150.000	116.700	40.500		48.600	227.637	105.030	
13.	Lower Goi		36.207	67.500	75.600	61.326		32.586	60.102	22.810	55.185
	Indira Sagar Unit IV		21.870	32.400	18.000	86.270		19.683	12.600	16.200	
	Bargi Diversion Ph-IV		10.250	22.440	20.500				7.369	0.000	
14.	Jobat			8.030	18.000	30.330				6.660	
15.	Sagar (Sagad)			10.710	17.380	21.750					14.751
16.	Singhpur				14.630	17.500					15.750
17.	Sanjay Sagar (Bah)			13.000	10.125	19.160					12.975
	TOTAL	759.086	1389.442	941.446	808.202	1213.726	386.200	418.913	585.373	456.189	262.177

*Details of CA demanded by State Government and the CA released during the last five years
(2007-08 to 2011-12) to Surface Minor Irrigation (MI) projects of Madhya Pradesh*

Sl. No	State/Project Name	(Rs. in Crore)					(Rs. in Crore)				
		Grant demanded by State					Grant released				
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1	Madhya Pradesh	142.5833	57.5104	192.636	225.0026	234.7644	128.325	51.7594	173.3724	202.5023	211.288

Irrigation projects in Maharashtra

‡463. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the irrigation projects being run by the Central Government in the State of Maharashtra are not getting completed in prescribed period and cost on these projects in certain cases have gone up by more than 150 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any case related to irregularities in irrigation projects have come into light before Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether action has been initiated for investigating the irregularities;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) No irrigation projects are being run by the Central Government in Maharashtra. However, Government of India has been providing Central Assistance (CA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to the States for approved and eligible projects and there are 28 ongoing Major/Medium Irrigation (MMI) projects of Maharashtra under AIBP presently. Out of the above 28 ongoing projects, the cost of AIBP components of 10 ongoing projects in Maharashtra have escalated more than 150%.

(c) to (g) Yes Sir. Some complaints were received from Public Representatives of Maharashtra State regarding irregularities in irrigation projects of that State. The Government of Maharashtra was requested by Central Water Commission (CWC)/ Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR) to investigate the irregularities and take remedial measures. The State Government of Maharashtra got the special audit done by Accountant General, Maharashtra for Gosikhurd Project and appointed committees for technical and administrative aspects. Based on the recommendations of these Committees remedial measures/disciplinary action have been initiated by the State Government of Maharashtra.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

New National Water Policy

464. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to come up with a New National Water Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what would be the role of State Governments while preparing the policy?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Water Resources has evolved the Draft National Water Policy (2012) to meet the present challenges in the water sector. The salient features of the Draft National Water Policy (2012) are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) State Governments have been actively involved while drafting the Policy. The National Water Board comprising of Chief Secretaries of all the States and Secretaries of related Union Ministries considered the draft National Water Policy (2012) at its Meeting held on 7th June, 2012. Thereafter, the National Water Resources Council with Chief Ministers of all States as members is to consider and adopt the draft National Water Policy (2012) arrived at as per deliberations in the National Water Board.

Statement***Salient features of revised draft National Water Policy (2012)***

1. Emphasis on the need for a national water framework law, comprehensive legislation for optimum development of inter-State rivers and river valleys, amendment of Irrigation Acts, Indian Easements Act, 1882, etc.
2. Water, after meeting the pre-emptive needs for safe drinking water and sanitation, achieving food security, supporting poor people dependent on agriculture for their livelihood and high priority allocation for minimum eco-system needs, be treated as economic good so as to promote its conservation and efficient use.
3. Ecological needs of the river should be determined recognizing that river flows are characterized by low or no flows, small floods (freshets), large floods and flow variability and should accommodate development needs. A portion of river flows should be kept aside to meet ecological needs

ensuring that the proportional low and high flow releases correspond in time closely to the natural flow regime.

4. Adaptation strategies in view of climate change for designing and management of water resources structures and review of acceptability criteria has been emphasized.
5. A system to evolve benchmarks for water uses for different purposes, *i.e.*, water footprints, and water auditing be developed to ensure efficient use of water. Project financing has been suggested as a tool to incentivize efficient & economic use of water.
6. Setting up of Water Regulatory Authority has been recommended. Incentivization of recycle and re-use has been recommended.
7. Water Users Associations should be given statutory powers to collect and retain a portion of water charges, manage the volumetric quantum of water allotted to them and maintain the distribution system in their jurisdiction.
8. Removal of large disparity in stipulations for water supply in urban areas and in rural areas has been recommended.
9. Water resources projects and services should be managed with community participation. Wherever the State Governments or local governing bodies so decide, the private sector can be encouraged to become a service provider in public private partnership model to meet agreed terms of service delivery, including penalties for failure.
10. Adequate grants to the States to update technology, design practices, planning and management practices, preparation of annual water balances and accounts for the site and basin, preparation of hydrologic balances for water systems, and benchmarking and performance evaluation.

Irrigation and drinking water projects in Gujarat and Maharashtra

465. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of irrigation and drinking water projects approved in Gujarat and Maharashtra during the last three years;
- (b) the share of the Central and State Governments in them and the amount released by the Central Government every year; and

(c) the number of completed projects those under construction and the time by when these are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) During the last three years (since April 2009), 3 nos. of irrigation projects of Gujarat State and 18 nos. irrigation projects of Maharashtra State were considered and accepted by Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources and approved by Planning Commission.

The details of the schemes implemented under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra during the last three years and in the current year is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The Central Assistance (CA) is provided to the State Governments under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) @ 90% of project cost in case of special category States, projects benefiting drought prone area, tribal area and flood prone area and @ 25% of project cost in case of Non-special category States. The balance cost of the project as the State's share is to be arranged by the State government from its own resources. The CA released under (AIBP) to Gujarat and Maharashtra during last three years and current year is given in Statement-II (*See* below).

The share of Central and State governments under the NRDWP in the schemes in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra is 50:50 (Central State). The release made to the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra under the NRDWP, during the last three years and the current year is given in Statement-III (*See* below).

(c) Under AIBP, 14 Major/Medium irrigation (MMI) projects of Gujarat and 21 MMI projects of Maharashtra have been completed, while 1 MMI project of Gujarat and 28 MMI projects of Maharashtra are ongoing. The likely year of completion of ongoing MMI projects of Gujarat and Maharashtra as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is given in Statement-IV (*See* below).

The details of Surface Minor irrigation schemes included and completed under AIBP for Gujarat and Maharashtra is given in Statement-V (*See* below). As per AIBP Guidelines, the time of completion for MMI projects is four financial years and for Surface Minor irrigation schemes is two financial years.

The details of the projects completed and those under construction under the NRDWP for Gujarat and Maharashtra is also given at Statement-I.

Statement-I

Details of Rural Water Supply Schemes implemented in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra under NRDWP for last three years and current year (Number of Schemes)

Sl. No.	State Name	2009-10			2010-11			2011-12			2012-13		
		Ongoing	New	Completed	Ongoing	New	Completed	Ongoing	New	Completed	Ongoing	New	Completed
1	Gujarat	2883	3439	3945	2377	3251	3591	2037	2313	1712	2638	3311	1639
2	Maharashtra	18482	3621	7629	14474	8477	11181	11770	21604	21199	12175	9579	3021

Statement-II

Central assistance released under the AIBP during last three years and current year (upto Sept'2012) to Gujarat and Maharashtra

Sl. No.	State	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	Gujarat	30.780	361.420	0.000	0.000
2	Maharashtra	1395.395	2069.056	1199.893	178.842

Statement-III

Opening balance, allocation, release and expenditure under NRDWP during last three years and current year (Rs in Crore) in the State of Gujarat and Maharashtra

Sl.No.	State/UT	2009-10				2010-11				2011-12				2012-13			
		O. B.	Alloc.	Rel.	Expdn.	O. B.	Alloc.	Rel.	Expdn.	O.B.	Alloc	Rel.	Expdn.	O. B.	Alloc.	Rel.	Expdn.
1.	Gujarat	92.11	482.75	482.75	511.83	70.10	542.67	609.10	527.29	180.09	478.89	571.05	467.70	327.59	537.10	381.62	399.06
2.	Maharashtra	204.24	652.43	647.81	625.59	232.44	733.27	718.42	713.79	237.06	728.35	718.35	642.20	320.10	783.66	474.42	179.31

Statement-IV

*Details of ongoing MMI projects of Gujarat and Maharashtra
including likely year of completion*

Sl. No.	Name of States	Name of Projects	Maj./ Med./ ERM	Date of completion as per MoU
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gujarat	Sardar Sarovar Project	Maj.	2015-16
Maharashtra				
1.	Maharashtra	Gosikhurd	Maj.	2012-13
2.	Maharashtra	Waghur	Med.	2012-13
3.	Maharashtra	Upper Manar	Med.	2011-12#
4.	Maharashtra	Upper Pen Ganga	Maj.	March, 2013
5.	Maharashtra	Lower Dudhna	Med.	March, 2014
6.	Maharashtra	Warna	Med.	2010-11#
7.	Maharashtra	Punad	Med.	2010-11#
8.	Maharashtra	Lower Wardha	Maj.	March, 2015
9.	Maharashtra	Khadakpurna	Med.	March, 2013
10.	Maharashtra	Dongargaon Tank	Med.	March, 2013
11.	Maharashtra	Gul	Maj.	Mar.2016#
12.	Maharashtra	Bembla	Maj.	2013-14
13.	Maharashtra	Uttermand	Med.	2013-14
14.	Maharashtra	Sangola Branch Canal	Maj.	2012-13
15.	Maharashtra	Tarali	Maj.	2012-13
16.	Maharashtra	Dhom Balakwadi	Maj.	2012-13
17.	Maharashtra	Morna (Gureghar)	Med.	2013-14
18.	Maharashtra	Arjuna	Med.	2013-14
19.	Maharashtra	Lower Pedhi	Maj.	2012-13
20.	Maharashtra	Upper Kundalika	Med	2012-13
21.	Maharashtra	Wang Project	Med	2013-14
22.	Maharashtra	Lower Panzara	Med	2013-14

1	2	3	4	5
23	Maharashtra	Aruna	Med	2013-14
24	Maharashtra	Krishna Koyana Lift	Maj.	2012-13
25	Maharashtra	Naradave (Mahammadwadi)	Med	2013-14
26	Maharashtra	Gadnadi	Med	2014-15
27	Maharashtra	Kudali	Med	2012-13
28	Maharashtra	Nandur Madhmeshwar Ph-II		2012-13

In addition, the following two projects are inter-state projects

1.	Maharashtra	Bawanthadi [IS]	Maj.	March, 2015
2	Maharashtra	Tillari	Med.	2011-12#

#: Completion date likely to be revised

Statement-V

*Details of Surface Minor irrigation schemes included
and completed under AIBP*

Sl. No.	State	Total Nos. of Schemes included	Nos. of schemes completed upto 31.10.2012
1	Gujarat	-	-
2	Maharashtra	186	100

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, Papers to be laid on the Table ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, we have given a notice. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) Notification No. G.S.R. 667 (E), dated the 4th September, 2012, publishing the Bureau of Indian Standards (Amendment) Rules, 2012. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7497/15/12]

...(*Interruptions*)...

**REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR (Nominated): Sir, I lay on the Table, copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (2012-13):

- (i) Twenty-second Report on "Working of Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP)" pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Planning Commission;
- (ii) Twenty-third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Thirteenth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Termination of 10 SC ex-teachers appointed by NSES of NDMC on contract basis during SRDs 2005 and 2007" pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs;
- (iii) Twenty-fourth Report on "Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)" pertaining to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue); and
- (iv) Twenty-fifth Report on "Working of Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)" pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Planning Commission.

...(Interruptions)...

**REPORT OF DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS**

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I lay on the Table the Two Hundred and Thirty-first Report (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on "The Indian Forest (Amendment) Bill, 2012".

...(Interruptions)...

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two hundred
and twenty-seventh report of department related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests**

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Twenty-seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2012-13) of the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, what is happening?
...(Interruptions)... The House cannot run like this. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, we shall take up admitted Special Mentions ...(Interruptions)... Please, lay your Special Mentions ...(Interruptions)...

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

Concern over inordinate delay in disposal of cases of crores of undertrials in the country

DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA (Rajasthan): Sir, the NCRB statistics show that by 2011 end, there were 1.38 crore undertrials in the country. Maharashtra's tally of 28.6 lakh accounted for 20.6 per cent of the staggering figure. It was followed, in the ignominious list, by Gujarat (16.1 lakh), Bihar (15.5 lakh), Madhya Pradesh (12 lakh) and Uttar Pradesh (8.6 lakh). The judicial backlog has left multitudes of undertrials languishing in jails endlessly, which is contradictory to Constitutional assurances. Preference is given to cases where the accused are in custody and not to those where the undertrials are out on bail, leading to prolonged delays in the latter.

The mountainous backlog has necessitated changes in the legal system. If the growing problem has to be arrested, judges must be appointed, the number of courts as well as manpower is to be increased and unnecessary delays in hearings are to be curbed. One of the main problems is that criminal cases are rising greatly and we don't have the sufficient number of judges. The authorities should examine this issue seriously. The number of courts must be increased. Judicial delays are often caused by cumbersome procedures. Even if 40 matters are listed, each case is called out, the presence or absence of people is recorded and roznama marked. Many of these matters are then adjourned. Also, courts hear bail, revision and miscellaneous applications. This leaves many courts with just half a day to hear trials.

In view of the above scenario of judicial backlog of undertrials, I would request the hon. Minister of Law and Justice to initiate corrective measures.

Demand for setting up a mechanism for proper utilization of wealth of ashrams and temples for welfare of poor people in the country

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE (Maharashtra): Sir, some of the temples and *ashrams* in the country have enormous wealth. Their movable and immovable

*Laid on the Table.

properties are unimaginable. We do not know how they spend their money. Some of the temple trusts have started hospitals and educational institutions.

The wealth of the temples and ashrams belong to the people. But the people have no say in the matter. Government also does not interfere in the money matters of the temples and *ashrams* even though the Trust Acts are in place.

Some of the temples and maths have agricultural lands which are given on lease to the cultivators. The moveable and immovable properties of temples and *maths* should be regulated and used for welfare programmes. The wealth of the religious establishments may be used for elementary education, healthcare facilities and drinking water for poor people. Education for all and health for all is our national policy. We have not attained these goals due to paucity of funds. Technical education is beyond the reach of poor people. Students belonging to marginal sections of society cannot afford to take quality education essential for their empowerment.

Apart from elementary education, healthcare facilities and drinking-water, there are many challenging problems. The temple and *ashram* managements should come forward to be involved in welfare programmes. A regulatory authority is needed for making the religious establishments accountable to the people.

Sir, I urge upon the Government to take suitable steps for a regulatory legislation for this purpose.

Demand to make defamation laws more stringent

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, the Constitution of India gives every citizen the right to freedom of speech, and that is the essence of democracy. However, power and greed are making some fly-by-night leaders to come out on the streets to defame individuals and denigrate institutions. These leaders get a further boost through media coverage, which finds it hard to refuse the temptation of using spicy material.

Section 499 of the IPC defines 'defamation' while Section 500 provides punishment for the same, which is "simple imprisonment for a term which may extend up to two years, or fine, or both". Punishment under criminal law, therefore, is not deterrent. Besides, since cases take years to get decided, people who are habitual of using defamation as a weapon to achieve their political ends have virtually nothing to fear. Therefore, Section 500 of the IPC needs to be made stricter, providing for a minimum, compulsory imprisonment, at least, in the case of habitual offenders. Further, we do not have an Act of Parliament prescribing civil remedy in matters of defamation. Our courts depend upon precedents established in Great Britain to award civil damages or compensation. It is high time that India

[Shri Shantaram Naik]

enacted a full-fledged civil law on the subject to provide for substantial monetary damages and compensation in such matters. In such civil matters the law should provide for awarding damages or compensation in crores. Also, fast-track courts should be established to deal with such cases.

Need for giving cash benefits to women and children affected by malnutrition

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, malnutrition has always remained a matter of concern and it is a complex, multi-dimensional problem. Different age groups are affected by malnutrition. The main victims of malnutrition are children and women. Malnutrition increases morbidity and mortality by reducing resistance to infections. In order to eradicate anaemia, the Government is taking many efforts through various schemes like supplementing Vitamin A for children aged between 9 months to 5 five years and Iron and Folic Acid Supplementing Programme for children aged between 6 months to 5 five years.

Sir, it is a well-known fact that only healthy mothers can give healthy young ones. Lactating mothers also become victims of malnutrition and prevalence of Chronic Energy Deficiency (Body Mass Index [BMI] below normal) among Indian women is very high. Most of women, who are living below poverty line (BPL), are unable to have nutrient foods during their pregnancy, and also during lactating period.

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme is in existence since long time and no tangible results have been achieved. Lackadaisical implementation of the programmes and non-involvement of various stake holders had made those health care/nutritional programmes ineffective. Moreover, at lower level, that is, at village level, the medicines meant for pregnant women and their children are not available in time.

In view of the above, it would be appropriate if cash component is included in the welfare programmes meant for women and children affected by malnutrition so that they can avail the benefits without any further delay.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): The House is adjourned to meet at 11.00 A.M. on Tuesday, the 27th November, 2012.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past twelve of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 27th November, 2012.