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10 Sravana, 1936 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 1st August, 2014/10th Shravana, 1936 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

Victims of Landslide Hitting Malin Village in Ambegaon Taluk of Maharashtra

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you are aware, over 40 persons have reportedly lost their lives, while around 120 others, including women and children, are feared trapped under the debris in a landslide that struck Malin village in Ambegaon Taluk of Pune, Maharashtra, on the 30th of July, 2014.

The loss of precious lives and devastation in this natural calamity is unfortunate and indeed sad.

I am sure the whole House will join me in expressing our heartfelt condolences and sympathy for the families of those who lost their kin, pray for the recovery of the injured and the life of those who are trapped under the debris.

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

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

RE. CLARIFICATION ON CSAT

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, सीसैट के मुद्दे पर ...(व्यवधान)...

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

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, सीसैट ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: एक मिनट बैठ जाइए ।

शहरी विकास, मंत्री आवास और शहरी गरीबी उपशमन मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु): सर, अभी हमने श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की है । इस विषय में जब परसों हमें खबर मिली, तो प्रधान मंत्री जी ने तुरंत गृह मंत्री जी को वहां जाने को कहा । गृह मंत्री जी वहां होकर आए और गृह मंत्री जी इस विषय में इस सदन में एक बयान देंगे ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 341 ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, संघ लोक सेवा आयोग की परीक्षा ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, एक हफ्ते पहले राज्य मंत्री, जितेंद्र सिंह जी ने इस सदन में एक बयान दिया था कि एक हफ्ते के अंदर सीसेट की परीक्षा के ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: भाई, एक वक्त में एक ही सदस्य बोले । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मेरा नोटिस है । ...(व्यवधान)... श्रीमन् वर्मा कमेटी की रिपोर्ट भी आ गई है । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: आपकी सरकार ने जवाब देने की बात कही थी और यह कहा था कि आज वे वर्मा आयोग की रिपोर्ट पर सदन को अवगत कराएंगे । ...(व्यवधान)... आपको स्मरण होगा, आपके निर्देश पर ...(व्यवधान)...

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

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: आपके निर्देश पर यह सरकार स्पष्ट करे कि सीसेट के मुद्दे पर वर्मा आयोग की रिपोर्ट पर ...(व्यवधान)... आज का दिन निर्धारित है । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल (राजस्थान): सर, ये लोग हमेशा क्वेश्चन ऑवर को स्थगित कराते हैं । ...(व्यवधान)... आज क्वेश्चन ऑवर सस्पेंड नहीं होगा । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, मैंने आपको इस बात की सूचना दी है कि सीसेट के मुद्दे पर आज सरकार को जवाब देना है । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मेरा नोटिस है । ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा नोटिस है ।

श्री सभापति: एक मिनट... एक मिनट, बैठ जाइए । ...(व्यवधान)... जरा बैठ जाइए । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल: क्वेश्चन ऑवर में कितने मंत्रियों को जवाब देने होते हैं । आप उनको डिस्कस नहीं करना चाहते हैं, तो फिर यह राज्य सभा किसलिए चल रही है? बंद कर दीजिए राज्य सभा को । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: भाई, एक मिनट, जरा आप बैठ जाइए । शरद जी बताइए, आप क्या कर रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): चेयरमैन सर, मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि सात लाख बच्चे ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, यह ब्रीच ऑफ प्रिविलेज है । क्वेश्चन ऑवर में क्वेश्चन पूछना हमारा राइट है । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव: सर, देश भर से सात लाख बच्चों ने इस यूपीएससी के एक्जाम में बैठने के लिए आवेदन किया है । डीओपीटी के मिनिस्टर ने आपके सामने सदन में एश्योरेंस दिया था कि वे सात दिन में इस समस्या का समाधान करेंगे । ...(व्यवधान)... सात दिन में तो इस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आई है । इसलिए मैंने आपको प्रिविलेज मोशन दिया है । अब यह रिपोर्ट आई है, तो और कितना समय लगेगा ? और कितना समय लगेगा ? इन्होंने यूपीएससी को लेटर लिखा, तो उन्होंने कह दिया है कि किसी तरह से प्रिलिम्स के एक्जाम को बढ़ाया नहीं जा सकता । ...(व्यवधान)... बहुत मुश्किल होगी ।

मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह मामला कहीं न कहीं सरकार के शीर्ष स्तर पर रुका हुआ है। सात दिनों में किसी तरह से इस मामले का समाधान नहीं हुआ है, तो यह तो सरकार की वादाखिलाफी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...**(Interruptions)**... ज़रा एक मिनट बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सरकार बताए कि छात्रों पर जो लाठीचार्ज हो रहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: सुन लीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप सरकार की बात सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बैठ जाइए।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: आज उन्हें बताना था। यह छात्रों के भविष्य का सवाल है। लाखों छात्र सड़क पर हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक मिनट सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: छात्र जेल में बंद है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह लाखों छात्रों का सवाल है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, Venkaiah ji, आप कुछ कहना चाहते हैं?

श्री वी.हनुमंत राव (तेलंगाना): सर, यह लाखों छात्रों की जिंदगी का सवाल है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... No, no, please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, Venkaiah ji.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I only request both the Chair and also the hon. Members of the House that we can proceed with the Question Hour and immediately after that the clarifications about this can be taken up. ...**(Interruptions)**...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर यह बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है कि सदन में जो आश्वासन दिया जाए, इस सदन में जो बयान दिया जाए. ...**(व्यवधान)**... जानबूझकर भारतीय भाषाओं का अपमान हो रहा है और ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के लोगों को ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will take it up ...**(Interruptions)**... बैठ जाइए।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : यह बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव: इस तरह से सदन कैसे चलेगा ? बच्चों की जिन्दगी का सवाल है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: भाई, आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव: सरकार को इस पर तुरंत जवाब देना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वे बच्चे रूरल एरिया से आते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will take it up after Question Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please. After Question Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Government is not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, the students are... ...*(Interruptions)*... लाखों बच्चे जो रूरल एरिया से आते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. Just one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has said that after the Question Hour, the position will be indicated. What the hon. Members are saying is that they expected something today. Today has started, it has not ended. So, please be patient. Let the Question Hour run, and, then, after the Question Hour, you will hear from the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव : बच्चों की जिन्दगी का सवाल है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : भाई, सुन तो लीजिए । ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप उनकी बात सुन लीजिए । ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय मंत्री जी गलत बोल रहे हैं । ...*(व्यवधान)*... वे सदन को* कर रहे हैं । यह विशेषाधिकार का प्रश्न है । ...*(व्यवधान)*... हिन्दी और क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : 12 बजे के बाद सरकार आपको बता देगी । उसमें क्या प्रॉब्लम है ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय जितेंद्र सिंह आएँ और अभी सदन में बयान दें । ...*(व्यवधान)*... जब तक वे बयान नहीं देंगे, सदन नहीं चलेगा । ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : उन्होंने कहा है कि वे आपको 12 बजे के बाद बता देंगे ।

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव : छात्रों की जिन्दगी का सवाल है । उनके भविष्य का क्या होगा ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : तमाम छात्रों को मार रहे हैं, जेलों में बंद कर रहे हैं, हिन्दीभाषी और क्षेत्रीयभाषियों का अपमान कर रहे हैं । ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह पूरे देश की समस्या है । ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : भाई, बैठ जाइए । ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव : छात्रों की जिन्दगी का सवाल है । ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यह समस्या पूरे देश की है, केवल दिल्ली की नहीं है । ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह पूरे देश की समस्या है । हम इसको कैसे मान लें ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question No. 341. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the answer be given. ...*(Interruptions)*... यह क्या कर रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*... The House is adjourned for fifteen minutes.

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

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

The house reassembled at twenty two minutes past eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTION

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 341 ...(*Interruptions*)...

बीस वर्षों से लंबित मामलों का निपटान

*341. श्री विजय गोयल : क्या विधि और न्याय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार की उन सभी मामलों को समाप्त करने की कोई योजना है जो पिछले बीस वर्षों से लंबित हैं और जिन पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हो रही है:

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार इसे लागू करने के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठा रही है: और

(ग) क्या इन मामलों के निपटान हेतु विशेष न्यायालयों के गठन की कोई योजना है ?

विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सदन के पटल पर रख दिया गया है :

विवरण

(क) से (ग) ऐसे मामलों को, जो विगत बीस वर्षों से लंबित हैं, अभिखंडित करने के लिए विधि में कोई विनिर्दिष्ट उपबंध विद्यमान नहीं हैं। विभिन्न न्यायालयों में मामलों का निपटारा, जिनके अंतर्गत कतिपय परिस्थितियों में कार्यवाही को अभिखंडित करने वाले मामलों का निपटारा भी है, न्यायपालिका के अधिकार क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत आता है।

जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालय, जिनके अंतर्गत विशेष न्यायालय भी हैं, संबंधित उच्च न्यायालयों के परामर्श से राज्य सरकारों द्वारा स्थापित किए जाते हैं। सरकार ने, विशेष न्यायालयों को पदाभिहित करने और/या लंबे समय से लंबित मामलों का समाधान करने के लिए सप्ताह में विशेष दिवस अभिनिश्चित करने पर विचार करने हेतु जून, 2014 में मुख्य मंत्रियों और उच्च न्यायालयों के मुख्य न्यायमूर्तियों को लिखा है। सरकार ने, उच्च न्यायालयों के मुख्य न्यायमूर्तियों से भी शीघ्र ही अनुरोध किया है कि वे अधीनस्थ न्यायपालिका में न्यायिक अधिकारियों के रिक्त पदों को भरकर सभी स्वीकृत न्यायालयों को प्रचालित कराएं।

Disposal of cases pending for twenty years

†*341. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to quash all those cases which are pending for the last twenty years and on which no action is being taken;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to implement it; and

(c) whether there is any plan to set up special courts to dispose of these cases?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) No specific provision exists in law for quashing of cases which are pending for the last twenty years. Disposal of cases in various Courts including by quashing of proceeding under certain circumstances falls within the domain of the judiciary.

District and Subordinate Courts, including special Courts, are set up by the State Government in consultation with the respective high Courts. Government has written to the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High courts in June, 2014 to consider designating Special Courts and or earmarking special days in a week to address long pending cases. Government has also requested Chief Justices of High Courts to operationalise all sanctioned Courts by filling up vacant posts of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Judiciary expeditiously.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय सभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)... माननीय सभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं । प्लीज क्वेश्चन ऑवर ...(व्यवधान)... Naresh ji, please don't do this. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय सभापति जी, माननीय संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी ने इस सदन को संजीदगी से नहीं लिया है । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, उन्होंने यहां पर क्या कहा है ...(व्यवधान)... उन्होंने क्या कहा है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर क्वेश्चन से कुछ नहीं होगा । ...(व्यवधान)... यह छात्रों के भविष्य का मामला है । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : भाई, प्लीज ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सभापति महोदय, छात्रों को जेल में बंद कर दिया गया है । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी : सभापति महोदय, यह छात्रों के भविष्य का सवाल है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : वे यूपीएससी की परीक्षा में हिन्दुस्तानी भाषाओं और हिन्दी की मांग कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : नरेश जी, प्लीज । ...(व्यवधान)... Please allow the Question Hour ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, पूरे देश के अंदर करोड़ों की संख्या में विभिन्न न्यायालयों में मुकदमे लम्बित हैं । ...(व्यवधान)... सुप्रीम कोर्ट में 65 हजार से ज्यादा मुकदमे लम्बित हैं । ...(व्यवधान)... हाई कोर्ट में 4 लाख 41 हजार से ज्यादा मुकदमे लम्बित हैं । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आप ऐसा मत कीजिए । ...(व्यवधान)... Please don't do this ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल : लोअर कोर्ट में 2 करोड़ 68 लाख मुकदमे लम्बित हैं । ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, ...(व्यवधान)... Please don't do this ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल : 40 लाख मुकदमों को पांच साल से ज्यादा चलते हुए हो गए । ...(व्यवधान)... इस समय हाई कोर्ट के अंदर सबसे ज्यादा वेकेंसीज हैं ...(व्यवधान)... निचली अदालतों में भी हजारों की संख्या में वेकेंसीज हैं । ...(व्यवधान)... मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि ...(व्यवधान)...

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

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

The House reassembled at 12.00 noon,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Payment of dues to sugarcane farmers in Bihar

*342. SHRI ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar mills in Bihar, including HPCL Biofuels Limited (HBL) which operate Sugauli Sugar Mill, owe a huge amount to farmers as arrears for procurement of their sugarcane produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the total amount due to farmers during the last year and the current year; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure payment of dues to farmers at the earliest and check any further pendency during the ensuing season?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) As on 15.07.2014, the outstanding amount of sugarcane farmers in the State of Bihar is ₹ 425.62 crores which is about 26% of total amount payable during the current sugar season 2013-14. The mill-wise amount of outstanding sugarcane dues during last sugar season and the current season, as on 15th July, 2014, is given in the Statement (*See below*). The cane price dues mainly pertain to supply of sugarcane in the current season and have arisen mainly on account of low realization from sale of sugar.

(c) The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 stipulates payment of cane price within 14 days of supply, failing which interest at the rate of 15% per annum on amount due for the delayed period beyond 14 days is payable. The powers for enforcing this provision are delegated and vested with the State Governments/UT Administrations who have necessary field formations.

The Central Government has from time-to-time advised the State Governments/UTs to ensure timely payment of cane dues to the farmers and to take action against the defaulting sugar mills. The Government of Bihar have informed that Recovery Certificates have been issued for realization of cane price dues with interest against Motihari, Riga, Sasamusa, Gopalganj and Sidhwalia sugar factories of the State.

In order to facilitate clearance of cane price arrears of previous sugar seasons and timely settlement of cane price of current sugar season to sugarcane farmers, the Central Government on 03.01.2014 has notified a Scheme for Extending Financial Assistance to Sugar Undertakings (SEFASU-2014) envisaging interest free loans worth ₹ 6600 crores by bank as additional working capital to sugar mills. Further, the Central Government on 28.02.2014 has notified another scheme allowing incentives for marketing and promotion services for raw sugar production targeted for export market. The incentive available under the Scheme shall be utilized by the sugar mills for making payment to the farmers.

Statement

Cane price arrears Against the sugar mills in Bihar during last and the current sugar season, as on 15th July, 2014

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Sugar Mill	2012-13	2013-14
1.	Laurya	0.17	36.41
2.	Sugauli	0.11	51.34
3.	Hassanpur	0.06	10.88
4.	Bagaha	00.04	35.51
5.	Harinagar	0.66	14.65
6.	Narkatiaganj	0.02	51.77
7.	Majhulia	0.10	31.13
8.	Motihari	5.46	0
9.	Sasamusa	0.90	31.88
10.	Gopalganj	0.12	42.29
11.	Sidhwalia	0.47	44.27
12.	Righa	0.19	75.49
TOTAL		8.264	425.62

Policy change in land use pattern for railway projects

*343. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to bring about a comprehensive policy change in land use pattern for the execution of railway projects across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) The total land available with the Railways is 4.58 lakh hectare out of which 4.11 lakh hectare is utilized for Railway's operational purposes and allied usages leaving 0.47 lakh hectare as vacant land. The vacant lands will be used for further expansion of the Railways. Hence there is no change in Land Use Policy apart from the existing Land Use Pattern. However, for execution of major railway projects like new lines, and if required for doublings and gauge conversions, Railway production units, etc., land is acquired through State Governments as per provisions of prevalent Acts governing land acquisition.

Repealing of archaic laws

*344. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has directed each Ministry/Department to identify ten laws/Acts that are considered archaic or redundant for repealing;
- (b) if so, whether an institutional mechanism has established for rationalization and simplification of such laws; and
- (c) the expected date by when the proposed exercise would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Twentieth Law Commission was constituted on 1st September, 2012 for three year's term and whose terms of reference include "Review/Repeal of obsolete laws". The law Commission is actively pursuing to identify laws which are no longer needed and relevant and can be repealed immediately. Legislative Department has also initiated a proposal the Repealing and Amending Bill, 2014 and requested all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India to provide list of amending Acts from 1999 onwards, retention whereof on the statute book has become unnecessary.

(c) Exact date of completion of this exercise cannot be given as of now, as the report of the Law Commission of India and the information about the repeal of the legislations are still awaited from the Ministries/Departments.

Installation of automatic lighting systems at railway stations

*345. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railways are considering to install automatic lighting systems at all railway stations across the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that on an average the new system cuts power consumption at railways platforms by half, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether railways are considering to install these power saving systems on mast towers as well, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) No, Sir. However, automatic/manual systems linked with train running are being provided progressively at railway stations for switching off part lights in the night on need basis as a part of energy conservation initiative.

(b) In this system, the lighting at the platform is reduced to about 30% when there is no train at the platform which is resulting into saving in energy. However, energy savings due to such measures are presently not quantifiable as separate energy meters for this purpose are not available.

(c) Lighting masts and towers installed in circulating area outside the railway stations are generally provided with timer switches/sensors which switch OFF power automatically after sunrise. The illumination level at certain masts/towers is further reduced during night hours when there is no train at station.

Permanent exhibition of Kashmiri arts and crafts

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

(a) whether for promotion of handicrafts, Government would take up the cause of artisans of Kashmir and set up a permanent exhibition venue for arts and crafts of Kashmir; and

(b) if so, whether Government would take up the matter with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for provision of land for construction of a permanent venue for exhibition of arts and crafts of Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A programme for pashmina promotion and development of other crafts of Jammu & Kashmir has been announced in Budget 2014-15.

A Trade Facilitation Centre at Srinagar with a total project cost of ₹ 12.30 crore has been approved by the Government under Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) in the year 2010. M/s J&K (S&E) Corporation, Srinagar has been identified as the Implementing Agency for the said project. As per scheme guidelines, the land will be contributed by the Implementing Agency.

Privatisation in Railways

*347. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an urgent need to privatise some parts of Railways for construction of infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the steps Government is taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a new policy to attract private investment for building and strengthening rail connectivity and capacity augmentation was issued in December, 2012.

Railway Projects in Haryana

*348. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and status of railway projects in Haryana, including those sanctioned during the last three years, projects-wise.

(b) The details of funds allocated and spent thereon; and

(c) the time by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) During the last three years, 4 projects falling partly/fully in Haryana viz Rohtak-Meham-Hansi new line, Hissar-Sirsa new line, Delhi-Sohna-Nuh-Firozpur Jhirka-Alwar new line and Yamunanagar-Chandigarh new line have been included in Railway Budgets. The details of these projects and all other ongoing railway projects falling fully/partly in Haryana are as under:

(₹ in crore)				
Project	Anticipated cost	Exp. up to March 14	Outlay 2014-15	Status
1	2	3	4	5
Jind-Sonipat new line (89 km.)	693	490	116	Pandu Pindara-Mohana (60 km.) section completed. Earthwork bridges and ballast supply works in balance portion have been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5
Rohtak-Meham-Hansi new line (69 km.)	287	0.5	20	Pegging of alignment has been taken up.
Hissar-Sirsa new line (93 km.)	400	-	0.1	
Delhi-Sohna-Nuh-Firozpur Jhirka-Alwar new line (104 km.)	1239	-	0.1	These projects were included in the Budget pending requisite Government approval. Planning Commission has not granted “in principal” approval to these projects.
Yamuna Nagar-Chandigarh new line (91 km.)	876	-	0.1	
Amabala Cantt.-Dhappar-Chandigarh doubling (46 km.)	339	130	25	Track lining in Ambala-Dhappar section (23 km) completed and finishing works have been taken up. In Dhappar-Chandigarh section, preparation of drawings has been taken up.
Tughlakabad-Palwal 4 th line (34 km.)	288	254	5	Track linking completed and finishing works have been taken up.
Jaipur-Ringus Churu & Sikar-Loharu (320 km) Gauge Conversion	504	249	20	Track linking in Sikar-Loharu section (122 km.) completed and finishing works have been taken up. In remaining section, earthwork and bridgework have been taken up.

All the projects are being progressed as per availability of resources. Target date of completion for these works have not been fixed.

Withdrawal of subsidy to naphtha-based urea plants

*349. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has directed the naphtha-based urea manufacturers in Southern India, such as, Madras Fertilizers Limited, Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Limited, Tuticorin to switch over to gas-based plant otherwise the subsidy being given to them would be withdrawn;

(b) if so, whether these are the only urea producing units in South India;

(c) the deadline for this switch-over;

(d) whether gas is available for these plants;

(e) whether withdrawing subsidy would hamper the production of urea in these plants and would affect farmers; and

(f) if so, the details and the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. In addition to these three urea plants, there are two units of NFCL-I and II situated at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Department of Fertilizers has issued Modified NPS-III for existing urea units on 2nd April, 2014. Para 4 of the aforesaid policy deals with continuation of Naphtha based urea units, which is as follows:

“4. Continuing the production from high cost units

The production of the high cost naphtha based urea units namely SPIC Tuticorin, MFL Manali and MCFL Mangalore will continue under modified NPS-III till the gas availability and connectivity is provided to these units or June, 2014 whichever is earlier, beyond which subsidy for naphtha based plants will not be paid. However, no new naphtha based plants will be permitted in Greenfield investments.”

(d) EGoM in its meeting held on 23.08.2013 has decided that supplies of domestic gas to Fertilizer Sector be maintained at a level of 31.5 mmcmd and as per the projections on availability of domestic gas, the same is not going to increase substantially in the coming year. Hence, subsequent to gas pipeline connectivity, the aforesaid three urea manufacturing plants may consider tying up imported RLNG to meet their

requirement. As regards domestic gas, the same shall be allocated as per the prevailing Gas Utilisation Policy as and when pipeline connectivity is established and the plants are in position to consume the gas.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Withdrawal of subsidy would hamper the production of urea in these plants. However, farmers would not get affected as Department of Fertilizers would ensure adequate supply of urea to farmers by supply of urea from imported sources, if required.

Subsidy to arecanut farmers in Karnataka

*350. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka had brought to the notice of the Ministry, in September, 2013, the extensive losses incurred by arecanut industry on account of widespread disease of plants due to pests and excessive rainfall;

(b) whether two schemes, one for subsidy to farmers to the extent of 50 per cent for taking up effective plant protection measures at an estimated cost of ₹ 3624.52 lakh and the second proposal involving provision of ₹ 500 crore for providing relief towards compensation to affected farmers, have been submitted by Government of Karnataka; and

(c) if so, progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH):

(a) Government of Karnataka had made a representation to the Ministry of Agriculture in September, 2013, regarding losses to arecanut crop due to fruit rot (Koleroga) disease.

(b) and (c) Government of Karnataka had sent a proposal requesting for financial assistance of ₹ 3624.52 lakhs for providing 50% subsidy to the farmers for taking up effective plant protection measures to save disease affected arecanut plantations. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation constituted a fact finding team which visited the affected areas from 4th to 7th October, 2013 and submitted a report on the measures required to save the arecanut plantations. The Government of Karnataka was advised to implement these measures from out of the funds provided under National Horticulture Mission.

Government of Karnataka had sent another proposal requesting for financial assistance of ₹ 789 crores or minimum ₹ 500 crores as compensation to farmers for the loss to their arecanut crops. State Governments are already empowered to use the funds available with them under State Disaster Response Fund to provide relief as input subsidy as per prescribed norms to the farmers who have suffered crop loss of 50% or more due to notified natural calamities, including pest attack and diseases.

Adulterated chemicals, composts and fertilizers

†*351. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware or has taken cognizance of adulteration in fertilizers and composts;

(b) whether Government has gathered information regarding availability of adulterated chemical fertilizers and composts in the country;

(c) the percentage of adulterated fertilizers and composts found, so far, during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether steps have been taken at national level to maintain availability of unadulterated composts and fertilizers;

(e) whether factories producing fake composts and fertilizers are active for last several years; and

(f) if so, details thereof including the action Government proposes to take against such factories under stringent laws?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) to (c) Samples of chemical fertilisers and compost are drawn periodically by fertiliser inspectors of State Governments to check their quality. In case of imported fertilisers, the fertiliser inspectors of the Central Government draw samples from ships/containers. Details regarding State-wise percentage of samples of fertilisers and composts found not in conformity with the quality parameters laid down in the Fertiliser (Control) Order during the years 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 are given in the Statement-I, II and III respectively (*See* below).

(d) Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 has been promulgated to regulate quality of fertilisers and compost. Specifications of fertilisers and compost are prescribed in the said Order. State Governments are empowered under Fertiliser (Control) Order to take appropriate administrative and legal action against those not complying with the provisions prescribed in the Order. Details of follow-up action taken by State Governments during the year 2012-13 in respect of samples found not in conformity with the quality parameters laid down in the Fertiliser (Control) Order are given in the Statement-IV (*See* below).

(e) and (f) No case regarding factories producing fake compost and fertilisers has been reported by any State Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

State-wise number of samples of chemical fertilizers and composts analyzed and found not in conformity with the laid down quality parameters during year 2010-11

Sl. No.	States	Chemical Fertilisers			Compost		
		No. of samples analysed	No of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters	No of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters
1.	Assam	271	7	2.6	0	0	0
2.	Mizoram	5	0	0.0	0	0	0
3.	Jharkhand	682	4	0.6	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	1748	59	3.4	12	4	33.3
5.	Odisha	2396	65	2.7	41	18	43.9
6.	West Bengal	2064	262	12.7	14	6	42.8
7.	Gujarat	5977	30	0.5	11	0	0
8.	Madhya Pradesh	4560	596	13.1	17	0	0
9.	Chhattisgarh	2098	118	5.6	0	0	0

10.	Maharashtra	14989	2330	15.5	35	9	25.7
11.	Rajasthan	14336	291	2.0	20	1	5
12.	Haryana	4089	60	1.5	0	0	0
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1866	33	1.8	0	0	0
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	1395	9	0.6	0	0	0
15.	Punjab	3123	50	1.6	0	0	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	9205	538	5.8	94	1	1.1
17.	Uttarakhand	200	12	6.0	25	0	0
18.	Andhra Pradesh	14935	302	2.0	2	0	0
19.	Karnataka	5948	307	5.2	11	3	27.3
20.	Kerala	2574	46	1.8	13	4	30.7
21.	Puducherry	627	6	1.0	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	18011	702	3.9	6	2	33.3
23.	Govt. of India	10769	378	3.5	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL INDIA		121868	6205	5.1	301	48	15.9

Statement-II

State-wise number of chemical fertilisers and composts analyzed and found not in conformity with the laid down quality parameters during year 2011-12

Sl. No	States	Chemical Fertilisers			Compost		
		No. of samples analysed	No. of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters	No. of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters
1.	Assam	275	7	2.5	0	0	0
2.	Mizoram	0	0	0.0	0	0	0
3.	Jharkhand	838	11	1.3	1	0	0
4.	Bihar	1738	110	6.3	51	26	50.9
5.	Odisha	2196	68	3.1	8	1	12.5
6.	West Bengal	2079	306	14.7	1	0	0
7.	Gujarat	9060	106	1.2	1	0	0
8.	Madhya Pradesh	4853	710	14.6	6	1	16.7
9.	Chattisgarh	2018	163	8.1	1	0	0
10.	Maharashtra	16403	2297	14.0	38	16	42.1

11.	Rajasthan	15820	197	1.2	1	0	0
12.	Haryana	4561	76	1.7	0	0	0
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1707	38	2.2	0	0	0
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	1895	62	3.3	0	0	0
15.	Punjab	3018	41	1.4	0	0	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	11345	705	6.2	15	0	0
17.	Uttarakhand	183	3	1.6	5	0	0
18.	Andhra Pradesh	15419	261	1.7	4	0	0
19.	Karnataka	6229	329	5.3	1	0	0
20.	Kerala	2542	109	4.3	1	0	0
21.	Puducherry	484	4	0.8	-	-	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	17398	535	3.1	0	0	0
23.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	-	3	0	0
24.	Tripura	-	-	-	1	0	0
25.	Goa	-	-	-	3	0	0
26.	Govt. of India	11909	378	3.2	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL INDIA		131970	6516	4.9	141	44	31.2

Statement-III

State-wise number of chemical fertilisers and composts analyzed and found not in conformity with the laid down quality parameters during year 2012-13

Sl. No	States	Chemical Fertilisers			Compost		
		No. of samples analysed	No. of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters	No. of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters	
1.	Assam	292	8	2.7	0	0	0
2.	Mizoram	1	0	0.0	0	0	0
3.	Jharkhand	824	6	0.7	1	16.7	
4.	Bihar	1719	117	6.8	100	52.9	
5.	Odisha	2217	57	2.6	5	21.7	
6.	West Bengal	2971	376	12.7	1	25	
7.	Gujarat	9990	97	1.0	0	0	
8.	Madhya Pradesh	5497	719	13.1	1	5.9	
9.	Chhattisgarh	2150	77	3.6	0	0	
10.	Maharashtra	16939	2728	16.1	11	36.7	
11.	Rajasthan	15586	268	1.7	0	0	

12.	Haryana	4277	83	1.9	0	0	0	0
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1770	27	1.5	0	0	0	0
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	1980	62	3.1	0	0	0	0
15.	Punjab	3629	92	2.5	0	0	0	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	10227	556	5.4	90	3	3.3	
17.	Uttarakhand	215	12	5.6	20	2	10	
18.	Andhra Pradesh	15284	250	1.6	4	0	-	
19.	Karnataka	9642	381	4.0	1	0	-	
20.	Kerala	2262	158	7.0	3	0	0	
21.	Puducherry	627	3	0.5	-	-	-	
22.	Tamil Nadu	16540	436	2.6	1	0	0	
23.	Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	-	2	1	50	
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1	0	0	
25.	Sikkim	-	-	-	1	0	0	
26.	Tripura	-	-	-	1	0	0	
27.	Govt. of India	9233	344	3.7	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL INDIA		133872	6857	5.1	423	125	29.6	

Statement-IV

State-wise details of follow-up action during the year 2012-13 in respect of samples found not in conformity with the laid down quality parameters

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Administrative Action Taken			Seizure of Stock/Stop Sale	Prosecution launched	Cases in Court	Conviction awarded	Action under process
		Authorisation Letter cancelled	Authorisation Letter suspended	other action					
1.	Assam	0	0	7	1	0	0	0	0
2.	Bihar	16	21	60	49	4	9	7	116
3.	Jharkhand	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
4.	Odisha	0	3	54	54	0	0	0	5
5.	West Bengal	43	0	0	15	6	19	0	10
6.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	87	1	9	4	14	344	2	83
8.	Madhya Pradesh	48	243	418	0	0	0	0	1
9.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Maharashtra	1492	1522	1149	902	118	1426	0	1472

11.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	35	34	34	0	20
12.	Haryana	3	4	0	0	5	0	0	33
13.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	305	82	97	305.87 MT	32	0	0	44
17.	Uttarakhand	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	2
18.	Andhra Pradesh	1	14	39	20943 MT	5	0	0	50
19.	Karnataka	248	0	0	15	0	0	0	133
20.	Kerala	0	21	29	23	0	0	0	108
21.	Puducherry	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	9	155	104	2	16	0	0	152
23.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Total		2256	2072	1969	-	234	1832	9	2231

Incident of looting in train

*352. SHRI JOY ABRAHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the reported incident of looting in Train No.12617, Mangala Express at Bina on 10 July, 2014;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken cognizance of the allegation that RPF and TTEs were quite indifferent towards the complaint of passengers regarding the incident;

(c) if so, what action would be taken against the errant officers;

(d) the steps Ministry would take to compensate the passengers who lost their valuables in the said incident; and

(e) the steps taken by Railways to prevent recurrence of such incidents in trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) No, Sir. No incident of loot in train no.12617 Dn. Mangala Lakshadweep Express was reported at Bina Railway station on 10.07.2014. When the train reached at Jhansi Railway Station on 10.07.2014, some passengers of coach No. S-7 agitated regarding theft of their baggage between Bhopal and Jhansi and also resorted to pulling of alarm chain, demanding that their stolen baggage should be recovered. Concerned Railway officials, GRP and RPF personnel attended the train and requested the passengers to lodge FIR regarding the theft. The passengers did not agree and stated that they would lodge the FIR at Nizamuddin.

After the train left Jhansi, the Travelling Ticket Examiner (TTE) who worked the train between Jhansi and Gwalior on 10.07.2014, got the FIR forms filled from four passengers of S-7 coach of Train No. 12617, Mangala Express, and same were subsequently forwarded by Jhansi Division to Superintendent of Railway Police/ Jhansi for necessary action. Accordingly, a case *vide* crime no.587/14 dated 26.07.2014 under section 379 Indian Penal Code was registered.

(b) and (c) When the passengers agitated and resorted to alarm chain pulling at Jhansi, the RPF and GRP personnel attended the passengers and requested them to give their complaints. Hence, the question of indifference by RPF staff does not arise. No separate complaint about the indifferent behaviour of the TTE has been received by the Zonal Railways concerned.

(d) In terms of Section 100 of the Railways Act, 1989, Railway administration has no statutory responsibility for payment of compensation for the loss or damage of unbooked luggage unless it is proved that such loss or damage is due to the negligence or misconduct on the part of the Railway administration or its employees. If any negligence

or misconduct on the part of railway or its employees is proved, compensation for the same is to be decided by a court of law by awarding a decree in favour of the claimant. Compensation is to be paid by the Railways only on receipt of the decree so awarded by the court of law and satisfying of the same by the railway administration. Since, no decree has been received by the railway administration in this case, no compensation has been awarded by the Railways.

(e) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such, the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying their staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive railway stations.

Besides, the following measures are being taken by the Railways for security of the passengers:-

1. 1275 trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily on an average.
2. Security Help-Line numbers have been set up in Zonal Railways' Control Rooms to enable passengers to seek security related assistance on real time basis.
3. Mobile phones are proposed to be provided to all train escorts. This will enable passengers to contact the escort personnel easily.
4. An Integrated Security System, including electronic surveillance through CCTV to enhance security over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations, is under implementation.
5. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police.
6. To create a more effective security mechanism over Indian Railways, a proposal for amendment in the RPF Act has been moved by the Ministry of Railways with the approval of the Ministry of Law and Justice and Home Affairs. This will empower the RPF to deal with serious crimes in passenger areas.

Promotion of export of Kashmiri handicrafts

*353. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken so far for registration of Kashmiri Handicrafts under the

Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection), Act 1999;

(b) the incentives available for promotion of export of Kashmiri handicrafts; and

(c) whether cash incentives were available for export of carpets at any time if so, the reasons for its withdrawal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Sir, the following Kashmir handicrafts have been registered under the Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999:

1. Kashmir Paper Machie
2. Kashmir Walnut Wood Carving
3. Kashmir Khatamband
4. Sozni Kashmir
5. Pashmina Kashmir
6. Kani Shawl

Three handicrafts namely Namda, Pinjrakari and silk carpet are under process of registration.

(b) The incentives for promotion of exports of Handicrafts from the country including handicrafts from Kashmir are as under:-

- (i) Under Focus Product Scheme (FPS), approximately 109 items of handicrafts are entitled for incentive at the rate of 7% of FOB value of exports in the form of duty credit scrip.
- (ii) Under Focus Market Scheme (FMS), handicrafts are entitled for benefit, if exported to listed focus markets, in the form of duty credit scrip at the rate of 3% or 4% of FOB value of exports depending upon the market.
- (iii) Duty Draw-back is also available on Handicraft items from 2% to 12% on various product categories.
- (iv) Participation in International Fairs/Exhibitions abroad.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Cash Compensatory Support (CCS) was available at FOB value of exports. The same has been withdrawn by the Government on 3rd July, 1991 in view of the restructuring and expansion of the Replenishment License Scheme and then prevailing level of exchange rates. The scheme was withdrawn for all products and not particularly for carpets.

Requests for new railway over-bridges and under-bridges

†*354. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received during 2013-14 for the construction of new railway over-bridges and under-bridges in the country;

(b) out of these, the number of applications received for the construction of over-bridges and under-bridges in Gujarat and the locations thereof; and

(c) the number of new over-bridges and under-bridges Government plans to construct in Gujarat, as on date, and the location thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) Proposals for construction of Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges (ROBs/RUBs) in lieu of level crossings (LCs) are normally received by Zonal Railways from State Governments and other statutory authorities. After completing various formalities with State Government/statutory authorities, regarding the consent for sharing of cost and closure of level crossings, proposals received for construction of ROBs/RUBs in lieu of LCs are further processed for their inclusion in Railway Works Programme. This is a continuous process and for which no compendium is maintained.

At present, works for construction of 1384 new ROBs and 4947 new RUBs have been sanctioned across the country over various Zonal Railways including 95 ROBs and 480 RUBs in the State of Gujarat. The details of these works are available in public domain on Indian Railway website www.indianrailways.gov.in. The list of works of ROBs and RUBs in the State of Gujarat given in the Statement.

Statement

List of ROBs/RUBs in the State of Gujarat

Sl. No.	ROB/ RUB	No. of ROB/ROB	Name of Work
1	2	3	4
1.	ROB	1	Palanpur-Samakhiali - 4 lane ROB(ROB) in lieu of LC No. 2/A at km. 2/1-2 near Palanpur-Chatodar on national highway No. 8.
2.	ROB	3	Virar-Surat ROB in lieu of LC No. 92, 94 and 97 along dedicated freight corridor route (3 Nos)
3.	ROB	5	Virar-Surat ROB in lieu of LC No. 109, 111, 114, 115 and 118 along dedicated freight corridor route (5 Nos)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
4.	ROB	11	Virar-Surat ROB in lieu of LC No. 60, 64, 66, 68, 69, 71, 74, 75, 77, 81 and 82 along dedicated freight corridor route (11 Nos) (MH and GJ)
5.	ROB	3	Virar-Surat ROB in lieu of LC No. 84, 88 and 90 along dedicated freight corridor route (3 Nos)
6.	ROB	3	Virar-Surat ROB in lieu of LC No. 124, 126 and 127 along dedicated freight corridor route (3 Nos)
7.	ROB	10	Virar-Surat ROB in lieu of LC No. 42, 46A, 48, 52, 55, 102, 106, 108, 130 and 137 along dedicated freight corridor route (10 Nos) (MH and GJ)
8.	ROB	1	Jamnagar-Lakhabawal- 4 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 200 at Km. 830/4-5
9.	ROB	1	Anand-Khambhat - 2 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 6A at Km. 5/4-5
10.	ROB	1	Jamnagar-Lakhabawal- ROB in lieu of LC No. 199 at Km. 830/0-1
11.	ROB	1	Keshod-Ranikpura Road-ROB in lieu of LC No. 101 at Km. 138/0-1
12.	ROB	1	Gangadhara-Bardoli-ROB in lieu of LC No. 17A at Km. 18/6-7
13.	ROB	1	Vadodara-Ahmedabad-ROB in lieu of LC No. 264-B at Km. 438/0-2.
14.	ROB	1	Bhandu Moti Dab-Mehsana-ROB in lieu of LC No. 211 at Km. 715/12-13
15.	ROB	1	Mehsana- Patan- ROB in lieu of LC No. 40X at Km. 38/6-7
16.	ROB	1	Ode-Umreth Road-ROB in lieu of LC No. 22 at Km. 21/5-6
17.	ROB	1	Virpur-Jetalsar- ROB in lieu of LC No. 61 at Km. 73/1-2
18.	ROB	1	Ahmedabad-Palanpur-ROB in lieu of LC No. 2 at Km. 507/18-19 (4 lane)
19.	ROB	1	Western Railway-Raising of road over and foot over bridges in connection with upgradation of feeder routes to dedicated freight corridor
20.	ROB	1	Maroli-Sachin- ROB in lieu of LC No. 133 at Km. 245/30-32
21.	ROB	1	Virar-Surat- ROB in lieu of LC No. 138 (4 lane) at Km. 252/ 10 (250/26-28)

1	2	3	4
22.	ROB	1	Rajkot-Bileshwar- ROB in lieu of LC No.124 at Km.741/6-7
23.	ROB	1	Viramgam-Jhund- ROB in lieu of LC No. 42 at Km. 561/7-8 (2- lane)
24.	ROB	1	Surat-Vadodara- ROB in lieu of LC No. 213 at Km. 367/14-16
25.	ROB	1	Kim Kosamba- ROB in lieu of LC No.160 at Km. 296/26-28 (2 lane)
26.	ROB	1	Mehsana- Patan- Road ove bridge in lieu of LC No. 1-B at Km. 1/7-8
27.	ROB	1	Jagudan-Mehsana- ROB in lieu of LC No. 202X of 4- lane at Km. 721/2-3
28.	ROB	1	Pratpnagar-Vishwamitri- ROB in lieu of LC No. 2 at Km. 2/2-3
29.	ROB	1	Bharuch-Dahej- 2-lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 2-A Bharuch station link
30.	ROB	1	Bharuch-Dahej- 2-lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 22 near Samni Station
31.	ROB	1	Bharuch-Dahej- 2 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 178 near Bharuch Yard
32.	ROB	1	Bharuch-Dahej- 4 lane ROB in lieu of LC No. 50 near Bharuch Yard
33.	ROB	1	Bajana- Jatpipli- ROB in lieu of LC No. 25 at Km. 591/6-7
34.	ROB	1	Udhna-Jalgaon - ROB in lieu of LC No. 37 at Km. 42/7-8
35.	ROB	3	Palanpur-Khodiyar- ROB in lieu of LC No. 191/A, 199/A and 227 at Km. 685/2-3, 694/3-4 and 751/6-7 on dedicated freight corridor route (3 Nos)
36.	ROB	3	Palanpur-Khodiar- ROB in lieu of LC No. 171/A, 188/A and 208/B at Km. 658/1-2, 681/2-3 and 706/9-707/1 (3 Nos)
37.	ROB	4	Palanpur-Khodiar- ROB in lieu of LC No. 208, 211/C, 214 and 220 at Km. 727/7-8, 732/2-1, 735/1-2 and 743/3-4 (4 Nos.)
38.	ROB	4	Ahmedabad-Palanpur- ROB in lieu of LC No. 17, 165, 166 and 169 and level crossing No. 17 at Km. 519/4-5, 650/3-4, 651/3-4 and 653/6-7 (4 Nos)

1	2	3	4
39.	ROB	1	Timba-Tuva- ROB in lieu of LC No. 58 at Km. 56/11-12
40.	ROB	1	Bhatiel-Petlad - ROB in lieu of LC No. 28 at Km. 20/4-5
41.	ROB	1	Kosad-Gothangam- ROB in lieu of LC No. 149 at Km. 277/16-18
42.	ROB	1	Sayan-Kim- ROB in lieu of LC No. 156 at Km. 287/12-14
43.	ROB	1	Kosamba-Hathuran- ROB in lieu of LC No. 163 at Km. 301/ 30-302/2
44.	ROB	1	Gothangam-Sayan- ROB in lieu of LC No. 151 at Km. 280/6-8
45.	ROB	1	Derol-Kharsaliya- ROB in lieu of LC No. 32 at Km. 445/20-22
46.	ROB	1	Gothangam-Sayan- ROB in lieu of LC No. 150 at Km. 278/14-16
47.	ROB	1	Kim- Kosamba- ROB in lieu of LC No. 161 at Km. 298/20-22
48.	ROB	1	Sayan-Kim- ROB in lieu of LC No. 154 at Km. 283/10-12
49.	ROB	1	Panoli-Ankleshwar- ROB in lieu of LC No. 165 at Km. 306/ 10-12
50.	ROB	1	Panoli-Ankleshwar- ROB in lieu of LC No. 166 at Km. 308/ 10-12
51.	ROB	1	Udhna-Jalgaon- ROB in lieu of LC No. 51 at Km. 58/14-15
52.	ROB	1	Sadnapura-Bhalej- ROB in lieu of LC No. 11 at Km. 10/5-6
53.	ROB	1	Sayan-Kim- ROB in lieu of LC No. 153 at Km. 281/28-30
54.	ROB	1	Derol-Kharsaliya- ROB in lieu of LC No. 41 at Km. 453/2-4 (458/2-4)
55.	ROB	1	Rajkot-Okha- ROB in lieu of LC No. 197 at Km. 824/3-4
56.	ROB	1	Vadodara Division:-Elimination of level X-ing No. 173 by providing new 4 lane ROB at Km. 318/10-12 between stations Surat-Vadodara.
TOTAL ROBs		95	

1	2	3	4
1.	RUB	77	Bhavnagar Division- Limited height Subways to eliminate LC (77 Nos.)
2.	RUB	2	Surat- Vadodara- Limited height subway in lieu of LC No. 162 and 168 at Km. 300/28-30 and 310/4-6 (2 Nos.)
3.	RUB	4	Virar-Surat - Subways/Road under bridge in lieu of LC No. 55X, 58, 142 and LC-1 (Udhna-Niyol byepass) (Total 4 Nos.) (MH and GJ)
4.	RUB	34	Virar-Surat - Subways/RUB in lieu of LC No. (34 Nos.) (MH and GJ)
5.	RUB	11	Surat- Vadodara - Godhra- Limited height subway at LC No. 177, 189, 208, 215, 219, 223, 225, 226, 227, 23 and 46. (11 Nos.)
6.	RUB	33	Bhavnagar Division : Construction of Limited height sub way to elimination of Level crossing (33 Nos.) LHS No. 117
7.	RUB	21	Vadodara Division- Limited height subway in lieu of LC No. (2 Nos on double line 19 Nos on single line
8.	RUB	36	Rajkot Division- Limited height subway in lieu of LC No. (36 Nos.)
9.	RUB	10	Ahmedabad Division-Closure of unmanned LC No. by limited height road under bridges (LC No. 10, 22, 30, 149, 151, 168, 173, 174, 183 & 184) (10 Nos.)
10.	RUB	25	Dabhoi- Pratpnagar and Dabhoi- Chhota Udepur- Limited heighttubway LC No. 10. 16 & 22 on DB-PRTN(BG) Section and LC No. 22, 31, 36, 37, 40, 42, 47, 53, 55, 57, 66, 72, 74, 77, 85, 89, 91, 93, 94, 97, 98 and 99 (25 Nos.)
11.	RUB	36	Ankleshwar-Rajpipla- Limited height subway/ Road under bridge <i>in lieu of</i> (LC No. 10,19, 20, 5, 6, 9, 21, 22, 28, 30, 32, 7, 8, 14, 15, 17, 36, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 63, 66, 69, 71, 73 and 74) (36 Nos.)
12.	RUB	1	Unjha Town- Road under bridge in lieu of LC No. 200- A at Km 694/12-13
13.	RUB	42	Palanpur- Khodiyar-Road under bridge <i>in lieu of</i> LC No. on dedicated freight corridor route (42 Nos.)
14.	RUB	58	Ahmedabad Division - Road under bridge in lieu of LC (58 Nos.) LC No. 15, 40, 73
15.	RUB	90	Ahmedabad Division-Elimination of level crossing by road under bridge (90 Nos.)
TOTAL RUBs		480	

Railway lines pending for survey

*355. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway lines pending for survey with the Ministry;
- (b) the number of railway lines cleared in the current year 2014-15; and
- (c) the latest status of Nangal-Talwara railway line?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) As on 01.04.2014, 243 surveys for New Line were in hand and out of these 4 surveys have been completed in 2014-15.

(c) Nangal Dam-Amb Andaura (44 Km.) section has been completed. In Amb Andaura – Daulatpur Chowk section land acquisition has been completed and earth work and bridge work taken up. The latest cost of this project is ₹ 1036.78 crore against which an expenditure of ₹ 365.84 crore has been incurred till March, 2014. An outlay of ₹ 20 crore has been provided for this project for the year 2014-15.

Dedicated Freight Corridor

*356. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started work on the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) in the country;
- (b) if so, how much work has been completed under the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor so far;
- (c) whether Government has put the work of DFC on fast track;
- (d) if so, which sectors are likely to be covered under the fast track system; and
- (e) whether Government has acquired land for the purpose and the total amount allocated for DFC, so far, and how much money would be required to complete the work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are two Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) sanctioned *i.e.*, Eastern and Western DFCs and work has started on both corridors. On Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT) to Dadri, 1499 Km.) civil contract has been awarded in Rewari-Palanpur Section (625 Km.) and work has started in August 2013. Further, of the 54 major and important bridges between Vaitarana and Bharuch, which were taken up earlier, 25 have been completed.

(c) and (d) Both the Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) Projects are on fast track and are being monitored on regular basis. Civil construction contracts of nearly 1100 km. have already been awarded.

(e) Yes, Sir. 91% of the land required for the project has been acquired. The total amount allocated up to 31.03.2014 is ₹ 10893.28 crores and the estimated completion cost of construction of the two Corridors, excluding Sonnagar-Dankuni Section, which is to be implemented through Public Private Partnership (PPP), is ₹ 81,459 crores (Eastern DFC: ₹ 30,358 crore and Western DFC: ₹ 51,101 crore).

Accidents due to gap between platform and compartment footboards

*357. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that hundreds of railway passengers are dying every year in Mumbai due to the gap between platforms and the train compartment footboards; and

(b) the time-frame to raise the levels of the platforms to fill up the said gap to prevent such fatal accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) No, Sir. It is not true that hundreds of railway passengers are dying every year in Mumbai due to gap between platforms and footboards of train compartments. As per record, 21, 19 and 16 persons died on this account in 2012, 2013 and 2014 (upto June) respectively.

(b) Works pertaining to raising the height of 17 platforms have been completed and raising of another 55 platforms have been planned during 2014-15 & 2015-16 subject to availability of funds.

Use of Tamil as court language in Tamil Nadu

*358. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Madras High Court and Government of Tamil Nadu have concurred to use Tamil as court language under Article 348(2); and

(b) if so, whether Central Government will support Government of Tamil Nadu financially as the Madras High Court is expected to spend on translation of laws, proceedings etc. and such other facilities?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) Government of Tamil Nadu has requested that consent of the President may

be obtained under Article 348(2) of Constitution of India to their proposal for the use of Tamil in the proceeding of the Madras High Court, mentioning, *inter-alia*, that the Madras High Court is, in principle, in favour of the proposal.

As provided under Article 229 (3) of the Constitution of India, the administrative expenses of a High Court are to be borne by the respective State Government. No request for financial support has been received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu in this regard.

Law to protect online customer data and privacy

*359. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether, Government is aware of media reports about cyber criminals accessing details of several millions of customers using online shopping and auction portals;

(b) if so, details of security measures that online auction companies are required to adopt to protect sensitive personal information of consumers, and the status of implementation thereof by companies;

(c) the legal recourse available to consumers in case their data gets compromised;

(d) whether Government proposes to enact a proper data protection and privacy law to address this issue and protect interests of millions of such customers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government is aware of the media reports about cyber criminals accessing personal information by infecting systems of users and portals / websites with malware. The reports indicate that infected systems are spread world over including India. Number of infected systems has been identified and action has been initiated to identify more such compromised systems.

(b) Section 43A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and the Information Technology (Reasonable Security Practices and Procedures and Sensitive Personal Data or Information) Rules, 2011 mandates that body corporate, who collect personal data or information must provide privacy policy for handling of or dealing in personal information including sensitive personal data or information on their websites. They are also required to implement reasonable security practices and procedures to protect the information. Online shopping and auction portals are body corporate and thus are covered under Section 43A of the Information Technology Act, 2000. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) has also empanelled 45 auditors to facilitate body

corporates to audit their information technology infrastructure and implementation of security best practices.

(c) to (e) Information Technology Act, 2000 has adequate provisions for data protection and data privacy in digital form. Section 43, Section 43A and Section 72A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides a legal framework for privacy and Security of data in digital form. Section 43A of the Act provides for compensation to be paid by the body corporate commensurate to the damages suffered by the affected person in case of leakage of sensitive personal information. Section 43 stipulates that any person accesses information without permission of the owner of the information is liable to pay damages to the affected person. Section 72A of the Act provides for imprisonment up to 3 years for disclosure of personal information by the intermediary in breach of lawful contract.

Unmanned railway level crossings

†*360. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether local people are facing problems due to closure of unmanned railway level crossings in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to appoint guards at such crossings;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when such crossings are likely to be converted into manned ones, and their number, zone-wise and place-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (d) Level crossings are meant to facilitate the smooth running of road traffic across Railway track in regulated manner governed by specific rules and conditions. As per statutory obligation, Railway liability is limited to provide new level crossings/grade-separators in consultation with the State Govt. at the time of laying new railway lines and upto 10 years from commissioning as accommodation work (Para-16(b) of Railway Act-1989) and beyond 10 years, at the cost of sponsoring authority. At present, Indian Railway has 30,348 level crossings out of which, 18,785 are manned and balance 11,563 are unmanned.

Normally, unmanned level crossings are being closed either by closure/merger/provision of subways/ROBs or by manning. In few cases, where there is no patronage, level crossings are being closed after taking due consent from State Govt.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Elimination of all unmanned Level Crossings is a gigantic task and requires considerable additional manpower, resources and budgetary support. Action plan for elimination of all unmanned level crossings is in hand and it can be executed subject to the availability of funds. Since, the total requirement of funds is quite huge for already sanctioned works, so it may not be proper to fix-up the time-line for their conversion to manned level crossings. The list of unmanned level crossings, zonal railway-wise is given in the Statement

Details of Unmanned Railway level Crossings

Sl. No.	Railway	Number of Unmanned Level Crossings
1.	Central Railway	218
2.	Eastern Railway	153
3.	East Central Railway	769
4.	East Coast Railway	570
5.	Northern Railway	1208
6.	North Central Railway	404
7.	North Eastern Railway	1107
8.	Northeast Frontier Railway	634
9.	North Western Railway	1121
10.	Southern Railway	794
11.	South Central Railway	650
12.	South Eastern Railway	749
13.	South East Central Railway	445
14.	South Western Railway	435
15.	Western Railway	2188
16.	West Central Railway	118
TOTAL		11563

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**De notifying fruits and vegetables under APMC Act**

2451. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to de-notify fruits and vegetables under the Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that all wholesale markets in Delhi under the Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) are planning a complete closure of mandis by July end to protest against the move as it will hurt thousands of commission agents as well as farmers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi has declared its intention, under sub-section 1 of section 3 read with section 4(4) of Delhi Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1998, of ceasing the regulation of marketing of fruits and vegetables in the respective market areas of the three Marketing Committees, namely, Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC), Market of National Importance (MNI), Azadpur, APMC Keshopur & APMC Shahdara, *vide* Notification dated 19.6.2014. Under the above provisions, objections or suggestions have been invited within 45 days of the publication of this notification.

(c) and (d) No such information has been received in this regard.

Agriculture under threat

2452. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture in the country is under threat, as a result of rapid urbanization, industrialization and infrastructure growth;

(b) if so, the measures being taken to sustain agriculture; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) No, Sir. During the period 1999-2000 to 2009-10 area under non-agricultural uses has increased by 2.57 million hectares on

account of urbanization, industrialization, infrastructure growth and other developmental requirements. However, due to measures taken by the Government for development of degraded/cultivable waste land, net cultivated areas increased significantly from 119 million hectares in 1950-51 to 140.54 million hectares in 2010-11.

Agriculture sector has registered an average growth rate of 4.1% during 11th Plan period as compared to 2.5% and 2.4% during 9th and 10th Plan respectively. A target of 4% growth in Agriculture has been envisaged during 12th Plan Period.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Agriculture is a State subject. State Governments formulate several schemes and programmes in accordance with the agro-climatic conditions, felt needs of the State concerned for development of agriculture and better income generation of farmers. In addition, Government of India has initiated several schemes for the development of the agriculture sector to supplement the efforts of the State Governments. The main schemes/programmes include Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana; National Food Security Mission; Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture; National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture; National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm; National Mission for Agricultural Extension and Technology; Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing and several other schemes and programmes etc.

In the agriculture sector, there has been improvement in terms of trade for agriculture; remunerative price for farm produce through increased Minimum Support Price, higher level of procurement and competitive markets; higher use of productivity enhancing inputs like fertilizer and quality Seeds; increase in agriculture investments supported by public sector capital formation; and increase in supply of institutional credit to agriculture, with interest subvention etc.

Various initiatives and reforms in the sector have resulted in record production of food-grains and horticulture crops which is not only sufficient to meet domestic requirements but also provides huge surpluses for exports. India exported agricultural produce worth ₹ 2.68 lakh crore during 2013-14 as against exports of ₹ 0.28 lakh crore in 2000-01 and ₹ 0.85 lakh crore in 2008-09. The growth in exports has been much larger than the growth in imports particularly during the last 10 years with a sizeable trade surplus which shows that agriculture sector in India is able to compete in the world market.

Centre Pivot Irrigation technique

2453. SHRI KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is actively trying to employ the technique of Centre Pivot Irrigation across farmlands in the country;

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

(c) the details of tenders released in the Ministry from 2012-14, State-wise in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Centre Pivot Irrigation (Sprinkler Irrigation System) is promoted under Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Micro Irrigation, launched in January, 2006, which was up-scaled as National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) in June, 2010. From 1st April, 2014, NMMI has been subsumed under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and is now implemented as “On Farm Water Management” (OFWM). Under this component, assistance is provided for the installation of Micro Irrigation systems including sprinkler irrigation system.

(c) Under the mission, funds are released to the state governments for implementation. Detail of state-wise funds released in 2012-13 and 2013-14 is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise release of funds under Micro Irrigation

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	States	2012-13	2013-14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	289.93	265.56
2.	Bihar	52.00	57.50
3.	Chhattisgarh	31.72	30.00
4.	Goa	0.00	0.17
5.	Gujarat	182.00	220.00
6.	Haryana	30.00	33.00
7.	Jharkhand	25.00	15.00
8.	Karnataka	140.65	173.30
9.	Kerala	3.00	5.62
10.	Madhya Pradesh	63.84	106.52
11.	Maharashtra	150.18	141.01
12.	Odisha	20.00	25.86
13.	Punjab	10.00	5.00
14.	Rajasthan	110.00	80.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	83.00	86.90
16.	Uttar Pradesh	5.95	2.00
17.	NE and Himalayan States	4.75	24.04

Setting up of NFDB

2454. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up a National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB);

(b) if so, the objectives and functions of the Board;

(c) whether responsibilities of the Board are yet to be defined;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard;

(e) whether this has resulted in our inability to realize the vast potential of inland fresh water fishery; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTREY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The objectives of the Board are :-

- (i) To bring major activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture for focused attention and professional management;
- (ii) To coordinate activities pertaining to fisheries undertaken by different Ministries/Departments in the Central Government and also coordinate with the State/Union Territory Governments;
- (iii) To improve production processing, storage, transport and marketing of the products of capture and culture fisheries;
- (iv) To achieve sustainable management and conservation of natural aquatic resources including the fish stocks;
- (v) To apply modern tools of research and development including biotechnology for optimizing production and productivity from fisheries;
- (vi) To provide modern infrastructure mechanisms for fisheries and ensure their effective management and optimum utilization;
- (vii) To generate substantial employment;
- (viii) To train and empower women in the fisheries sector and
- (ix) To enhance contribution of fish towards food and nutritional security.

The functions of the Board are:-

- (i) To promote, plan and organize programmes for development of fisheries and aquaculture in consultation with States and UTs;

- (ii) Advise the States and UTs for formulation of policies and programmes for fisheries development;
 - (iii) To institute award, fellowships, scholarship and to organize training for all stakeholders in the fisheries sector;
 - (iv) Co-ordinate with private sector, banks, financial institutions etc. for promoting partnerships for development of the sector;
 - (v) Explore identify and promote national and international benchmarks and best practices for the development of fisheries sector;
 - (vi) Adoption of new and innovative production technologies, sustainable management and utilization of less utilized water resources and proper marketing of products of capture and culture fisheries;
 - (vii) To facilitate technology backstopping and other technical and financial assistance in implementing programmes and projects by States/UTs;
 - (viii) To sponsor/ undertake studies to assess the impact of the programme and plans of food and nutritional security; and
 - (ix) To develop a framework for monitoring, evaluating and assessing impact of projects and programmes undertaken by State and Central Government.
- (c) No Sir. The responsibilities of the Board are already defined.
- (d) to (f) Do not arise.

Effect of delayed monsoon on sowing of soyabean

†2455. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI VIJAY GOYAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that sowing of soyabean is getting affected due to delay in Monsoon in several parts of the country including Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any immediate steps have been taken by Central Government to help soyabean growers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, sowing of soyabean has been

delayed due to late onset of monsoon in the country but with rainfall received during July-2014, sowing of soyabean has picked up and is still going on including in Madhya Pradesh. As on 23rd July, 2014, an area of 77.77 lakh ha. has been sown under soyabean including 55.00 lakh ha. in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) and (d) National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) launched from 2014-15 envisages provisions of flexi-fund (ten percentage of the budget) to undertake mitigation/restoration activities in case of natural calamities like drought situation. An amount of ₹ 26.27 crores has been released during current year to Madhya Pradesh under NMOOP.

The States were advised to divert some area from soyabean to other crops based on the availability of seeds and climatic conditions and also to adopt other practices like Seed dibbler, farm saved soyabean seeds under the prevailing situation.

Demand for drought relief assistance from States

2456. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the State Governments have sought drought relief assistance from the Central Government;

(b) if so, the names of the States and the quantum of relief asked by these States; and

(c) whether Central Government has decided to provide the relief?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) State Governments are empowered to initiate appropriate relief measures in the wake drought from funds readily available under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is provided from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per established procedure and extant norms, upon receipt of detailed drought relief memorandum from the State Government.

During current year (2014-15), government of India has not yet received any drought relief memorandum from any State, so far.

Yellow rust attack on wheat crop

2457. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the large scale yellow rust attack on wheat crop at several places in the country, especially in Haryana;

(b) if so, the main reasons for recurrence of the disease along with its likely impact on the wheat production during the current year; and

(c) the preventive steps taken by Government to check spread of the disease in more areas, which may result in heavy losses to the wheat crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Wheat yellow rust has not appeared in large scale in the country including Haryana. However, it was observed in a few districts of Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir in Rabi 2013-14 season.

(b) Wheat yellow rust started appearing from 2006-07 in parts of Punjab, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh due to occurrence of pathotypes of *Puccinia striiformis*. The wheat production during the current year is not likely to be affected.

(c) Wheat yellow rust is being managed by taking various preventive measures like promotion of yellow rust resistant varieties, timely arrangement of fungicide, regular survey and surveillance, detection of disease through establishment of trap nurseries at various hotspot locations, organization of awareness campaigns and trainings, etc.

Inflationary pressure due to APM Act

2458. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agrees to a view that Agricultural Produce Marketing Act is serving the vested interests and is one of the reasons for creating the supply bottlenecks of agricultural produces and adding to the inflationary pressures in the economy;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to repeal this Act; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The State Agricultural Produce Marketing and Regulation Act (APMR Act) provide for establishment of a network of markets to ensure reasonable gains to farmers by creating an environment for fair play of supply and demand forces, regulate market practices and attain transparency in transactions. These markets have, however, over time become monopolistic and restrictive which has led to the emergence of vested interests such as cartels which restrict competition and prevent fair price discovery, defeating thereby the original objectives of the APMR Act.

The APMR Act through such provisions which insist on the compulsion of bringing the agri produce for transaction to the APMC market yard only, on the requirement of separate licenses for traders to transact in different APMC markets, on charging of market fees on notified agri produce at multiple points, has become one of the reasons for creating the supply side bottle-neck of agricultural produce. Additionally, high incidence of market fee/commission charges have added to the inflationary pressures in the economy.

(b) and (c) Agricultural marketing is the mandate of the State. While Government of India does not propose to advocate repeal of the Act, however, reform of Marketing Regulations of the States on lines of Model Act, 2003 is advocated.

**Per capita availability of foodgrains, milk, egg,
fish, meat, vegetables and fruits**

2459. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita availability of foodgrains, milk, egg, fish, meat, vegetables and fruits during 2013-14;

(b) the percentage of people in the country not able to buy these items; and

(c) whether it is due to shortage of production of items or failure of the distribution mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per the available data, per capita availability of foodgrains for 2013 is provisionally placed at 510.8 gms. per day. The per capita availability of milk during 2012-13 was 296.5 gms. per day.

As per the data available from Survey on Household Consumer Expenditure conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) during 68th Round (July, 2011-June, 2012), the per capita consumption of egg, fish, meat and dry fruits in quantitative terms and of vegetables and fresh fruits in value terms is given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Consumption of specific items of foodgrains, milk, eggs, fish, meat, vegetables and fruits varies from place to place and within different sections of people depending upon the preferences of the consumers, their cultural values, income levels etc.

Statement

Per Capita availability of Foodgrains, Milk, Egg,
Fish, Meat, Vegetables and Fruits

Item	Per capita consumption (per day)	
	Quantity	
	Rural	Urban
Eggs (No.)	0.065	0.231
Fish, Prawn (Kg)	0.009	0.759
Goat meat /Mutton (Kg.)	0.002	0.404
Beef/Buffalo Meat (Kg.)	0.001	0.147
Fruits, dry (Kg.)	0.003	0.279
Vegetables	3.154	4.057
Fruits, fresh	1.073	2.317

Note:- Quantity for different vegetables and fruits are collected in different units. Hence per capita quantity of these items cannot be derived.

Crops loan by village co-operative societies

2460. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether village co-operative societies are providing crops loan to the farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details thereof during Twelfth five-year plan, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) The crop loans to the farmers are also disbursed through Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS). The financial assistance is being given by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to the State Cooperative Bank at the state level which provides loan to Central Cooperative Banks. Central Cooperative Banks provides financial assistance to PACS for providing loans to the farmers at the grass root level. The state-wise information in respect of loans disbursed through Cooperative Banks during the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-13 and 2013-14) is given in the Statement.

Statement*States/UTs-wise loan disbursed through co-operative institutions*

		2012-13		2013-14	
		No. of A/c.	Amount (in Lakh)	No. of A/c.	Amount (in Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1092	710.78	369	309.09
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5068252	981627.21	5681399	1021887.85
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	111	29.80	119	42.37
4.	Assam	4808	915.70	5327	1259.89
5.	Bihar	154774	32820.42	156376	30754.19
6.	Chhandigarn UT	0	0.00	0	0
7.	Chattisgarh	871538	200499.35	987143	240199.77
8.	Dadra And Nagar Haveli UT	0	0.00	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu UT	0	0.00	0	0
10.	Goa	3569	3558.99	8280	4614.45
11.	Gujarat	894444	844240.00	836148	850765
12.	Haryana	1276761	753499.52	1284808	765707.70
13.	Himachal Pradesh	41968	47006.12	43543	54188.70
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	565	460.10	285	307.59
15.	Jharkhand	0	0.00	1781	299.97
16.	Karnataka	1549845	571819.00	1986244	788606
17.	Kerala	300278	262938.91	197097	133415.01
18.	Lakshadweep UT	0	0.00	0	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	4450051	1023512.04	3570482	973667.92
20.	Maharashtra	3696779	1295857.50	3693015	1415258.35
21.	Manipur	1	7.14	0	0
22.	Meghalaya	1558	455.41	3450	991
23.	Mizoram	388	398.49	245	270.52
24.	Nagaland	6151	557.32	6050	695.08
25.	New Delhi	83	77.84	50	76.39

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Odisha	2506528	542649.00	2866434	709627.79
27.	Puducherry	3376	1216.85	2665	1057.52
28.	Punjab	1118950	1393173.14	944124	1193378.90
29.	Rajasthan	2390518	1102570.70	3131993	1664970.21
30.	Sikkim	1641	620.07	2340	940.37
31.	Tamil Nadu	1004441	406963.02	1046989	471971.88
32.	Tripura	10534	1293.25	16239	3263.75
33.	Uttar Pradesh	3766933	471090.70	3696000	617757.76
34.	Uttarakhand	236918	94311.56	188605	145087.15
35.	West Bengal	1184299	200178.20	1221694	241559.61
GRAND TOTAL		30547154	10235058.13	31579294	11332931.78

Dairy sector in Maharashtra

2461. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Central Government so far to promote dairy sector in Maharashtra;

(b) how far this sector has grown in the State so far; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to further promote dairy sector in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Government of India is implementing following dairy development schemes to promote dairy sector in Maharashtra:

(i) National Dairy Plan (Phase-I) (NDP-I)

(ii) Nation Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)

(iii) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme. (DEDS).

So far Government has approved 42 projects with an outlay of ₹ 19,553.48 lakh in Maharashtra under NDP-I and NPBBDD Schemes. Under DEDS Scheme, 10,639 dairy units with an outlay of ₹ 4871.47 lakh were sanctioned. Apart from these schemes, under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, 5 projects with an outlay of ₹ 153.87 lakh were sanctioned for dairy development.

(b) The milk production in Maharashtra has increased from 51,93,000 Tonnes in 1997-98 to 89,91,000 Tonnes (estimated) in 2013-14.

(c) Government of India would continue to provide assistance to Maharashtra under the dairy development schemes mentioned at (a) above.

Production of oilseeds and pulses in Maharashtra

2462. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any action plan to introduce better policy and technology to increase the production of oilseeds and pulses in Maharashtra and rest of the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) has launched a National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) from 2014-15 with outlay of ₹ 3507.00 crore for enhancing oilseeds production in the country during the Twelfth Plan. The Mission comprises of three Mini Missions namely, Mini Mission-I on Oilseeds, Mini Mission-II on Oil Palm and Mini Mission-III on Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs). Under the Mission, assistance will be provided for promotion of new technologies like, new varieties of oilseeds, Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) on new production technologies, integrated pests and disease management, use of eco-friendly light-traps, bio-pesticides, bio-fertilisers, micronutrients, improved farm implements, micro-irrigation, seed treatment drums, etc.

This Department is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) with the objective of increasing production of foodgrains including pulses. Under the Mission, there is a target for production of an additional 4 million tonnes of pulses by 2016-17. NFSM pulses is already under implementation in 24 States during 2014-15 with budgetary allocation of ₹ 1073.54 crore.

State Government of Maharashtra is implementing NMOOP as well as NFSM pulses during 2014-15 for increasing production of Oilseeds and pulses in the State.

Construction of new fishing harbours and renovation of Sasoon dock, Mumbai

†2463. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request regarding Central assistance for

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

construction of new fishing harbours and renovation and modernization of Sassoon dock, Mumbai from the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the upto date status of the proposal; and

(c) by when this proposal is likely to be finalized and the reasons for delay therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture has accorded approval to the complete proposals received from the Government of Maharashtra for construction of four new fishing harbours and details of which are as below:

<i>(in lakh)</i>				
Sl. No	Name of the fishing harbour	District	Date of approval	Total Project cost
1.	Deogad (Anandwadi)	Sindhudurg	19.02.2008	3589.00
2.	Karanja	Raigad	24.03.2011	6802.00
3.	Arnala	Thane	25.03.2011	6156.00
4.	Mirkarwada (Ratnagiri)	Ratanagiri	18.09.2013	7180.00

The fishing harbour at Sassoon Dock, Mumbai has been developed with 100 percent funding from the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry of Agriculture has so far provided an amount of ₹ 1301.51 lakh to the Mumbai Port Trust for development of the fishing harbour. Management, maintenance and operation of this fishing harbour have been entrusted to the Port Trust. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture through the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery(CICEF), Bangalore has got formulated a report for renovation and modernization of the fishing harbour at Sassoon Dock to improve its hygienic and sanitary conditions. The Mumbai Port Trust has been advised to (i) firm up the project cost and (ii) set up an institutional system to manage the fishing harbour in a professional manner, so as to ensure quality service to the users. In the meantime, the Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for modernization and expansion of the Sassoon Dock Fishing Harbour, which is not in line with the recommendation of the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery, Bangalore.

Since the Port Trust is yet to (i) firm up the project cost and (ii) set up an institutional system to manage the fishing harbour in a professional manner as advised by the Department, the time by which the proposal is finalized by them, cannot be indicated at this stage.

Preventive measures to check wastage of vegetables and fruits

2464. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that lots of vegetables and fruits get wasted or farmers are forced to sell them at throw away prices without due remuneration;
- (b) if so, the details of wastage of such produce;
- (c) whether Government proposes to establish cold storage chains and provide rapid transport facilities to farmers to take such produce to bigger markets;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has roped in private sector to establish cold storage chains in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) A study published in 2012 by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering & Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), estimated that quantum of post-harvest losses were in the range of 5.8% to 18% in fruits and 6.8% to 12.5% in vegetables. The losses were estimated at various levels like farm operation, farm end storage, cold storage, wholesale and retail end storage and storage of processed products.

(c) to (f) Government is implementing various credit linked assistance programmes to encourage private investment for creation of post-harvest infrastructure including establishment of cold storages, processing units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere storage, refrigerated transport vehicles and setting up of ripening chambers. Credit linked back ended subsidy @ 35% of the project cost in general areas and @ 50% in hilly and scheduled areas is available for these activities to entrepreneurs, cooperatives and companies under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme.

Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) is implementing schemes to provide integrated cold chain and processing facilities from farm gate to consumers. Further, Ministry of Commerce through Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) also provides assistance for cost of cold chain units related to export activity.

Public investment in agriculture sector

2465. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the public investment in agriculture during the last three years;

(b) whether Government has any plan to increase public investment in agriculture; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJAY KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The public investment made in agriculture and allied sectors during the years 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 is given in the Statement (See below)

(b) and (c) Government of India has enhanced the plan outlay of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) to ₹ 1,34,746 crore for Twelfth Five Year Plan as against ₹ 61.528 crore during Eleventh Five Year Plan, to achieve the targeted growth rate of 4% during 12th plan period. Agriculture being a State subject, it is also the responsibility of the States to take steps for holistic development of agriculture based on local needs and priorities. States have also indicated that they will more than double their plan expenditure on agriculture and allied sector during 12th Plan *vis-à-vis* Eleventh Plan.

Statement

Public Investment in Agriculture Sector

(₹ in crore)

Year	Public Investment in Agriculture and Allied Sectors (at 2004-05 prices)
2010-11	19856
2011-12	21185
2012-13	23887

Recompense for low production

†2466. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of paddy produced in the country during the year 2013-14;

(b) the estimated fall in paddy production due to low rainfall this year;

(c) whether Government has prepared any plan to recompense low production; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per 3rd advance estimates, the estimated production of paddy (in terms of rice) during 2013-14 stands at 106.29 million tonnes.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) to (d) The sowing window for paddy is still open and it is too early to assess total production of paddy in the country during 2014-15. However, to minimize the impact of delayed/deficit rainfall on production of kharif foodgrains including paddy/rice, a number of contingency measures have been taken by the Government. The States have prepared district-wise Contingency Plans in consultation with Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), State Agricultural Universities and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). Besides, they have also been asked to ensure availability of Seeds of shorter duration, drought tolerant varieties and alternate crops, availability of fertilisers, power supply and other critical inputs in time.

Assistance for agricultural schemes in Bihar

2467. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance or grants are being provided by Central Government for various agricultural schemes in Bihar;

(b) if so, the amount of money being provided for those schemes; and

(c) the details of the funds yet to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is providing financial assistance under various agricultural missions/schemes to Bihar. A Statement indicating their names, funds allocated during 2014-15 and released up to date is in given below:

Statement

Allocation and Releases during 2014-15 to Bihar up to date under various Agricultural Missions/Schemes of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

(₹ in core)			
Sl. No.	Name of Missions/ Schemes	Allocation	Amount Released
1	2	3	4
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	74.39	37.57
2.	National Mission on OilSeeds & Oil Palm (NMOOP)	2.31	0.81
3.	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)		
	(i) Rainfed Area Development	10.00	5.00
	(ii) On Farm Water Management	70.00	0.00

1	2	3	4
4.	National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (NMAET)		
	(i) Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension	25.84	0.00
	(ii) Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization	9.81	0.98
5.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)		
	(i) National Horticulture Mission	42.50	0.00
	(ii) National Bamboo Mission	0.76	0.00
6.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	564.55	0.00
7.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census, Economics and Statistics (ISACE and S)		
	(i) Agri Census	3.00	0.05

Dairy farming in Bihar

†2468. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any plan for increasing the production and capacity of dairy farming in Bihar;

(b) whether Government has formulated any plan to provide loans to dairy producers on reasonable rate; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Government of India has formulated following schemes for increasing milk production and capacity of dairy farming in the country including Bihar:

(i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development

(ii) National Dairy Plan-I

(iii) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme.

(b) and (c) The Department has been implementing “Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme” through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) throughout the country under which back ended capital subsidy (25% of the total sanctioned project cost for General Category and 33.33% for Schedule Tribe and Schedule Caste beneficiaries) is provided through eligible financial institutions subject to the norms of the scheme in order to subsidise the loan.

Implementation of M.S. Swaminathan report regarding MSP

†2469. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the crops as well as the amount of Minimum Support Price (MSP) hiked by Government during the last five years along with dates of their respective increases, the details thereof, year-wise and crop-wise;

(b) the criteria set for enhancing the MSP; and

(c) whether Government intends to implement the report of the committee headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan on increasing the MSP of crops, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed by the Government for 2010-11 to 2013-14 season and for 2014-15 season in respect of kharif crops, jute and Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

Dates of announcement of MSPs of various crops is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(b) Government fixes MSPs of various crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP considers, inter alia, a number of important factors including cost of production and changes in input prices. The cost of production, inter alia, includes all paid out costs including family labour.

(c) National Commission on Farmers headed by Dr. M. S. Swaminathan had recommended that the MSP should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. This recommendation, however, has not been accepted by the Government because MSP is recommended by CACP based on objective criteria and considering variety of relevant factors. Hence, prescribing an increase of at least 50% on cost may distort market.

Statement-I

Minimum Support Prices

(₹ per quintal)

Commodity	Variety	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Kharif Crops						
Paddy	Common	1000	1080	1250	1310	1360

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Commodity	Variety	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
	Grade A	1030	1110	1280	1345	1400
Jowar	Hybrid	880	980	1500	1500	1530
	Maldandi	900	1000	1520	1520	1550
Bajra		880	980	1175	1250	1250
Maize		880	980	1175	1310	1310
Ragi		965	1050	1500	1500	1550
Arhar (Tur)		3000&	3200 &	3850	4300	4350
Moong		3170&	3500 &	4400	4500	4600
Urad		2900&	3300 &	4300	4300	4350
Cotton	Medium Staple	2500	2800	3600	3700	3750
	Long Staple	3000	3300	3900	4000	4050
Groundnut in shell		2300	2700	3700	4000	4000
Sunflower Seed		2350	2800	3700	3700	3750
Soyabean	Black	1400	1650	2200	2500	2500
	Yellow	1440	1690	2240	2560	2560
Sesamum		2900	3400	4200	4500	4600
Nigerseed		2450	2900	3500	3500	3600
Rabi Crops						
Wheat		1120\$	1285	1350	1400	-
Barley		780	980	980	1100	-
Gram		2100	2800	3000	3100	-
Masur (Lentil)		2250	2800	2900	2950	-
RapeSeed/ Mustard		1850	2500	3000	3050	-
Safflower		1800	2500	2800	3000	-
Toria		1780	2425	2970	3020	-
Other Crops						
Copra	Milling	4450	4525	5100	5250	-
(Calendar Year)	Ball	4700	4775	5350	5500	-
De-Husked Coconut (Calendar Year)		1200	1200	1400	1425	-
Jute		1575	1675	2200	2300	2400
Sugarcane#		139.12	145.00	170.00	210.00	220.00

Note : & Additional incentive of ₹ 500 per quintal was payable in respect of kharif pulses sold to procurement agencies during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

\$ An additional incentive bonus was payable over and above the Minimum Support Price.

Fair & Remunerative Price (FRP).

Statement-II*Dates of announcement of MSPs***Kharif and Rabi Crops**

Year	Date of Announcement of MSPs of Kharif Crops	Date of Announcement of MSPs of Rabi Crops
2010-11	10.06.2010	20.10.2010
2011-12	09.06.2011	25.10.2011
2012-13	14.06.2012 and 03.08.2012 (Arhar)	01.11.2012 and 26.12.2012 (Wheat)
2013-14	27.06.2013	17.10.2013
2014-15	25.06.2014	-

Raw Jute

Year	Date of Announcement of MSP
2010-11	23.04.2010
2011-12	03.03.2011
2012-13	01.03.2012
2013-14	02.04.2013
2014-15	02.01.2014

Copra

Year	Date of Announcement of MSP
2010	04.03.2010
2011	15.12.2010
2012	04.01.2012
2013	07.02.2013
2014	12.12.2013

FRP of Sugarcane

Year	Date of Announcement of FRP
2010-11	20.04.2010
2011-12	03.03.2011
2012-13	19.07.2012
2013-14	31.01.2013
2014-15	06.02.2014

Revival of sick dairy co-operatives

2470. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several Dairy Cooperatives milk unions have been declared sick and are facing severe financial crunch;
- (b) if so, the details of such Unions/Cooperatives in each State/UT;
- (c) whether Government has implemented or plans to implement any scheme for revival of sick dairy cooperative/milk unions in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of the Central Sector Scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' provided to each State including Kerala during last three years and the current year; and
- (f) the concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to promote Dairy entrepreneurship in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Dairy Cooperatives are registered under the respective State Cooperative Societies Act. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) reviews the financial condition of the Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations which have been provided technical/financial assistance by NDDB. NDDB has informed that as per Annual Account received from 160 Cooperative Milk Unions/Federations for the year 2012-13, 82 had accumulated net losses and the remaining 78 had accumulated profits. State-wise status of dairy cooperative unions/federations is given Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries implemented a Central Sector Scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' since 1999 with an objective to revitalize the sick dairy cooperative unions at the district level and Milk Federations at the State level. The scheme Assistance to Cooperatives had subsumed in the newly launched scheme National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development with effect from 27.02.2014.

(e) State-wise financial assistance provided by Government of India to rehabilitate the sick Dairy Cooperatives during last three years and current year under the scheme 'Assistance to Cooperatives' is given Statement II (*See below*). No project proposal from the State of Kerala was received during last three years. However, one rehabilitation project of Ernakulum Milk Union was approved during the year 2000-2001 with an outlay of ₹ 413.20 lakh, having ₹ 206.60 lakhs as Central share. The entire amount had been released to Ernakulum Milk Union.

(f) Department is implementing the Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS) to promote Dairy entrepreneurship in the country. DEDS is being implemented

through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) throughout the country in which back-ended capital subsidy (25% of the project cost for General Category and 33.33% for SC and ST beneficiaries) is provided through eligible financial institutions, subject to the norms of the Scheme.

Statement -I

State-wise status of dairy co-operative union/Federations

(in nubembers)

State	2012-13	
	(DCU/F) with Accumulated net profit	(DCU/F) with Accumulated net loss
Andhra Pradesh	5	0
Assam	0	1
Chhattisgarh	NA	NA
Goa	1	0
Gujarat	16	0
Haryana	1	5
Himachal Pradesh	NA	NA
Karnataka	10	3
Kerala	1	2
Madhya Pradesh	2	3
Maharashtra	17	7
Mizoram	NA	NA
Nagaland	NA	NA
Punjab	2	8
Rajasthan	11	10
Sikkim	1	0
Tamil Nadu	3	11
Tripura	1	0
Uttar Pradesh	0	26
Odisha	2	4
West Bengal	2	1
Bihar	3	1
SUB-TOTAL	78	82
TOTAL	160	

NA : Not Available.

Statement-II

State-wise financial assistance provided by Government of India to rehabilitate the sick Dairy Cooperative Unions/Federations (DCU/F) during last three years under the scheme assistance to cooperatives:

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
		Amount released	Amount released	Amount released
1	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	190.24	45.00
2	Maharashtra	48.10	81.90	0.00
3	Punjab	772.24	225.00	375.00
4	Tamil Nadu	79.66	124.86	75.00
TOTAL		900.00	622.00	495.00

Post harvest losses

2471. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study was conducted in 2005 to find out post harvest losses of major agriculture produce and since then no such study has been conducted to find out reduction in wastage of post-harvest agriculture produce;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any plan to conduct a similar survey afresh to study the comparative losses, if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the present losses of each agriculture produce; and

(f) whether any special emphasis has been given to this in the Twelfth Plan and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (d) The Central Institute of Post-harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), Ludhiana conducted a study on harvest and post-harvest losses of major crops and livestock produce in India during 2005-07. Since then another study on "Assessment of harvest and post-harvest losses of major crops and commodities in India" funded by Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been initiated in February, 2012 by CIPHET, ICAR, under its "All India Co-ordinated Research Project (AICRP)" on Post- harvest

Technology. ICAR has also taken up in March, 2013 another Food Corporation of India (FCI) sponsored project titled “Study on storage losses of food grains in FCI and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) warehouses and to recommend norms for storage losses in efficient warehouse system”. Another study on “Assessment of Pre and Post- Harvest-Losses of Important Crops in India” was conducted by Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore during 2012-13, but the final report is yet to be submitted.

(e) As per the report of CIPHET, Ludhiana published in 2012, total losses occurring during various operations such as harvesting, collection, threshing, grading/sorting, winnowing/cleaning, drying, packaging, transportation and storage of agricultural commodities are as under :-

- (i) Cereals - 3.9 to 6%
- (ii) Pulses - 4.3 to 6.1 %
- (iii) Oil Seeds - 2.8 to 10.1 %
- (iv) Fruits - 5.8 to 18.00 %
- (v) Vegetables - 6.8 to 12.5 %

(f) In the XII Plan, Ministry of Agriculture has given special emphasis to address the problem of post-harvest losses by way of improving the infrastructural facilities. Foremost is the advocacy of reforms in agricultural marketing sector to promote alternate channels of marketing which are expected to encourage private sector to invest in the development of post-harvest and cold chain infrastructure nearer to farmers’ field.

Next, the Ministry is also implementing various schemes for incentivizing the post-harvest and marketing infrastructure development projects. While under “Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM)” subsidy ceilings for creation of Agri Marketing Infrastructure have been substantially increased and will also be provided for Integrated Value Chains (IVCs), under “Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)”, an end to end holistic approach will be promoted for the horticulture sector. Like-wise, under “Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)”, States have to necessarily spend 35% of their allocation on agri infrastructure creation. Such measures are expected to reduce losses and enhance overall marketing efficiency. Further, State Agriculture Universities and ICAR under its AICRP on post-harvest technology will continue to actively develop location specific and crop specific machinery and process protocols to minimize post-harvest losses besides development of value added products and will also continue to establish more Agro Processing Centres (APCs) in production catchments for this.

Remunerative price in place of MSP

†2472. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is contemplating to implement remunerative prices in place of Minimum Support Price (MSP) being fixed for agricultural produces;
- (b) if so, the names of the agricultural produces for which it would be enforced; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. Crops covered under Minimum Support Price (MSP) are Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Arhar, Moong, Urad, Groundnut-in-shell, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Nigerseed, Cotton, Wheat, Barley, Gram, Masur (Lentil), Rapeseed/ Mustardseed, Safflower, Jute and Copra and Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for Sugarcane.

The objective of MSP is to ensure remunerative Prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production. The Government ensures MSP through procurement operations undertaken by the Central, State and cooperative agencies in the states.

Producers of crops covered under MSP scheme have the option to sell their produce to Government agencies or in the open market as is advantageous to them.

Use of bio-technology in agriculture

2473. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any step to promote the use of bio-technology in agriculture;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Government plans to set up or modernize agriculture colleges to increase research and development in the field of bio-technology; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has provided the required research facilities like infrastructure, sophisticated instruments and training etc. in various institutes and State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) to promote the use of bio-technology in agriculture. Besides this, Indian Institute of Agricultural Bio-technology at Ranchi and National Research Centre on Plant Bio-technology at New Delhi have been exclusively working on bio-technological research in major field and horticultural crops.

(c) and (d) Agricultural Education being a State Subject, setting up new agricultural colleges comes under the purview of the States. However, partial support for need-based critical equipment and for modernization of laboratories is provided to the SAUs under the Plan scheme 'Strengthening and Development of Higher Agricultural Education in India', who in turn distribute funds to their constituent colleges.

Insurance claims for farmers

†2474. CHAUDHARY MUNAVVER SALEEM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount of insurance money recovered from farmers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of the number of farmers who have been given insurance money till date, State-wise; and

(c) whether inspite of recovery of premium, farmers have not been given insurance amount, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and b) State-wise details of amount of insurance (premium) received from farmers and numbers of farmers to whom the insurance claims are paid under crop insurance schemes are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The claims under crop insurance schemes are settled by the insurance companies based on the receipt of yield data/weather data from State Government within stipulated cut-off date. Claims become payable only if there is a shortfall in yield under yield based schemes namely, National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)/Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) and based on the weather deviations under weather index based scheme namely, Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

State-wise details of Premium Money received from Farmers and No. of Farmers who received Crop Insurance Money under Crop Insurance Schemes upto Kharif 2013 (as on 25.7.14)*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States / UTs	Crop insurance premium money received from farmers	No. of farmers who received crop insurance claim amount
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	223446	8432049
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	8	438
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
4.	Assam	1929	65221
5.	Bihar	83754	9399077
6.	Chhattisgarh	30835	1860970
7.	Goa	4	702
8.	Gujarat	151766	5096821
9.	Haryana	8630	319745
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3453	167073
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	155	4456
12.	Jharkhand	10832	2474590
13.	Karnataka	59449	5922151
14.	Kerala	2216	128249
15.	Madhya Pradesh	154571	7565649
16.	Maharashtra	98734	10845453
17.	Manipur	199	18946
18.	Meghalaya	219	2762
19.	Mizoram	4	631
20.	Odisha	53789	3371191
21.	Puducherry	158	7075
22.	Punjab	1	50

1	2	3	4
23.	Rajasthan	146755	22319170
24.	Sikkim	3	86
25.	Tamilnadu	42558	2713818
26.	Tripura	72	3432
27.	Uttar Pradesh	66507	4631118
28.	Uttarakhand	3789	174356
29.	West Bengal	53311	2594904
TOTAL		1197146	88120183

NB : * Under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), Pilot Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS), Pilot Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Pilot Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) and ongoing National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) since their inception upto Kharif 2013.

Good cotton growing practices

2475. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts Government is making to start good cotton growing practices in the country and in Gujarat;

(b) the vision of Government to increase cotton production in the country during the next five years;

(c) the details of the technological, financial and institutional help from the Government for the purpose; and

(d) whether Government approves setting up of a Centre for Cotton Excellence in Gujarat for improving quality seed production and to boost cotton production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) To encourage the farmers to use improved technology for cultivation of cotton, cotton development programme is being implemented under National Food Security Mission (NFSM) in major Cotton growing States including Gujarat from 2014-15.

(b) and (c) To maximize the production and productivity of cotton, assistance is provided for Front Line Demonstration on High Density Planting System (HDPS), Intercropping, for cultivation of Extra long Staple (ELS), Desi Cotton besides programme

on Insecticides Resistance Management (IRM) and Online Pest Monitoring and Advisory Services (OPMAS) under NFSM. An allocation of ₹ 1200.00 lakh has been made for cotton under NFSM during 2014-15. The programme is implemented through the State Department of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), State Agriculture Universities (SAUs), Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs) etc.,

(d) In order to improve quality of seeds and to boost cotton production in Gujarat, the Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur and All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project (AICCIP), Coimbatore of the ICAR are conducting basic, strategic, applied research and development in cotton through Navasari Agricultural University and Junagarh Agricultural University. Besides, the State Department of Agriculture and Krishi Vigyan Kendras are also disseminating scientific cotton production technologies in the state.

Cultivation of Oilseeds in Jharkhand

2476. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any action plan to increase the production of oilseeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government has taken to encourage farmers to increase cultivation of oilseeds in the country, particularly in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme called "National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm" (NMOOP) has been launched from 2014-15 for increasing production and productivity of oilseed crops in the country including Jharkhand.

Under this Mission, financial assistance is being provided for Seed Components (Production & distribution of certified seeds and minikits, variety specific targeted Seed production); Inputs (Plant Protection Equipments/eco-friendly light-trap, Bio-pesticides, Distribution of micronutrients, bio-fertilizers, improved farm implements, pipes, sprinklers, seed storage bins, seed treatment drums) and Transfer of Technology (Block demonstration, Frontline demonstrations, farmers and extension workers training etc.

An allocation of ₹ 433.00 crores has been made during 2014-15 under NMOOP. Annual Action Plans of the States for implementation of the programme during 2014-15 have been approved and conveyed to the States. However, no action plan has been received, so far, from Jharkhand.

Production of paddy in Jharkhand

2477. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes formulated by Central Government to increase the production of paddy in Jharkhand; and

(b) the likely per hectare increase in productivity of paddy crop in the State as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) In order to increase the production and productivity of rice in Jharkhand, Government of India has been implementing crop development programmes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI). Under these programmes, assistance is provided for activities like demonstrations of improved technologies, distribution of improved seeds including hybrids, need based plant protection and soil amendments, resource conservation techniques/energy management, efficient water application tools, farmers' trainings, etc. As a result of implementation of these programmes, the productivity of rice in the State increased from 1828 kg/ha during 2006-07 to 2238 kg/ha during 2012-13.

Expenditure incurred under RADP in Tamil Nadu

2478. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Rainfed areas that have been identified in all the districts of Tamil Nadu after launching of the Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP) in 2011-12; and

(b) the details of expenditure incurred in these areas since launching of this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) An area of about 25823 ha have been identified in 25 districts of the State for implementation of Rainfed Area Development Programme (RADP) as a sub scheme of Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana during 2011-12 to 2013-14. An amount of ₹ 51.08 crore have been incurred for implementation of RADP in these districts during this period. The district-wise and year-wise areas identified and expenditure incurred is given in the Statement.

Statement

Rainfed Area identified and Expenditure incurred under Rainfed Area Development Programme(RADP) in Tamil Nadu

Sl. No	District	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		Total	
		Rainfed Area Identified	Expenditure incurred	Rainfed Area Identified	Expenditure incurred	Rainfed Area Identified	Expenditure incurred	Rainfed Area Identified	Expenditure incurred
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Thiruvallur	660	123.69	0	0	100	42.32	760	166.01
2.	Villupuram	600	104.39	40	54.61	90	7.9	730	166.9
3.	Vellore	700	115.47	71.25	85.86	1100	168.22	1871.25	369.55
4.	T.V.Malai	526	98.91	71.25	85.56	940	174.77	1537.25	359.24
5.	Salem	640	115.46	0	0	100	46.6	740	162.06
6.	Namakkal	590	97.73	71.25	86.07	100	51.55	761.25	235.35
7.	Dharmapuri	587	107.68	71.25	86	901	182.55	1559.25	376.23
8.	Krishnagiri	0	0	27.5	39.87	400	52.8	427.5	92.67
9.	Coimbatore	690	135.77	0	0	100	42.61	790	178.38
10.	Erode	700	119.11	0	0	50	23.35	750	142.46

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11.	Trichy	573	134.12	0	0	80	34.75	653	168.87
12.	Perambalur	3315	176.82	27.5	42.2	800	103.49	4142.5	322.51
13.	Ariyalur	550	63.52	27.5	42.04	750	112.46	1327.5	218.02
14.	Pudukkottai	0	0	42.5	60.11	0	0	42.5	60.11
15.	Karur	595	87.04	0	0	100	47.81	695	134.85
16.	Madurai	640	94.81	0	0	100	50.39	740	145.2
17.	Theni	582	81.52	0	0	0	0	582	81.52
18.	Dindigul	840	177.45	23.75	39.11	875	205.68	1738.75	422.24
19.	Ramnad	550	71.91	99.98	114.8	1100	194.06	1749.98	380.77
20.	Sivagangai	0	0	67.5	81.48	1050	144.81	1117.5	226.29
21.	Virudhunagar	600	87.34	71.25	86.13	75	38.25	746.25	211.72
22.	Toothukudi	500	53.5	71.79	82.41	790	108.05	1361.79	243.96
23.	Kanyakumari	650	129.28	0	0	50	20.95	700	150.23
24.	Thiruppur	0	0	0	0	60	28.1	60	28.1
25.	Tuticorin	140	39.5	0	0	100	25.15	240	64.65
TOTAL		15228	2215.02	784.27	986.25	9811	1906.62	25823.27	5107.89

Conversion of agricultural land for other purposes

2479. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) how much agricultural land in acres/hectares term earmarked/allotted/ converted for urbanisation, industrialisation and infrastructure projects in the country as a whole during last five years, with specific reference to Gujarat and Jharkhand;

(b) whether according to NSSO Report of 2005, 60 per cent farmers of the country do not like farming; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, how did NSSO come to such a conclusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per the latest land use statistics data (2011-12) compiled by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, agricultural land in the country has declined from 182.44 million hectares in 2007-08 to 181.98 million hectares in 2011-12, on account of urbanization, industrialization etc. In Jharkhand, the agricultural land has declined from 4.30 million hectares in 2007-08 to 4.29 million hectares in 2011-12. In Gujarat, the agricultural land has increased from 12.46 million hectares in 2007-08 to 12.66 million hectares in 2011-12.

(b) and (c) The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, conducted the Situation assessment Survey of Farmers in 2003 in the rural areas of the country. Based on this survey, NSSO report on "Some Aspects of Farming" was published in 2005. As per this report, at the all-India level, 60% of farmer households reported that they liked farming as a profession. The remaining 40% were of the opinion that, given a choice, they would take up some other career.

Second Green Revolution

2480. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has plans to usher in the second Green Revolution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any expert committee/group has been constituted by Government to monitor the second Green Revolution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (d) In order to meet the food grain

requirement of the growing population of the country, the Government of India is laying emphasis on development of resource rich eastern region of the country for enhancing agricultural production. This would also help in reducing the over exploitation of natural resources in north western region, the traditional food bowl of the country. Accordingly, the Government of India launched in a programme of “Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)” –a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in seven eastern States of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh (East) and West Bengal. The objective of the programme is to increase the productivity of rice based cropping system by promotion of recommended agricultural technologies by addressing the underlying key constraints of different agro climatic sub regions. The programme is being continued during 2014-15 in 121 identified districts of the seven States with an allocation of ₹ 1000/- crore.

Central Rice Research Institute (CRRI), Cuttack has been assigned the responsibility of providing technical backstopping to the programme. A three tier monitoring structure has been created at National, State and District levels with the active involvement of agricultural scientists of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs).

Decrease in number of indigenous cows

2481. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of buffaloes is increasing and number of indigenous cows is decreasing continuously over the years as Swadeshi cows were 1,78,782 in 1997 which reduced to 1,26,495 in 2014.

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

(c) whether such neglect of GOMATA is a matter of grave concern; and

(d) whether Brazil has imported indigenous cows from India as their overall performance is better than exotic breeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The number of buffaloes and indigenous female cattle in the country as per Censuses 1997, 2003 and 2007 are given in the table below.

Species	1997 (in millions)	2003 (in millions)	2007 (in millions)
Buffalo	89.92	97.92	105.34
Female indigenous cattle	88.58	82.96	89.24

The number of buffaloes had continuously increased in the country from 89.92 Millions in 1997 to 105.34 Millions in 2007. The number of indigenous female cattle had decreased from 88.58 Millions in 1997 to 82.96 Millions in 2003 but increased to 89.24 Millions in 2007.

(c) The indigenous female cattle population has increased as indicated in Census-2007 and thus, there is no neglect of “GOMATA”. In order to supplement the efforts made by the States Government for development and conservation of indigenous breeds of cattle and buffaloes, the Central Government is implementing Schemes namely, (i) ‘National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding’ (NPCBB), (ii) National Dairy Plan, (iii) Central Cattle Breeding Farms (CCBFs), (iv) Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute (CFSP&TI) and (v) Central Herd Registration Scheme (CHRS).

(d) No export of cows from India to Brazil has been recorded during 1997 to till date.

Contingency plan to address deficiency in rainfall

2482. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent study by Morgan Stanley has indicated that the deficiency of rainfall during this monsoon season could only cause a moderate impact on both Kharif and Rabi crops;

(b) whether the Morgan Stanley study predicts a seven per cent deficiency which is considered a national average;

(c) whether FAO of the UN has forecast a huge impact of El Nino on India's Kharif crop on prolonged continuation of rainfall deficiency; and

(d) whether Government is constantly watching the situation to firm up its contingency plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) A study by Morgan Stanley has indicated that the impact of deficit rainfall on country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) may not be very significant.

(b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that rainfall during 2014 South West Monsoon for the country as a whole is likely to be 93% of the Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of $\pm 4\%$.

(c) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) in its review dated 17.06.2014 has predicted that in the eventuality of full strength of El Nino in northern hemisphere during April to September, northern India is likely to receive below average monsoon rainfall impacting growth and yield of kharif crops. FAO

later updated the prediction in its India country brief dated 24.07.2014 stating that the prospects for rice and maize during 2014 kharif season have improved with recent rains.

(d) Government has prepared agricultural contingency plans for 520 districts covering 23 States for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of weak monsoon/deficient rainfall.

Establishment of agriculture and horticulture universities in Seemandhra

2483. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions as contained in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 for establishment of Agriculture and Horticulture Universities in Seemandhra;

(b) the steps being taken by the Central Government in this regard; and

(c) the role of the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the status of their response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Andhra Pradesh State Re-organization Act, 2014 provides for establishment of institutions of National Importance in the 12th and 13th Plan periods in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh, including a new Agricultural University.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been asked to suggest a suitable site of 500 hectare area for the proposed Agricultural University. An amount of ₹ 200.00 crores has been allocated in 2014-15 for establishment of Agricultural Universities in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan and also for Horticultural Universities in the States of Telangana and Haryana.

(c) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has indicated 500 acres of land for establishment of the Agricultural University.

Use of organic fertilizers

2484. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to encourage production of bio/organic fertilizers in the country for promoting organic farming and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total production of bio/organic fertilizers along with its demand and supply in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the total area of land brought under bio/organic fertilizers in the country, State/ Union Territory-wise;

- (d) whether Government proposes to create bio-villages in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the initiatives taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Government is promoting production of bio/organic fertilizers in the country through various programmes under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) and Network Project on Organic Farming under ICAR.

Under Soil Health Management (SHM) component of NMSA, financial assistance upto 50% of cost subject to a limit of ₹ 5,000/- per hectare and ₹ 10,000/- per beneficiary is provided for promotion of organic inputs including bio/organic fertilizers. Also, financial assistance upto 33% of financial outlay, subject to a maximum ceiling of ₹ 63.00 lakhs for establishment of agro/vegetable waste compost production units, and 25% of financial outlay subject to a maximum ceiling of ₹ 40.00 lakhs for biofertilizer production units, is provided as back-ended subsidy through NABARD. Assistance has been provided for 56 biofertilizer production units and 17 agro/vegetable waste compost production units under the scheme. Details of production and supply of biofertilizers and organic fertilizers in the country are given in Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*).

(c) The State-wise total area of land brought under bio-organic fertilizers in the country is given in the Statement-III and IV (*See below*).

(d) and (e) Under Soil Health Management component of NMSA, financial assistance of ₹ 10 lakh per village (Maximum 10 village/annum/State) is provided for organic village adoption through farmers group/SHGs. Assistance is provided for manure management and biological nitrogen harvesting through planting of trees on bunds and promotion of legume inter cropping.

Statement-I

State-wise Production of Biofertilizers in the country

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Actual production of biofertilizers in MT during years		
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1126.35	1335.74	2137.14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	59.00
3.	Assam	68.33	89.00	149.00

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	75.00	52.40	52.40
5.	Chhattisgarh	276.34	501.63	664.79
6.	Delhi	1617.00	0.00	396.00
7.	Gujarat	2037.35	978.48	2173.71
8.	Goa	0	370.00	66.26
9.	Haryana	914.41	5832.61	1029.79
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1.29	0.00	6.44
11.	Jharkhand	8.38	35.30	14.20
12.	Karnataka	5760.32	7683.72	9146.34
13.	Kerala	904.17	1045.64	1139.74
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2309.06	1408.08	3124.54
15.	Maharashtra	8743.69	5897.91	5719.74
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	4.00
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	13.00	7.45	7.45
20.	Odisha	590.12	407.10	1083.12
21.	Punjab	692.22	2311.33	1916.43
22.	Puducherry	509.45	621.00	52.36
23.	Rajasthan	199.78	982.00	1315.00
24.	Sikkim	0.00	9.50	10.10
25.	Tamil Nadu	3373.81	11575.70	12964.78
26.	Tripura	1542.85	514.00	225.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	8695.08	1310.02	2578.94
28.	Uttarakhand	263.01	2758.21	4195.71
29.	West Bengal	603.20	1110.00	1638.69
TOTAL		40324.21	46836.82	51870.67

Source: Compiled by NCOF from Production Units/State Governments

Statement-II*State-wise production of organic fertilizers in the country*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total Organic Fertilizers (lakh MT)		
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	106	69. 11	72.03
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.0123	0.38	0.4
3.	Assam	2.85	878.408	889.43
4.	Bihar	66.25	11.91	12
5.	Chhattisgarh	129.15	99.74	0.02
6.	Delhi	-	0.666	0.72
7.	Goa	4.304	1.76	0.82
8.	Gujarat	363.5	363.5	365.81
9.	Haryana	18.4	18.4	0.09
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4055	40.55	17.65
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	22.2071	22.1671	6.64
12.	Jharkhand	234.45	23	0
13.	Karnataka	1108.62	1431.83	11.65
14.	Kerala	84.99	11.375	3.85
15.	Madhya Pradesh	136.00	136	0.28
16.	Maharashtra	0.82	95.47	9.96
17.	Manipur	0.5	0.5	0.61
18.	Mizoram	0.081	0.0891	0.08
19.	Meghalaya	10.574	14.9	15.01
20.	Nagaland	0.1615	0.654	0.66
21.	Odisha	11.491	19.887	18.93
22.	Punjab	341.29	307.6	3.06
23.	Puducherry	—	0	3.23
24.	Rajasthan	294.521	374.18	399.34
25.	Sikkim	0.0058	0.15	0.35
26.	Tamil Nadu	8.37	46.19	14.39

1	2	3	4	5
27.	Tripura	0	0	0
28.	Uttar Pradesh	327.786	0.036	0.21
29.	Uttarakhand	10.64	0.385	23.57
30.	West Bengal	162.84	146.95	147.37
TOTAL		3486.36	4115.8	2018.2

(Organic Fertilisers include Urban compost, Rural compost, FYM, Vermicompost etc.)

Statement-III

State-wise area brought under use of biofertilizers in the country

(Million ha)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Actual area under use of biofertilizers		
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.4	0.4	0.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.0	0.0	0.0
3.	Assam	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.	Bihar	0.0	0.0	0.0
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.1	0.2	0.2
6.	Delhi	0.5	0.0	0.1
7.	Gujarat	0.7	0.3	0.7
8.	Goa	0.0	0.1	0.0
9.	Haryana	0.3	1.9	0.3
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0.0	0.0	0.0
11.	Jharkhand	0.0	0.0	0.0
12.	Karnataka	1.9	2.6	3.0
13.	Kerala	0.3	0.3	0.4
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0.8	0.5	1.0
15.	Maharashtra	2.9	2.0	1.9
16.	Manipur	0.0	0.0	0.0
17.	Mizoram	0.0	0.0	0.0
18.	Meghalaya	0.0	0.0	0.0

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Nagaland	0.0	0.0	0.0
20.	Odisha	0.2	0.1	0.4
21.	Punjab	0.2	0.8	0.6
22.	Puducherry	0.2	0.2	0.0
23.	Rajasthan	0.1	0.3	0.4
24.	Sikkim	0.0	0.0	0.0
25.	Tamil Nadu	1.1	3.9	4.3
26.	Tripura	0.5	0.2	0.1
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2.9	0.4	0.9
28.	Uttarakhand	0.1	0.9	1.4
29.	West Bengal	0.2	0.4	0.5
TOTAL		13.4	15.6	17.3

Source: Compiled by NCOF from Production Units/State Governments.

Statement-IV

Total area covered under organic fertilizers			
Sl. No.	Year	Total Production (Lakh tonne)	Total area covered (Lakh ha)
1.	2010-11	3671	734
2.	2011-12	3486	697
3.	2012-13	4353	870

Source: NCOF

Setting up of Agro Renewal Mission

2485. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to speed up high-value agriculture and processed food as the catalysts for the next wave of growth in farm sector;
- (b) whether it is proposed to set up an Agro Renewal Mission that will create an enabling environment for greater private and public participation;
- (c) whether it is proposed to set up world class universities in the country to achieve the end-result;
- (d) whether it is also proposed to establish a national technological mission for an integrated approach in the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a Mission in the name of Agro-Renewal Mission. However, promotion of high value agriculture and processed food definitely have the potential to become catalyst for the next wave of growth in farm sector.

Farm profitability is central to achieve rapid and inclusive agricultural growth and diversification to high value crops such as horticulture and livestock remains the best way not only to improve farm incomes and accelerate growth, but also to reduce stress on natural resources which form farmers production base. Creating an enabling environment for greater public and private participation is an objective of the overall policy for development of agriculture.

Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) has been launched *w.e.f.* 1.4.2014 to promote holistic growth of horticulture sector, including bamboo and coconut through area based regionally differentiated strategies which include research, technology promotion, extension, post harvest management processing and marketing in convergence with comparative advantage of each State/region and its diverse agro-climatic features. Aggregation of farmers into farmers groups like Farmer Interest Groups/Farmer Producer Groups and Farmer Interest Groups/Farmers Producer Groups and Farmer Producer Companies to bring economy of scale and scope is a new feature of MIDH, aimed at empowering the farmers. Assistance under MIDH is provided for promoting primary/minimal processing units for processing of horticultural produce and value addition. For technological dissemination, latest technologies are promoted on crop specific cultivation use of Integrated Pest Management/Integrated Nutrient Management, Protected cultivation, organic farming through farmer participatory demonstration/front-line demonstrations at strategic locations/farmer's field.

(c) to (e) To make farming competitive and profitable as well as to step up investment, both public and private, in agro-technology development and creation and modernization of existing agri-business infrastructure, Government has proposed to establish two more institutions of excellence in Assam and Jharkhand at par with ICAR Research Centre at PUSA, New Delhi. For this purpose, an initial sum of ₹ 100 crore has been provided in the Union Budget 2014-15. In addition, an amount of ₹ 100 crore has also been set aside for setting up an 'agri-tech infrastructure fund'. Further, Government has proposed to establish Agriculture Universities in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan and Horticulture Universities in Telangana and Haryana for which an initial sum of ₹ 200 crores has been provided in Union Budget 2014-15.

Ministry of Food Processing Industry has restructured the ongoing schemes from Twelfth Five Year Plan and accordingly under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme-National Mission on Food Processing, assistance is provided for implementation of the schemes for technology upgradation/establishment/modernization of food processing industries, cold chain, value addition and preservation infrastructure for non horticultural products, etc.

Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing (ISAM) also provides for creation and promotion of integrated value chain upto a stage of primary processing only to provide vertical integration of farmers with primary processors. Under the scheme, a subsidy of 25-33.33% of project cost is provided to promoters from general categories and special categories upto a sum of ₹ 4 crore and ₹ 5 crore respectively.

Availability of quality Seeds

†2486. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 1034 Seed samples out of 6878 tested from April, 2014 till date have failed to meet the standard level at Chhattisgarh State Seeds Certification Institute, Raipur;

(b) whether farmers of Chhattisgarh are provided with certified Seeds of about a dozen crops including paddy, soyabean, yellow lentils, maize, black lentils, green gram through Chhattisgarh State Seeds and Agriculture Development Corporation Ltd.;

(c) whether there is only one institute for Seeds certification in Chhattisgarh due to which cross checking facility is not available; and

(d) if so, steps being taken by Government to ensure availability of quality Seeds to farmers at right time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Government of Chhattisgarh has reported that from 1st April, 2014 to 22nd July, 2014, Chhattisgarh State Seed Certification Agency had tested 1851 Seed samples out of which 426 Seed samples were found sub-standard.

(b) The Chhattisgarh State Seed and Agriculture Development Corporation Limited is supplying certified Seeds of paddy, maize, Kodo-Kutki, ragi, arhar, black gram, green gram, soybean, sesame, ramtil, groundnut, sunhemp and daincha during Kharif, 2014.

(c) The Chhattisgarh State has one Seed Certification Agency which certifies Seeds and also tests samples for Seed Law Enforcement.

(d) Production and supply of quality/certified Seeds to the farmers is the primary responsibility of the State Government which undertake the same through Seed

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Corporations, State Seed Farms, State Agricultural Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Cooperatives and Private Sectors. The efforts of State Governments are supplemented through National Agencies like National Seeds Corporation, National Cooperatives, etc. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is also providing assistance to States under National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology for strengthening and modernizing Seed infrastructure facilities, upgrading the quality of farm saved Seed through Seed village programme, production and distribution of quality Seeds, establishing Seed Bank for ensuring Seed availability in contingent situations, establishing and strengthening quality control infrastructure facilities in the country, etc.

Fixation of price of anti-diabetic and anti-cardiac drugs

2487. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has decided to fix prices of 50 anti-diabetic and cardiac medicines, if so the details thereof;
- (b) to what extent, it will bring down the prices of these drugs;
- (c) whether they will be capped with medicines in essential list; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the pharmaceutical industry thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has capped MRP in respect of 108 non-scheduled formulations related to diabetes and cardiovascular under para 19 of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). As per the prices notified for these medicines, reduction in prices has been worked out in all these cases ranging 0.16% to 79.33% from the highest price brand available in the market.

(c) These 108 formulations are not part of the National List of Essential Medicines and, as such, fall under the category of non-scheduled formulations under DPCO, 2013.

(d) Some Pharma Associations have made representations for withdrawal of the said notifications on the ground that the action runs contrary to the NPPP, 2012 and DPCO, 2013. One of the Pharma Associations has filed a Writ Petition in the Bombay High Court which is at admission stage.

Price of urea and subsidy thereon

2488. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a proposal under consideration to raise the retail price of urea atleast by 7 per cent annually to cut subsidy and to completely decontrol over the next 5 to 7 years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, the Government has no proposal either to raise the retail price of urea or to decontrol urea.

Fertilizer subsidy policy

†2489. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefit of subsidy is not percolating to the intended/targeted group due to irregularities and corruption prevalent in the system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal for a change in the present fertilizer subsidy policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present Urea is provided to the farmers at the statutory price of ₹ 5360 per MT and 22 grades of Phosphetic and Potassic fertilizers provided to the farmers at subsidized prices being fixed by fertilizer companies at reasonable level. As per policy, the fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) along with applicable subsidy on the fertilizer bags clearly and any sale above the printed MRP is liable for punishment under EC Act. The State Governments ensure that fertilizers are sold to the farmers at MRP printed on fertilizer bags.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Joint venture for fertilizer plants

2490. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enter into a joint venture for gas-based fertilizer plants with Saudi Arabia and other countries;

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

(c) the details of such ventures that are proposed to be set up in Saudi Arabia; and

(d) the status of strategic partnership with the above country in other sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) At present no Joint venture project in fertilizer sector is under consideration with Saudi Arabia. A list of present joint ventures along with the proposed projects is given in the Statement (*See.* below).

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

(d) The Riyadh declaration signed during the visit of Prime Minister of India to Riyadh in 2010 states that “keeping in view the development of relations between the two countries, and the potential for their further growth, the two leaders decided to raise their cooperation to a strategic partnership covering security, economic, defence and political areas.” Further, both the countries stressed to continuing to work towards strengthening their strategic partnership by meeting the two countries’ vast requirements relating to infrastructure, energy and development, by augmenting the flow of their investments into each other’s countries, and enhancing the bilateral trade.

The strategic partnership between the two countries in the identified sectors is progressing in pursuant to the Declaration.

Statement***List of present Joint venture projects***

Sl. No.	Jv Project Country	Jv participants with equi %	Product and the product status
1	2	3	4
1.	Oman India Fertilizer Co. (OMIFCO), Oman	Oman Oil Co. (OOC-50%), IFFCO (25%) and KRIBHCO (25%)	16.52 lakh MT Urea and 2.48 lakh MT Ammonia. Production started in the year 2006.
2.	ICS Senegal, Senegal	ICS Senegal and IFFCO consortium	5.5 lakh MT phosphoric acid. Production already started.

1	2	3	4
3.	Indo-Jordan Chemicals Company (IJC), Jordan	JPMC (Jordan) and SPIC (India) SPIC is no more in the JV.	2.24 lakh MT phosphoric acid. Already producing.
4.	JPMC-IFFCO JV, Jordan	JPMC and IFFCO	4.8 lakh MT Phosphoric acid
5.	IMACID, Morocco	OCP (50%) – Morocco, Chambal (25%) and TCL (25%)-India	4.25 lakh MT phosphoric acid
6.	Tunisia-India Fertilizer Company (TIFERT), Tunisia	GCT (Tunisia), CFL (Now CIL) and GSFC (India)	3.60 lakh MT of Phosphoric acid. Commercial production has started.

Gas based Joint venture project (At discussion stage)

Iran : A Joint venture project by Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF) and Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer and Chemicals Ltd. (GNFC) as Indian entities for setting up a Urea/Ammonia plant.

Promotion of drugs through inducement

2491. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to prevent aggressive promotion of drugs by pharma companies by inducing medical professionals through gifts, hospitality, foreign trips his Ministry has discussed this with the Pharma Associations and Industry and prepared draft Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Markets ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the above Code; and

(c) to what extent this would help to reduce inducement of medical professionals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) to (c) There were some reports in the newspapers regarding promotional expenses being made by the Pharma Companies. The reports suggested that some unethical marketing practices are being followed by certain pharma companies. Keeping in view the seriousness of the allegations made in the media reports, this Department felt the need to take up the matter in the interest of consumers/patient as such promotional expenses being extended to doctors had direct implications on the pricing of drugs and its affordability. After discussing the issues with the Pharma Associations/Industry, this Department prepared a draft 'Uniform Code of Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices' (UCPMP) to be adopted voluntarily in the first instance. The UCPMP was put up on the Department's website www.pharmaceuticals.

gov.in for inviting the comments from all the stakeholders. The comments received were examined and a final draft UCPMP was prepared and circulated to pharma associations for their comments. The comments received are being examined.

Nutrient based subsidy on urea

2492. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government has received any suggestion to introduce nutrient-based subsidy on urea;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) the total quantity of urea used in the country annually and the subsidy annually given on urea for the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The committee under the chairmanship of Shri Saumitra Chaudhari, Member, Planning Commission evaluated various alternatives on Nutrient Based Subsidy regime in urea sector and submitted its report on 29th April 2011. The summary of recommendations of the Committee is given in the Statement-I (*See. below*)

As regards implementation of Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) in Urea, Department of Fertilizers (DoF) did not support NBS in Urea sector as proposed by the Committee. At present, there is no such proposal to introduce NBS in Urea.

(c) The statement showing sales of Urea during the last four years and current year (upto June-2014) is as follows:

<i>Sales of Urea during the last 4 years and the current year</i>	
Year	Sales of Urea
2010-11	282.25
2011-12	294.77
2012-13	301.58
2013-14	304.54
2014-15 (Upto June-14)	64.55
[Figures in Lakh Metric Tonne (LMT)]	

The details showing annual subsidy given on urea for the last five years has been given in the Statement-II

Statement-I***Report of Committee of Secretaries on Nutrient Based Subsidy in Urea Sector*****1. Composition of the Committee**

DR. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission	Chairman
Secretary, Department of Fertilizers	Member
Secretary, Department of Expenditure	Member
Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	Member
Secretary, Member of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Member

2. Summary of Recommendations of Committee headed by Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri

- (1) The concepts of “cut-of quantity and energy norm, as presently used, are being carried forward.
- (2) The recommendations here pertain to the subsidy regime upto the “cut-off” point. Beyond the “cut-off” point, production will be covered by the amendments to the New Investment Policy which is to be decided upon. In the interim, the present arrangement for subsidy beyond the “cut off” point, which is linked to import parity price under New Investment Policy of 2008, will continue.
- (3) The fertilizer companies will be free to change the retail selling price of their product within reasonable limits. All incidence of taxes, including recently introduced 1 per cent Excise Duty and State VAT, if any, will be passed on to the consumer after adjusting for any input tax credits that may exist.
- (4) Restrictions regarding the add-ons for neem-coated, zincated and other kinds of modified/fortified urea will be suspended. Units will however, make sure that there is adequate supply of plain urea, if the farmer wants plain urea.
- (5) Of the 21 gas-based units, there will be a notional gas price pooling for 17 units. This will be operated by the FICC/Department of Fertilizers presently. This pooling of gas will be on the basis of existing energy norms on actual gas mix and upto gas usage for “cut-off quantity”.
- (6) Four small units (RCF Trombay, GSFC and two units of BVFCL) will be kept out of this gas price pooling arrangements.

- (7) The flat subsidy of ₹ 4,000 per tonne would be available to all gas-based units. In addition, 21 units have been classified depending on various established parameters. Some units will only receive the basic subsidy, a second group will receive additional subsidy of ₹ 675 per tonne and a third group additional subsidy of ₹ 1,800 per tonne while fourth group shall receive ₹ 1,600 per tonne. This additional subsidy will be phased out to two differential rates over the period of next three years *i.e.* to ₹ 4000/MT for Group A and B and ₹ 5,000/MT for the rest of the Groups. Thereafter, a view may be taken on the timeframe to phase out this additional subsidy.
- (8) The subsidy regime for Naphtha and FO/LSHS units will continue to be along the present lines except for 2 changes. First, along with the other units they will be free to set the retail selling prices within reasonable levels. Second of the increase in net selling price, at least ₹ 80 per tonne will go to reduction in subsidy. Fuel price increase will be passed through as being presently done. This arrangement will continue upto March 2013.
- (9) The gas price pooling will be based on actual gas price paid and will, therefore, have to be periodically updated. Increase or decrease in gas prices will be passed on to the consumer through the selling price.

The Report of the Committee is submitted.

-sd-

Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri,
(Chairman of the Committee)
Member, Planning Commission

-sd-

Ms. Sushama Nath
Secretary, Dept of Expenditure

-sd-

Dr. Sutanu Behuria, Secretary
Department of Fertilisers

sd-

(for) Shri P K Basu, Secretary
Department of Agriculture and Cooperation

-sd-

(for) Shri S. Sundaresan Secretary
Department of Petroleum and Natural Gas

New Delhi: dated the April 29th, 2011

Statement-II

Statement showing sector-wise/unit-wise subsidy paid on Indigenous and Imported Urea During the years 2009-10 to 2013-14

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	Unit	Subsidy Paid/ (-recovered)				
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Public Sector						
1.	RCF-Thal	1227.65	705.35	708.51	954.80	1498.15
2.	RCF-Trombay	66.02	313.94	232.53	219.05	287.99
3.	MFL	1147.82	1290.71	1768.74	1427.26	1492.63
4.	NFL-BHATINDA	983.62	923.88	1107.87	1201.50	1364.51
5.	NFL-PANIPAT	846.27	801.39	1213.97	1193.59	1433.86
6.	NFL-VIJAYPUR-I	255.68	289.41	408.54	413.43	677.59
7.	NFL-VIJAYPUR-II	324.18	443.14	502.98	583.53	932.43
8.	NFL-NANGAL	930.77	748.96	1270.69	1123.71	1345.93
9.	BVFCL-Namrup-III	26.37	114.13	59.22	104.63	109.29
10.	BVFCL-Namrup-II	21.81	56.10	119.83	65.71	80.57
11.	GSFC (State Govt.)	181.13	88.85	196.83	134.64	200.33
12.	GNFC (State Govt.)	964.59	489.55	878.30	858.82	1119.54
TOTAL		6975.91	6265.41	8467.24	8280.67	10542.82
Cooperative Sector						
1.	KRIBHCO	649.61	460.80	591.75	660.01	1216.62
2.	IFFCO-PHULPUR-II	1144.54	764.96	907.75	981.90	1651.10
3.	IFFCO-PHULPUR-I	692.09	626.30	583.99	804.39	1004.36
4.	IFFCO-KALOL	670.91	315.28	382.09	359.68	375.54
5.	IFFCO-AONLA-I	593.16	376.49	439.11	539.56	953.58
6.	IFFCO AONLA-II	624.56	380.32	481.44	528.02	682.75
TOTAL		4374.87	2924.15	3385.49	3873.56	5883.95
Private sector						
1.	NFCL-I	208.78	260.16	397.75	307.12	527.88
2.	NFCL-II	666.14	393.47	387.33	344.50	466.87
3.	CFCL-I	441.77	545.59	689.51	701.45	1205.46
4.	CFCL-II	769.33	753.72	751.38	889.10	1144.19
5.	TATA CHEMICALS	573.78	595.76	643.26	606.89	937.77
6.	ZACL	1036.68	780.25	781.21	1101.68	1263.14
7.	SFC	466.76	223.40	277.47	274.31	314.19
8.	INDOGULF	700.43	453.20	717.68	648.40	1388.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	SPIC	0.00	637.67	2164.66	1477.96	791.90
10.	KSFL	448.82	410.32	452.42	614.02	609.91
11.	MCFL	916.98	837.63	1170.02	880.34	1221.53
12.	KFCL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	202.36
TOTAL		6229.47	5891.17	8432.69	7845.77	10073.23
GRAND TOTAL		17580.25	15080.73	20285.42	20000.00	26500.00
Imported Urea		6999.98	9255.95	17475	20016	15353.3
Indigenous+Imported Urea		24580.23	24336.68	37760.42	40016.00	41853.30

Selling of medicines by MNCs at high price

†2493. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Multi National Companies (MNCs) are selling medicines listed under National Essential Medicine List at exorbitant price;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures action taken by the Government in this regard, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) to (c) All the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the Schedule-I of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) and brought under price control. The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes/revises the prices of scheduled medicines as per the provisions of DPCO, 2013. No person is authorized to sell any scheduled formulation (medicine) to a consumer at a price exceeding the price notified by the NPPA. Whenever any case of overcharging is brought to the notice of NPPA or is detected by NPPA during its monitoring and enforcement activities, necessary action is taken for initiating recovery proceedings under the DPCO, 2013. NPPA has initiated action for overcharging in respect of 451 formulations under DPCO, 2013 which *inter-alia*, also includes formulations manufactured/ marketed by Multi National Companies (MNCs). Further, NPPA has issued demand in two cases for an amount of ₹ 54.03. crore and has recovered ₹ 54.01 crore which includes *suo-moto* payment in four cases till 30.6.2014 under DPCO, 2013. However, no separate record in this regard for MNCs is being maintained by NPPA.

Revival of closed fertilizer factories

2494. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had decided to restart the four closed fertilizer factories including Barauni and Sindri; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard, factory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) No, Madam. Government (GoI) has not decided to restart any closed fertilizer factories. However, GoI has decided to revive the closed fertilizer units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL), by setting up new plants at Sindri, Talcher and Ramagundam on nomination basis and Barauni, Gorakhpur, Korba, Haldia and Durgapur through bidding process.

In 2008, Cabinet approved to revive Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Limited (HFCL) units subject to non-recourse to Government funding and to consider write off of GOI Loan and interest to the extent required, subject to submission of fully tied up proposals for final decision on waiver. The revival of these closed units would be through nomination route by PSUs and through bidding route by private sector.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in 2011, approved the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of all the Units of FCIL and HFCL. DRS envisaged revival of Talcher Unit by the consortium of M/s. Rashtriya Chemical and Fertilizers Limited (RCF), M/s Coal India Limited (CIL) and M/s Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), revival of Ramagundam Unit by M/s. Engineers India Limited (EIL) and M/s. National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) and revival of Sindri unit by M/s Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

Subsequently CCEA, in 2013, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest to facilitate FCIL to arrive at positive net worth. This enabled FCIL to get de-registered from the purview of Board for Industrial and Financial reconstruction (BIFR). Proposal/action plan for revival of HFCL units is to be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track.

For Talcher unit, it is proposed to establish two Joint Venture (JV) companies *viz.* first company for upstream coal gasification section with GAIL and second company comprising RCF, CIL and FCIL for downstream section of Ammonia-urea, Nitric Acid, Ammonium Nitrate plants, off sites and utilities. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among consortium PSUs *i.e.* CIL, RCF, GAIL and FCIL, has been signed on 5.9.2013. GAIL has issued expression of interest (EOI) for selection of coal gasification technology. The due date for submission of EOI is 31.07.2014.

For Ramagundam Project, JV agreement and concession agreement between EIL and NFL are under discussion and has been scheduled for conclusion/approval by their respective boards by 30th July, 2014. EIL itself would take up the Engineering and Project Construction for the project.

For Sindri unit, SAIL-Sindri Projects Ltd. (SSPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of SAIL, has been incorporated in November 2011 for the purpose of revival of Sindri Unit of FCIL. However, not much progress has been made due to non-availability of around 3000 Acres of contiguous piece of land for the Steel Plant. Out of total land of 6652 acres with FCIL at Sindri, only 498 acres (the area of existing fertilizer plant) is encroachment free contiguous land, as against the requirement of 3247 acres of encroachment free contiguous land for setting up the proposed facilities by SAIL.

New Plant Namrup-VI of BVFCL

2495. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the implementation status of the proposal for installation of a new plant Namrup-VI of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL);

(b) the viability status of BVFCL in this globalized market and the action taken by Government for its survivality; and

(c) the status, profit and loss-wise of various units of PSUs on fertilizer during the last three years and current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) There is no proposal for installation of a new plant with the name of Namrup-VI. However, a new brownfield ammonia-urea plant at Namrup, with the name Namrup IV is proposed to be set up by a Joint Venture (JV) involving Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL) at Namrup. The proposal has received 'in-principal' approval of the Planning Commission and Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) has also recommended for setting up of a new plant at Namrup. Based on recommendation of the BRPSE, a note for Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) is under consideration.

(b) The production cost of the existing two Namrup Plants namely Namrup-II and Namrup-III is much below the International price of Urea. These two units of BVFCL being situated in the North-East, get concession in gas price to the tune of 40%. If the company is financially restructured as recommended by BRPSE and since gas is available at the existing concessional price, BVFCL can post net profit. Namrup-II and III plants have already run for 38 years and 27 years respectively. In short term, the operation of existing plants is viable. As assessed by an expert agency in 2011, these

units can at the best continue for operations for 4 to 5 more years only. In the long term, operation of these plants would be uneconomical due to gradual deterioration in operational efficiency. Thus for long term survival, a new modern technology brownfield plant having a capacity of 8.646 Lakh Metric Tonnes Per Annum (LMTPA) of urea, utilizing the existing available gas has been proposed to be set up at Namrup.

(c) Out of nine Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in the Department of Fertilizers, two PSUs namely FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Ltd. (FAGMIL) and Projects and Development India Ltd. (PDIL) have no production unit. FAGMIL is a mining based company while PDIL is a consultancy organization. The Profit/Loss before tax of various units of other fertilizer PSUs during the last three years is as under:

(₹ in crore)			
Units	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL)			
Nangal (Punjab)	10.29	(-)70.35	(-)173.20
Panipat (Haryana)	(-)50.81	(-)116.71	(-)38.77
Bathinda (Punjab)	2.57	(-)74.68	(-)19.75
Vijaipur-I (Madhya Pradesh)	32.33	(-)6.66	(-)29.61
Vijaipur-II (Madhya Pradesh)	187.36	34.22	97.40
Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL)			
Chennai (Tamilnadu)	111.99	24.44	100.04
Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF)			
Trombay (Mumbai, Maharashtra)	194.48	129.01	77.62
Thal (Raigad, Maharashtra)	97.53	151.52	272.27
Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Ltd. (BVFCL)			
Namrup-II (Assam)	22.73	12.19	1.05
Namrup-III (Assam)	15.87	99.67	1.69
The Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)*			
Udyogmandal Division, Kerala	19.80	(-)353.96	(-)264.96
Kochin Division, Kerala			
The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)			
All fertilizer units of the company are laying closed since 2002.			
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL)			
All fertilizer units of the company are laying closed since 2002.			

*FACT prepares profit/loss in respect of the company not unit-wise.

For the first quarter of the financial year 2014-15, the financial results are still under finalization.

FDI in pharmaceutical sector

2496. SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to boost research and development in pharmaceutical sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether FDI in pharmaceutical sector is permitted/contemplated;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the future steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are seven National Institutes of Pharmaceuticals Education and Research (NIPERs) under the aegis of Department of Pharmaceuticals, one each at Mohali, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Hajipur, Kolkata and Rae-Bareilly, with the prime objective to nurture and promote quality and excellence in pharmaceutical education and research. The Government has also approved setting up of a National Centre for R & D in Bulk Drugs at NIPER, Hyderabad. Department of Biotechnology has been supporting research and development in the field of biomolecules for prophylactic/therapeutic purpose, similar biologics, medical devices and diagnostics. The R & D support is extended through grants-in-aid and public private partnership programs. Also, the Department of Science and Technology is implementing a plan scheme *viz.* Drugs and Pharmaceutical Research Programme (DPRP) through which the Department extends grants-in-aid and soft loan for promoting R & D in drugs and pharmaceutical sector.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The extant FDI policy in pharmaceutical sector allows 100% FDI through automatic route for Greenfield investment, 100% FDI is permitted for brownfield investment in the Pharmaceutical sector under the Government approval route. With a view to protect the domestic pharmaceutical sector including the production of generics, the Government has decided that 'non-compete' clause would not be allowed except in special circumstances with the approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board.

Technology enabled Post Office

2497. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated a vision of having technology enabled Post Office;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and funds earmarked since inception of the vision; and
- (c) the details of targets achieved under this vision and funds spent in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has approved Department of Post IT Modernization project of ₹ 1877.2 crores in August 2010 which was revised in November 2012 with a total outlay of ₹ 4909 crores. The IT Modernization project aims at modernization and computerization of all post offices in the country including 1,33,000 branch post offices in rural areas. It is an ambitious transformational project undertaken by the Department of Posts. By setting up an IT infrastructure spanning across all post offices, including branch post offices in rural areas, the department will be able to harness the benefits of consolidated real time information and capabilities across various functional silos as well as geographical reach. The transformation of the physical network to a digital network also will provide a national asset for all users, apart from post offices, including various government departments, business houses and citizens to use the IT enabled country wide network for communication, banking, insurance and service delivery needs with transaction data. The project will create a national asset of 1,55,000 networked post offices. This mega IT driven transformation is the first of its kind undertaken by any postal operator in the world as well as any government department in the country. It involves development of scalable, integrated and modular software covering all operations of the Department of Posts, including Post office Savings Bank, Postal Life Insurance, Mail Operations along with establishment of the required IT infrastructure including Data Centre, Disaster Recovery Centre, WAN Networking of the Departmental Post Offices, development of rural information communication technology (Rural ICT) in rural post offices and providing rural post offices with mobile devices which are Aadhaar enabled and will also act as micro-ATMs apart from transacting Post Office Savings. This project will equip the Department of Posts to play a more pro-active role towards transforming the rural economic landscape in the country, apart from providing value added mail and financial services to the urban customers.

The Department of Posts has a network of approximately 1,55,000 post offices out of which 1,33,000 are rural branch post offices. The transformation of the physical network to a digital network also will enable the Government to use the postal network to reach out to the rural population for efficient delivery of social service schemes, apart from improving the communications, banking, insurance, mails and other service delivery needs of the citizens. The IT modernization project, particularly the rural ICT solutions will thus rebuild the rural postal network to create an institutional infrastructure for last mile delivery of all government services to citizens. The project will make the Post office

the focal point of delivery for social security and employment guarantee schemes of Centre and State Government including disbursement of wages under MNREGS, Pension and scholarship, etc. through Direct Benefit Transfer and biometric authentication of financial transactions.

The IT project also aims to provide customer interaction through multiple channels like call centres and internet, ATM, mobile banking and net banking for PO Savings Bank customers. It will provide an electronic and secure mode of money transfer including doorstep delivery even in rural areas.

The Department of Posts is thus poised to transform itself to play an even more significant role by bridging the urban rural divide and bringing IT-enabled services to all sections of the society through 1,55,000 IT – enabled post offices. The reduction of paper-based processing would also enable an environmentally sustainable greener post office.

(c) The IT Modernisation Project of India Post is being implemented through eight segments dealing with various components of the Project keeping in view the large Post Office network variety/ complexity of services being delivered through the post offices. The present position in respect of the eight segments (Request for Proposals) is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Contract (RFP)	Present Position
1	2	3
1.	Data Centre Facility (DCF)	Contract signed on 14.05.12. Implementation started on 28.12.12. The Primary Data Centre started functioning from 3.04.13. DC was dedicated to Nation on 24.01.14. Status of Disaster Recovery Centre (DRC): Setting up of DRC is under progress.
2.	Network Integrator (NI)	Contract signed on 16.5.2012. Implementation started on 28.09.12. WAN roll out is in progress. So far Wide Area Network has been rolled out in 23747 locations.
3.	Financial System Integrator (FSI)	Contract signed on 09.08.2012. Implementation started on 28.09.2012. CBS roll out is in progress. So far 676 Post Offices have been switched over to Core Banking Solutions (CBS). ATM services have gone live in four Head Post Offices. Postal Life Insurance (PLI) Pilot roll out is in progress. So far 3500 Post Offices have gone live in PLI services.
4.	Change Management (CM)	Contract signed on 25.06.2012. Implementation started on 15.10.2012. Training, communication and Change agents-Continuous activities.

1	2	3
5.	Core System Integrator (CSI)	Contract signed on 15.04.13. Implementation started on 15.04.2013. Installation and commissioning of Central Hardware completed. Detail design documents completed. Testing of common infrastructure solution completed. Roll out is in progress.
6.	Mail Operations Hardware (MOH)	RFP was issued on 17.05.2013. After completion of bids evaluation' formalities LOI has been issued on 3.02.14 to the selected bidder. Action is underway to enter into contract.
7.	Rural Hardware (RH)	Earlier two bids were annulled. Once on 16.05.13 due to failure on the part of the bidder to furnish Performance Bank Guarantee and second time on 23.11.13 due to lack of competition. Fresh RFP was issued on 04.02.14. Last date for submission of bids is 04.04.14. Pre-qualification and technical bids evaluation completed. Financial bids opened on 13.05.14. Evaluation is in progress.
8.	Rural System Integrator (RSI)	Contract signed on 28.02.2013. Roll out kept on hold to align with RH-RFP finalisation.

Funds spent so far, year-wise, for the project:

Financial Year	Funds Spent (in crores)
2010-11	₹ 151.84
2011-12	₹ 91.92
2012-13	₹ 21.97
2013-14	₹ 253.73

Augmenting telecom infrastructure in North-East and hilly States

2498. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has taken note of deficient mobile services *viz.* connectivity problems, dropping calls, weak signals etc. provided by BSNL in the North-East and other hilly States/areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are reports that a number of towers in Himachal Pradesh and other hilly States have been installed but not yet activated, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard including augmenting telecom infrastructure in North-East/Hilly States/areas, so as to ensure seamless service to the customers in these States/areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Government is conscious of the deficient services including poor connectivity of the mobile network of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the North East and other Hilly States. Government is committed to improve the Quality of Service (QoS) of mobile services of BSNL by addressing problems in connectivity and service delivery.

Quality of Service (QoS) parameters are prescribed by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). While BSNL meets the benchmark parameters in general, the services of BSNL are below the benchmark levels for certain parameters in certain areas. The deficiencies in QoS parameters are on account of network performance, customer service delivery, congestion, inadequate network coverage etc. Call drop rates in the North-East Region are higher as there are coverage problems in some areas. Details for QoS assessed on network parameters for the quarter ending March, 2014 as provided by TRAI are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) BSNL has reported that in State of Himachal Pradesh, 54 Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) tower are installed but not activated due to delay in electric connections by Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board (HPSEB). BSNL has informed that there is no tower installed but not activated in other hilly States.

(d) BSNL is expanding its network across the country including Himachal Pradesh and hilly states through installation of 15 Million lines at a cost of ₹ 4804 crores under Phase-VII plan. Details of Phase-VII expansion plan of BSNL in hilly States are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

New BTSs are planned to improve signal quality and regular RF optimization is being done. Under Phase-VII expansion plan total 2202 BTS (2G) and Node-B (3G) have been planned for hilly states, out of which 984 have been commissioned.

Telecom Commission has in its meeting on 13-06-2014 approved a comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for North-Eastern Region (NER) at an estimated cost of ₹ 5336.18 crores as per the recommendations of TRAI. Main thrust areas identified for improvement and augmentation of telecom services in NER are as below:

- (i) to provide 2G mobile coverage to all identified uncovered Villages.
- (ii) to provide seamless 2G mobile coverage along the National Highways in NER.
- (iii) to ensure reliability of and redundancy in the transmission network at State capitals and district headquarters in NER.

Uncovered villages without mobile connectivity in the country will be covered in a phased manner, with villages in hilly states other than those in North Eastern Region (NER) proposed to be taken up in the first phase with funding support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

Statement-I

BSNL performance monitoring indicators for quality of service maintained by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Network Parameter	Benchmark	Service Area	Performance
BTSs Accumulated downtime (not available for service) (%age)	$\leq 2\%$	Assam	2.84
		North East	5.52
Worst affected BTSs due to downtime (%age)	$\leq 2\%$	Assam	6.02
		North East	17.05
Call Set-up Success Rate (within licensee's own network)	$\geq 95\%$	North East	94.67
SDCCH/ Paging Channel Congestion (%age)	$\leq 1\%$	North East	3.55
TCH Congestion (%age)	$\leq 2\%$	North East	4.53
Call Drop Rate (%age)	$\leq 2\%$	ASSAM	2.12
		North East	4.50
Worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH drop	$\leq 3\%$	Assam	5.96
		North East	10.40
Connection with good voice quality	$\geq 95\%$	Assam	90.47
		North East	93.68

Note: TCH: Traffic Channel
SDCCH: Standalone Dedicated Control Channel
BTS- Base Transceiver Station
North East includes Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram

Statement-II

Table showing status of BTSs and Nodes B zone-wise as on 31.05.2014 and Phase-VII expansion plan

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Cellular capacity as on May, 2014	Capacity allocation under Ph.VII	Node-B in Ph.VII for 3 G services	BTS in Ph.-VII for 2G services
1.	Assam	13,56,671	1,50,000	70	174
2.	North East-I	6,46,602	3,00,000	144	285
3.	North East-II	6,07,553	3,50,000	244	254
4.	Himachal Pradesh	12,85,461	4,00,000	110	317
5.	Jammu And Kashmir	13,51,607	1,50,000	20	125
6.	Uttarakhand	10,01,452	4,00,000	139	320
TOTAL		62,49,346	17,50,000	727	1,475

Note: North East-I includes, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram
North East-II includes Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur
BTS- Base Transceiver Station

Cyber appellate tribunal

2499. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that country's first and only cyber appellate tribunal has been lying defunct since June, 2011 since the previous Chairperson retired;

(b) whether it is also a fact that several cases referred to the tribunal were adjourned due to non-availability of the Chairperson and the Member Judicial to pass judicial orders; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these positions would be filled ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) After the retirement of previous Chairperson *w.e.f.* 30.06.2011, Cyber Appellate Tribunal (CAT) is not able to discharge its functions, as in accordance with IT Act, 2000 amended till date, a Bench is constituted by the Chairperson of the Cyber Appellate Tribunal with one or two Members of such Tribunal as the Chairperson may deem fit. However, registry of the Tribunal is functional. The appeals filed during this period have been registered and are being listed before the Registrar for completion of pleadings to be placed before the bench.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. 31 appeals are pending for disposal. As regards, status of filling up the posts of Chairperson and the Member (Judicial), it is mentioned that duly constituted Screening-cum-Selection Committee has since furnished its recommendations for the above posts. No time frame can be indicated for filling up the above posts keeping in view the procedures involved.

Launching of new innovative digital spectrum

2500. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to launch a new innovative digital spectrum in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) There is no proposal on new innovative digital spectrum under consideration of the Government.

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

Installing of BSNL towers

2501. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many proposals are pending in the Ministry for installing BSNL towers in different States, State-wise break up thereof; and

(b) how many BSNL towers are planned to install in Odisha in 2014-15 and 2015-16?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No such proposal from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is pending in the Ministry. However, Union Cabinet approved a proposal to install mobile towers at 2199 locations with funding support for capital investment and operation expenses from Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, which are affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE). BSNL has been nominated to execute the work. The State-wise details of mobile towers are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of Mobile Towers proposed to be set up	Towers already commissioned by BSNL	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	224	3	227
2.	Bihar	184	0	184
3.	Chhattisgarh	146	351	497
4.	Jharkhand	782	0	782
5.	Madhya Pradesh	16	6	22
6.	Maharashtra	57	3	60
7.	Odisha	253	0	253
8.	Uttar Pradesh	78	0	78
9.	West Bengal	96	0	96
TOTAL		1836	363	2199

(b) BSNL has planned to install 2,280 Base Transceiver Station (BTSs) and Node-Bs (for 2G and 3G mobile services) in Odisha Telecom Circle during 2014-15. There is no plan under consideration of BSNL for installation of towers in Odisha during 2015-16.

Mobile Number Portability

2502. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after launch of the Mobile Number Portability (MNP)

by Government, the subscribers shifting from Government owned PSUs viz., BSNL and MTNL to other service providers have increased;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to arrest such trend; and

(c) if no such action is taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported that as on 31.5.2014 total 45,80,582 customers have ported out of BSNL and 33,57,666 have ported-in. While in the case of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited number of customers porting-out is 2,78,351 and number of customers porting-in is 69,163.

(b) and (c) BSNL and MTNL have taken a number of measures to arrest such trend. These are as follows:

- To improve quality of Network and provide better services, BSNL and MTNL are augmenting their BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) in areas where congestion is observed, optimizing their networks and monitoring of uptime of their BTSs continuously.
- Exemption of porting fees from subscribers coming to BSNL network.
- Setting up of special cells by circle offices to contact customers and address their grievances.
- Launch of aggressive data plans and competitive prices for all wireless products.
- Additional incentives for sales channels.
- Wide publicity through media highlighting the advantage of availing services from BSNL namely trusted brand, transparent billing, widest network coverage and competitive rates etc.

Improving landline business of BSNL

2503. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSNL's landline business is incurring losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that BSNL plans to scale down the manpower strength engaged in landline business; and

(d) if so, the steps Government would take to improve the landlines business of BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported their loss figures for the last three financial years as given below:

(Figures in crores)			
Particulars	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
Profit/(Loss) for landline business	(14,979)*	(13,445)	(12,669)
Net Profit/ (Loss) of BSNL	(7,085)*	(7,884)	(8,851)

*The figures for FY 2013-14 are provisional and unaudited.

(c) BSNL is preparing a plan for financial revival and comprehensive HR (Human Resource) restructuring for the company. The details are yet to be finalised.

(d) BSNL has taken the following steps for improving its landlines business:

- Migration from Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) to Next Generation Network (NGN) in the current Five Year Plan to provide Enhanced Value Added Services (VAS) like Personalized Ring Back Tone, Broadband VAS, Multi Media Video Conferencing, Wide area Centrex, Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) services and fixed- mobile services convergence etc.
- Redeployment of workforce with more focus on Sales, Distribution and customer care activities.
- Measures to retain and enhance the landline connectivity by increasing penetration of broadband.
- Sales and Marketing set up has been strengthened by having exclusive channel management team consisting of 4500 exclusive sales representatives.
- Introduction of Call Detail Record (CDR) based billing, commercial and fault repair service and work order management system.

BSNL network

†2504. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL is the largest network under Central Government which covers across the country including metropolitan cities but the network is weak at many places due to which mobile phone do not function properly;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government will contemplate for betterment of this largest network in the country, if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is the largest network under Central Government which covers all parts of the country excluding Delhi and Mumbai.

BSNL is committed to improve the Quality of Service (QoS) of mobile services by addressing problems in connectivity and service delivery.

Quality of Service (QoS) parameters are prescribed by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). While BSNL meets the benchmark parameters in general, the services of BSNL are below the benchmark levels for certain parameters in certain areas. The deficiencies in QoS parameters are on account of network performance, customer service delivery, congestion, inadequate network coverage and electric power supply etc.

Various schemes are being implemented by Government with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for expansion of telecom services across the country. Details of such schemes are as below:

- (i) 5,725 Mobile towers have been installed by BSNL with the financial support of USOF under the Shared Mobile Infrastructure Scheme in villages or cluster of villages having population of 2,000 or more and not having mobile coverage.
- (ii) Union Cabinet approved a proposal to install mobile towers at 2,199 locations identified by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, which are affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE). Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been nominated to execute the work. The revised project cost of ₹ 3,567.58 crores has been recommended for approval by the Telecom Commission in its meeting on 13.06.2014
- (iii) BSNL is actively engaged in preparing a revival plan for improvement in quality of services, addressing legacy issues and expansion of network coverage, focus on customer care, service delivery, service assurance, and revenue and asset management.
- (iv) BSNL is expanding its network capacity by 15 million GSM lines through installation of 24,765 Base Transceiver Stations (BTSS) and Node-Bs for 2G and 3G services as part of its Phase-VII expansion plan at cost of ₹ 4,804 crores.

Blocking websites having derogatory remarks and sensitive contents

2505. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether despite various Court Orders, Government is finding it difficult to block certain websites having derogatory remarks and sensitive contents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) the mechanism existing with Government to address such issues;
- (d) the effective steps taken / being taken by Government to correct the situation;
- (e) whether Government is planning to take action against the Internet Service Providers (ISPs) for their technological shortcomings in failing to block such websites;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps taken by Government to include needful clauses in operational licensing agreements of these ISPs?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Instructions for blocking of websites / URLs by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are issued by Department of Electronics and Information Technology to Department of Telecommunications as per the direction of various Court Orders. Compliances are also received from all the major ISPs. However, difficulties have been reported by ISPs to block the websites when the parameters relating to identification of such websites is encrypted with “https” / secured pages. Further, there are constraints of resources in terms of capacity of the infrastructure deployed by the Internet Service Providers.

(c) and (d) The Government is in regular touch with Internet Service Providers to address the difficulties. ISPs are in the process of upgrading their infrastructure and technology to effectively address the shortcomings with regard to identifying and blocking encrypted websites / URLs. Further, Government is in regular touch with Social Networking sites, having their offices in India, to block objectionable contents at the source in their websites. Government has also initiated Research and Development programmes to identify encrypted communication in order to block such objectionable communication.

(e) and (f) As per Section 79 of the Information Technology Act 2000, Intermediaries including ISPs are not liable for any third party information, data or communication link made available by them if they observe due diligence.

(g) The license Agreement with ISPs are amended from time to time in public interest, in the interest of the security of the state or for the proper conduct of Telecommunications.

Notification of electric products under BIS Act

2506. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government wants to notify mobile phone safety standards under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act to ensure compliance of the Telecom Department mandated 'safe radiation limits' from domestic as well as foreign handset makers;

(b) whether the radiation level is measured in terms of Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) with a permissible maximum of 1.6 watts per kg.;

(c) whether Department of Electronics & IT had notified 15 electronic products under the BIS Act to ensure that they meet safety standards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government has not taken such a decision.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

*15 Electronic products notified under BIS Act by the
Department of Electronics and IT for ensuring the safety standards*

SCHEDULE

SI. No.	Product	Indian Standard Number	Title of Indian Standard
1	2	3	4
1.	Electronic Games (Video)	IS 616:2010	Audio, Video and Similar Electronic Apparatus - Safety Requirements
2.	Laptop/Notebook/ Tablets	IS 13252:2010	Information Technology Equipment - Safety - General Requirements
3.	Plasma /LCD /LED Televisions of screen size 32" & above	IS 616:2010	Audio, Video and Similar Electronic Apparatus - Safety Requirements
4.	Optical Disc Players with built in amplifiers of input power 200W and above	IS 616:2010	Audio, Video and Similar Electronic Apparatus - Safety Requirements
5.	Microwave Ovens	IS 302-2-25:1994	Safety of household and similar electrical appliances: Part 2 Particular requirements: Section 25 Microwave ovens

1	2	3	4
6.	Visual Display Units, Video Monitors of screen size 32" and above	IS 13252:2010	Information Technology Equipment - Safety - General Requirements
7.	Printers, Plotters	IS 13252:2003	Information Technology Equipment - Safety - General Requirements
8.	Scanners	IS 13252:2010	Information Technology Equipment - Safety - General Requirements
9.	Wireless Keyboards	IS 13252:2010	Information Technology Equipment - Safety - General Requirements
10.	Telephone Answering Machines	IS 13252:2010	Information Technology Equipment - Safety -General Requirements
11.	Amplifiers with input power 2000W and above	IS 616:2010	Audio, Video and Similar Electronic Apparatus - Safety Requirements
12.	Electronic Musical Systems with input power 200W and above	IS 616:2010	Audio, Video and Similar Electronic Apparatus - Safety Requirements
13.	Electronic Clocks with Mains Powers	IS 302-2:26:1994	Safety of household and similar electrical appliances: Part 2 Particular requirements: Section 26 Clocks
14.	Set Top Boxes	IS 13252:2010	Audio, Video and Similar Electronic Apparatus - Safety Requirements
15.	Automatic Data Processing Machine	IS 13252:2010	Information Technology Equipment - Safety - General Requirements

Implementation of e-Governance

2507. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any initiative to implement e-Governance plans in the country;

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

(c) whether Government has taken steps to enroll State Governments and local bodies in these programmes, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Government of India has approved National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) on 18th May, 2006 with a common vision, implementation methodology and management

structure to implement e-Governance projects in the country. NeGP comprises of 31 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) being implemented at the central, state and local Government levels and have a singular mission to make all Government services accessible to the common person in his/her locality, through efficient, transparent and reliable mechanisms. These consists of 11 central MMPS, 13 state MMPs and 7 integrated MMPs. The common program support components are aimed at creating the right governance and institutional mechanisms, core infrastructure, policies and standards and the necessary legal framework for adoption of e-Governance in the country. The implementation status of Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) has been given in the Statement (*See below*).

Under the programme, robust e-infrastructure is being created to facilitate deployment of ICT solutions by various Departments and state Governments. Significant progress has been made in the implementation of the core infrastructure components and also in most of the Mission Mode Projects. 33 SWANs and 23 State Data Centres are already operational. The State Service Delivery Gateways (SSDGs) have been implemented in 19 States. For making public services available to citizens on anytime, anywhere basis, Department of Electronics and Information Technology has established 1,35,598 Common Services Centres across the country for enabling the people to access e-Governance services. Under the Mobile Seva project, an integrated common Mobile Service Delivery Gateway (MSDG) has also been created and made operational for enabling Government Departments to deliver mobile based services. Under the Capacity Building Scheme, State e-Mission Teams (SeMTs) have been setup in 35 States/UTs and over 5700 officials have been trained through STeP trainings. Standards have been laid down in the areas of open standards, biometric standards, metadata and data standards, localization and language technology standards, etc. E-District MMP, which aims to provide high volume services that are delivered from the district or sub-district level and are currently not covered by any MMP under the NeGP is being implemented in all districts across the country. Significant progress has also been made in the delivery of services identified under the various Mission Mode Projects. A total of 222 services are being provided at an average of over 11.76 Cr e-Transactions /month (from Jan'14-April'14).

e-Municipality is one of the state MMPs which aims to improve service delivery mechanism, achieve better information management and transparency and ensure citizens' involvement in governance. The project was funded as part of the capacity building under JNNURM. Presently 25 ULBs in 15 States have either implemented or have projects under implementation. In addition, some ULBs/ States like Karnataka have implemented solutions with their own funds. 5 projects (out of 26 approved by CSMC), have achieved Go-Live status for their services.

Statement*Implementation status of Mission Mode Projects*

Mission Mode Project (MMP)	Implementing Line Ministry/ Department	Implementation Status
1	2	3
Central MMPs		
MCA 21	Ministry of Corporate Affairs	Post-implementation
Pensions	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances	Post-implementation
Income Tax	Income Tax Department	Post-implementation
Central Excise and Customs	Central Board of Excise and Customs	Post-implementation
Banking	Industry Initiative	Post-implementation
Insurance	Industry Initiative	Post-implementation
Passport	Ministry of External Affairs	Post-implementation
e-Office (Pilot)	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances	Implementation
UID	Unique Identification Authority of India	Implementation
India Post	Department of Post	Implementation
Immigration Visa Foreigners Registration and Tracking	Ministry of Home affairs	Implementation
Integrated MMPs		
India Portal	Department of Electronics and Information Technology	Post-implementation
NSDC	Department of Electronics and Information Technology	Post-implementation
e-Trade (EDI)	Department of Commerce	Implementation
e-Courts*	Department of Justice	Implementation
CSC	Department of Electronics and Information Technology	Implementation
e-Biz(Pilot)	Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion	Implementation
e-Procurement	Department of commerce	Implementation
State MMPs		
Commercial Taxes*	Department of Revenue C/o Ministry of Finance	Implementation
Treasuries*	Ministry of Finance	Implementation
e-District	Department of Electronics and Information	Implementation

1	2	3
Land Records (NLRMP)	Ministry of Rural Development	Implementation
Road Transport	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	Post-Implementation
Police CCTNS	Ministry of Home Affairs	Implementation
e-Municipality	Ministry of Urban Development	Implementation
e-Panchayat	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	Implementation
Agriculture	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation	Implementation
Employment Exchange	Ministry of Labour and Employment	Design and Development
PDS	Department of Food and Public Distribution	Implementation
Health	Ministry of Health	Conceptualization
Education	Ministry of Human Resource Development	Conceptualization

Setting up of Electronic Commission

2508. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an independent Electronic Commission similar to the Telecom commission to serve as a one-stop shop to address all matters relating to the electronic design and manufacturing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed Commission would provide all the assistance to hasten the progress of electronic clusters being set up in different parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. National Policy on Electronics (NPE), proposes to set up National Electronics Mission with industry participation to evolve programmes in pursuit of the laid down policies and also to create Institutional mechanism to advance the implementation of various programmes aimed at achieving the objective enumerated in this policy and to promote India as an Electronics Hardware Manufacturing Hub and suitably market “Brand India” in Electronics.

A draft Cabinet Note was circulated in 2011 with the objective of approving the National Electronics Mission and for creating a two tier structure, comprising of National Electronics Advisory Board (NEAB) and a National Electronics Commission (NEC).

This mechanism was expected to act as a single-window to formulate policies for the consideration of Government. Suitable delegation of powers was also proposed under this structure. The said proposal for delegating powers to the single-window structure was not agreed to by Department of Expenditure and the Planning Commission.

Notifying mobile phone safety standards

2509. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to notify mobile phone safety standards under the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Act from Indian Telegraph Rules to ensure legal powers to demand compliance of the Telecom Department mandated 'safe radiation limit' from handset makers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether utilising the BIS route would be the practical way to enforce DoT's Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) value notification for handset makers as it ensures that they were registered and met Indian safety standards ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

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

Land and building assets of BSNL and MTNL

2510. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has data regarding total land and building assets of BSNL and MTNL;

(b) if so, the area-wise details thereof in different States including urban and rural, separately; and

(c) the total value of BSNL and MTNL assets as per accounts?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Government has data regarding total land and building assets of BSNL and MTNL.

(b) The area wise details of BSNL Lands and Buildings assets in different states including urban and rural, is given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*). The details of MTNL Land and Buildings is given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

(c) The total value of BSNL and MTNL Land and Building assets as per their accounts on 31.3.2014 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of PSU	Amount in ₹ Crores
1.	BSNL	5528.65
2.	MTNL	1430.39

Statement-I

Area-wise details of land assets of BSNL in different States (including Urban and Rural)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total Area of Land in sq. Meters
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	135450
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3178763.55
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	147733.58
4.	Assam	562857.70
5.	Bihar	894569.28
6.	Chhattisgarh	824615
7.	Delhi	1478569.54
8.	Gujarat	3020110.64
9.	Haryana	1008749.37
10.	Himachal Pradesh	200964.23
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	300620.27
12.	Jharkhand	866077.12
13.	Karnataka	2658632.06
14.	Kerala	1857666.11
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4230168.00
16.	Maharashtra	6281952.16
17.	Manipur	170028.35
18.	Meghalaya	235804.73
19.	Mizoram	148458.16
20.	Nagaland	238010.33
21.	Odisha	1424543.00
22.	Punjab	1331853.23
23.	Rajasthan	2710312.52
24.	Tamilnadu	3887818.55
25.	Tripura	177246.24
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4381804.83
27.	Uttaranchal	292014.51
28.	West Bengal	2423016.48

Statement-II

*Area-wise details of building assets of BSNL in different States
(including Urban and Rural)*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total Area of Buildings in sq. Meters
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	21573.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	798011.48
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	32157.52
4.	Assam	317913.49
5.	Bihar	280258.12
6.	Chhattisgarh	131984.90
7.	Delhi	1060460.79
8.	Gujarat	842382.99
9.	Haryana	222593.79
10.	Himachal Pradesh	104338.68
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	66046.45
12.	Jharkhand	173321.97
13.	Karnataka	731576.04
14.	Kerala	623494.01
15.	Madhya Pradesh	744296.70
16.	Maharashtra	1367747.77
17.	Manipur	17003.80
18.	Meghalaya	84805.50
19.	Mizoram	40787.94
20.	Nagaland	30246.88
21.	Odisha	321190.10
22.	Punjab	538327.27
23.	Rajasthan	582034.75
24.	Tamilnadu	1142311.08
25.	Tripura	61163.19
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1027668.55
27.	Uttaranchal	103353.28
28.	West Bengal	750798.14

Statement-III*Area-wise details of MTNL land and building assets in different units*

Sl. No.	Name of MTNL Unit	Land (Area in sq. meter)	Building (Area in sq. meter)
1.	Delhi	150,321.88	429,474.52
2.	Mumbai	897,500.11	603,438.93
	TOTAL	1047821.99	1032913.45

Note: Land and buildings of MTNL falls in Urban Area only.

Demand to absorb Grameen Dak Sevaks as Postman

2511. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that undivided Andhra Pradesh was the second largest State having 2.7 lakh Grameen Dak Sevaks (GDSs) working;

(b) whether there have been demands for absorbing them as Postman;

(c) if so, how many GDSs have been absorbed as Postman during the last ten years, year-wise and State-wise with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the other demands being made by Grameen Dak Sevaks and the action taken by the Ministry on those demands?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The number of Gramin Dak Sewaks (GDS) in Andhra Pradesh and Telengana taken together is 27,087 (Twenty Seven Thousand Eighty Seven). In terms of strength of GDS as on 01.07.2014, it is 2nd largest in the Country.

(b) The issue of demand by Gramin Dak Sevaks for absorption to Postman cadre does not arise as provision already exists for their absorption to the cadre of Postman, based on limited departmental competitive examination.

(c) Details of Gramin Dak Sevaks absorbed to the cadre of Postman during the last 10 years, year-wise and State wise with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh are as under:

State	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Andhra Pradesh	13	15	160	78	35	53	265	236	63	178
Telangana	7	52	45	8	8	175	145	16	66	33
TOTAL	20	67	205	86	43	228	410	252	129	211

(d) Status of other demands made by Gramin Dak Sevaks is given in the Statement.

Statement*Status on demands of Gramin Dak Sevaks*

Sl. No.	Issue	Action taken/Government's view
1.	Demand for regularization as Government servant	<p>Gramin Dak Sevaks, about 2,65,000 in number are a distinct category of employees, who do not form part of the regular civil service. They are governed by a separate set of conduct and engagement rules. They are engaged for 3 to 5 hours in a day. Their livelihood is not solely dependent on the allowances paid by the Postal Department. They are mandatorily required to possess independent sources of income for adequate means of livelihood. They are discharged on attaining the age of 65 years and while in employment are required to have residence mandatorily within the post village/delivery jurisdiction of the post office.</p> <p>The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of Superintendent of Post Offices vs. PK Rajamma (1977)(3) SCC has also held that the Extra-Departmental Agents [now called Gramin Dak Sevaks] are holders of the civil post outside the regular civil service.</p>
2.	Demand for restoration of parity in bonus ceiling with departmental employees	Bonus ceiling stands revised at par with departmental employees <i>vide</i> DG Posts letter No. 26-04/2013-PAP dated 04.10.2013.
3.	Demand for cent per-cent compassionate engagement to GDS posts from dependents of Gramin Dak Sevaks dying while in employment	Compassionate engagement is allowed in only hard and deserving cases. The term, 'hard and deserving cases,' is defined as cases earning more than 50 points designed from a point based criteria based on indigence. There is no justification to allow compassionate engagement in cent per-cent cases in cases of death of Gramin Dak Sevaks irrespective of indigence.

Sl. No.	Issue	Action taken/Government's view
4.	Request to ban direct recruitment to Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS)/Postman posts and filling up of 25% posts of MTS/Postman based on seniority by GDS employees.	Statutory Recruitment Rules for MTS provide for direct recruitment/absorption directly to MTS against 25% of the direct recruitment vacancies on the basis of selection cum seniority & another 25% by direct recruitment on the basis of competitive examination restricted to GDS. Statutory Recruitment Rules for Postman provide for direct recruitment from amongst GDS to the extent of 50% of the vacancies on the basis of limited departmental examination.
5.	Request for filling up of all vacant posts in all categories of GDS in Postal and RMS.	Instructions have been issued to all Circles to fill up all vacant posts of GDS Branch Postmaster and justified posts of all other approved categories.
6.	Request for extending one more option to GDS for enrolment under the service Discharge benefit Scheme (SDBS) and allowing GDS to make contribution to the Scheme.	Existing GDS have already been provided one more and last option for their enrolment under the Scheme before 31.01.2014. GDS beneficiaries have also been allowed to contribute towards the scheme at the rate of ₹ 200 per month per GDS effective from October, 2013.
7.	Request for merger of 50% DA to the remuneration of GDS.	This is based on the similar demand made by Central Government Employees. The Government has not taken any decision on the issue for the Central Government employees either.
8.	Demand for inclusion of Gramin Dak Sevaks within the purview of the 7th Central Pay Commission.	The Government has successively constituted Committees for revision of the wage structure and other service conditions of GDS from time to time after each Central Pay Commission. The last such Committee was constituted by the Department in the year 2007 named Shri RS Nataraja Murti Committee. The latest request for their inclusion in the 7th CPC stands referred to the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure.

Use of BSNL services by private service providers without paying

2512. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether services of BSNL are availed of by some private service providers without paying for the same, if so, whether this is done with the knowledge and permission of Government or is an illegal act;

(b) whether the same treatment is meted out to BSNL by some private agencies in providing 4G services, if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether this is another form of PPP?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

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

Mechanism for accountability regarding cyber crime

2513. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has decided to propose renaming of Internet as Equinet, so that all nations can have equal say in its operations, besides calling for internationalization of core Internet resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India has been persistently seeking US Cooperation in cases related to cyber security, particularly when it comes to taking action against Internet giants whose servers are installed in that country;

(d) whether India has sought mechanism for accountability to be put in place in respect of crimes committed in cyberspace; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government of India's Initial Submission to Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance; Sao Paulo, Brazil on April 23-24, 2014 mentioned the following:

“Internet with its immense transformational potential can provide the means for sustainable and inclusive development in a country in areas such as education, healthcare, financial inclusion and service delivery. The medium of Internet provides voice to the voiceless as never before in the history of mankind. This potential can be realized

only by providing universal access and affordable devices. The Digital divide must be relegated to the past – instead, the communities must reap the benefits of the digital dividend. Therefore, we recommend to make a transformational shift from the Internet of today to the “Equinet” of tomorrow.”

(c) Strengthening international cooperation to effectively deal with cyber security issues has been one of the main focus areas of the Government. As such, this aspect is being dealt with by way of security cooperation arrangements in the form of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (ICERT) and its overseas counterpart agencies that are willing to work together and share information in a timely manner for preventing cyber crime and cyber attacks as well as collaborating for providing swift response to such incidents. India has entered Memorandum of Understanding with US Government for cooperation between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team and US CERT in the area of Cyber Security. The cooperation includes exchange of information of cyber security breaches, identification of IT assets, detecting attacks on the IT infrastructure of the respective countries and capacity development. Regular interactions are held and the information on Cyber security breaches covering technical aspects is exchanged periodically. The area of cyber security is also covered under another MoU between Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Homeland Security, USA. The issues of sharing the data on the attacks launched using email and other services offered by Internet giants and social media components located in USA also discussed periodically.

(d) and (e) The Information Technology Act, 2000 was amended by the Information Technology Act, 2008 with effect from 27.10.2009. The amended Act comprehensively addresses all forms of cyber crimes and is in line with the similar Acts enacted in other countries. Government has undertaken intensive programme to train the police and judicial officers in the area of investigation of cyber crimes and digital evidence. Cyber crime cells have been set up in almost all States of the country. The training and investigation labs have also been set up in various parts of the country including CBI. The Bureau of Police Research & Development, National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), State Governments and Department of Electronics and IT are working together to train police officers in the area of cyber crime investigation and digital evidence to effectively address cyber crimes.

Action against hoarders

2514. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has defined hoarding;

(b) if so, the details of stocks permitted as per the definition of hoarding, article-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the basis on which Government has taken/would take action against the hoarders along with the number of cases in which Government has taken action against hoarders during the current year after 26 May, 2014, till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Hoarding is a general term used for stocking of commodities in violation of the limits prescribed by the States/Union Territories periodically.

(c) and (d) The stock limits are decided and notified by the State Governments and UTs by way of orders dated 27.09.2013 in respect of Pulses, Edible Oil and Edible OilSeeds, dated 29.11.2013 in respect of Rice and Paddy and dated 03.07.2014 in respect of Onion and Potato under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Violators of such orders are prosecuted under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Details from May, 2014 to till date, as available, are given in the Statement.

Statement

Action taken under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during 2014 (May - July)

A - Relating to offences other than violation of stock control orders.

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons			Value of goods confiscated	Reported up to
			Arrested	Prosecuted	Convicted		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1810	12	0	0	33.73	June
2.	Goa	22	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	June
3.	Gujarat	4905	32	19	-	83.16	May
4.	Haryana	3	4	1	-	1.07	May
5.	Himachal Pradesh	2315	0	0	0	1.54	May
6.	Kerala	2204	0	0	0	0	May
7.	Maharashtra	296	698	10	0	11871.69	June
8.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	May
9.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	May
10.	Uttar Pradesh	2274	19	43	0	75.65	May
11.	West Bengal	66	24	12	0	8.24	May
TOTAL		13895	789	85	0	12075.08	

B - Relating to offences for violation of stock control orders.

1. Andhra Pradesh	282	27	0	0	140.83	June
2. Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	May
3. Kerala	546	0	0	0	0	May
4. Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	May
5. Mizoram	19	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	May
6. Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	May
7. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	June
TOTAL	847	27	0	0	140.83	

Rise in price of sugar

†2515. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is sufficient stock of sugar in the country;
- (b) if so, the total available stock as in June, 2014;
- (c) the reasons for rise of price of sugar even after having sufficient stock;
- (d) the concrete steps taken by Government to reduce the rising price of sugar; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per on line information received from the sugar mills, the stock of sugar with the mills as on 30th June, 2014 was at about 127 Lakh MTs (Provisional).

(c) The prices of sugar are currently stable in the domestic market.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) As indicated in reply to Parts (a) and (b) above, there is sufficient stock of sugar to meet the domestic demand/consumption during the current sugar season 2013-14.

Estimated demand for pulses and edible oils

2516. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per Planning Commission's Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17), for the terminal year of 2016-17, the projected demand estimates for pulses and edible oils are 22 million tonnes and 59 million tonnes respectively;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to meet the demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are as below :

Crop	2016-17	
	Projected Demand	Projected Supply
Pulses	22	18-21
OilSeeds/Edible Oils	59	33-41

Source:- Twelfth Five-Year Plan (2012-17), Planning Commission

(c) The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

The steps being taken by the Government to meet the demand

- Reduced import duty to zero for pulses, and kept the same at 10% for edible oils.
- Banned export of edible oils and pulses subject to selective exemptions.
- Imposed stock limits on pulses, edible oils, and edible oilseeds which is currently in force upto 30.9.2014.
- Suspended Futures trading in Urad and Tur.
- Government has been implementing several Crop Development Schemes/ Programmes such as National Food Security Mission-Pulses (NFSM-Pulses), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM), and the National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) etc to increase production and productivity of edible oilseeds and pulses.

Sea route for transportation of foodgrains

2517. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to transport foodgrains through sea route within the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

- (c) whether Government has undertaken any trial in this regard in the recent past; and
- (d) if so, the outcome of this trial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decision to transport foodgrains through sea/riverine route has been taken to explore an alternate mode of transportation other than rail and road to North East and Kerala.

(c) and (d) Starting from 15.1.2014, Food Corporation of India (FCI) has started transportation of food grains from Andhra Pradesh to Kerala through sea route and 33,593 MT of foodgrains has been dispatched for various depots of Kerala till date.

FCI has also taken steps for movement of 10,000 MT of foodgrains from Andhra Pradesh to Tripura *via* Ashuganj port of Bangladesh through Indo-Bangla protocol route. Movement of foodgrains on this route has commenced and first ship has sailed from Andhra Pradesh.

Movement of foodgrains through sea and riverine route is helping FCI in augmenting supply of foodgrains to different remote- located parts of the country.

Payment of pending dues to sugarcane farmers

2518. SHRI K. C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether substantial sugarcane dues of farmers is still outstanding despite several incentives/packages provided to sugar mills by Government;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor indicating the sugarcane dues pending during each of the last three years and current year and action taken against defaulting mills, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether any Committee has made observations/recommendations regarding profitability of mills, clearance of dues and share of farmers in profits earned by mills, if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken to expedite payment of pending dues to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) and (b) As on 15.07.2014, the outstanding amount of sugarcane farmers of the

country on sugar mills is ₹ 10,541 crores which is about 18.50% of total amount payable during the current sugar season 2013-14. State-wise amount of outstanding sugarcane dues pending against the sugar mills during each of the last three sugar seasons and the current sugar season, as on 15th July, 2014, is given in Statement (*See* below). The cane price dues mainly pertain to supply of sugarcane in the current season. The dues of previous seasons are generally on account of matters being *sub-judice*, mills taken under Securitization Act by lender Banks, etc. The dues in the current season have arisen mainly on account of low realization from sale of sugar.

The Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 stipulates payment of cane price within 14 days of supply, failing which interest at the rate of 15% per annum on amount due for the delayed period beyond 14 days is payable. The powers for enforcing this provision are delegated and vested with the State Governments/UT Administrations who have necessary field formations. The Central Government has from time to time advised the State Governments/UTs to ensure timely payment of cane dues to the farmers and to take action against the defaulting sugar mills. The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Haryana, Maharashtra, Telangana, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Punjab have informed that they have taken action against the defaulting sugar mills as per law.

(c) Dr. C. Rangarajan Committee report on Regulation of sugar sector has *inter-alia* recommended that there should be a sharing of the revenues/value created in the sugarcane value chain between the farmers and the millers in a fair and equitable manner. The Central Government has considered the recommendations of the Committee and has referred the recommendation of the Committee relating to adoption of the Cane Price Formula to the State Governments for adoption and implementation, as considered appropriate by them.

(d) In order to facilitate clearance of cane price arrears of previous sugar seasons and timely settlement of cane price of current sugar season to sugarcane farmers, the Central Government on 03.01.2014 has notified a Scheme for Extending Financial Assistance to Sugar Undertakings (SEFASU-2014) envisaging interest free loans worth ₹ 6600 crores by bank as additional working capital to sugar mills. Further, the Central Government on 28.02.2014 has notified another scheme allowing incentives for marketing and promotion services for raw sugar production targeted for export market. The incentive available under the Scheme shall be utilized by the sugar mills for making payment to the farmers.

Statement

Details of cane price payable, cane price paid and cane price arrear for 2013-14 sugar season and cane price arrear for 2012-13 season and earlier seasons (Position as on 15.07.2014)

State	Cane Price Payable 2013-14	Cane Price Paid 2013-14	Cane Price Arrears 2013-14	%	Cane Price Arrears 2012-13	Cane Price Arrears For 2011-12 and Earlier	Total Cane Price Arrears
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 (4+6+7)	8
Punjab	1422.89	1407.28	15.61	1.10	0.00	0.00	15.61
Haryana	1689.29	1680.60	8.69	0.51	0.00	0.00	8.69
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.65	0.00	5.65
Uttar Pradesh	19387.88	12650.87	6737.01	34.75	31.24	107.26	6875.51
Uttarakhand	909.51	630.28	279.23	30.70	0.00	24.92	304.15
Madhya Pradesh	779.23	749.07	30.16	3.87	0.00	13.39	43.55
Gujarat	2357.79	2090.93	266.86	11.32	0.00	13.41	280.27
Maharashtra	13396.37	13312.67	83.70	0.62	0.00	49.47	133.17
Bihar	1632.79	1207.17	425.62	26.07	8.97	33.00	467.41
Andhra Pradesh	1597.62	1487.32	110.30	6.90	24.97	0.00	135.27
Telangana	820.26	768.59	51.67	6.30	0.00	0.00	51.67
Karnataka	9349.76	7513.17	1836.59	19.64	0.15	29.84	1866.58
Tamil Nadu	3341.90	2703.57	638.33	19.10	39.24	2.15	679.72
Odisha	136.02	112.84	23.18	17.04	0.04	0.00	23.22
West Bengal	15.06	10.14	4.92	32.67	0.00	0.00	4.92
Puducherry	110.59	80.59	30.00	27.13	0.00	0.07	30.07
Goa	21.42	21.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	56968.38	46426.51	10541.87	18.50	110.08	273.51	10925.46

Setting up of a Market Intervention Fund

2519. SHRI K. C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken to control the prices of essential commodities including operations against hoarders/black marketers and the success achieved as a result thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to facilitate setting up of a Market Intervention Fund/Price Stabilizing Fund to tackle the rising price of essential commodities;

(c) if so, the details and the salient features thereof along with the agency proposed to be designated to administer the said Fund and the benefits likely to accrue to the consumers therefrom; and

(d) the details of the integrated action plan formulated including improvement in the Public Distribution System (PDS)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) The details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Following the above steps the average retail prices of many essential food items have remained stable/declined or shown only a marginal increase as given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(b) and (c) In the Union Budget 2014-15, a sum of ₹ 500 crore has been provided for establishing a Price Stabilization Fund with the objective of protecting the farmers from price volatility in agricultural produce. Modalities of operation of this fund have not yet been finalized.

(d) In the Conference of Ministers of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution of States and Union Territories held at on 4th July 2014 at New Delhi, an integrated joint six month Action Plan to address the issue of food inflation was agreed upon as per details given in the Statement-III

Statement-I

Details of recent steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items

- Minimum Export Price (MEP) fixed for potatoes at USD 450 per M.T. *w.e.f.* 26.06.2014 and of onions at USD 500 per M.T. *w.e.f.* 2.07.2014 respectively.
- States have been advised to allow free movement of fruits and vegetables by delisting them from the APMC Act.
- Government has approved the release of additional five million tonnes of Rice to BPL and APL families in States pending implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- Advisory to State Governments issued to take action against hoarding & black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 & the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

- Imposed stock limits in respect of onion and potato for a period of one year with effect from 3rd July, 2014 under the Essential Commodities Act.
- Based on interaction with the State Governments/UTs on 4th July, 2014, a decision has been taken to amend the Essential Commodities Act to make hoarding and black marketing a non bailable offence and increase the period of detention to one year from existing six months.
- The Government has approved for the current year Open Market Sale of ten million tonnes of wheat in the domestic market.

Statement-II*All India Average Retail Prices*

Commodity	(₹ per kg.)		
	Price as on 28.7.2014	1 week back 21.7.2014	2 weeks back 14.7.2014
Rice	28	28	29
Wheat	21	21	21
Atta (Wheat)	23	23	23
Gram Dal	45	46	46
Tur/ Arhar Dal	70	70	70
Urad Dal	73	72	71
Moong Dal	88	87	86
Masoor Dal	67	66	66
Sugar	36	36	37
Milk (Ltr.)	38	37	36
Groundnut Oil (Pkd.)	119	123	126
Mustard Oil (Pkd.)	93	96	98
Vanaspati (Pkd.)	77	77	77
Soya Oil (Pkd.)	84	85	85
Sunflower Oil (Pkd.)	94	95	97
Palm Oil (Pkd.)	69	70	72
Potato	24	25	24
Onion	30	29	28
Tomato	52	39	30

Source: State Civil Supplies Departments.

Statement-III*Details of proposed joint action plan agreed upon*

The Conference agreed to the following Action Plan and its effective implementation over the next six months :

1. Special focus on monitoring and containing the prices of essential food items like rice, jowar, bajra, onions, tomatoes, potatoes, moong dal, turar dal and edible oils, milk and eggs;
2. Identification by State Governments of vulnerable areas prone to supply shortages for special monitoring;
3. Focus on adequate storage as well as quality of Coarse cereals like Jowar, Bajra and Maize to ensure availability. In this context States may also mobilise existing storage capacity utilizing the Government/Private/Cooperative storage infrastructure to ensure decentralized stocks across cities/rural areas;
4. States may establish a revolving fund for buying products/produce in bulk and regulate their storage as well as distribution during peak demand *i.e.* festival season at reasonable prices and through PDS for BPL card holders; and
5. Facilitating sale of essential food items through PDS shops, cooperative societies etc. for coverage of economically weaker sections at reasonable prices.

Artificial scarcity of essential commodities

2520. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has observed that there is a considerable gap between wholesale and retail prices of onions, potatoes and other essential commodities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of hoarding cases identified and persons taken to task for such illegal trade during last one year;

(d) whether in the light of prevailing artificial scarcity, the State Governments have sought permission of Central Government to impose stock control orders on the traders dealing with essential commodities business; and

(e) if so, whether any decision has been taken by Government to curtail such illegal business and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):
(a) and (b) A comparison of the monthly average retail and wholesale prices of select essential commodities over the last six months (January- July 2014) show that the difference between the two either shows a decline or only a marginal increase as given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The details during the last one year (up to 16.7.2014) are as follows.

1.	No. of raids conducted	43124
2.	No. of persons arrested	7577
3.	No. of persons prosecuted	310
4.	No. of persons convicted	1
5.	Value of goods confiscated (Rs in Lakhs)	2150.731

Source: State Governments.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir. Accordingly, Government has issued stock control orders under the Essential Commodities Act for onion and potato for a period of one year with effect from 3rd July, 2014. This empowers the State Governments to fix the stock limits.

Statement

Monthly All India Average Retail and Wholesale prices

Commodity Name	July 2014*		Differ- ence (₹)	January 2014		Differ- ence (₹)
	Retail	Wholesale		Retail	Wholesale	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rice	28	25	3	27	25	2
Wheat	21	19	2	22	20	2
Atta (Wheat)	24	21	3	24	21	3
Gram Dal	46	41	5	50	44	6
Tur/Arhar Dal	70	66	4	70	65	5
Urad Dal	73	68	5	64	60	4
Moong Dal	87	81	6	79	74	5
Masoor Dal	66	61	5	59	54	5
Groundnut Oil (Packed)	122	114	8	122	112	10
Mustard Oil (Packed)	97	89	8	99	91	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Vanaspati (Packed)	77	71	6	75	69	6
Soya Oil (Packed)	85	79	6	85	80	5
Sunflower Oil (Packed)	96	89	7	97	91	6
Palm Oil (Packed)	71	66	5	71	67	4
Potato	24	19	5	18	14	4
Onion	28	23	5	22	18	4
Tomato	32	26	6	20	15	5
Sugar	37	34	3	35	32	3
Milk (Ltr.)	37	36	1	35	34	1

*Prices upto 25.7.2014

Source: State Civil Supplies Departments.

Computerisation of PDS

2521. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing the National Food Security Act, 2013; and

(b) if so, whether computerisation of PDS will be done in the existing system in respect of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) has deemed to have come into force on 05.07.2013.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Allocation for food subsidy

2522. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made an allocation of ₹ 1.15 lakh crore in the current budget for food subsidy whereas the previous Government had estimated ₹ 1.32 lakh crore as the bare minimum subsidy for the National Food Security Act (NFSA) scheme;

(b) whether Government has arbitrarily given some States three to six months to implement PDS entitlements without any mention of food security allowance as mandatory compensation provisioned in the law; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) Annual food subsidy implication of implementation of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) at 2014-15 costs, is estimated to be around ₹ 1,31,086 crore, against which, ₹ 1,10,500 crore has been provided in the current year budget. In addition to this an amount of ₹ 4500 crore has been allotted for sugar subsidy.

(b) and (c) NFSA is deemed to have come into force on 05.07.2013. Its implementation is contingent upon identification of eligible households by States/UTs for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). For which a period not exceeding 365 days has been provided in the Act. However, as this exercise is yet to be completed in many States/UTs, they have been requested to complete the identification and take other preparatory measures at the earliest and ensure implementation of the Act within next three months. The issue of payment of food security allowance arises only after implementation of the Act starts in respective States/UTs.

Scrutiny of cardholders in Chhattisgarh

†2523. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food policy of Chhattisgarh, under which the poor cardholders are being examined, is in accordance with the National Food Security Act;

(b) whether this scrutiny of the cardholders has caused quite a stir in the villages and cities of Chhattisgarh, if so, whether Central Government is issuing any directions to abrogate the same; and

(c) whether it was proposed to put in place the highly lauded PDS system of Chhattisgarh in the entire country and whether Government would support to maintain *status quo* for the aforesaid system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) *inter alia* provides that within the coverage determined for each State/Union Territory, the State Government is to identify the households to be covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Government of Chhattisgarh has confirmed their preparedness for implementation of NFSA, 2013 *inter alia* stating that identification of beneficiaries has been done as per

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

criteria prescribed in the Chhattisgarh Food Security Act. Accordingly, based on the preparedness and identification of beneficiaries under TPDS reported by Chhattisgarh, allocation of foodgrains to it has started under the Act. Government of Chhattisgarh has also reported that their food policy is in accordance with NFSA, 2013.

(b) In view of the above, the question of Central Government issuing directions for abrogation of the process of identification does not arise. As informed by Government of Chhattisgarh, a time-frame of 45 days has been given to all ineligible persons to surrender their cards.

(c) No, Sir.

Setting up of National Food Grid

2524. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that price of tomato has reached up to ₹ 60/-per kg. during second week of July, 2014;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up National Food Grid to curb price-rise of vegetables and other essential items and to ensure proper availability of essential items in every part of the country; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) and (b) As per the daily prices reported from 59 centres across the country, the maximum retail price of tomato during the second week of July 2014 was at ₹ 50 per kg at Aizwal only.

The recent rise in the prices of tomato is due to the shortfall in supply on account of adverse weather conditions in the major producing areas.

(c) and (d) A formal decision in this regard is yet to be taken by the Government.

Supply of foodgrains under Food Security Act

†2525. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the States which have implemented the Food Security Act;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of efforts being made by Government to implement the Food Security Act in other States in addition to the above States; and

(c) the details of the supply of foodgrains made to the States where this Act is implemented under this Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) has deemed to have come into force on 05.07.2013. It *inter alia* provides for a period not exceeding 365 days to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for identification of eligible households for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). So far, allocation of foodgrains to 11 States/UTs has started under the Act based on the preparedness and identification of beneficiaries under TPDS reported by them. Out of these, in 6 States, namely Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan, complete identification as per coverage under the Act has been reported and in the remaining 5 States/UTs, namely Bihar, NCT of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chandigarh, identification is partial.

Implementation status of the Act is reviewed on a regular basis and necessary advisories are issued to States/UTs, wherever required. Remaining States/UTs have been requested to complete the identification at the earliest and ensure implementation of the Act within next three months, after completing other preparatory measures.

(c) In 11 States/UTs, which have started implementation of the Act, foodgrains have been allocated at prices specified in the Schedule – I of the Act for the number of beneficiaries identified and reported by them. In case of their allocation being less than the average offtake for last three years under normal TPDS, additional ‘Tide Over’ allocation has been made at ₹ 8.30 and ₹ 6.10 per kg for rice and wheat respectively to protect their average offtake. State-wise details are given in the Statement.

Statement

*Details of foodgrains all ocated to States/UTs under National
Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA)*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Current Monthly foodgrains allocation (tons)		
		Rice	Wheat	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Haryana	0	66250	66250
2.	Rajasthan	0	232631	232631

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Delhi	3785	13596	17381
		7538	22831	30369 ^s
4.	Himachal Pradesh	6395	9101	15496
		8946	17891	26837 ^s
5.	Punjab	0	72510	72510
6.	Karnataka	206362	0	206362
7.	Chhattisgarh	107573	0	107573
8.	Maharashtra	164636	210497	375133
9.	Chandigarh	397.1	595.65	992.75
		0	1608.25	1608.25 ^s
10.	Madhya Pradesh	66366	184597	265463*
11.	Bihar	245745	163830	409575

\$ Indicates 'Tide Over' allocation. Rest are at NFSA prices.

* Includes 14500 tons per month of maize at ₹ 1/- per kg.

Rise in price of essential commodities

2526. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of essential commodities have increased by leaps and bounds breaking previous records specially after the recent Lok Sabha election;

(b) whether Government is going to take any concrete measures to find out the root cause of such unprecedented price-rise, illegal hoarding, unholy practices of the unscrupulous traders;

(c) how Government is planning to address this serious problem of rising price in near future; and

(d) whether Government proposes to regulate the prices and simultaneously make the supply of essential commodities easily available at reasonable prices through some designated channels to the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) No Sir, as per the latest Wholesale Price Index (WPI) *i.e.* for June 2014, the rate of increase in the prices of most of the essential food items has been lower than the corresponding period an year ago *i.e.* June 2013 as given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) to (d) Details of the recent initiatives as well future strategy proposed to tackle the issue of rise in prices of essential commodities is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Rate of inflation based on Wholesale Price Index

Commodity Name	June, 2013	June, 2014
Food Articles	10.27	8.14
Cereals	17.87	5.33
Rice	20.43	10.24
Wheat	13.94	0.73
Pulses	1.59	1.78
Gram	-9.20	-13.34
Arhar	14.16	2.36
Moong	20.08	25.19
Masur	15.60	15.97
Urad	4.64	19.55
Fruits and Vegetables	9.45	6.14
Vegetables	17.36	-5.89
Potato	-8.38	42.52
Onion	114.76	-10.70
Fruits	0.86	21.40
Milk	4.08	10.82
Eggs, Meat and Fish	12.48	10.27
Food Products	6.41	2.33
Sugar	6.93	-2.09
Edible Oils	0.07	-0.75
Vanaspati	1.85	-1.34
Groundnut Oil	1.42	-16.92
Palm Oil	-3.69	5.87
Mustard and Rapeseed Oil	0.66	1.31
Soyabean Oil	1.53	-2.57
Sunflower Oil	-1.85	-4.98

Source: DIPP

Statement-II

Details of steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items

(a) Recent Initiatives

- Minimum Export Price (MEP) fixed for potatoes at USD 450 per M.T. w.e.f. 26.06.2014 and of onions at USD 500 per M.T. w.e.f. 2.07.2014 respectively.
- States have been advised to allow free movement of fruits and vegetables by delisting them from the APMC Act.
- Government has approved the release of additional five million tonnes of Rice to BPL and APL families in states pending implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA).
- The Government has approved for the current year Open Market Sale of ten million tonnes of wheat in the domestic market.
- Advisory to State Governments issued to take action against hoarding and black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
- Imposed stock limits in respect of onion and potato for a period of one year with effect from 3rd July, 2014 under the Essential Commodities Act.
- Based on interaction with the State Governments/UTs on 4th July, 2014, a decision has been taken to amend the Essential Commodities Act to make hoarding and black marketing a non bailable offence and increase the period of detention to one year from existing six months.

(b) Future Strategy through Integrated Action Plan

In the Conference of State Ministers of Consumer Affairs and Food and administrators of UTs held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Finance Minister on 04-07-2014 an Integrated Action Plan has been agreed upon for implementation over the next six months which include the following:

1. Special focus on monitoring and containing the prices of essential food items like rice, jowar, bajra, onions, tomatoes, potatoes, moong dal, tur dal and edible oils, milk and eggs;
 2. Identification by State Governments of vulnerable areas prone to supply shortages for special monitoring;
 3. Focus on adequate storage as well as quality of coarse cereals like Jowar, Bajra and Maize to ensure availability. In this context States may also
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mobilise existing storage capacity utilizing the Government/Private/Cooperative storage infrastructure to ensure decentralized stocks across cities/rural areas.

4. States may establish a revolving fund for buying products/produce in bulk and regulate their storage as well as distribution during peak demand *i.e.* festival season at reasonable prices and through PDS for BPL card holders; and
5. Facilitating sale of essential food items through PDS shops, cooperative societies etc. for coverage of economically weaker sections at reasonable prices.

Distribution of foodgrains with subsidy

2527. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any details of the foodgrains distributed with subsidy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last five years, State-wise and item-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) Government allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) to States/Union Territories (UTs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes at subsidized Central Issue Prices (CIPs) for distribution to targeted beneficiaries. State-wise and grain-wise details of allocation and offtake under TPDS and Other Welfare Schemes for the last five years 2009-10 to 2013-14 given in the Annexures.

[See Appendix 232 Annexures Nos. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28].

Physical verification of beneficiaries under PDS

†2528. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of households getting benefited from the Public Distribution System in Rajasthan, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has ever done physical verification of the beneficiaries, if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to make physical verification of such, households, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):
(a) National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 provides for coverage of 53.00% of population in urban areas and 69.09% of population in rural areas in the State of Rajasthan. Thus as per the above norms, Government of India has allocated wheat for 446.62 lakh beneficiaries in the State, based upon the Census 2011 population of the State for distribution through TPDS under NFSA 2013.

(b) and (c) Under the NFSA 2013, the identification of beneficiaries is to be done by respective State/UT Governments. State Government of Rajasthan has reported that 531 lakh beneficiaries have been identified in State. A Group of Secretaries is constituted by the State Government to suggest measures to review the selection parameters of the beneficiaries.

Formulation of new law to curb price-rise

†2529. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate a new law to curb and control inflation in the country;

(b) whether the law related to Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees in States, is the biggest hurdle in modernization of food market and due to which groups of fake buyers have been formed in markets and they control the market entirely;

(c) whether Government has formulated draft of the new legislation; and

(d) if so, the time by which the new law would come into force after its earliest formulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):

(a) No Sir.

(b) The State Agricultural Produce Marketing and Regulation Act (APMR Act) was implemented to create a competitive market for the produce of farmers and to protect them from exploitation. However, over the years, these APMC markets have become monopolistic and restrictive in operation which has led to the emergence of vested interests such as cartels which restricts competition and prevent fair price discovery, thereby defeating the original objectives of the Act.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Providing BPL ration cards to devoid people living below poverty line

†2530. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many peoples living below the poverty line (BPL) in the country are devoid of BPL ration cards;

(b) whether Government has made any scheme to provide BPL ration cards to such people; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) Evaluation studies of TPDS have shown that there are instances of improper targeting of the poor households and there are inclusion as well as exclusion errors. For allocation of foodgrains (rice and wheat) to States and Union Territories (UTs) under the existing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), Department of Food and Public Distribution uses the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families based on 1993-94 poverty estimates of Planning Commission and the population estimates of Registrar General of India (RGI) as on 1st March 2000 or the number of such families actually identified and ration cards issued to them by State/UT Governments, whichever is less. As per these estimates, the total number of BPL families is 6.52 crore, which includes about 2.42 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. As per the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001, State/UT Governments are to review the lists of BPL/AAY families every year for the purpose of deletion of ineligible families and inclusion of eligible families.

Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013, the coverage under TPDS has been delinked from the poverty estimates and shall extend at the all India level upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population. As per the above coverage and based on 2011 census population, the number of persons eligible for subsidised foodgrains under TPDS is estimated at about 81.35 crore.

Increasing capacity of cold chain infrastructure

2531. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in view of the fact that cold storage/cold chain infrastructure being capital intensive industry, substantial investment is not taking place;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is also aware that there is huge need to increase the capacity of cold storage/cold chain infrastructure in the country; and

(c) if so, the plans Government has proposed to meet these two entirely opposite situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri Committee constituted by the Planning Commission in 2012 on Encouraging Investment in Supply Chains including Provision for Cold Storage for More Efficient Distribution of Farm Produce, citing a study conducted by National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL) in 2010, has indicated cold storage requirement of 61.13 million MT. The existing capacity of cold storage is around 32 million MT in the country. Thus present gap is around 29 million MT.

(c) With the objective of creating integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities without any break from the farm gate to the consumer, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure since 2008-09 in the country. The financial assistance @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for NE region and difficult areas (North-Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of ₹ 10 Crore per project is provided for setting up the cold chain infrastructure in the country. Integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure can be set up by individuals, groups of entrepreneurs, cooperative societies, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), NGOs, Central/State PSUs, etc. Under the scheme of Cold chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, the Ministry has sanctioned 121 cold chain projects for implementation in the country.

Further, the Ministry has also launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme *i.e.* National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) during 12th Plan. The NMFP is being implemented by the State/UT governments. Under the Mission, financial assistance is provided for setting up cold chain infrastructure through following schemes:

- (i) **Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticultural Products:-** For setting up of cold chain projects for non-horticulture produce like dairy, meat, poultry, fish etc., the financial assistance is provided as **(a) Capital Subsidy:** Grant-in-aid @ 35% of the bank appraised project cost for general areas, and @ 50% of the project cost for difficult areas including North-Eastern region, subject to maximum of ₹ 5 crore and **(b) Interest Subsidy:** @ 6% per annum subject to a maximum of ₹ 2.00 crore per project or actual interest accrued on term loan, whichever is lower, for a period of 5 year from completion of the project for general areas, and

@ 7 % per annum subject to a maximum of ₹ 3.00 crore per project or actual interest accrued on term loan, whichever is lower, for a period of 7 years from completion of the project for difficult areas including North-Eastern Region and hilly States.

(ii) Scheme for Creating Primary Processing Centres/Collection Centres in

Rural Areas: Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided for setting up processing and preservation facilities in rural areas to enhance shelf life of perishable produce. Admissible grant-in-aid under the scheme is @ 50% of the eligible project cost for the general areas and 75% in North-Eastern Region, ITDP and Difficult Areas including hilly States, respectively subject to a maximum of ₹ 2.5 crore.

(iii) Reefer Vehicles: Financial assistance to standalone reefer vehicle(s) and mobile pre-cooling van (s) for carrying and transporting, both horticultural and non-horticultural produce is provided under the scheme as credit linked back ended grants-in-aid @ 50% of the cost of New Reefer Vehicle(s) /Mobile pre-cooling van(s) upto a maximum of ₹ 50.00 lakh.

In addition, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India are also providing assistance for setting up cold storages under their respective schemes. Various other incentives provided by the Government to promote this sector are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of various other incentives provided by the Government to the cold chain sector

1. Under Section 35-AD of the Income tax Act 1961, deduction for expenditure incurred on investment is allowed if this investment is wholly and exclusively for the purpose of (i) setting up and operating a cold chain facility; and (ii) setting up and operating warehousing facility for storage of agricultural produce. This deduction is allowed to the extent of 150% provided the taxpayer has commenced its business on or after 01.04.2012.
2. Government has extended Project Imports' benefits to Cold storage, cold room (including for farm level pre-cooling) or industrial projects for preservation, storage or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat. Consequently, all goods related to Food Processing, imported as part of the project, irrespective of their tariff classification, would be entitled to uniform assessment at concessional basic customs duty of 5%.

3. All refrigeration machineries and Parts used for installation of cold storage, cold room or refrigerated vehicle, for the preservation, storage, transport or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat under Tariff Head: Chapter 84 are exempted from Excise Duty.
4. Construction, Erection, Commissioning or installation of original works pertaining to post-harvest storage infrastructure for agricultural produce including Cold storages for such purposes are exempted from Service tax.
5. Capital investment in the creation of modern storage capacity has been made eligible for viability gap funding scheme of the Finance Ministry. The cold chains and post-harvest storage has been recognized as an infrastructure sub-sector.

Setting up of Food Processing Units

2532. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Food Processing Units in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government proposes to set up any unit in Odisha;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up Food Processing Units in such districts on priority basis where there is no industry; and
- (d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not maintain data on number of food processing units in the country. However, as per Annual Survey of Industries, 2011-12, there were 36,881 registered food processing units in the country. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up food processing units on its own in the country including Odisha.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the Ministry has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) in 12th Plan (2012-17) through State/UT Governments. Under the scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries of the mission, all the eligible entrepreneurs interested to set up food processing units in the country including the districts where there is no food processing units are provided financial assistance @25 per cent of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works, subject to a maximum of ₹ 50 lakh in general areas; 33.33 per cent of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works, subject to a maximum of ₹ 75 lakh in difficult areas (*i.e.* Jammu & Kashmir,

Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep) and Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas; and 50 per cent of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works, subject to a maximum of ₹ 100 lakh for North-Eastern States including Sikkim.

Under the above scheme of the mission, all the new applications in Twelfth Plan (2012-17) are received, sanctioned and funds are released by the respective State/ UT Governments, for setting up of Food Processing units in the country.

Statement

Number of Registered Food Processing Units

Sl.No.	State/UT	Numbers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9,359
2.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	4
3.	Assam	1,212
4.	Bihar	715
5.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	23
6.	Chhattisgarh	1,028
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8
8.	Daman and Diu	35
9.	Delhi	145
10.	Goa	85
11.	Gujarat	1,924
12.	Haryana	650
13.	Himachal Pradesh	171
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	150
15.	Jharkhand	169
16.	Karnataka	1,979
17.	Kerala	1,437
18.	Madhya Pradesh	754
19.	Maharashtra	3,113
20.	Manipur	18
21.	Meghalaya	18
22.	Nagaland	12
23.	Odisha	875
24.	Puducherry	70
25.	Punjab	2,784
26.	Rajasthan	777

Sl.No.	State/UT	Numbers
27.	Sikkim	18
28.	Tamil Nadu	5,186
29.	Tripura	55
30.	Uttar Pradesh	2,116
31.	Uttarakhand	381
32.	West Bengal	1,600
TOTAL		36,881

Source: Annual Survey of Industries, 2011-12.

Mega Food Parks

2533. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives and the guidelines for establishing Mega Food Parks in the country;
- (b) to what extent these objectives have been achieved;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposals for setting up of Mega Food Parks in various parts of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The primary objective of Mega Food Parks Scheme is to create modern infrastructure facilities for the food processing along the value chain from the farm to the market with a cluster based approach based on a hub and spokes model. It includes creation of infrastructure for primary processing and storage near the farm at Primary Processing Centres (PPCs) and Collection Centres (CCs) and common facilities and enabling infrastructure like roads, electricity, water, ETP facilities etc. at Central Processing Centre (CPC). These PPCs and CCs act as aggregation and storage points to feed raw material to the processing units located in the CPC.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Details of the proposals for setting up Mega Food Parks in various parts of the country including Andhra Pradesh received by the Ministry are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(e) After evaluation of the proposals as per the scheme guidelines, 40 Mega Food Park projects have been accorded In-principle approval by the Ministry. Out of these 40 projects, 21 projects have been accorded final approval for implementation whereas In-principle approval accorded to 15 projects has been cancelled due to their failure to meet the conditions of final approval or unsatisfactory implementation of the project.

Statement*State-wise details of the proposals received for setting up Mega Food Parks***EoIs/Proposals received under Phase I of Implementation**

Sl. No.	Name of the SPV/Stakeholder	Project Location
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	M/s Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Chittoor
2.	M/s Dhan Foundation	Chittoor
3.	Green Port Corporation Pvt. Ltd.	Chittoor
4.	Andhra Pradesh Mega Food Park Ltd.	Chittoor
Assam		
1.	Assam Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.	Nalbari
2.	North East Mega Food Park Ltd.	Guwahati
3.	East India Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Guwahati
Jharkhand		
1.	Greenfield Mega Food Park	Ranchi
2.	ABC Infrastructural, Industrial, Edn Associates	Ranchi
3.	Ranchi Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Ranchi
Karnataka		
1.	M/s Foremms Industries Ltd	Bagalkot
2.	M/s Yagachi Food Technology Park Pvt. Ltd.	Chikamagalur
3.	Mega Food Park for Karnataka	Kolar
4.	M/s Unity Infraprojects Ltd.	Kolar
5.	Karnataka Mega Food Park Ltd.	Mandya
Maharashtra		
1.	Ace Agro Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Pune
2.	M/s PrabhatAgri Projects Development Ltd.	Ahmednagar
3.	M/s J P Mega Food Park Ltd.	Raigad
4.	M.s Haldiram's Mega Food Parks Pvt. Ltd.	Nagpur
5.	M/s Pranav Agro Industries Ltd.	Pune-Satara
6.	Unity Infraproject Ltd.	Nashik
7.	Maharashtra Mega Food Park Ltd.	Pune
8.	M/s Chordia Food Products Ltd.	Pune-Satara
9.	M/s Indiabulls Real Estate Ltd.	Pune-Satara
10.	M/s Indiabulls Real Estate Ltd.	Latur
Punjab		
1.	Punjab Agro Industries Corporation	Jalandhar
2.	M/s Unity Infraproject Ltd.	Ludhiana
3.	M/s Punjab Mega Food Park Ltd.	Ludhiana
4.	M/s Sterling Agro Industries Ltd.	Jalandhar

Sl.No.	Name of the SPV/Stakeholder	Project Location
5.	Anant Raj Industries Ltd.	Punjab
6.	NegoliceIndiaPvt. Ltd.	Ludhiana-Jalandhar

Tamil Nadu

1.	M/s Tamil Nadu Mega Food Park Ltd.	Dharmapuri
2.	M/s Goenka Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Chennai
3.	M/s Chordia Food Products Ltd.	Dharmapuri

Uttar Pradesh

1.	M/s Indo Gulf Fertilizers (Unit of Aditya Birla Nuvo Ltd.)	Jagdishpur
2.	U. P. Mega Food Park Ltd.	Raebareli
3.	Hindustan Mega Food Park	Raebareli

Uttarakhand

1.	Uttarakhand Mega Food Park Ltd.	Haridwar
2.	Patanjali Food Park Ltd.	Haridwar
3.	NegoliceIndiaPvt. Ltd.	Haridwar

West Bengal

1.	Jangipur Mega Food Park Ltd.	Jangipur, Murshidabad
2.	Bengal Salarpuria Eden Infrastructure Development Company Pvt. Ltd.	Amtalla, 24 Paraganas

EOIs/Proposals received under Phase II of Implementation

Sl.No.	Name of the Applicant	Project Location
Bihar		
1.	Keventer Food Park Infra Ltd.	Kahelgaon, District Bhagalpur
2.	Ruchi Infrastructure Limited	Durgawati, District Bhabua
3.	JVL Mega Food Park Private Limited	Basahi, District Rohtas
4.	Bihar Mega Processed Food Park Private Ltd.	Araria
5.	Pristine Logistics and Infraprojects Pvt. Ltd.	Khagaria
Madhya Pradesh		
1.	Ruchi Soya Limited	Maheswar, District Khargone
2.	Jabalpur Mega Food Park Private Ltd.	Khairi, District Jabalpur
3.	Vashisht Holding Limited SPV - Madhya Pradesh Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Rodiya, Taluka Bhikangaon, District Khargone
4.	Central India Mega Food Park Pvt Ltd.	Kodhasabri, District Chindwara
5.	Sanwaria Mega Food Park Limited	Kiratpur Village, Taluka Itarsi, District Hoshangabad
6.	Madhya Pradesh Mega Processed Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Bilawali, Tehsil/ District Dewas
7.	Chhindwara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Chhindwara

Sl.No.	Name of the Applicant	Project Location
Tripura		
1.	SikariaInfraprojects Private Limited	Near Agartala
2.	Tube Glass Containers Limited SPV - Tripureswari Mega Food Parks Ltd. not formed yet	Uttar Champapura, District West Tripura
Haryana		
1.	Haryana Herbal and Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Bakana, District Kurukshetra
2.	Star One Realtors Pvt. Ltd.	Nuh, District Mewat
3.	Haryana Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Shakarpuri, Tehsil Ferozpur Jhirka, District Mewat
Gujarat		
1.	Jaffe Food Industries Private Limited	Bakrol Village, District Ahmedabad
2.	Santoshi Masala Private Limited	Anand
3.	Fanidhar Mega Food Pvt. Ltd.	Viramgam, District Ahmedabad
4.	Shree LTC Export India Private Limited SPV - Kutch Mega Food Park, not formed yet	Village Mouje Ratadiya, Taluka Mumdra, District Kutch
5.	Mahakali Mega Food Park	Village Kayat, Junishedhavi-Navishedhavi of Kadi District Mehsana
6.	Anil Limited SPV - Anil Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., not formed yet	Village Paladi, Taluka Savli, District Vadodara
7.	Winfra Green Projects Pvt. Ltd.	Vareth, Taluka Mandvi, District Surat
8.	Gujarat Mega Processed Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Savli, District Vadodara
9.	Vibrant Mega Food Park	Janakhali, Taluka Mandvi, District Surat
Rajasthan		
1.	Rajasthan Mega Food Parks Limited	Nairaina, District Jaipur
2.	ARL Infratech Limited	Bhilwara
3.	Marwar Agro Mega Food Parks Private Limited	Dooni, Gandhigram, District Tonk
Jammu and Kashmir		
1.	Simplex Projects Limited	Shadipora, District Srinagar
2.	Kashmir Agrifresh Food Park	Lassipora, District Pulwama
Kerela		
1.	Kerala State Civil Supply Corporation Limited	Konii, District Pathanamthitta
2.	Malabar Mega Food Park Private Limited	Kinaloor, Kozhikode District
3.	National Integrated Maga Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Palakkad

Sl.No.	Name of the Applicant	Project Location
Odisha		
1.	Centre of Entrepreneurship Development, Regional College of Management	Badchana, District Cuttack
2.	MITS Mega Food Park Ltd.	District Rayagada
3.	Orissa Mega Agro Food Park Ltd.	Banki, District Cuttack
Chhattisgarh		
1.	Ramky Infrastructure Limited	Banjari/ Bagaudh, Tehsil Kurudh, District Dhamtari
2.	Sahara Integrated Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Badoli, Taluka Rajpur, District Surguja
3.	Chhattisgarh Agro Mega Food Parks Pvt. Ltd.	Naya Raipur
EoIs/Proposals received under Phase III of Implementation		
Sl.No.	Name of the Applicant	Project Location
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Godavari Mega Aqua Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Tadepalligudem, District West Godavari
2.	Annapurna Integrated Agri Park	Chintalapadu, District Krishna
3.	Satyavedu Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Palagunta, Taluka Satyavedu, District Chittoor
Assam		
1.	Kamrup Eco Park Pvt Ltd.	Village Belguri, District Kamrup
Bihar		
1.	JVL Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Jorabarpur, District Rohtas
2.	Pristine Logistics & Infraprojects Pvt. Ltd.	Block Mansi, District Khagaria
3.	Champaran Agri Park Pvt. Ltd.	Bariya, District East Champaran
4.	Mums Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Chaugain, Taluka Dumraon, District Buxar
Chhattisgarh		
1.	Sindhu Farms Pvt. Ltd.	Village Bemta, Sarora, District Raipur
2.	Chhattisgarh Agro Mega Food Park Ltd.	Village Kharora, Distt. Raipur
3.	Utsav Organic Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Villages Dhansuli and Khatiya, Tilda Tehsil, District Raipur
Delhi		
1.	Pavitra Bhumi Pvt. Ltd.	GT Karnal Road, North West District
2.	Vyanjan Vihar Pvt. Ltd.	Not provided in the EoI
Goa		
1.	Polar Fresh Pvt. Ltd.	Village Sigaon, District South Goa

Sl.No.	Name of the Applicant	Project Location
Gujarat		
1.	Adani Ports and SEZ Ltd.	Mundra, District Kachchh
2.	Vraj Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Dholi, Taluka Dholuka, District Ahmedabad
3.	Rainbow Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Suraj, Taluka Kadi, District Mehsana
4.	Vibrant KKP Food and Agro Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Jankhala, Taluka Mandavi, District Surat
5.	Fanidhar Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Munderdanear Mehsana, District Mehsana
6.	Gujarat Agro Infrastructure Mega Food Park	Taluka Mangrol, District Surat
Haryana		
1.	Soma New Towns (P) Ltd.	Village Natar, District Sirsa
2.	Continental Warehousing Corporation (Nhava Seva) Limited	Village Jattipur, District Panipat
3.	Star One Realtors Pvt. Ltd.	Village Tajpur, District Mewat
4.	Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd.	Ganaur Town, District Sonipat
Himachal Pradesh		
1.	Poliyan Mega Food Park	Village Poliyan, District Una
2.	Himachal Integrated Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Dulehar, District Una
3.	HIM Mega Food Park	Kangra
4.	Grewal Associates Pvt. Ltd.	Himachal Pradesh
Jammu and Kashmir		
1.	Simplex Projects Limited	Lassipora, District Pulwama
2.	Greens Food Park India Pvt. Ltd.	Lassipora, District Pulwama
3.	Kashmir Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Lassipora, District Pulwama
4.	J and K Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Lassipora, District Pulwama
Karnataka		
1.	Favorich Infra Pvt. Ltd.	Gram Panchayat Kalinganahalli, District Mandya
Kerala		
1.	Malabar Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd	Kuzhur, Irinjalakuda Taluk, District Thrissur
Mizoram		
1.	Mizoram Mega Food Park	Khamaran, District Aizwal
Madhya Pradesh		
1.	Trident Corporation Ltd.,	Village Berkhedhi and Khapakhurd, Taluka Budhani, District Sehore

Sl.No.	Name of the Applicant	Project Location
Maharashtra		
1.	Dewap Mega Food Park	District Parbhani
2.	Amravati Integrated Mega Food Park	Shirpur, District Amravati
3.	Garden Pick Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Utran, District Jalgaon
4.	Sindhudurg Integrated Coastal Food Park	Taluka Gavan, District Sindhudurg
5.	Maharashtra Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Naigaon Sanghvi, District Satara
6.	Suyojit Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Wadgaon Pingla, Taluka Sinnar, District Nasik
7.	Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Degaon, District Satara
8.	Majalgaon Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Majalgaon, District Beed
9.	SK Agro Foodtech Pvt. Ltd.	Village Kaledhol, District Satara
10.	Toronto Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Talasari, District Thane
Odisha		
1.	Huma Coastal Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Mouza Raniboro, Tehsil Khallikote, District Ganjam
Puducherry		
1.	Goenka Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Abhishekpakkam, Puducherry
Punjab		
1.	Worldwide Food Park Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Village Hamira, District Ka-purthala
2.	Saastha Mega Food Park Ltd.	Rail Majra, District Nawanshahar
Rajasthan		
1.	Green Tech Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Rupangarh, District Ajmer
2.	Rajasthan Mega Food Park Ltd.	Village Narayana, Sambhar Tehsil, District Jaipur
Sikkim		
1.	M3 Food Paradise Pvt. Ltd.	Saramsa Village, District East Sikkim
2.	Himalayan Organic Mega Food Park Ltd.	Melli, District South Sikkim
Telangana		
1.	Orange Bio Industrial Infrastructure Technologies Pvt. Ltd. (ORBIT)	Raghunadhpally Village and Mandal, District Warangal
2.	Smart Agro Industries Corporation Pvt. Ltd.	Village Lakkampally, Nandipe Mandal, District Nizamabad
3.	Continental Mega Food Park Ltd.	Villages Thimmapur and Kothur, District Mehboob Nagar
4.	Carbon Neutrals Energy Pvt. Ltd.	Zaheerabad, District Medak
Uttar Pradesh		
1.	UP Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd	Aurangpur, Pargana Dankaur, District Gautam Budh Nagar

Sl.No.	Name of the Applicant	Project Location
Uttarakhand		
1.	Himalayan Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Village Mauha Kheraganj, Kashipur, District Udham Singh Nagar
West Bengal		
1.	Concast Exim Ltd.	Amta, District Howrah
2.	Dankuni Projects Ltd	Dankuni, District Hooghly
3.	Bengal Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd.	Rajganj Village, District Jalpaiguri

Electoral Photo Identity Cards

2534. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of LAW and JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States in which 100 per cent Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) coverage has been achieved; and

(b) the reasons for not achieving 100 per cent EPIC coverage in other States and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) A Statement showing latest data reflecting State-wise coverage of Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC), as provided by the Election Commission is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Election Commission has intimated that the process of issuing EPIC is a continuous exercise; names of new eligible electors are added every year and those of the persons who have shifted or died have to be deleted. Further, on account of migration of persons from one place to another, changes in EPIC need to be carried out based on their applications. Further, it has been the Election Commission's endeavour to achieve the target of 100% EPIC- coverage and the Commission is making every possible effort to issue Elector Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) to all residual electors as expeditiously as possible. Efforts are constantly being made by the Election Commission of India to issue error free EPICs to all the electors. Some of them are as follows:

- (i) Before revision of electoral rolls is announced, pre-revision activities are undertaken in all the States/Union Territories. Pre-revision activities include the collection of photographs from and issue of EPICs to all the residual electors.
- (ii) From time to time Chief Electoral Officers of the States/Union Territories are asked for issue of EPICs to residual electors.
- (iii) Immediately after final publication of the electoral rolls, States/Union Territories are asked to distribute EPICs to new electors as well as residual electors to whom EPICs have not been issued.

Statement

Statement showing the status of Photo Roll and EPIC with reference to final published electoral roll as for Summary Revision 2014

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union territory	Total Number of General Electors, 2014	Total No. of images in the photo roll	% of photo in electoral roll	Total No. of EPIC issued	% of EPIC coverage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	62385953	62385953	100.00	62385953	100.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	753170	748255	99.35	735196	97.61
3.	Assam	18722435	17779796	94.97	17779796	94.97
4.	Bihar	62108447	62076681	99.95	56269336	90.60
5.	Chhattisgarh	17521456	17415135	99.39	17128624	97.76
6.	Goa	1043277	1043277	100.00	1029257	98.66
7.	Gujarat	39871564	39851979	99.95	39856873	99.96
8.	Haryana	15594415	15594415	100.00	15594415	100.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4674185	4674185	100.00	4674185	100.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	6933118	6371327	91.90	6207914	89.54
11.	Jharkhand	19948683	19862722	99.57	19850756	99.51
12.	Karnataka	44643877	44182127	98.97	44309641	99.25
13.	Kerala	23780822	23780822	100.00	23780822	100.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	47427191	47427191	100.00	47427191	100.00
15.	Maharashtra	78966642	71326222	90.32	72330169	91.60
16.	Manipur	1739005	1739005	100.00	1732323	99.62
17.	Meghalaya	1553028	1553028	100.00	1553028	100.00
18.	Mizoram	696556	696556	100.00	696556	100.00
19.	Nagaland	1174663	1161404	98.87	1163269	99.03
20.	Odisha	28880850	27892935	96.58	28109504	97.33
21.	Punjab	19207092	19207092	100.00	19207092	100.00
22.	Rajasthan	42553557	42401573	99.64	42411273	99.67
23.	Sikkim	362326	362326	100.00	362326	100.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	53752570	53752570	100.00	53752570	100.00
25.	Tripura	2379541	2379541	100.00	2379541	100.00
26.	Uttarakhand	6786394	6786394	100.00	6786394	100.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	134351302	134351302	100.00	134264549	99.94
28.	West Bengal	62468988	62468988	100.00	62468988	100.00
29.	A & N Islands	257856	254093	98.54	233382	90.51
30.	Chandigarh	580694	580486	99.96	580412	99.95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
31.	Daman and Diu	102251	102251	100.00	100198	97.99
32.	D and N Haveli	188763	188763	100.00	188763	100.00
33.	NCT of Delhi	12060497	12060497	100.00	12060497	100.00
34.	Lakshadweep	47972	47972	100.00	47972	100.00
35.	Puducherry	885402	885402	100.00	885402	100.00
TOTAL		814404542	803392265	98.65	798344167	98.03

Setting up of Morning/Evening/Special courts

2535. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made a provision for setting up of Morning/Evening Shift/Special Judicial Magistrates' Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether certain States have set up Morning/Evening Courts so as to dispose of pending cases;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Telangana; and

(e) its impact in disposing of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) Setting up and functioning of Morning/Evening/Shift/Special Judicial Magistrate Courts is within the domain of the State Governments and the High Courts. 13th Finance Commission has made a provision of ₹ 2500 crore for the States for increasing the working hours of Courts through setting up Morning/Evening/shift Special Judicial Magistrate Courts utilising the existing infrastructure. This arrangement is primarily aimed at disposal of petty cases so as to clear the backlog of cases and to relieve pressure on judicial time. The scheme envisaged utilization of the services of regular judicial officers on payment of additional compensation or the services of retired officers.

(c) to (e) As per the reports received, 2137 Morning/Evening/Shift courts have been set-up in various States in the country including Andhra Pradesh. No separate report has been received from the State of Telangana. A Statement indicating State-wise number of Morning/Evening/Shift courts set up and the cases disposed as reported by the State Governments is given in the Statement.

Statement

Number of Morning /Evening/Shift/Special Judicial Magistrate Courts set up and number of cases disposed by these courts

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of Morning/Evening/Shift/ Special Judicial Magistrate Courts set up	Number of cases disposed by these courts
1.	Andhra Pradesh	259	31436
2.	Telangana		
3.	Assam	263	61263
4.	Bihar	38	845
5.	Gujarat	169	350367
6.	Haryana	109	433643
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	Not available
8.	Kerala	5	40033
9.	Maharashtra	394	866516
10.	Odisha	98	500
11.	Punjab	148	634223
12.	Tamil Nadu	10	4218
13.	Tripura	177	98080
14.	Uttar Pradesh	340	30868
15.	Uttarakhand	25	341
TOTAL		2137	2552333

Disposal of pending court cases

†2536. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases are lying pending in different courts of the country for the last several years, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether there is any proposal from the judiciary to increase the working hours of the court for speedier and quick disposal of pending cases, and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (b) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information available, 65,970 cases were pending in Supreme Court of India as on 1.7.2014. Details of cases pending in the High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2013 are given in Statement I and II (*See below*).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Working hours and holidays in Supreme Court and High Courts are regulated by the respective Courts. Working hours and holidays in District and Subordinate Courts are regulated by the respective High Courts. The Supreme Court has notified the Supreme Court Rules, 2013 on 27th May, 2014 wherein, *inter-alia*, it is provided that the period of summer vacation shall not exceed seven weeks. It is further provided that the length of the summer vacation and the number of holidays for the Court and the offices of the Court shall be such as may be fixed by the Chief Justice and notified in the official Gazette so as not to exceed one hundred and three days, excluding Sundays not falling in the vacation and during holidays. The Supreme Court Rules, 2013 will come into force with effect from 19th August, 2014.

Statement-I

Age-wise breakup of pending cases in High Courts as on 31.12.2013

Sl. No.	High Court	Type of Case	Years				Total
			0 to 1 year old	1 to 5 years old	5 to 10 years old	More than 10 years old	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Allahabad	Civil	70160	194964	184330	245977	695431
		Criminal	44677	112961	105609	84720	347967
		TOTAL	114837	307925	289939	330697	1043398
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Civil	34433	90171	58328	18493	201425
		Criminal	8080	17054	5893	7	31034
		TOTAL	42513	107225	64221	18500	232459
3.	Bombay	Civil	64028	115984	71983	47936	299931
		Criminal	12448	18768	11921	6769	49906
		TOTAL	76476	134752	83904	54705	349837
4.	Calcutta	Civil	24156	58739	56321	24137	163353
		Criminal	4718	12086	14120	6051	36947
		Misc.	-	-	-	-	79343
		Cases of High Court (Appellate side)*					
		Circuit bench situated in the A and N Island*	-	-	-	-	335
		TOTAL	28874	70825	70441	30188	280006

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Delhi	Civil	13052	24865	8492	2591	49000
		Criminal	5419	6525	2508	1200	15652
		TOTAL	18471	31390	11000	3791	64652
6.	Gujarat	Civil	15316	20282	9085	15448	60131
		Criminal	7074	9939	5357	9452	31822
		TOTAL	22390	38221	14442	24900	91953
7.	Guwahati	Civil	10842	20223	2468	1	33534
		Criminal	2926	3402	1050	0	7378
		TOTAL	13768	23625	3518	1	40912
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Civil	16104	29095	7705	1111	54015
		Criminal	1469	3389	1182	18	6058
		TOTAL	17573	32484	8887	1129	60073
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Civil	26891	40085	16198	4620	87794
		Criminal	2146	2676	329	93	5244
		TOTAL	29037	42761	16527	4713	93038
10.	Karnataka	Civil	75834	91007	12021	517	179379
		Criminal	5940	10673	914	66	17593
		TOTAL	81774	101680	12935	583	196972
11.	Kerala	Civil	26536	56718	12598	3721	99573
		Criminal	5132	16195	10966	293	32586
		TOTAL	31668	72913	23564	4014	132159
12.	Madras	Civil	183450	198882	90061	17990	490383
		Criminal	44690	17968	3909	539	67096
		TOTAL	228140	216850	93970	18519	557479
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Civil	35283	94061	38331	6990	174665
		Criminal	17792	38287	20233	10634	86946
		TOTAL	53075	132348	58564	17624	261611
14.	Odisha	Civil	24900	71322	43447	29125	168794
		Criminal	17762	8876	7633	3757	38028
		TOTAL	42662	80198	51080	32882	206822
15.	Patna	Civil	24055	38870	6068	10903	79896
		Criminal	18313	21092	8300	4554	52259
		TOTAL	42368	59962	14368	15457	132155
16.	Punjab & Haryana	Civil	40831	62628	40359	56731	200549
		Criminal	20645	25166	14237	2163	62211
		TOTAL	61476	87794	54596	58894	262760
17.	Rajasthan	Civil	50884	118429	51866	22841	244020
		Criminal	15283	19810	15359	13168	63620
		TOTAL	66167	138239	67225	36009	307640

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Sikkim	Civil	69	24	2	0	95
		Criminal	25	0	0	0	25
		Total	94	24	2	0	120
19.	Uttarakhand	Civil	4063	8979	2041	186	15269
		Criminal	2200	2487	688	42	5417
		Total	6263	11466	2729	228	20686
20.	Chhattisgarh	Civil	5724	12344	6878	2200	27146
		Criminal	2588	7048	3725	3632	16993
		TOTAL	8312	19392	10603	5832	44139
21.	Jharkhand	Civil	9359	21407	5673	1562	38001
		Criminal	8492	13840	10154	2471	34957
		TOTAL	17851	35247	15827	4033	72958
22.	Tripura	Civil	1934	1992	810	7	4743
		Criminal	414	401	276	0	1091
		TOTAL	2348	2393	1086	7	5834
23.	Manipur	Civil	1034	2253	461	13	3761
		Criminal	41	51	0	0	92
		TOTAL	1075	2304	461	13	3853
24.	Meghalaya	Civil	539	574	2	0	1115
		Criminal	47	27	0	0	74
		TOTAL	586	601	2	0	1189
ALL HIGH COURTS TOTAL CIVIL			759477	1373898	725528	513100	3372003
ALL HIGH COURTS TOTAL CRIMINAL			248321	368721	244363	149619	1011024
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL HIGH COURTS			1007798	1742619	969891	662719	4462705

* Age-wise breakup of miscellaneous cases of High Court (appellate side) and Circuit bench at A & N Islands is not available.

Statement-II

Age-wise breakup of pending cases in high Courts as on 31.12.2013

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Type of Case	Years				Total
			0 to 1 years old	1 to 5 years old	5 to 10 years old	More than 10 years old	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Civil	153153	283680	33678	5036	475547
		Criminal	202623	277464	22727	5521	508335
		TOTAL	355776	561144	56405	10557	983882

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	Civil	204	260	211	111	786
		Criminal	2337	1169	826	958	5290
		TOTAL	2541	1429	1037	1069	6076
3.	Assam	Civil	21972	42725	4129	730	69556
		Criminal	68351	92959	15175	2431	178916
		TOTAL	90323	135684	19304	3161	248472
4.	Bihar	Civil	79449	101330	70769	34665	286213
		Criminal	415025	603161	389750	113633	1521569
		TOTAL	494474	704491	460519	148298	1807782
5.	Chhattisgarh	Civil	17363	31526	7448	4775	61112
		Criminal	63127	100357	31616	12904	208004
		TOTAL	80490	131883	39064	17679	269116
6.	Goa	Civil	8931	6675	1740	1706	19052
		Criminal	8592	3486	440	133	12651
		TOTAL	17523	10161	2180	1839	31703
7.	Gujarat	Civil	110504	263531	155695	100578	630308
		Criminal	484714	679622	276331	155396	1596063
		TOTAL	595218	943153	432026	255974	2226371
8.	Haryana	Civil	99151	137622	8401	421	245595
		Criminal	149264	149060	11442	308	310074
		TOTAL	248415	286682	19843	729	555669
9.	Himachal Pradesh	Civil	33130	44183	6310	467	84090
		Criminal	94128	72542	7758	273	174701
		TOTAL	127258	116725	14068	740	258791
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	Civil	43086	25550	5899	1337	75872
		Criminal	47362	41902	9280	1231	99775
		TOTAL	90448	67452	15179	2568	175647
11.	Jharkhand	Civil	16557	34110	11267	4551	66485
		Criminal	63696	131617	38525	7530	241368
		TOTAL	80253	165727	49792	12081	307853
12.	Karnataka	Civil	212844	310787	68815	12217	604663
		Criminal	220390	302305	54063	8914	585672
		TOTAL	433234	613092	122878	21131	1190335
13.	Kerala	Civil	178355	207745	25272	3890	415262
		Criminal	497606	424892	15890	729	939117
		TOTAL	675961	632637	41162	4619	1354379
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Civil	111898	111252	24863	7242	255255
		Criminal	417756	351676	60883	12088	842403
		TOTAL	529654	462928	85746	19330	1097658

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Maharashtra	Civil	366048	435426	158753	79528	1039755
		Criminal	770078	655139	256155	163271	1844643
		TOTAL	1136126	1090565	414908	242799	2884398
16.	Manipur	Civil	2476	2093	584	121	5274
		Criminal	3372	2197	1192	872	7633
		TOTAL	5848	4290	1776	993	12907
17.	Meghalaya	Civil	308	765	621	231	1925
		Criminal	714	1235	421	146	2516
		TOTAL	1022	2000	1042	377	4441
18.	Mizoram	Civil	1048	423	39	1	1511
		Criminal	1020	568	1	0	1589
		TOTAL	2068	991	40	1	3100
19.	Nagaland	Civil	733	407	75	101	1316
		Criminal	738	740	189	335	2002
		TOTAL	1471	1147	264	436	3318
20.	Orissa	Civil	57463	111322	43565	20864	233214
		Criminal	138139	355621	222221	185253	901234
		TOTAL	195602	466943	265786	206117	1134448
21.	Punjab	Civil	102651	139801	14044	1481	257977
		Criminal	132514	121083	11482	703	265782
		TOTAL	235165	260884	25526	2184	523759
22.	Rajasthan	Civil	109967	226222	66096	25892	428177
		Criminal	250777	512804	202630	57493	1023704
		TOTAL	360744	739026	268726	83385	1451881
23.	Sikkim	Civil	171	85	3	2	261
		Criminal	390	188	6	0	584
		TOTAL	561	273	9	2	845
24.	Tamil Nadu	Civil	375865	376783	72957	17599	843204
		Criminal	117343	246685	62680	18403	445111
		TOTAL	493208	623468	135637	36002	1288315
25.	Tripura	Civil	4089	3966	476	319	8850
		Criminal	40420	13864	2614	3967	60865
		TOTAL	44509	17830	3090	4286	69715
26.	Uttar Pradesh	Civil	430104	529097	259579	187444	1406224
		Criminal	1401900	1687631	709108	400122	4198761
		TOTAL	1832004	2216728	968687	587566	5604985
27.	Uttarakhand	Civil	10965	15690	2504	1251	30410
		Criminal	53355	58592	7548	2749	122244
		TOTAL	64320	74282	10052	4000	152654

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
28.	West Bengal	Civil	116850	246815	121574	62322	517561
		Criminal	658565	971144	325911	58081	2013701
		TOTAL	775415	1217959	447485	120403	2561262
29.	A & N Islands	Civil	870	1435	251	74	2630
		Criminal	2985	1657	4067	66	8775
		TOTAL	3855	6092	1318	140	11405
30.	Chandigarh	Civil	6886	11405	2117	206	20614
		Criminal	27600	9900	1454	144	39098
		TOTAL	34486	21305	3571	350	59712
31.	Daman & Diu	Civil	310	263	201	67	841
		Criminal	502	246	88	26	862
		TOTAL	812	509	289	93	1703
32.	D & N Haveli	Civil	288	204	80	21	593
		Criminal	840	504	911	161	2416
		TOTAL	1128	708	991	182	3009
33.	Delhi	Civil	56349	63307	14699	6197	140552
		Criminal	144596	162893	58625	15501	381615
		TOTAL	200945	226200	73324	21698	522167
34.	Lakshadweep	Civil	22	121	8	4	155
		Criminal	62	132	4	1	199
		TOTAL	84	253	12	5	354
35.	Puducherry	Civil	7066	8173	1510	364	17113
		Criminal	2695	9249	1573	119	13636
		TOTAL	9761	17422	3083	483	30749
GRAND TOTAL of civil cases			2737126	3774779	1184233	581815	8277953
GRAND TOTAL of criminal cases			6483576	8047284	2800586	1229462	18560908
GRAND TOTAL of all Subordinate Courts			9220702	11822063	3984819	1811277	26838861

Justice at low cost

†2537. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government is taking any steps or making any effort to provide justice to people at minimum cost and to provide them better access to judicial system of the country, if so, details thereof, and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 was enacted for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at Intermediate Panchayat Level for the purpose of providing access to justice to citizens at their doorstep. Central Government is encouraging States to set up Gram Nyayalayas

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

by providing financial assistance as per prescribed norms. 9 States have so far notified 180 Gram Nyayalayas.

Further, free legal services are provided under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to the poor and weaker sections of the society *viz.*, members of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, women, children persons with disability and persons in custody. For this purpose, Legal Services Authorities have been constituted at National, State and District level under the above Act.

Misuse of PILs

2538. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details if the Public Interest Litigation (PILs) filed in the Supreme Court and various High Courts in the country;

(b) whether several people, organization and institutions file meaningless petitions in the name of PILs, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government takes/proposes to take action against such people or to put a check on these meaningless litigations, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manipulation in EVMs

2539. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of LAW and JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether manipulation in EVM is possible;

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

(c) whether complaints of manipulation in EVMs during the recent Lok Sabha poll were received; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Election Commission has informed that some cases of alleged technical malfunctioning/mishandling of EVMs were brought to its notice.

(d) the details of complaints and action taken thereon as provided by the Election Commission are as under :

Sl. No.	Complaint	Action taken by the Election Commission
1.	An identical/similar complaint was received from more than one complainant regarding manipulation of EVMs in Varanasi Parliamentary Constituency. Some photos were attached with the complaint whereby a boy was sitting with EVMs and the background appeared to be a residence.	The Commission, immediately, sought report from CEO, Uttar Pradesh. According to the reports, the person was the son of a sector magistrate who was allocated some reserve EVMs on the eve of the Poll. The said Sector Magistrate took those reserve EVMs to his home and his son, in curiosity, got himself photo-graphed with the EVMs and uploaded the photos on social networking website. These EVMs were not used in the poll and returned to the authorities on the next day. The Commission recommended the suspension of the said sector magistrate for negligence in duty.
2.	A complaint was received from Indian National Congress stating that some EVMs (during preparation of EVMs) in Assam showed light glowing against the name of different candidate while voted for a different one. They claimed that the EVMs have been tampered with.	The Commission immediately called all those EVMs to the Commission's headquarters at New Delhi. They all were of ECIL Pre-2006 make. The engineers of ECIL checked all those EVMs thoroughly and submitted that the incident occurred due to failure of an electronic component in Balloting Unit, which do not have built-in intelligence to self-test its own programme.
3.	A letter, from Shri Lal Thanhawala (President Mizoram Pradesh Congress Committee) was received stating that opposition parties were casting apprehensions on his character saying that he is involved in rigging of EVMs.	The Commission immediately issued a press note, through the Chief Electoral officer, Mizoram, stating that the EVMs cannot be rigged by anyone.
4.	A complaint has been received from Shri Promod Kureel, Uttar Pradesh. Shri Kureel has claimed that he was not informed about the time and date of randomization process of EVMs by the District Election Authorities and apprehended that the EVMs used in Rae Bareli Parliamentary Constituency were pre-programmed to favour a particular candidate during the said randomization process.	The Commission has requested the Chief Electoral Officer, Uttar Pradesh to submit a factual report on the apprehensions made by Shri Kureel. According to the report, Shri Kureel was informed well in advance (on 19.04.2014) about the time and date of randomization process of EVMs, which held on 21.04.2014, through special massager as well as SMS. After receiving the letter from Special Massager, Shri Kureel signed the acknowledgement but later defaced it. It has also been mentioned in the report that at the same randomization process, the representatives of AAP, INC, BSP, BJP and many other state level parties along with independent candidates were present. Moreover, no contesting candidate, including Shri Kureel, of the Parliamentary Constituency made any complaint regarding manipulation of EVMs till the counting was over.

Sl. No.	Complaint	Action taken by the Election Commission
5.	A complaint has been received from Shri Bhakta Charan Das, a contesting candidate of INC from Kalahandi PC of Odisha. Shri Das has mentioned in his complaint that some voters approached him and stated that their vote “flipped” to other candidates.	A report was sought from the Chief Electoral Officer, Odisha in the matter. As per the report, submitted by the DEO, Kalahandi, the said flip is not possible in the EVM as they have been processed through First Level Checking, three round of randomization and mock poll. All the EVMs were checked and certified by the authorized engineers of M/s Bharat Electronic Limited, Bengalore, a public sector undertaking of Government of India and one of the sole manufacturer and supplier of ECI-EVMs. Moreover, no such complaint was ever reported by anyone related to the process of election at any point of time.

Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill

2540. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to do away with the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill following strong resistance and objections from Judges, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the action being taken by Government for smooth passage of the bill?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) The Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 29.03.2012. However, the Bill could not be considered in the last Session of the Parliament and lapsed due to dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha. The matter requires further consideration in consultation with various stakeholders.

Repeal of old and irrelevant laws

2541. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government feels that it is overdue to repeal old and irrelevant laws that clutter the statute book;

(b) whether the Law Commission made a study of such statutes in 1998 and prepared a long list of legislations which could be jettisoned benefiting the public and the courts; and

(c) whether there are statutes that still refer to His/Her Majesty, including 11 colonial era statutes while several statues like Indian Penal Code 1860 and the Civil Procedure Code 1908 still serve the legal system well, fine-tuned with amendments?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Law Commission has presented its 159th Report on the Repeal and Amendment of Laws (Part I) in the year 1998, wherein it has recommended certain Central Acts for repeal/amalgamation /amendment.

(c) Government of India has adapted pre-independence Central Acts through Adaptation of Laws Order issued under clause (2) of article 372 of the Constitution of India and the references therein to His/Her Majesty were suitably substituted. Those Central Acts, which were not repealed or altered by such Constitution Orders or Acts of Parliament, are still on the statute book.

Free legal aid centres

2542. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing free legal aid to poor and women victims for pleading their case of domestic violence, sexual assault, dowery, rape, molestation etc;

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

(c) the action taken by Government to increase the number of free legal aid centres in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) The categories of persons entitled to free legal aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, are specified in section 12 of the said Act. In terms of sub-section (h) of this section, persons in receipt of annual income less than the amount prescribed in this regard by the various State Governments (if the case is before a Court other than the Supreme Court) and by the Central Government (if the case is before the Supreme Court), are entitled to free legal aid. In terms of sub-section (c) of this section, all women, irrespective of their social and financial status, are entitled to free legal aid.

(b) The details of the number of women who were extended free legal aid during the year 2013-14 State/UT-wise (including the State of Haryana), is given in the Statement (*See below*). Details in respect of persons who were extended free legal aid based on the income criteria is not maintained separately.

(c) The State Legal Services Authorities District Legal Services Authorities and Taluk/Mandal/Sub-Divisional Legal Services Committees, provide free legal services at the levels of States, Districts, Taluk/Mandal/Sub-Divisions, respectively. In addition, the High Court Legal Services Committees and the Supreme Court Legal Services Committees provide free Legal services in the various High Courts and the Supreme Court, respectively. Legal Aid Clinics, which are manned by para-legal volunteers, have been set up in villages, especially where the people face geographical, social and other barriers, for access to the legal institution.

Statement*The number of women benefited through free Legal Aid during the year 2013-14*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1360
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	1875
4.	Bihar	199
5.	Chhattisgarh	5939
6.	Goa	318
7.	Gujarat	2625
8.	Haryana	2155
9.	Himachal Pradesh	660
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	607
11.	Jharkhand	294
12.	Karnataka	815
13.	Kerala	2588
14.	Madhya Pradesh	6005
15.	Maharashtra	7060
16.	Manipur	15
17.	Meghalaya	38
18.	Mizoram	599
19.	Nagaland	285
20.	Odisha	1354
21.	Punjab	2478
22.	Rajasthan	696
23.	Sikkim	150
24.	Tamil Nadu	10923
25.	Tripura	738
26.	Uttar Pradesh	523
27.	Uttarakhand	90
28.	West Bengal	1137
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4
30.	U.T. Chandigarh	147
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
32.	Daman and Diu	72
33.	Delhi	6202
34.	Lakshadweep	0
35.	Puducherry	1174

State/District Mediation Centres

2543. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is encouraging and giving support to State/District Mediation Centres for easy settlement of cases especially for poor people, if so, the details thereof;

(b) how many cases have been settled so far in the Mediation Centres, State-wise; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for modification/development/extension of the facilities of Mediation Centres?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) and (b) The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) allots funds to the State Legal Services Authorities for undertaking various activities, including establishing Mediation Centres in the States. The funds utilised by the State Legal Services Authorities for establishing mediation centres, out of the funds allotted to them by NALSA is not separately maintained. The information relating to the number of cases settled by the mediation centres, State/UT-wise is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The 13th Finance Commission has allotted funds for establishing District Alternative Disputes Resolution (ADR) Centres in 600 Districts, where different types of ADR mechanism, including mediation, as enumerated in Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, will be utilised for resolution of disputes.

Uniform Civil Code

†2544. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Constitution provides for implementation of Uniform civil code in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether this provision of the Constitution is not in force as law at present; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor and whether Government has any plan to take initiative towards this direction?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (c) Provision of Uniform Civil Code is there in Article 44 in the Constitution. Wide stakeholders' consultation would be required for further steps in this regard.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Use of regional language by High Courts

2545. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Central Government in consultation with Supreme Court and Ministry of Home Affairs for use of regional languages of concerned States for judicial proceedings in High Courts; and

(b) whether Government intends to request Supreme Court once again to review its earlier decision regarding allowing regional language in judicial proceedings?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Proposals relating to the use of Tamil, Gujarati and Hindi in the proceedings of the Madras High Court, Gujarat High Court and Chhattisgarh High Court respectively had been earlier received from the Governments of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh. These proposals were sent to the Supreme Court for the considered opinion of the Chief Justice of India. The Full Court of the Supreme Court considered these proposals in its meeting held on 11th October, 2012 and reiterated the earlier similar resolutions of the Full Court adopted in 1997 and 1999 to not accept the proposals. The Government has abided by this decision.

Based on another request received on 10th June, 2014 from the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Government has again written to the Chief Justice of India on 04.07.2014 in this regard.

Pending court cases

2546. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of pending cases as on 1 January, 2013 in Supreme Court, High Courts of the country and districts courts of all States and Union Territories;

(b) the number of cases pending for more than 20 years, greater than 10 years and less than 20 years and greater than 5 years and less than 10 years, respectively; and

(c) the measures being taken for speedy delivery of justice?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information available, 65970 cases were pending in Supreme Court of India as on 1.7.2014. Details of age wise cases pending in the High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2013 are given in Statements. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer USQ No 2536 (Part (a) and (b))]

Disposal of cases in courts fails within the domain of judiciary. In order to create an enabling environment for judiciary to deal with the problem of pendency and backlog of cases, the Government has set up National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms. The major initiative under the National Mission relate to Infrastructure Development for Subordinate Judiciary and Computerization of Courts. The Central Government has provided financial assistance to the tune of ₹ 2,198 crores to State Governments and Union Territories for upgradation / construction of court complexes and residential units for judicial officers in the last three years. Under the e-Courts Project 13,227 courts have been computerized by 31st March, 2014. Computerization of courts would enable the courts to exercise greater control over management of cases in the docket. It will also provide designated services to the litigants and the lawyers. In order to reduce government litigation in courts the Central Government has encouraged the States to notify their litigation policies which contain provisions for weeding out infructuous cases and promote dispute resolution through alternative mechanisms. The Government is also looking into the areas prone to excessive litigation for adopting suitable policy and legislative measures to curb such litigation.

Accountability in judiciary

2547. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether corruption in judiciary is on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the number of corruption cases reported against judges in various courts including Supreme Court, High Courts and district courts, State-wise;

(c) the action taken thereon; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to enforce greater accountability in judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (c) Allegations of corruption in the judiciary have come to the notice of the Government and have been reported in the media also from time to time. As per the “in-house mechanism” for the higher judiciary, Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice of the Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of their Courts. Administrative control over the members of the subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court and State Government. In view of this, the Central Government do not maintain records of such complaints and has no mechanism to monitor the action taken on the same.

(d) There is a proposal to change the existing system for investigation into the complaints of misbehaviour or incapacity of a Judges of the Supreme Court or High Courts as well as to enforce greater accountability. A Bill titled "The Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill" was moved by the Government in the previous Lok Sabha. The Bill provides for a comprehensive mechanism for handling complaints made by citizens on grounds of alleged misbehaviour and incapacity against judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts and for taking action against those found guilty after investigation. The Bill also lays down judicial standards and makes it incumbent on the Judges to declare their assets/liabilities. However, the Bill could not be passed and lapsed due to dissolution of 15th Lok Sabha.

Availability of international sim/calling cards without proper verification

2548. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what action has been taken by Government on the easy availability of international pre-paid mobile sim-cards/calling cards without any proper verification of profile of these card users, which are used in India for communication by anti-national elements due to which police and security agencies are helpless to trace out such communications and to caputre such anti-social elements; and

(b) whether the Ministry is going to take any steps in coordination with Ministry of Home Affairs to prevent misuse of international sim-cards by anti-national elements, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, The companies authorised / permitted for sale / rent of International SIM Cards / Calling Cards in India are selling foreign telecom company's SIM cards which are meant for use outside India. The Department of Telecom (DoT) issues 'No Objection Certificate (NOC)' to the applicant companies who want to sale / rent International pre-paid mobile SIM cards / calling cards on the terms and conditions of the NOC.

These NOC holders have to comply with the terms & conditions of NOC, *inter-alia*, that the proper verification of the user is required before selling / renting such cards. As per the terms & conditions of NOC, the NOC Holder company are mandated to provide details of such cards (including the period), along with particulars, address of the person to whom the International SIM cards have been sold / rented, to the designated Security Agencies / Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) on monthly basis.

(b) Security Agencies / Law Enforcement Agencies designated by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) are provided the particulars, including the address of the customer

and details of sold / rented International SIM cards, by the NOC Holders periodically, in compliance to the terms and conditions of NOC issued by DoT. This helps to prevent misuse of such cards by the users including anti-social elements in the country.

Starting of new railway lines

†2549. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced to start 18 new railway lines after carrying out the survey in the financial year 2014-15;

(b) whether Government is considering on linking Mainpuri and Rath city in Hamirpur district of Uttar Pradesh with railway line after survey and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is considering on extension, gauge conversion and electrification of railway lines on Jhansi-Manikpur and Manikpur-Kanpur routes and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. Only surveys for 18 new lines have been announced.

(b) No, Sir. Survey for linking Rath City to Orai (Orai is further connected by existing rail network to Mainpuri) was completed. Since the proposal had negative Rate of Return of 12.93%, it could not be taken up due to its unremunerative nature.

(c) No, Sir.

Ticket confirmation requests by MPs

†2550. SHRI ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) reasons for not providing reservation by Northern Railway (Baroda House) and East Central Railway (Hajipur) to family members/relatives/friends/guests recommended by MPs;

(b) action taken by Government in case of tearing off letters of MPs, not picking phones of secretary/representative of MPs and misbehaving on phone by officials related to reservation;

(c) whether railway officers are in higher category than an MP, if not, the reasons for providing reservation to officers instead of family members, etc. recommended by MPs; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) action taken against concerned officials for not providing reservation to persons recommended by MPs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) In order to meet the urgent travel requirements of High Official Requisition (HOR) holders (which include Central Government Ministers, judges of Supreme Court of India, High Courts of various States, etc.), Members of Parliament and others, a limited number of berths/seats have been earmarked as emergency quota in different trains and in different classes. The quota is released by the staff in accordance with the priority as per warrant of precedence and well established practice being followed since long. At the time of allotment of berths/seats, emergency quota is first allotted for self travel of HOR holders/Members of Parliament, etc., strictly as per their *inter-se* seniority in warrant of precedence. Thereafter, other requisitions received from various quarters including that from Members of Parliament are considered and the remaining quota is released taking into account various factors like status of passengers travelling, nature of urgency like travelling on Government duty, bereavement in the family, sickness, job interview, etc. This practice is being followed on all the Zonal Railways including Northern and East Central Railways. No instance regarding tearing off letters of Members of Parliament or not picking phone/misbehaving with them/their staff has been reported on these Railways.

Survey for Phalodi city, Jodhpur Kandla port railway line

†2551. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to conduct a survey to lay a railway line from Phalodi city in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan to Kandla port and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Ministry of Defence had agreed to grant funds for this survey considering it important from strategic point of view and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Premium trains

2552. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of 17 premium trains announced recently;

(b) whether they all have become operational;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the difference in percentage of fares between regular superfast express trains and premium trains; and

(d) how premium trains are different from regular superfast express trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The details of 17 premium trains announced in the interim Railway Budget 2014-15 are as under :

1. Howrah - Pune AC Express
2. Kamakhya - New Delhi AC Express
3. Kamakhya - Chennai AC Express
4. Mumbai - Howrah AC Express
5. Mumbai - Patna AC Express
6. Nizamuddin - Madgaon AC Express
7. Sealdah - Jodhpur AC Express
8. Yesvantpur - Jaipur AC Express
9. Ahmedabad - Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express
10. Bandra - Amritsar Express
11. Bandra (T) - Katra Express
12. Gorakhpur - New Delhi Express
13. Katra - Howrah Express
14. Mumbai - Gorakhpur Express
15. Patna- Bangalore Express
16. Yesvantpur - Katra Express
17. Thiruvananthapuram - Bangalore (Yesvantpur) Express

(b) At present, out of 17 Premium trains announced in the interim Railway Budget 2014-15, the following 5 Premium trains have been made operational as Premium Special trains:

1. Kamakhya - New Delhi AC Express
2. Yesvantpur - Jaipur AC Express
3. Ahmedabad - Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express
4. Mumbai (LTT)-Gorakhpur Express
5. Patna-Bangalore Express

(c) The fares of regular superfast trains are charged according to the published fare tables for each class according to the relevant distance slab. The fares of Premium trains are variable as a dynamic premium is charged over and above the Express/Rajdhani/Duronto trains fares based on demand intensity.

(d) The following are the main differences between Premium trains and regular superfast Express trains:-

- (i) The fare of Premium trains is variable issued on demand intensity.
- (ii) There is no waiting list on Premium trains as all passengers are given confirmed/RAC accommodations.
- (iii) The accommodation booking for Premium trains is done only through the internet.

Rolling stock under pressure

2553. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways' rolling stocks are under tremendous pressure due to increased passenger and freight traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this has resulted in frequent accident resulting in loss of property as well as human beings; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to expand capacity of Railways' rolling stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. Procurement of rolling stock is planned in advance keeping in view passenger and freight traffic projection.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Talcher Bimlagarh railway line

2554. SHRI PYRIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the investment made for Talcher-Bimlagarh railway line, year-wise, from the date of sanction along with the original estimated cost and the revised estimates; and

(b) the reasons for inordinate delay and by when it is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Talcher-Bimlagarh New Line (154 Km.) was sanctioned in 2003-04 at a cost of ₹ 726.96 crore. Its latest anticipated cost is ₹ 811 crore (at 2006-07 price level). The year-wise investments made for Talcher-Bimlagarh Railway line from the date of sanction are as given below:-

Year	Expenditure (₹ in crore)
2003-04	0
2004-05	0.001
2005-06	0.71
2006-07	1.40
2007-08	8.83
2008-09	17.28
2009-10	21.42
2010-11	20.16
2011-12	36.52
2012-13	14.63
2013-14	12.29
2014-15 (Outlay)	100.00
TOTAL	233.24

(b) The project has been delayed due to delay in land acquisition and forestry clearance. No target date has been fixed for completion of this project.

Rain water harvesting to meet water requirement

2555. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are meeting its water requirement through borewells ;

(b) whether Railways have failed to set up rain water harvesting systems at its stations and colonies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Railways have asked its zones to set up rain water harvesting systems at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Railways water requirement is met from various sources viz local bodies, bore-wells, rainy wells and also through private tankers in water scarcity areas. Instructions have also been issued to zonal railways for providing rain water harvesting in colonies, stations etc. Approximately 1300 rain water harvesting systems have already been installed at various locations in Indian Railways.

Target to lay new railway lines

2556. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have fixed any target to lay new railway lines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of new lines laid out of the target, so far;
- (d) whether there is a shortfall in the laying of new lines;
- (e) if so, whether Government has analyzed the factors responsible for this;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the details of steps taken by Railways to achieve the targets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Targets for laying of new railway lines are fixed on yearly basis subject to availability of funds and progress made in individual projects. For the year 2014-15, the target for laying new railway lines is 300 Km. Out of this target, 39 Km new lines have been laid till June, 2014.

- (d) Generally, there is no shortfall in laying of new lines with respect to target.
- (e) to (g) Do not arise.

New railway zone in Seemandhra area

2557. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the provisions as contained in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 for establishing a new railway zone in Seemandhra area;
- (b) whether any decision has been taken thereon, if so, the steps being taken by Government thereon; and
- (c) the role of Government of Andhra Pradesh and the status of their response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Item 8 of Schedule 13 (Infrastructure) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 stipulates that “Indian Railways shall, within six months from the appointed day, examine establishing a new Railway zone in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh and take an expeditious decision thereon”.

(b) and (c) A committee of Senior Officers from Railways has been constituted to examine, amongst other issues, the feasibility of creation of the new Railway Zone. The Terms of Reference of the Committee include holding of discussions with all concerned, including the State Government officials, before giving their recommendations. The Committee has not yet submitted its report.

Mechanism for rescue and relief operations

2558. SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanism in place for rescue and relief operations in Railways;
- (b) the details of response time in the aftermath of an accident;
- (c) whether Railways' disaster management plan presently lacks cohesiveness and is not fully prepared to handle disasters; and
- (d) if so, the corrective measures taken by Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The Railways have a network of Accident Relief Trains and Accident Relief Medical Vans placed at identified locations, which cover the entire rail network of Indian Railways. The Accident Relief Medical Vans and Accident Relief Train are equipped with rescue and relief equipments required to be used at the accident site. On receiving information of an accident, the Accident Relief Medical Vans and Accident Relief Train are dispatched to the accident site along with personnel trained in rescue and relief operations.

(b) Immediately on receipt of information about an accident, involving or likely to involve injuries or deaths, Accident Relief Medical Vans (ARMVs) are rushed to the site of the accident. The target time for dispatch of ARMVs is a maximum of 30 minutes from their ordering. These ARMVs carry medical equipments, doctors, paramedics and other officials to the site of the accident for prompt medical relief. These also carry emergency tools for extricating the injured persons and the bodies from the debris, if required. Accident Relief Trains (ARTs) carrying equipments and staff to deal with relief, rescue and restoration are dispatched from the locations where these are stationed to the accident site. The target time for dispatch of ARTs is a maximum of 60 minutes from their ordering. ARMVs and ARTs are given precedence over all other trains while proceeding to the site of the accident. Many a times Railways doctors, paramedics and other officials reach the site of the accident by road depending upon accessibility of the site by road.

(c) No, Sir. Disaster Management Plan of Indian Railways is comprehensive and fully prepared to handle disasters. The Disaster Management Plans at Divisional level, Zonal level and at Railway Board level are dovetailed and integrated with each other.

(d) Does not arise.

Gauge conversion of Shencottah Punalur railway line

2559. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shencottah-Punalur railway line has been awaiting gauge conversion work since 2010 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the allocation made in the current Budget to complete this gauge conversion work; and

(c) by when would this work be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Gauge conversion of Sengottai-Punalur section has been taken up as a part of Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar gauge conversion project. On this project, Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur (61 Km), Tirunelveli-Tenkasi-Bhagvatipuram (86 Km), Virudhunagar-Tenkasi (122 Km) and Quilon-Edamann (52 Km) sections *i.e.* a total of 321 Km out of 357 Km have been completed. Earthwork and bridges and tunnels work in balance portion *i.e.* Bhagvatipuram-New Ariyankavu-Edamann (36 Km) have been taken up.

An outlay of ₹ 35 crore has been provided in Budget 2014-15.

Targets are fixed every year based on overall availability of funds. No specific target date for completion of this work has been fixed.

Railway projects in Telangana

2560. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects, *viz.*, new railway lines, gauge conversion, doubling and electrification under execution in Telangana;

(b) how many of these have surpassed their targeted date and are pending for more than ten years; and

(c) whether any plan has been chalked out by Railways to complete these projects on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Seven new line projects and one doubling project falling fully/partly in the State of Telangana are currently under execution. There is no gauge conversion or electrification project presently under execution in the State of Telangana.

(b) and (c) Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects and a limited overall availability of funds. As such, it is not possible to allot adequate funds to all the projects on a regular basis which is a pre-requisite to fix target dates of their completion. Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad New Line project (177 km) has been in progress for more than 10 years and work is progressing as per availability of resources. Presently Peddapalli-Metapalli (112 km) section has been completed and work in remaining section has been taken up.

Employees in Railways

2561. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Group A, B, C and D employees in Railways;
- (b) how many of them are permanent and regular;
- (c) how many out of these total employees are on contract system; and

(d) whether Railways employ workers for manual scavenging, if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As on 1.04.2014, the total number of regular employees in all Groups is 1321140 (provisional) on Indian Railways.

(c) Indian Railways are not directly connected with the number of persons engaged by the contractors. Therefore, such figures are not maintained in Railways.

(d) There are no manual scavengers in the Railways. However, Railways have on their rolls Safaikaramcharis, for the purpose of cleanliness of Hospitals, Colonies, Stations and other Railway establishments. State-wise details of Safaikaramcharis are not maintained. However, Railway-wise details is as under:

Railway	On-Roll Strength
Central	3246
East Coast	1054
East Central	2379
Eastern	3902

Railway	On-Roll Strength
North Central	2035
North Eastern	2308
Northeast Frontier	2877
Northern	4141
North Western	1020
South Central	1919
South East Central	872
South Eastern	2103
Southern	1741
South Western	747
West Central	1142
Western	3023

Vacancies of SCs and STs in Railways

2562. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Groups A, B and C backlog vacancies of SC and ST employees as on 31st March, 2013;

(b) how much time Railways would require to fill up the above vacancies; and

(c) when was the last special recruitment drive carried out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The total number of backlog vacancies (group-wise) of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) as on 31.03.2013 on Indian Railways are as under:-

Category	Group 'A'	Group 'B'	Group 'C'
SCs	Nil	Presently, there is no direct recruitment in Group 'B'	6795
STs	Nil		6412

(b) Accrual and filling up of the vacancies (including backlog vacancies) is an ongoing process in accordance with the statutory requirement.

(c) On receipt of the directives from Department of Personnel and Training (DOP&T), the last special recruitment drive was carried out in the year 2008.

Railway tourism policy

2563. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised a new comprehensive railway tourism policy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has policy to promote religious tourism and also history tourism covering historical places of the country?

(d) if so, what circuits have been prepared and what facilities at budget rates are likely to be provided to foreign tourists so that they get quick reservation; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The tourism policies are reviewed on a regular basis and new products are introduced from time to time. In the recent Railway Budget 2014-15, a number of tourist trains offering package tours covering special pilgrim circuits like Devi Circuit, Jyotirling Circuit, Jain Circuit, Christian Circuit, Muslim /Sufi Circuit, Sikh Circuit, Buddhist Circuit, Famous Temple Circuit etc. have been announced.

(c) to (e) Indian Railways network already caters to a number of religious and historic destinations in the country. Luxury tourist trains, Buddhist special train and Bharat Darshan trains also cover a number of religious and historic tourist places. Development of specific tourist circuits, including religious and historic places, is a continuous process based on market potential, financial viability, availability of resources, operational feasibility, etc. Facilities of Indian Railways are available to both domestic and foreign tourists. Indrail Passes as well as Foreign Tourist Quota in some important trains are available to foreign tourists. However, no separate budget rate for foreign tourist is provided.

World class stations

2564. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to develop 50 world class stations on the Indian railway system;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with location of such stations, zone-wise;

(c) the time-frame within which this upgradation would be completed; and

(d) the details of benefits that would accrue to the railway passengers as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) It has been decided to develop at least 10 major stations of Metro Cities and important junctions to international standards with state of the art modern facilities and passenger amenities through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

Stations to be redeveloped are to be identified based on adequacy of land, redevelopment cost, expected returns from real estate development, capacity of approach infrastructure to handle enhanced traffic, etc.

A dedicated organization, Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) has been set up to undertake such station redevelopment projects.

Such projects require detailed techno-economic feasibility studies and statutory clearances from local authorities. Though Railways have been making sustained efforts towards expediting various issues, no targets can be indicated.

PPP projects under Railways

2565. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many PPP projects are operating under Railways;
- (b) the status of all these projects;
- (c) whether any of these projects are running on profit; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The following PPP projects are operating under Railways:

- (i) Surendranagar-Pipavav Gauge Conversion Project
- (ii) Hassan-Mangalore Gauge Conversion Project
- (iii) Gandhidham-Palanpur Gauge Conversion Project
- (iv) Bharuch-Dahej Gauge Conversion Project
- (v) Obulavaripalle-Krishnapatnam New Line Phase-I

All these projects are operational.

(c) and (d) As per balance sheet of the companies who have implemented the projects, the following projects have shown profit for the year 2012-13:

- (i) Surendranagar-Pipavav Gauge Conversion Project implemented by Pipavav Railway Corporation Ltd. (PRCL) has generated a profit of ₹ 46.41 crores.
- (ii) Hassan-Mangalore Gauge Conversion Project implemented by Hassan-Mangalore Rail Development Company Ltd. (HMRDC) has generated a profit of ₹ 8.28 crores.
- (iii) Gandhidham-Palanpur Gauge Conversion Project implemented by Kutch Railway Company Ltd. (KRC) has generated a profit of ₹ 175.9 crores

Stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Rangiya Junction

2566. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways plan for stoppage of New Delhi-Guwahati/Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express at Rangiya Junction daily; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) At present 12435/12436 New Delhi-Dibrugarh Town (Bi-weekly) Rajdhani Express is having stoppage at Rangiya Junction. However, at present, there is no proposal for provision of stoppage of 12423/12424 New Delhi-Dibrugarh Town (Daily) Rajdhani Express at Rangiya Junction due to operational constraints.

Starting a direct train between Haridwar-Kotdwar-Ramnagar

†2567. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was announced in the last Railway Budget that direct train services would be started between Haridwar-Kotdwar-Ramnagar;

(b) if so, the details of progress made so far in this regard;

(c) whether Railways consider construction of this railway route necessary for the public; and

(d) if so, the details of the reasons for provisions of funds not been made for this railway route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No, Sir. However, survey for Haridwar-Kotdwar-Ramnagar new line was completed in 2011-12 and as per the survey report, the cost of construction of this 143 km long new line was assessed as ₹ 1246 crore with the rate of return of (-) 5.98% and the project could not be advanced due to its unremunerative nature.

(d) Does not arise as the project has not been sanctioned.

Allotments under Railways Catering Policy

2568. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Catering Policy circulated by the Railway Board is to be implemented by the zonal railways;

(b) whether zonal railways are competent to initiate action by violating the Policy;

(c) if so, the rule under which it can be done;

(d) if not, then how 'trays' (khomchas) were allotted to a private contractor at New Delhi railway station as at 'A' category stations such allotments are not permitted; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken against those officers who made such allotments by violating the Railways' Catering Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No 'trays' (khomchas) were allotted by Delhi Division of Northern Railway under Catering Policy, 2010 to a private contractor at New Delhi railway station. The existing trays (khomchas) were allotted to private contractor in 1981 for sale of Miscellaneous articles.

(e) As no new allotment of tray was made under Catering Policy, 2010, Hence, there is no violation of Catering Policy.

Bullet train between Hyderabad and Chennai

2569. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Railways have decided to run Bullet trains between Hyderabad and Chennai *via* Dornakal and Vijayawada;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that final report has been submitted by the consultant;

(c) if so, the recommendations made in the final report; and

(d) the action Railways have taken on this report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Relaxing FDI norms in Railways

2570. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Home Affairs and the Department of Economic Affairs have expressed reservations on relaxing FDI norms in Railways;

(b) if so, objections/comments made by each of the above and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such a move and allowing China in the core sector such as Railways, creates a security threat to the country; and

(d) if so, whether any review has been done on this aspect and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways has not received any reservations from Ministry of Home Affairs and Department of Economic Affairs on relaxing FDI norms in the Railways.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Security arrangements at New Delhi railway station

2571. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Safety Audit Report of Northern Railway presented some months back indicted the officials of New Delhi railway station for lax security arrangements, and despite that, no improvement has taken place;

(b) if so, the follow up action being taken for plugging security lapses, including repairing and maintenance of baggage scanners;

(c) whether defective CCTV cameras have been replaced;

(d) whether fire preparedness at the station premises is up-to-date; and

(e) whether escalator provided on the Pahar ganj side entry gate is working and maintained properly, since very often, it goes out of order, thereby causing inconvenience to passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. No official of New Delhi railway station is indicted in Audit Report for lax security arrangements.

(b) and (c) As and when any security equipment *viz.* Baggage Scanners, Close Circuit Television (CCTV) etc. are found out of order, the same is got repaired.

(d) Preventive measures initiated to check incidents of fire at stations, including New Delhi railway station, include provision of firefighting equipment like fire extinguishers, fire hydrant, passenger awareness programmes, keeping a watch over passengers carrying inflammable items etc.

(e) A new escalator has been provided on the Pahar ganj side entry gate which is being maintained through Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and is functioning satisfactorily.

Operation of trains upto Katra

†2572. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether nod has been given for operation of train upto Katra in Jammu and Kashmir for visiting Vaishno Devi temple and if so, the total number of trains being operated everyday for Katra;

(b) whether trains coming from Delhi, Varanasi, Kolkata, Howrah, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Mumbai etc. go upto Katra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether decision would be taken to run these trains upto Katra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. At present, the following trains are running upto Katra :-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1. 22461/22462 New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express.
2. 74909/74910 Pathankot-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra DMU
3. 74905/74906 Jammu Tawi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra DMU
4. 74907/74908 Jammu Tawi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra DMU

Further, the following trains connecting Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra to various destinations have been announced in the Railway Budget 2013-14 and Interim Railway Budget/Railway Budget, 2014-15:-

1. Kalka-Katra Express (bi-weekly) *via* Morinda
2. Bandra (T)-Katra Premium Express
3. Howrah-Katra Premium Express
4. Yesvantpur-Katra Premium Express
5. Ahmedabad-Katra Express (weekly)
6. Kamakhya-Katra Express (weekly)

While trains announced in Railway Budgets are generally introduced during to the course of same Financial Year, at present, there is no proposal for introduction of train between Chennai and Katra. However, introduction and extension of trains, on Indian Railways, is an on-going process subject to traffic demand, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

Starting a Shatabdi train between Jodhpur and New Delhi

†2573. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI :Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Shatabdi Express trains running from New Delhi to Rajasthan, at present;

(b) whether Government proposes to run a Shatabdi Express train between Jodhpur and New Delhi, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the present passenger load in the Express trains running between Jodhpur and New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways do not introduce new trains including Shatabdi Express

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

trains on State-wise basis as railway network and train operations run across state boundaries. However, at present one Shatabdi Express train viz. 12015/12016 New Delhi-Ajmer Shatabdi Express is running between New Delhi and Rajasthan.

(b) Introduction of new train service including Shatabdi train is an ongoing process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc. However, at present, there is no proposal to run a Shatabdi Express train between Jodhpur and New Delhi due to operational and resource constraints.

(c) The present passenger load/occupancy of Mail/Express trains running between Jodhpur and New Delhi for the period between 01.01.2014 to 30.06.2014 is as follows:

S.No.	Train	Occupancy (in %)
1.	12461/12462 Jodhpur-Delhi Mandore Express	102.67/111.51
2.	12463/12464 Jodhpur-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Rajasthan Sampark Kranti Express	84.41/109
3.	14659/14660 Delhi-Jaisalmer Express	127.88/115.67
4.	22481/22482 Jodhpur-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express	85.15/67.68
5.	15013/15014 Kathgodam-Jodhpur Ranikhet Express	141.32/122.15

Railway projects in Jharkhand and Bihar

†2574. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has conducted comprehensive study of delayed developmental railway projects in the country;

(b) if so, the zone-wise details of these railway projects; and

(c) the names of projects in Jharkhand and Bihar regarding which a decision has been taken to complete them on priority during the current and coming financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) All the ongoing Railway projects are progressing as per availability of funds and their progress is reviewed periodically at various levels. Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects and a limited overall availability of funds. As a result, it is not possible to allot adequate funds to all the projects on regular basis which is a pre-requisite for fixing time lines.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The projects are as follows:-

- (i) Patna-Ganga bridge with linking lines between Patna and Hajipur,
- (ii) Munger Bridge on Ganga, and
- (iii) Kosi Bridge.

Completion of Sheikhpura-Neura railway line

†2575. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time-limit has been fixed for completion of under construction Sheikhpura-Neura new railway line under the East Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Completion of a project depends upon availability of funds. Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of funds. Therefore it is not possible to provide adequate funds to all the projects on regular basis which is a pre-requisite for firming up the time lines for any project.

Work related to Guruchand Stadium in Bongaon, West Bengal

2576. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Guruchand Stadium in Bongaon, West Bengal whose foundation stone was laid by the then Minister of Railways on 5th December 2009 has been completed;

(b) if so, when it has been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The construction work of the stadium could not be started due to existence of encroachments at the said site.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Rail wagon factory in Kulti, West Bengal

2577. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rail wagon factory in Kulti, West Bengal has been set up as proposed in the Railway Budget 2009-10;

(b) if so, how many wagons are produced yearly and how many people are working in the factory; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railway wagon factory is being set up by a Joint Venture company of RITES and SAIL.

Budget allocation for Central and Western Railway

2578. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation under various major heads in Railway Budget 2014-15 for Central and Western Railway;

(b) the demands placed by the Central and Western Railway before the Ministry; and

(c) how much fund allocation has been made for the ongoing projects and new railway lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Details of demands placed and allocation made in Railway Budget 2014-15 for Central Railway & Western Railway are given below:-

		(Gross/₹ in crore)			
Demand No.	Demands	Central Railway		Western Railway	
		Demand Placed	Allocation	Demand Placed	Allocation
1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	General Superintendence and Services on Railways	500	490	530	523
4.	Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works	835	824	901	872

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power	441	405	393	321
6.	Repairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons	1075	1038	999	961
7.	Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and Equipment	539	522	578	526
8.	Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment	976	922	825	803
9.	Operating Expenses-Traffic	1699	1679	1439	1506
10.	Operating Expenses-Fuel	3188	3272	3228	3331
11.	Staff Welfare and Amenities	430	416	483	447
12.	Miscellaneous Working Expenses	553	498	464	458
13.	Provident Fund, Pension and Other Retirement Benefits	3058	3058	1531	1531
16.	Assets- Acquisition, Construction and Replacement	-	4568	-	4503
TOTAL		13294	17692	11371	15782

(c) Details of funds allocated in Budget Estimates 2014-15 for Central Railway and Western Railway for New Lines and ongoing projects are given below:-

	(Gross/₹ in crore)	
	Central	Western
New Lines	61	105
Other Projects	4507	4398
TOTAL	4568	4503

Operations of Bilaspur zone

†2579. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the major operations of Bilaspur zone in Chhattisgarh are being carried out from Kolkata;

(b) whether expectations of the people of Chhattisgarh from Bilaspur zone would be fulfilled in future, as the zone has not lived up to their expectations;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether works of the corridor projects along with the Raoghat project would be completed on time or they would remain incomplete as earlier; and

(d) whether Government would contemplate to lay the railway lines' network in Chhattisgarh which is a repository of minerals and forest produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. All operations of South East Central Railway are carried out from its head-quarters at Bilaspur.

(b) South East Central Railway zone is functioning well and fulfilling the purpose for which it was set up.

(c) Timely Completion of these works would depend on the security environment in the State, availability of resources, policies and response of the State Government, etc.

(d) 1195.90 Route Kms. of rail lines exists in Chhattisgarh. Expansion of rail network on Indian Railways depends on the traffic justification and resource availability. However, currently 12 number of projects are sanctioned which fall partly or fully in Chhattisgarh State.

Train service between Goa and Tirupati

2580. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any train service between Goa and Tirupati;

(b) if not, whether it is a fact that an assurance to this effect was given on behalf of the Railway Ministry;

(c) whether Government proposes to commence such service without waiting for Railway Budget proposals; and

(d) the reasons as to why the service was not started despite Goa being a tourist destination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal for introduction of a train between Goa and Tirupati due to operational and resource constraints. However, passengers of Vasco-da-Gama/Madgaon may avail changeover at Londa/Arakkonam for travelling to Tirupati. Besides, introduction of trains is an on-going process on Indian Railways, subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of resources.

Train service between Goa and Velankanni

2581. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a train service exists between Goa and Velankanni;
- (b) if so, timings and other details of the train; and
- (c) whether there is any demand made by devotees and others for proper timings and frequency of the train and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) At present, 17315/17316 Vaso-da-Gama-Velankanni Express (weekly) is running between Goa and Velankanni to the following abstract timings:-

17315 Vasco-da-Gama-Velankanni Express (weekly)	↓	Stations	↑	17316 Velankanni-Vasco-da-Gama Express (weekly)
09.00 (Monday)	D	Vasco-Da-Gama	A	06.00 (Thursday)
14.30	A	Hubli	D	23.50
14.40	D		A	23.40
23.10	A	Yesvantpur	D	14.45
23.30	D		A	13.30
4.00	A	Salem	D	08.00
04.05	D		A	07.55
08.10	A	Tiruchchirappalli	D	03.25
08.20	D		A	03.15
10.20	A	Thiruvavarur Jn.	D	00.55
10.25	D		A	00.50
12.25 (Tuesday)	A	Velankanni	D	23.45 (Tuesday)

Request had been received for change in departure timings of 17316 Velankanni-Vasco-da-Gama Express (weekly) and accordingly the same has been revised from 13.30 hours, to 23.45 hrs. Ex-Velankanni. Requests, *inter alia*, for change in days of operation of trains/increase in frequency of train services are received at various levels of Railway Administration, a compendium of which is not maintained. However, subject to traffic demand, operational feasibility, and availability of resources, action as found feasible and justified is taken.

Nangaldam-Talwara new railway line work

2582. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nangaldam-Talwara new railway line work is frozen since year 2000 following refusal by Government of Himachal Pradesh to provide land and wooden sleepers free of cost as per their initial commitment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry is taking any steps to find a solution to this problem; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Cost of operation of Railways

2583. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of operation of Railways has increased substantially in the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details of such cost under various heads, like, employee cost, fuel cost, maintenance cost, etc;

(c) the trend of the average cost of operation, per train, per kilometre in the last five years; and

(d) the trend of average revenue, per train, per kilometer, over the last ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the cost of operation of Railways under employee cost, fuel cost and repair and maintenance cost is as under:

(in crore of ₹)			
Year	Employee cost	Fuel cost	Repair and Maintenance cost
2003-04	20928	7918	9459
2012-13	67005	22326	25800

(c) and (d) The trend of the average cost of operation per train, per kilometre in the last five years and the trend of average revenue, per train, per kilometre in the last ten years are given below:

(in ₹)

Year	Coaching Service/Train/Km.		Goods Service/Train/Km.	
	Average cost	Average revenue	Average cost	Average revenue
2003-04	-	296.17	-	1108.64
2004-05	-	302.94	-	1103.92
2005-06	-	322.02	-	1272.73
2006-07	-	368.07	-	1385.99
2007-08	-	413.03	-	1486.42
2008-09	706.88	434.57	1039.77	1615.02
2009-10	779.76	444.04	1107.79	1675.85
2010-11	802.96	468.28	1149.08	1748.99
2011-12	853.58	494.72	1192.02	1817.14
2012-13	916.95	531.55	1297.00	2170.23

Passenger-friendly initiatives at major railway stations

2584. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to introduce passenger-friendly initiatives at major railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering to install escalators at all major railway stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Railways continuously strive to provide comfortable and affordable travel experience to its passengers. Initiatives which have already been taken include Proliferation of E-Ticketing, Ticketing through Mobile Phone, Ticketing through SMS, Tatkal Facilitation, Proliferation through Tie-up with other institutions (Post Offices),

Alternate Mode of Sales for Unreserved Tickets, Jansadharan Tickets Booking Sewaks (JTBS), Reduction in Advance Reservation Period, Mandatory ID Proof for all Reserved Classes to Prevent Misuse of Tickets, Facility of Modern Luggage Trolleys, Battery Operated Vehicles, Adarsh Stations, etc.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Provision of escalators at 'A-I', 'A' and 'C' category stations and stations of tourist importance is a part of Desirable Amenities and are planned on need basis depending upon techno commercial feasibility and availability of fund. So far, a total of 126 Escalators at 56 railway stations have been provided and about 400 more escalators at 172 railway stations have been planned.

Below target earnings of Railways

2585. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways ended in negative during the last three financial years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the earnings were below targets during all these three financial years;

(d) whether it was the freight income that helped Railways to avert a bad situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. The Railways have not ended with negative during the last three years. Infact Railway have earned surplus during the said period as detailed below:-

(₹ in crore)	
Year	Surplus
2011-12	1125.57
2012-13	8266.25
2013-14 (Provisional)	3782.67

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The detailed position of earnings *vis-à-vis* target during the last 3 years is as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Year	Target (Revised Estimates)	Actual Earning	% age variation over target
2011-12	103870.00	104153.55	0.27
2012-13	125635.00	123901.01	-1.38
2013-14 (Provisional)	140449.82	139837.70	-0.44

As would be seen, there is a minor shortfall of 1.38% during 2012-13 and 0.44% during 2013-14, as compared to targets.

(d) and (e) The position of freight earnings *vis-à-vis* target during last three years is as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Year	Target (Revised Estimates)	Actual Freight Earnings
2011-12	68620.00	69547.59
2012-13	85956.00	85262.58
2013-14 (Provisional)	94000.00	93905.63

Freight constituted 66.96%, 67.87% and 66.87% of total earnings respectively during the year 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14.

High-speed train routes

†2586. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of routes, apart from the New Delhi-Agra, where Government proposes to run the trains at the speed between 150 km./h and 200 km./h;

(b) whether Government is proposing to run the high speed trains on Delhi to Lucknow, Patna, Chandigarh, Nagpur routes, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has tested the proposed routes of high-speed trains, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the probability of train accidents being reduced is less due to introduction of high-speed trains, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The routes identified for raising of speed to 160/200 kmph other than New Delhi – Agra are: (i) Delhi-Chandigarh (ii) Delhi-Kanpur (iii) Nagpur-Bilaspur (iv) Mysore-Bengaluru-Chennai (v) Mumbai-Goa (vi) Mumbai-Ahmedabad (vii) Chennai-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Hyderabad and (viii) Nagpur-Secunderabad.

There is however no proposal at present to run high speed trains from Delhi to Lucknow and Patna.

(c) Confirmatory Oscillograph Car Run (COCR) trial of New Delhi – Agra route at 160 kmph has been successfully conducted on 3rd July, 2014.

(d) No, Sir. Safety standards adopted by Indian Railways are followed rigorously and meticulously. Safety standards are commensurate to the operational requirements on introduction of high speed trains also.

Passengers travelling in AC I-tier, II-tier and III-tier

†2587. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passengers travelled in AC I-tier and AC II-tier in 2012-13;

(b) the number of passengers travelled in AC I-tier and AC III-tier in 2013-14;

(c) whether the number of passengers travelling in AC I-tier, II-tier and III-tier have declined owing to the increase in railway fare, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would consider to increase the number of general bogies keeping in view the increasing number of passengers in general bogies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) During 2012-13, total approximate number of passengers booked in AC I-tier and AC II-tier were 2.60 million and 22.92 million, respectively.

(b) During 2013-14, 2.81 million and 70.51 million passengers approximately were booked in AC I-tier and AC III- tier, respectively.

(c) No, Sir. There has been no decline in the number of passengers booked in AC I-tier, II-tier and III-tier during 2012-13, 2013-14 and during the period from April, 2014 to June, 2014.

(d) Yes, Sir. To cater to the demand of general coach passengers, all new Mail/ Express trains introduced after 2007- 08 have at least 6 general coaches in their standard composition, except fully reserved trains like Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto etc. Besides, to cater to the unreserved traffic, certain long distance trains like Jan Sadharan Express, Janseva Express, Jannayak Express and Passenger trains and some short distance Intercity trains are run with only General Second Class accommodation.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

In the year 2013-14, about 778 coaches including 231 general class coaches were deployed for permanent augmentation of trains. Further, in the 2014-15 Railway Budget (including the interim Budget), 138 new trains, extension of 15 trains and increase in frequency of 4 trains has been announced including five new fully unreserved Jansadharan Express trains.

Train accidents

†2588. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents during last five years and number of persons died and monetary losses incurred by Railways;

(b) the division-wise and area-wise details thereof;

(c) whether any investigation/findings report confirms that accidents also occurred due to internal/technical faults and if so, details thereof;

(d) whether incidents of hampering/ damaging railway property and network from time to time by terrorists/maoist organizations and disintegrating forces in several States have come to light, if so, the provisions being made by Government to check such incidents; and

(e) the details of steps being taken to protect life and property of railway passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Zone-wise and year-wise number of consequential train accidents excluding incidents of trespassing at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users, during the last five years is given below:

Railways	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		2013-14	
	No. Acci- dent	Death	No. Acci- dent	Death	No. Acci- dent	Death	No. Acci- dent	Death	No. Acci- dent.	Death
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Central	13	2	3	0	5	0	7	1	7	4
East Coast	7	1	9	1	8	10	8	0	4	0
East Central	15	6	11	0	7	11	7	1	7	0
Eastern	3	1	5	67	6	6	4	0	5	1
North Central	6	39	8	2	9	71	5	0	2	1
North Eastern	2	0	4	1	2	1	2	10	1	0

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Northeast Frontier	7	1	6	1	7	0	3	0	3	0
Northern	10	4	16	3	9	1	7	9	10	2
North Western	4	7	3	0	4	0	1	0	4	3
South Central	8	0	6	0	5	0	4	30	4	2
Southeast Central	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	2	6	1
South Eastern	7	2	8	152	1	0	2	1	6	2
Southern	4	4	3	0	3	11	1	0	3	1
South Western	4	0	4	0	2	0	6	26	3	28
West Central	2	0	2	24	7	4	3	0	1	0
Western	7	1	2	0	1	0	4	0	4	9
Konkan	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Metro	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	100	68	93	251	77	115	68	80	71	54

Loss of railway property in consequential train accidents during the last five years is as under:

Year	Loss of Railway Property (₹ in crore)
2009-10	53.71 (approx.)
2010-11	58.96 (approx.)
2011-12	89.83 (approx.)
2012-13	54.24 (approx.)
2013-14	27.98 (approx.)

(c) Based on the inquiry reports, consequential train accidents attributable to failure of Railway Staff, failure of equipment and combination of factors during the last five years is as under:

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Failure of Railway Staff	63	56	52	45	50
Failure of equipment	6	5	5	6	3
Combination of factors	1	3	1	0	0

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. 'Policing' on the Railways is a State subject and the primary responsibility of maintenance of law and order in Railway premises, Railway tracks, bridges and tunnels as well as on running trains lies with State Governments. As such, the cases of crime in Railway are reported to, registered and investigated by the Local Police and Government Railway Police concerned.

Besides, the following measures are being taken by the Railways for security of the passengers:

- (1) 3475 important trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police in vulnerable and identified sections over Indian Railways daily on an average.
- (2) Security Help-line numbers have been set up in Zonal Railways' Control Rooms to enable passengers to Seek security related assistance on real time basis.
- (3) An integrated Security System, including electronic surveillance through CCTV to enhance security over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations, is under implementation.
- (4) Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police authorities at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by State Police and Government Railway Police.

Development of Sabarmati railway station

2589. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has requested the Central Government for development of Sabarmati railway station to reduce the vehicular traffic near Ahmedabad railway station, situated in Kalupur area, and thereby reducing overcrowding and pollution at the station;

(b) whether Central Government has found merit in the request; and

(c) the time-frame envisaged for full development of Sabarmati railway station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Railways have sanctioned development of Second Coaching Terminal at Sabarmati in the Annual Budget 2013-14 at a cost of ₹ 29.60 crores.

(c) No time frame can be given for sanction of the project, as it depends on availability of funds.

Doubling of Madurai-Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari railway route

2590. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has declared after undertaking survey of doubling of Madurai-Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari railway route, as 'found not viable';

(b) if so, the details of the survey undertaken by the Railways in this regard; and

(c) the details of parameters/criteria/conditions on which Government arrived at this conclusion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Survey for doubling of Madurai-Kanyakumari (245 Km) section has been completed. As per survey report, the cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 1926 crore with a Rate of Return of 8%, which is well below the threshold limit of remunerativeness *i.e.* 14%.

Status of new trains announced for introduction

2591. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new trains announced to be introduced on Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur section and Mathura-Kasganj-Bareilly section during the last five years;

(b) the details of new trains actually introduced along with their date of introduction, year-wise;

(c) whether a number of trains are yet to be introduced in spite of sacrosanct announcements made by Railway Ministers from time to time in Parliament; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to start the remaining trains at the earliest to ensure that the assurances/announcements made by the Ministers are fulfilled at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The year-wise detail of the announcements made in the last five Railway Budgets relating to introduction of trains on Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Section and Mathura-Kasganj-Bareilly section are as under:-

Year	Trains announced	Announced for introduction (via section)	Status of introduction
1	2	3	4
2009-10	Nil	--	--
2010-11	Nil	--	--
2011-12	19709/19710 Kamakhya-Jaipur Express (weekly)	Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Central	Introduced <i>w.e.f.</i> 14.11.2011.
	12319/12320 Kolkata-Agra Express (weekly)	Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Central	Introduced <i>w.e.f.</i> 07.07.2011.
2012-13	19409/19410 Ahmedabad-Gorakhpur Express (weekly)	Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Central	Introduced <i>w.e.f.</i> 31.08.2012.

1	2	3	4
	18513/18514 Kanpur Central-Amritsar Express (weekly)	Farrukhabad-Bareilly-Kasganj	Presently running <i>via</i> Bal-amau as 14153/14154 Kanpur Central-Amritsar Express. Train <i>via</i> Farrukhabad-Bareilly-Kasganj not introduced due to non-conversion of gauge of Bareilly Kasganj section
	15237/15238 Darbhanga-Ajmer Express (weekly)	Gonda-Sitapur Cantt-Bareilly-Kasganj	Not introduced due to non-conversion of gauge of Bareilly Kasganj section.
	55343/55344 Bareilly-Kasganj Passenger & 55345/55346 Bareilly-Kasganj Passenger	Bareilly-Kasganj	Not introduced due to non-conversion of gauge of Bareilly Kasganj section.
2013-14	19061/19062 Bandra(T)-Ramnagar Express (weekly)	Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Central	Introduced <i>w.e.f.</i> 24.01.2014.
	19715/19716 Jaipur-Lucknow Express (tri-weekly)	Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Central	Introduced <i>w.e.f.</i> 13.02.2014.
	13137/13138 Kolkata-Agra Cantt Express (weekly)	Mathura-Kasganj-Kanpur Central	Introduced <i>w.e.f.</i> 13.02.2014.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, for early introduction of these services, Meter Gauge lines have been blocked for conversion of Ramganga Bridge-Badaun-Kasganj section into Broad Gauge.

Compensation for acquiring land for railway projects

2592. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many new railway projects have been started in Jammu region and Kashmir region, during the last five years;

(b) how much land has been acquired for these projects;

(c) the announcements made at the time of acquiring the land, the details thereof;

(d) whether compensation to all the people, from whom the land was acquired, has been given, if so, the details therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that there are complaints that the people of Jammu region have not been paid their dues; and

(f) if so, by when it would be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Three new projects which fully or partly fall in Jammu and Kashmir have been sanctioned in the last five years. These are Sambha-Vijaypur-Jammu – Doubling across Basanter Bridge, Kathua-Madhopur Punjab – Doubling across Ravi Bridge and Kathua-Madhopur Punjab – Doubling across Bridge No. 16, 18 and 19.

(b) No land was required to be acquired for any of these 3 projects.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.

**Representation to shift Tirunelveli Nagercoil railway line
to Madurai division**

2593. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation to transfer the Tirunelveli-Nagercoil railway line to the Madurai division from the Thiruvananthapuram division;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Requests in this regard have been received from various fora, including from elected representatives in the State and Central Government, etc.

(c) The requests have been examined but have not been found feasible, on account of operational and administrative reasons.

Doubling of Bhagalpur junction-Barharwa railway line

†2594. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any plan for doubling the railway line between Bhagalpur junction and Barharwa that connects rest of the country with the western region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Doubling of Bhagalpur-Barharwa section has been taken up as under:

(i) Barharwa-Tinpahar (16 km) section: Doubling has already been completed.

(ii) Tinpahar-Sahibganj (38 km) section: Track linking in Tinpahar-Maharajpur (24 km) section has been completed and finishing works have been taken up. Earthwork and bridge works have been taken up in balance portion.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) Sahibganj-Pirpainti (23 km): Track linking completed and finishing works have been taken up.

(iv) Pirpainti-Bhagalpur (59 km): Earthwork and bridge works have been taken up.

Merger of Visakhapatnam division with South Central Railway

2595. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that assurance has been given to Seemandhara that their demand to merge Visakhapatnam division with South Central Railway or to create a new Visakhapatnam zone will be considered favourably;

(b) if so, whether its implications for East Coast Railway have been examined; and

(c) whether if such demand is accepted in violation of the principles of jurisdiction for zones followed by Railways so far, will Government consider the demand of Odisha for merger of areas of Odisha falling within South Eastern Railway and /or other such areas into the East Coast railway zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No assurance has been given to Seemandhara for the merger of Visakhapatnam division with South Central Railway or to create a new Visakhapatnam zone. However, a committee of Senior Officers from Railways has been constituted to examine, *inter-alia*, the issue of a new railway zone in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh, in terms of item no 8 of Schedule 13 (Infrastructure) of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014. The Terms of Reference of the Committee include holding of discussions with all concerned, including the State Government officials, before giving their recommendations. The Committee has not yet submitted its report.

Provision of ramps and lifts at railway stations in Delhi

2596. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no provision of ramps and lifts at Nizamuddin, New Delhi and Old Delhi railway stations for use by elderly, infirm and differently-abled people;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for wheeling through such persons by long routes meant for transportation of goods; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Ramps have been provided from entry to the stations at Nizamuddin, New Delhi and Old Delhi railway stations for use by elderly, infirm and differently-abled people. However, ramp at Nizamuddin station has been provided from main entry

to platform No.1. Pathways at the end of all platforms of Nizamuddin, New Delhi and Old Delhi stations have been provided.

6 lifts at New Delhi and 2 lifts at Old Delhi railway station have been provided. Further, 6 lifts at New Delhi, 3 lifts at Old Delhi and 6 lifts at Nizamuddin Railway Station have also been planned.

Pathways on platform ends have been provided to facilitate inter-platform transfer of wheelchair borne elderly, infirm and differently abled persons, wherever lifts/ramps are not available.

Target for export of readymade garments

2597. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether Government has fixed any target to achieve during financial year 2014-2015 by way of export of readymade garments, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Yes, Government has fixed a target of USD 17.2 Billion for export of readymade garments during financial year 2014-2015.

Setting up of National Institute of Fashion Design in Andhra Pradesh

2598. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to establish National Institute of Fashion Design in Andhra Pradesh as promised at the time of bifurcation;

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on date and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the latest position of this proposal; and

(d) by when this proposal is proposed to be finalized along with the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No Sir. However, National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) under the Ministry of Textiles already has campus in Hyderabad, which is the joint capital of both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Setting up of composite textile mills in Maharashtra

2599. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up composite textile mills in Maharashtra for providing more employment opportunities to unemployed and educated

youth. If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether there are any guidelines to set up composite textile mill, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) (1) Central Government does not set up composite textile mills in the country including Maharashtra. The role of the Government is to ensure conducive policy environment, facilitating in creating enabling conditions for the industry and private entrepreneurs to set up textile industry/units through policy initiatives and schemes.

(2) As per the Board for Industrial and Financial reconstruction (BIFR) approved revival Scheme MS-08, National Textiles Corporation has modernized/set up following Grey Composite mills in Maharashtra:

- (i) Modernized Tata mills, Mumbai by installing new 19,680 Spindles and 36 Shuttle-less Projectile looms at a cost of ₹ 80.87 crores, thereby enhancing its capacity to 34,640 Spindles and 96 looms.
- (ii) Set up Finlay Mills at Achalpur by installing 48,000 Spindles and 144 (72 Airjet and 72 Rapier) Shuttle-less looms at a cost of ₹ 254.66 Crores, thereby employing 1244 officers/staff/workers.

(b) Ministry of Textiles has not issued any guidelines regarding setting up of composite textile mills. However, Ministry of Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Secretariat for Industrial Assistance, New Delhi has issued Notification S.O. No. 477(E) dated 25.07.1991 as amended from time to time for setting up of industry. The same is applicable for all industry including composite textile mills.

Incentive to jute industry

2600. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) The year, when the price was last revised for acquisition of jute bags under the Jute Packaging Material Act, 1987;

(b) Whether Government is mulling on a scheme on the lines of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for jute industry, if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) The details of any other incentives Government proposes to make the jute industry and its workers more productive and efficient?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The price for acquisition of jute bags under Jute Packaging Materials Act, 1987, is declared every month by the Jute Commissioner as per the Tariff Commission pricing formula accepted by the Government. This applicable pricing formula was last revised in 2002.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government is providing 20% capital subsidy on the cost of specific approved machinery installed by the jute mills to facilitate modernization and to improve the productivity and efficiency in the jute industry. In addition, the jute mills can also avail the benefits under Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for their modernization. Government of India is also providing financial assistance for the welfare of workers in jute mills to improve sanitation, health facility and working conditions etc.

Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks

2601. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) The basic objectives of the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) launched in the year 2005;

(b) Whether impact of these Parks is yet to be realized, if so, the details therefor;

(c) How many projects were sanctioned in the Eleven Five Year Plan and how many of them have become functional; and

(d) How many of them were sanctioned for Maharashtra with location and how many of them have become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) was launched in 2005 to encourage private investments and employment generation in textile sector by facilitating world class infrastructure for common facilities, such as roads, water supply treatment and distribution network, power generation and distribution network, effluent collection treatment and disposal system, design centre, warehouse, first aid centre, etc.

(b) The Textile Parks are at different stages of implementation. 14 out of first 40 Parks have been completed and 13 parks are operational. Investment in parks of ₹ 5025 crores and direct employment of 47167, till date.

(c) Sixteen (16) textile Parks were sanctioned in Eleventh Five Year Plan and Eleven (11) textile parks have become functional.

(d) Five (5) textile parks were sanctioned in Eleventh Five Year Plan for Maharashtra and 4 out of 5 parks are functional details are as under:-

Sl. No.	Project Name	Location	Current status
1.	Purna Global Textiles Park Ltd.	Hingoli	Functional
2.	Deesan Infrastructure Pvt.Ltd.	Dhule	Functional
3.	Asmeeta Infratech Private Ltd.	Thane	Non-Functional
4.	Islampur Integrated Textile Park Ltd.	Sangli	Functional
5.	Latur Integrated Textile Park	Latur	Functional

Functioning of SITP

2602. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the thrust of Government is on technology upgradation and modernization so far as the weaker segments of the textile value chain such as processing and garmenting is concerned, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how the scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) is functioning, particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes Sir, Government is implementing Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) since 1999 to catalyze investments in all the sub-sectors of textiles industry by way of interest reimbursement. The scheme mainly focuses on modernization of processing, spinning, weaving, garmenting and technical textiles segments, where there is good scope for massive employment generation and value-addition. Under the scheme 5% IR and 10% capital subsidy for specified processing machinery is given to processing units. Similarly 5% IR and 10% capital subsidy on specified machinery for garmenting units are also given.

(b) The Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) was launched in 2005 to encourage private investments and employment generation in textile sector by facilitating world class infrastructure for common facilities, such as roads, water supply treatment and distribution network, power generation and distribution network, effluent collection treatment and disposal system, design centre, warehouse, first aid centre, etc. So far 61 parks have been sanctioned under the Scheme. Out of these, 15 textile parks are sanctioned in the State of Maharashtra, of which three (3) textile parks are completed and six (6) textile parks are operationalised in the state so far.

Condition of handloom weavers

2603. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that condition of handloom weavers in eastern Uttar Pradesh particularly in Varanasi, Azamgarh, Mau, Gorakhpur, Ghazipur and Ballia districts has worsened; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government would announce some new concrete steps for immediate welfare of handloom weavers in the said districts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, scheme/district-wise; and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No such report has been received from State Government of Uttar Pradesh. However, the Government of India is aware that handloom weavers including handloom weavers of eastern Uttar Pradesh belonging to Varanasi, Azamgarh, Mau, Gorakhpur, Ghazipur and Ballia are facing hardships due to stiff competition from powerloom and mill sector due to high input cost and low productivity and availability of cheaper imported silk fabric etc.

(b) and (c) To open the choked credit lines of handloom sector, the Government has implemented Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) Package for waiver of overdue loan (100% principal and 25% of interest) as on 31/3/2010 and provided recapitalization assistance to eligible apex and primary weavers cooperative societies and individual weavers. The RRR Package was implemented upto 28.02.2014. Further, concessional credit component for providing loan to handloom weavers at 6% interest with GoI interest subvention upto max. 7% has been approved and to leverage the loan, Government provides margin money assistance upto ₹ 10,000 per weaver. For subsidized raw material, the Government is providing 10% price subsidy on cotton hank yarn, domestic silk yarn and woolen yarn. In the Budget of 2014-15, the Government has announced Trade Facilitation Center and Crafts Museum at Varanasi.

For sustainable development of handloom sector, following schemes have been approved for implementation all over the country, including the said districts during 12th Plan:-

1. National Handloom Development Programme includes:

- (i) Cluster development Programme
- (ii) Handloom marketing assistance
- (iii) Subsidized loan

2. Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme-two components:

- (i) Health Insurance Scheme for access to health care facilities
- (ii) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana for life insurance

3. Yarn Supply Scheme

4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

The details of assistance provided in Varanasi, Azamgarh, Mau, Gorakhpur, Ghazipur and Ballia districts for development of the Handloom Sector and welfare of handloom weavers are given in Statement.

Statement

The number of cluster and group approach projects sanctioned and Central assistance released, weavers covered under Health Insurance Scheme (HIS), yarn supplied, weavers credit card issued and loan sanctioned, number of apex and primary cooperative societies covered under RRR package in Varanasi, Azamgarh, Mau, Gorakhpur, Ghazipur and Ballia districts of Uttar Pradesh

Sl. No.	Name of district	Cluster projects		Group Approach projects		No. of weavers covered under Health Insurance scheme during 2014-15	Value of yarn supplied in 2013-14 (₹ in lakh)	Weavers credit cards		No. of societies covered under RRR package	Amount of loan waiver & recapitalization assistance approved (₹ in lakh)		
		Number of projects sanctioned	Weavers covered	Funds released (₹ in lakh)	Number Projects sanctioned			Weavers covered	Funds released (₹ in lakh)			No. of cards issued	Loan sanctioned (₹ in lakh)
1.	Varanasi	12*	17586	567.448	33	730	63.399	51401	4290.11	3727	931.75	382	933.230
2.	Azamgarh	6	11889	328.933	20	597	75.626	3623	920.77	539	355.07	425	2150.800
3.	Mau	-	-	-	3	55	7.888	345	39.00	40	11.51	16	852.244
4.	Gorakhpur	1	560	32.375	11	220	52.517	5522	-	254	56.34	48	456.658
5.	Ghazipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	77.54	-	-	21	170.109
6.	Ballia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: (i) As per Handloom census 2009-10, there are no handloom weavers in Ballia district.

(ii) In addition to 12* clusters sanctioned in Varanasi, one mega handloom cluster covering more than 25000 handlooms has been sanctioned in Varanasi with GOI share of ₹ 70.00 crore and ₹ 30.81 crore has been released till date.

Closure of textile industries

2604. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of textile industries closed in the country during the last two years and current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether Government has assessed the reasons for their closure;

(c) the details of the economic impact of such closure; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to encourage textile industries in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per available information, 29 number of cotton/man-made fibre textile (Non-SSI) mills were closed in the country during the last two years and current year as on 31.05.2014. The year-wise and State-wise details are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) As per the report received from Regional office of the Textile Commissioner, the main reason for closure of mills is financial problem including other reasons such as strike/labour problem, lock-out, etc.

(c) There is no study in the knowledge of Government on the impact on the production of textile items due to closure of mills. There has been overall growth in the textiles sector in terms of production of textile items and export during the year 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 (Apr-May). The details of growth in production of textile items and export are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) In order to encourage and boost textile industry in the country, Government has launched various policy initiatives and schemes, *viz.*, Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for Development of Technical Textiles, Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), Schemes for the Development of Powerloom Sector, etc.

Statement-I

State-wise No. of cotton / man-made fibre textile mills (Non-SSI) closed during the last two years and current year (as on 31.05.2014)

Sl. No.	State	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	0	0	1
2.	Assam	0	0	0	0
3.	Bihar	0	0	0	0

Sl. No.	State	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total
4.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0
5.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
6.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0
8.	Haryana	0	1	0	1
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0
11.	Karnataka	1	0	0	1
12.	Kerala	2	0	0	2
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1	0	0	1
14.	Maharashtra	1	0	0	1
15.	Manipur	0	0	0	0
16.	Odisha	0	0	0	0
17.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0
18.	Punjab	1	0	0	1
19.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0
20.	Tamil Nadu	12	7	0	19
21.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0
22.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0
23.	West Bengal	0	2	0	2
TOTAL		19	10	0	29

Statement –II

Production and export of textile items during the year 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 (Apr-May)

Items	Unit	2012-13	2013-14	(April- May) (Prov.)	
				2014-15	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5	6
Man made fibre	Mn. Kg	1263	1316	219	211
Spurn yarn	Mn. Kg	4868	5315	895	848
Man made filament yarn	Mn. Kg	1371	1309	215	224
Fabrics (including Khadi, wool and silk)	Mn. Sq. mtr	62792	64162	10992	10654
Export of textile item	Mn.(US\$)	33049.34	37571.03	---	---

12.00 Noon**Relief in hank yarn obligation**

†2605. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has received any proposal from Government of Maharashtra regarding relief in Hank Yarn Obligation from 40 per cent to 10 per cent for spinning mills, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the latest position of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be finalized and the reasons for delay in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Government of India has not received any proposal recently from Government of Maharashtra to provide relief in Hank Yarn Obligation from forty percent to ten percent. However, during 2011-12, Government of India had received a D.O. letter from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra regarding lifting of ban on yarn export and reduction in Hank Yarn Obligation from 40% to 10%. The Ministry of Textiles had constituted a committee to review Hank Yarn Obligation (HYO) with all stakeholders on various issues (under the Chairmanship of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms). Most of the State Governments were of the opinion that present level of hank yarn obligation may be maintained to ensure availability of hank yarn. Since no consensus could be reached among Committee Members to reduce the Hank Yarn Obligation, hence, the Committee did not recommend reduction in Hank Yarn obligation.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Uttar Pradesh): There is a point of order, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Papers to be Laid on the Table. ..*(Interruptions)*.. Papers to be Laid on the Table. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me finish with this, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

श्री गुलाम रसूल बलयावी (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, भाषा के आस्तित्व का सवाल है ...**(व्यवधान)**... पहले भारतीय भाषाओं पर विचार करें ...**(व्यवधान)**... भारतीय भाषाओं का नुकसान हो रहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... इन पर विचार होना चाहिए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

† بانچ ملغ لوسر لبي وای : پاهيس تپی، اشاهب رے تتساواک لاوس رے
 --- (تلخادم) --- رلپ تراہبی نواشاہب رپ راجورکي ں --- (تلخادم) --- تراہبی
 نواشاہب اک ناصقن وہ ابر رے --- (تلخادم) --- نارپ راجو انوہ رے نہاچ
 --- (تلخادم) ---

खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग से संबंधित परिणामी बजट (2014-15)

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): महोदय, मैं वर्ष 2014-15 के लिए खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग के सम्बन्ध में परिणामी बजट की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

II. Outcome Budget (2014-15) of the Department of Posts and Department of Tele communications.

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री अनंत कुमार) : मैं श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद की ओर से निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications), under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997:—

- (1) No. 6-11/2014-B and CS, dated the 10th February, 2014, publishing the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Seventh Amendment) Regulation, 2014.
- (2) No. 3-24/2012-B&CS, dated the 10th February, 2014, publishing the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Digital Addressable Cable Television Systems) (Third Amendment) Regulation, 2014.
- (3) No. 6-11/2014-B and CS, dated the 10th February, 2014, publishing the Register of Interconnect Agreements (Broadcasting and Cable Services) (Fifth Amendment) Regulation, 2014.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (3) See No. L.T. 500/16/14]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Outcome Budget, for the year 2014-15, in respect of the Department of Posts. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 494/16/14]
- (ii) Outcome Budget, for the year 2014-15, in respect of the Department of Telecommunications. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 495/16/14]

I. Annual Report and Accounts (2014-13) of various Public Sector Companies and related paper.

II. Memorandum of Understanding (2014-15) between Government of India and various Limited Companies and corporations.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table :—

I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Braithwaite and Company Limited (BCL), Kolkata, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 418/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited, Patna, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

(2) Statement each (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 417/16/14]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the RITES Limited, for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 404/16/14]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the IRCON International Limited, for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 405/16/14]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL), for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 407/16/14]
- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCI), for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 414/16/14]
- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Burn Standard Company Limited, (BSCL), for the year 2014-15. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 415/16/14]
- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited (IRFC), for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 416/16/14]
- (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), for the year 2014-15. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 406/16/14]
- (viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Limited (MRVC), for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 408/16/14]
- (ix) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Braithwaite and Company Limited, for the year 2014-15. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 409/16/14]
- (x) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the RAILTEL Corporation of India Limited, for the year 2014-15. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 410/16/14]
- (xi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR), for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 413/16/14]
- (xii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC), for the year 2014-15.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 412/16/14]

- (xiii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Railways) and the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited, for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 411/16/14]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

II. Annual Report and Accounts (2012-13) of Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (RDPL) and related papers.

III. Annual Accounts (2012-13) of National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and research (NIPER), Mohali Guwahati and Kalkata and related paper.

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री निहाल चंद्र) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Pharmaceuticals), under sub-section (2) of Section 36 of the National Institute of Pharmaceuticals Education and Research Act, 1998:—

- (1) G.S.R. 406, dated the 24th January, 2014, publishing the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Degree of Masters and Doctor of Philosophy) amended Ordinance, 2014.
- (2) G.S.R. 433 (E), dated the 7th July, 2014, publishing the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Statutes, 2014.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 558/16/14]

II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013: —

- (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (RDPL), Jaipur, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 557/16/14]

III. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) Act, 1998 :—

- (a) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali, for the year 2012-13, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 556/16/14]
- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Guwahati, for the year 2012-13, and the Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 555/16/14]
- (c) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Kolkata, for the year 2012-13, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (d) Statement each (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (c) above.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 554/16/14]

Outcome Budgets (2014-15) of the Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Department of Animal Husbandry Daying and Fisheries

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Outcome Budget, for the year 2014-15, in respect of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 396/16/14]
- (ii) Outcome Budget, for the year 2014-15, in respect of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 397/16/14]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

II. Report and Accounts (2012-13) of Food Corporation of India and related papers

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राव साहेब दादाराव दानवे): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Consumers Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution), under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (1) G.S.R. 128 (E), dated the 28th February, 2014, publishing the Sugar Development Fund (Amendment) Rules, 2014.
- (2) G.S.R. 326 (E), dated the 7th May, 2014, notifying the rate of incentive towards marketing and promotion services for raw sugar production from 1st April, 2014 and ending on 31st May, 2014.
- (3) G.S.R. 369 (E)/Ess.Com./Sugarcane, dated the 30th May, 2014, notifying the factory-wise Fair and Remunerative Price of sugarcane for sugar year 2012-13, ending the 30th September, 2013.
- (4) G.S.R. 394 (E), dated the 11th June, 2014, notifying the rate of incentive towards marketing and promotion services for raw sugar production from 1st June, 2014 and ending on 31st July, 2014.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (4) *See* No. L.T. 571/16/14]

II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of Section 35 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Food Corporation of India (FCI), New Delhi, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 570/16/14]

Report (2013 and 2014) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:—

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2013: Union Government (Commercial) No. 2 of 2014: General Purpose Financial Reports of Central Public Sector Enterprises (Compliance Audit)

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 431/16/14]

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2013: Union Government (Commercial) No.13 of 2014: General Purpose Financial Reports of Central Public Sector Enterprises (Compliance Audit Observations).

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 430/16/14]

Reports and Audit Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:—

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2013: No.12 of 2014: Union Government (Department of Revenue - Customs) (Compliance Audit)
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 452/16/14]
 - (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2013: No.16 of 2014: Union Government (Civil) - Performance Audit of Global Estate Management by the Ministry of External Affairs;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 450/16/14]
 - (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2012: No.17 of 2014: Union Government (Communication and IT Sector) Compliance Audit observations
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 451/16/14]
 - (iv) Audit Report No. 1 of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the Accounts of the Union Government for the year 2012-13 - (i) Union Government Finance Accounts, (ii) Appropriation Accounts (Civil), (iii) Appropriation Accounts (Postal Services) and (iv) Appropriation Accounts (Defence Services)
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 805/16/14]
 - (v) Audit Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, relating to the Government of NCT of Delhi for the year ended March, 2013 (Report No. 1 and 2 of 2014), the Finance Accounts and the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of NCT of Delhi for the year ended March, 2013 and State Finance for the year ended March, 2013, Govt. of NCT of Delhi.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 806/16/14]
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RECOMMENDATION OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform you that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on the 31st of July, 2014, has allotted four hours for consideration and passing of the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION; AND BROADCASTING: THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that the Government Business in this House during the week commencing Monday, the 4th of August, 2014, will consist of:

1. Consideration and passing of the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008
 2. Discussion on the working of the following Ministries:-
 - (a) Power,
 - (b) Women and Child Development,
 - (c) Home Affairs, and
 - (d) Urban Development (if time permits).
 3. Consideration and passing of the Securities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2014, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.
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INFORMATION TO THE HOUSE**Issue of Civil Services Examination conducted by UPSC — Contd.**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Zero Hour submissions, Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, my point of order was there. ...*(Interruptions)*... My point of order was there, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश): इन्होंने कहा था कि 12 बजे बताएंगे ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो बच्चे सड़कों पर लाठी खा रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... उस पर अपना बयान तो दे दें ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Misraji, let me listen ...*(Interruptions)*... Misraji, I will allow you. Let me listen to the point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, my point of order ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल (राजस्थान) : उसपभापति जी, ये पहले डिस्टर्ब करेंगे ...(व्यवधान)... क्वेश्चन ऑवर चलने नहीं देंगे ...(व्यवधान)... जब 12 बजेंगे तो कहेंगे कि स्टेटमेंट दीजिए ...(व्यवधान)... दोनों चीजें कैसे हो सकती हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : इन्होंने आज सुबह ही एश्योरेंस दिया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल : ये क्वेश्चन ऑवर चलने नहीं देते हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURI (West Bangal): Sir, like you helped the Minister in giving List of Business, please help him to make a Statement that he promised that he would make at twelve o'clock on what is the Government's attitude towards the students. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; please. ...(Interruptions)... Are you making a *suo motu* Statement? ...(Interruptions)... No, no, please. ...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, Members have been demanding for the last two days. Yesterday, I made a Statement that as soon as the decision is taken, it will be conveyed. But still, today, Members demanded that they wanted to listen. Here is the Minister. So, on demand he is making it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Do you have the copy? ...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): No, I do not have.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Where is the copy? ...(Interruptions)... Where is the copy? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen to the Statement. ...(Interruptions)... Please listen to the Statement. ...(Interruptions)... I have permitted the Minister. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, I have a point of order. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: He is making *...(Interruptions)...* If they don't want, it is okay. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, we want him to make a Statement *...(Interruptions)...* But the rules of Business of this House *...(Interruptions)....* When a Statement is made, it should be circulated. *...(Interruptions)...* Please circulate the Statement and make it. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, I have a point of order. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, आप इनको बार-बार बोलने देते हैं। *...(व्यवधान)...* सर, ये क्वेश्चन ऑवर नहीं चलने देते *...(व्यवधान)...* What is the point of order?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order and under which rule? *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी : यह सदन की परम्परा रही है कि *...(व्यवधान)...* यह सदन की परम्परा रही है कि अगर पीठ की तरफ से कोई आदेश दिया जाए और पीठ को कोई आश्वासन दिया जाए, तो उसका पालन होता है। पीठ से यह आदेश दिया गया था और इन्होंने यह आश्वासन दिया था कि ये एक सप्ताह के अन्दर स्टेटमेंट देंगे। *...(व्यवधान)...* तो स्टेटमेंट की कॉपी कहाँ है? जब स्टेटमेंट दिया जाएगा, तो उसकी कॉपी होगी।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Statement is coming. *...(Interruptions)...* The Statement is here. *...(Interruptions)...* That I will *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, where is the copy of that? *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister is ready with the Statement. *...(Interruptions)...* Why don't you allow him? *...(Interruptions)...* Why don't you allow him? *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, where is the copy of that? *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Bihar) : Please listen to me. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me listen to the Minister. *...(Interruptions)...* Let me listen to the Minister. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Let me make the situation very clear. Yesterday, at 11 o'clock, I assured the House that as soon as the decision was taken, it would immediately be informed to the House. That was my assurance yesterday. Today, again, the matter was raised. And after that, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, said that at 12 o'clock Dr. Jitendra Singh would be here. It is not a Statement.

If people are raising an issue, he wanted to know about the situation. ...*(Interruptions)*... He can respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is ready to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... But that is not a Statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... A Statement will come when a decision is taken. ...*(Interruptions)*... A Statement will come once a decision is taken. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : ये डिजीजन कब लेंगे, क्या ये बताएँगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*... पूरे देश में बच्चे परेशान हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव (तेलंगाना) : सर, बच्चों के साथ ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी : सर, ये स्टेटमेंट कब देंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, if this is not a Statement, then what is it? ...*(Interruptions)*... Under which rule are you allowing it, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is a point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, उस साइड के लोग हमेशा बोलते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या हम सदन के मेम्बर नहीं हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या हमें अपनी बात कहने का राइट नहीं है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आपको अपनी बात कहने का राइट है। आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विजय गोयल : ये हमेशा खड़े हो जाते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : आप अभी बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विजय गोयल : * ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't make such an allegation. There is nothing like that. It will not go on record. You have demanded, the House demanded a Statement. The point of order raised by Mr. Tiwari was that it was promised that a Statement would be made in the House perhaps in one week and the time's over. Now the question is ...*(Interruptions)*... Listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, the Minister says that he is ready with a Statement. As far as I know, the House had demanded a Statement. The House had demanded a Statement. The Minister is ready. Let us listen to the Minister. After listening to him...*(Interruptions)*... Listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is what I said. ...*(Interruptions)*... I asked the Minister whether it is a *suo motu* Statement. In that case, a copy had to be given. It is a Statement on demand. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, you have to listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... No copy now. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a Statement on demand. We have demanded it. It is very clear. That is why I asked the Minister whether it is a *suo motu* Statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a Statement on demand. ...*(Interruptions)*... So let us listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us listen to him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आदरणीय सदस्यों की भावनाओं का सम्मान करते हुए आपके समक्ष खड़ा हुआ हूँ। यह सत्य है कि 18 जुलाई को इस सभा में एक स्टेटमेंट दी गई और फिर 25 जुलाई को उस पर चर्चा हुई, क्लैरिफिकेशन भी हुआ। यह भी सत्य है कि आदरणीय सदस्यों ने बिल्कुल ठीक राय दी कि इसकी कोई टाइम लिमिट निश्चित होनी चाहिए, केवल यह कहना पर्याप्त नहीं होगा कि कुछ दिन लगेंगे। तब हमने एक सप्ताह का समय मांगा था। यह पिछले शुक्रवार, 25 जुलाई, दोपहर की बात है। उसके बाद दो दिन छुट्टी रही और फिर ईद की छुट्टी आ गई, दूसरे शब्दों में, हमें मात्र चार या पाँच वर्किंग डेज़ मिले। अब हमारे पास रिपोर्ट उपलब्ध हो चुकी है।

चूँकि यह संवेदनशील विषय है और इस पर भिन्न-भिन्न मत हैं, इसलिए सरकार गंभीरता से इसका अध्ययन करेगी और इस पर विचार भी करेगी। सभी सदस्यों की भावनाओं का संज्ञान लेते हुए, सम्मान करते हुए, इस पर जो भी निष्कर्ष निकलेगा, वह हम आपके सामने, सदन के सामने रखेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): कब रखेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप डेट बताइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : यह कब करेंगे आप? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him complete. ...**(Interruptions)**...

डा. जितेंद्र सिंह : अब ऐसा है कि आज ही हमें रिपोर्ट प्राप्त हुई है, आप इतनी मोहलत तो हमें दें कि हम उसका अध्ययन कर सकें। यदि उसके बिना ही हम कुछ बोल बैठे, शायद वह भी उचित नहीं होगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जितनी जल्दी हो सकेगा, इसका सारा संज्ञान लेकर हम आपके समक्ष बात रखेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अश्विनी कुमार (पंजाब) : उपसभापति जी ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभापति जी ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will allow you. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, you had ruled that the House had demanded the Minister to make a Statement. The Statement which he has made is that the Government received the reports on this issue and it is considering them. That is known. What is the Statement? ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is asking for more time. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: What is the Statement about it that the Government has received the reports? ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is asking for more time. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Yes, he is asking for more time. ...**(Interruptions)**... So, let that Statement tell us what is the time-frame. For how long would the Government like to consider it? In what time frame you are going to tell us that? Students are on the streets. ...**(Interruptions)**... It is a situation going out of control and very rightly so, they are demanding that. ...**(Interruptions)**... So, what is the time-frame? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ, उस समय जब आपने कहा तो आपका सम्मान करते हुए, हम सब लोग बैठ गए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, क्या आप हमें भी बोलने का समय देंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री शरद यादव : गोयल साहब को समय जरूर दे दीजिएगा।

डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, मैं सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि डीओपीटी के जो मिनिस्टर हैं, उन्होंने on the floor of the House यह एश्योर किया था कि within seven days हम इसकी रिपोर्ट दे देंगे। वह समय कल खत्म हो गया है। डीओपीटी ने यूपीएससी को जो लैटर लिखा था और यूपीएससी ने उसका जो आंसर दिया, वह आज इंडियन एक्सप्रेस में आ गया है। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ, हम तो उस समय यील्ड कर गए थे, लेकिन क्या आप बयान देकर इस पर कुछ प्रकाश डालेंगे? इस मामले में पूरे देश में बेचैनी है, तो आप क्यों इसका विस्तार कर रहे हैं?

मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ, आप मेरे साथ चलें, जिस तरह जानवरों को मारा जाता है, उसी तरह मुखर्जी नगर में उन लड़कों को मारा गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये लड़के वहां पीसफुली बैठे हैं। आप बताइए, पीसफुली बैठे हुए लड़कों के ऊपर इस तरह की ज्यादाती क्यों हो रही है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...**(Interruptions)**... ठीक है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... शरद जी, आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... The Minister is asking for more time. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री शरद यादव : इसलिए यह कोई बयान नहीं है। सीताराम येचुरी जी ने ठीक कहा, आपके कहने से उस दिन हम लोग बैठ गए, क्या आज आप इसका कुछ समाधान देंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : अभी आप बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अभी आप बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मिश्रा जी, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शरद यादव : देश बेचैन है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लड़के मेरे घर के बाहर खड़े हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे उन्होंने फोटो भेजी है, मैं आपके चैम्बर में आकर बताऊँगा कि किस तरह उन्हें मारा गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have called Misraji. ...**(Interruptions)**... I will call you. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : मान्यवर, हमारा यह कहना है कि गोयल जी सबसे ज्यादा परेशान हो जाते हैं, जब उन बच्चों के बारे में बात की जाती है, तो तुरन्त खड़े हो करके विरोध करने लगते हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी से कुछ कहने की जगह आप हम लोगों को रोकने की कोशिश करते हैं। जब आपको लाखों-लाखों नवयुवकों के वोट लेने थे, तब आपको उनकी चिन्ता थी ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन अब वोट लेने के बाद आप उनके ऊपर लाठियां चलवा रहे हैं, डंडे चलवा रहे हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, Misraji. ...**(Interruptions)**... I will call you. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : कम से कम उनके ऊपर लाठियां चलवाना तो बन्द करिए, उनको मारना तो बन्द करिए। आप कोई निर्णय नहीं ले रहे हैं।(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : मिश्रा जी, आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : आप यह बताने का काम करिए कि आप कब इस पर डिस्मिशन लेंगे? कितने दिन में लेंगे? आप केस वापस लीजिए। एक बच्चा घायल पड़ा हुआ है। वह इम्तिहान देने लायक नहीं है। ऐसे बच्चों पर आप लाठियाँ चलवा रहे हैं, जिनको 24 तारीख को इम्तिहान देना है।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है। अब आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : तो इनको यह वक्तव्य देना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान).... उनको कुछ आश्वासन दें ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है। ...(व्यवधान).... Shri Ashwani Kumar ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा : उन पर लाठियाँ चलवाने के बजाय ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : मिश्रा जी, अब आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान).... श्री अश्विनी कुमार ।

श्री अश्विनी कुमार : उपसभापति जी, मेरा यह कहना है कि आप जरा अपना रिकॉर्ड देखेंगे तो यह पता लगेगा कि माननीय जावडेकर जी ने यह कहा था कि हम शीघ्र ही इस सर्वेदनशील मसले का हल ढूँढ लेंगे। ...(व्यवधान).... जब हमने यह कहा कि कितनी देर में ढूँढेंगे तो उसके बाद मंत्री जी ने कहा कि ...(व्यवधान).... उसके बाद मंत्री जी ने आज यह कहा कि ईद की छुट्टी थी, शनिवार-इतवार की छुट्टी थी ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Vijay Goel. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री अश्विनी कुमार : आपने यह कहा कि ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All others may take their seats. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उपसभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will call you. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: When?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That I will decide. ...(Interruptions).... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions).... I have told you that I will call you. ...(Interruptions).... I will decide that. You cannot decide it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : श्री विजय गोयल । ...(व्यवधान).... आप बैठिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल: उपसभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)... सबसे पहले तो जो यूपीएससी के एग्जाम को लेकर बच्चों का आन्दोलन चल रहा है, उसके साथ सरकार के सारे लोग हैं और वे उसका हल निकालना चाहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... यह क्या तरीका है? ...(व्यवधान)... यह क्या तरीका है? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Goelji, you don't speak for the Government. Let the Minister speak. ...(Interruptions)... I will call the Minister. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल: यह क्या तरीका है? ...(व्यवधान)... क्या गलत बोला है? ...(व्यवधान)... मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister speak. I will call the Minister. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा: सर, यह कौन सी बात हुई? ...(व्यवधान)... डिजीजन नहीं ले रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप लोग बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, दूसरी बात यह है कि ...(व्यवधान)... सर, दूसरी बात यह है कि इन बच्चों ने ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you have a right to express your view, Shri Vijay Goel also has a right to express his view. So, I have allowed him. Please listen to him. After him, I will call you. ...(Interruptions)... What do you want to say? ...(Interruptions)...I will call you later. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, जिस समय यह आन्दोलन शुरू हुआ था, उस समय बच्चों से सबसे पहले मिलने वाले हम लोग थे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सतीश चंद्र मिश्रा: सर, ...(व्यवधान)... ये कह रहे हैं कि सरकार उनके साथ है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him do that. That is his right. ...(Interruptions)... Let him do that. ...(Interruptions)... Let him speak. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, तीसरी बात ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Goel, make your point and sit down.

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, मेरे दो प्वाँयंट्स हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं दो मिनट लूँगा। सर, तीसरी बात यह है कि सरकार ने इस बात के लिए *suo motu* Statement दिया। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; that is for the Government to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Vijay Goel, you are not the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... You give your opinion. The Minister will speak. Mr. Goel, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Naresh Agrawal. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप लोग बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... श्री नरेश अग्रवाल।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, सत्ता पक्ष की तरफ से जो डिस्टर्ब किया जा रहा है ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसको हम condemn करते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vijay Goel, please sit down

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*... विजय जी, बैठ जाइए, नहीं तो हाउस नहीं चलेगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हाउस ऐसे नहीं चलने देंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह कैसे चलेगा? ...*(व्यवधान)*... वे खड़े होकर बोल ही रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kindly co-operate with the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Naresh Agrawal. ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down. You need not say that. ...*(Interruptions)*... I know how to run the House. You sit down. You need not teach me. Now, Shri Naresh Agrawal.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, सबसे पहले तो मैं इस बात को condemn करता हूँ कि अगर संसदीय कार्य राज्य मंत्री खुद उकसाकर लोगों को खड़ा करेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What are you doing? All of you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The House is adjourned for fifteen minutes.

The House then adjourned at twenty-one minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled at thirty-six minutes past twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, मेरा भी एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of you please take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... All of you take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why don't you sit down? Let me solve the problem. Allow me to solve the problem. All of you please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... There are Ministers. Why do you worry? All of you take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will allow your point of order. Okay, what is your point of order? But you have to quote the rule.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: नियम 255 और 256.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. I am not an expert. So I have to See the rule.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: श्रीमन्, यह नियमावली इस सदन को व्यवस्थित करने के लिए बनाई गई है।...(व्यवधान).... नियम 255 में यह व्यवस्था है कि अगर कोई सदस्य, चाहे वह कोई मंत्री हो या कोई सदस्य हो, क्योंकि यहां सदस्य का मतलब यह हुआ कि मंत्री भी यहां सदस्य है। अगर वह इस तरीके का व्यवहार जान-बूझकर करता है कि सदन अव्यवस्थित हो तथा वह चेयर के आदेश को न मान रहा हो, तो उस मौके पर चेयर को इस सदन को व्यवस्थित करने के लिए अधिकार दिए गए हैं। नियम 255 में यह व्यवस्था है कि अगर सदस्य चेयर की बात नहीं मानता है, उकसाता है और जबर्दस्ती अव्यवस्था पैदा करता है तो चेयर को यह अधिकार है कि वह उसे सदन से बाहर जाने को कहेगा। श्रीमन्, माननीय संसदीय कार्य राज्य मंत्री ने आज जो व्यवहार किया, ऐसी कभी किसी को उम्मीद नहीं थी कि कोई मंत्री ऐसा करेगा। या तो वे माफी मांगें या यह सदन उनको इंगित करे। या तो उनको निकाले या वे माफी मांगें। आप इसको देख लीजिए, आप नियम 255 और 256 को पढ़ लीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is on the floor. आप बैठिए।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): सर, अगर रूलिंग पार्टी के लोग ही इस तरह का काम करेंगे, तो फिर क्या होगा? आपने इनको बोलने की इजाजत दी है, फिर वे क्यों खड़े हो जाते हैं?

श्री विनय कटियार (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, सदस्य ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: विनय जी, आप बैठिए। You are from the ruling side. Please sit down. I have allowed Shri Naresh Agrawal. ...(Interruptions)... Let me listen to him. ...(Interruptions)... You allow me to solve the problem. आप बैठिए।...(व्यवधान).... Let me solve the problem.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: उपसभापति जी, आप नियम 255 सुन लें। इसमें कहा गया है कि सभापति किसी सदस्य को, जिसका व्यवहार उसकी राय में घोर अव्यवस्थापूर्ण हो, तत्काल राज्य सभा से चले जाने का निर्देश दे सकेगा और जिस सदस्य को इस तरह का निर्देश दिया जाएगा, वह तुरंत जाएगा।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So what?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सो व्हाट! सर, संसदीय कार्य राज्य मंत्री ने आपके आदेशों की अवहेलना करते हुए सदन को अव्यवस्थित किया, उन्होंने मेम्बर्स को उकसाया कि आप खड़े हो जाओ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप बैठिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, आप नियम 255 में निर्देश करें कि संसदीय कार्य राज्य मंत्री सदन छोड़कर जाएँ ...(व्यवधान)... अगर नहीं, तो वे माफी मांगे, इसके बिना यह सदन नहीं चलेगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं समझ गया, अब आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... नरेश अग्रवाल जी, आप यह भी बताइए against how many people I should apply the rule, 255. That also you should say.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, रूलिंग पार्टी के जितने लोग हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: For the Chair, Members of the ruling party and the Members of the Opposition are equal. Sharad Yadavji, ...(Interruptions)...

श्री शरद यादव : मैं कोई रूल की बात नहीं कर रहा हूँ, एक मिनट आप सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल : अगर आप इनको बोलने देंगे, तो हमें भी दो मिनट बोलने दीजिएगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have not allowed you, Mr. Vijay Goel. Please, sit down...(Interruptions)...

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Sir, I also have a Point of Order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: After this, if you want, I will call you. I will allow you. Please, sit down...(Interruptions)...

श्री शरद यादव : सर, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सदन को चलाने का काम ट्रेजरी बेंचेज का होता है। यह परंपरा है। कानून की बात आप छोड़ दीजिए, लेकिन आप तो विटनेस हैं। हमारे बहुत करीबी मित्र है जावडेकर जी, वे इस तरफ के momentum से वहां पहुंच गए, लेकिन अब गलती हो गई है। आपने खड़े होकर ललकार दिया—"उठो, खड़े हो जाओ।" एक बार तो आपने कहा कि "आओ अंदर", इसलिए इसको मैं ट्रेजरी बेंचेज के हित में मानता हूँ कि आप इस पर खेद ही व्यक्त कर दें। सदन की मर्यादा की जिम्मेदारी आपके ऊपर ज्यादा है। वह नरेश अग्रवाल या सीताराम येचुरी पर कम है। हमारे सामने तो limited sky है, लेकिन आपके सामने तो मर्यादा है। आपने जो momentum में कर दिया है, आपको इस तरफ की आदत है, बरसों बरस की, तो उस मर्यादा को ध्यान में रखकर आप इस आदत के लिए खेद व्यक्त कर दें। आप तो भले आदमी हैं और यह कहने में कोई हर्ज नहीं है कि यह गलत हो गया, मर्यादा के बाहर हो गया। डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, आप सदन के मालिक हैं, इसलिए यह जो काम हुआ है, वे कोई साधारण सदस्य नहीं हैं...

श्री उपसभापति : मैं तो सदन का सर्वेंट हूँ, मालिक नहीं हूँ।

श्री शरद यादव : नहीं, नहीं, आपको ऐसा नहीं कह सकते। आपसे बढ़िया इस सदन को कोई नहीं चलाता है, लेकिन आपने तो खुद अपनी आंखों से देखा है। You are a witness to this incident. कोई दूसरा नहीं था, आप तो खुद ही यहां बैठे थे।

श्री विजय गोयल : उपसभापति जी, सदन की मर्यादा तथा सदन को चलाना ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vijay Goel, what is your Point of Order?
...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, मैं रूल 259 पर हूँ। सदन की मर्यादा और सदन को चलाने का काम दोनों तरफ के पक्षों का है, केवल सरकार का नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)... अगर केवल हम चाहें तो सदन नहीं चल सकता है, इसलिए मेरा यह कहना है ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your Point of Order?

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर यह है - The Chairman shall preserve order and shall have all powers necessary for the purpose of enforcing his decisions.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Which rule are you quoting?

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, हर रोज़ क्वेश्चन ऑवर डिस्टर्ब होता है। सर, यह रूल 259 है। हर रोज़ क्वेश्चन ऑवर डिस्टर्ब हो रहा है और ये लोग सॉल्यूशन की तरफ नहीं बढ़ रहे हैं। ये हल नहीं चाहते हैं, ये डिस्टर्ब कर देते हैं। पब्लिक हमको टेलीविज़न पर देख रही है, पब्लिक गैलरीज़ में देख रही है, हम उन लोगों को क्या जवाब दोंगे? ...(व्यवधान)... इसलिए जब मैं इनको कहता हूँ, तो ये हमें कहते हैं कि आप भी नहीं चलने देते थे। ...(व्यवधान)... उनकी प्ली है कि आप भी नहीं चलने देते थे।

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए... बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... What is your point, Mr. Maitreyan?
...(Interruptions)... I am calling Members to make their Zero Hour submissions...
(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल : इसलिए मेरा कहना यह है कि सदन को चलने दीजिए और सरकार तो आपकी सब ...(व्यवधान)... मानने को तैयार है। ...(व्यवधान)... एक स्टेटमेंट आ गई है, उसके बाद भी आप सदन को चलने नहीं दे रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... बच्चों के भविष्य का ख्याल नहीं कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, let us close it ...(Interruptions)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I have a point to make ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us close it ...(Interruptions)... Okay; With Maitreyan, we are closing it.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, you promised me that you would allow me to speak ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also have to make my point ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am allowing you ...(Interruptions)... On this, not on Zero Hour ?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Yes. As a disciplined Member, I am waiting for my turn. You said, 'I will allow you.' So, I am waiting for my turn. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; after Maitreyan, I will allow you and also Shri D. Raja. Then, I will have to go to the Zero Hour submissions. Then, the hon. Home Minister has to make a Statement. So, please all of you should cooperate with the Chair. We have had enough discussion. Enough is enough. Now, Mr. Maitreyan, then Mr. Yechury and then Mr. Raja. After that, discussion on this will be over. Then, I will have to call the Home Minister ...(Interruptions)... No; nothing more.

DR. V. MAITREYAN: Sir, this discussion is on from 12 noon onwards and the hon. Minister was here. He listened to us all and also gave a very nice explanation. But, it is really unfortunate that he is still not here when we are continuing with the discussion. It would have been better had he been here. This is number one.

Sir, I want to say only one thing. Students from Tamil Nadu, particularly from rural Tamil Nadu, have been agitating on this issue for quite sometime and they feel really upset because they are discriminated in this whole affair in view of the unacceptable stand taken by the UPSC.

So, I urge the hon. Union Minister, whenever he takes report into cognizance, which I hope he will do it very soon, to take sentiments of the students from Tamil Nadu into consideration and I also urge him to give equal treatment to all students and, in the name of the report, either directly or indirectly, he should not try to impose Hindi on us. Thank you.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, the pointed issue is a very simple one. The reason why people are referring to the Rule Book is because you had allowed a particular explanation to be given by the Treasury Benches on behalf of the Government to a demand being made here that there should be a Statement on this issue. You said that it is not a *suo motu* Statement. Then, when I asked you what it was then, that you didn't answer; but, I presumed it was in response to our demand that the action has come from the Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, it was in response to your demand.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: The pointed issue is they asked for a time-limit of one week. What we are beseeching you is that the students are on the streets. This is an issue that is agitating them and this is connected with the future of our country because these are the officers of our future. If these people's genuine grievances are not met, are continued to be delayed and if they are attacked by the police and are repressed by these actions that we hear in the media, right or wrong, the question is that this is a matter of urgent public importance; that can't be delayed from the attention of the House. One week is over, Sir. He has made a Statement that they are still studying. The pointed issue is, we want to express our agitation as well that this is a matter that requires an immediate attention.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is why I have allowed you all.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: You allowed us. But, then, it is your duty, Sir, —pardon my saying it— you are the custodian of this House. If this is not answered to any reasonable satisfaction, then, as the Chair, you should direct the Government to come up with a certain reasonable assurance to the House. Sir, will you do that? That is my request.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I got your point.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Ask the Ministry to come up with a reasonable proposal on how this problem would be tackled. This is a genuine problem. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, on this issue, I have two points. Firstly, the UPSC, being an autonomous body, has made it very clear that it can't cancel the exams and it can't postpone the exams. But, the Minister says that the Report is quite sensitive. We don't know what the contents are. But, the Minister should categorically state the time-frame for the response of the Government. He has not mentioned it. So, the Minister must make it clear.

Secondly, it is not a question of Hindi alone. It is a question of all Indian languages. I am opposed to the use of the phrase 'regional languages'; they are all Indian languages. *...(Interruptions)...* And we should protect the interests of all languages. The Government should act on this. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, in fact, I am feeling a pain in my shoulders because I was raising my hand for more than ten minutes!

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is an exercise! Raising the hand is an exercise! *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, it was only one hand.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You should do with both the hands!

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Anyway, Sir, I have three points to submit through you. Through you, Sir, I am appealing to the Government to let the House know by when this decision would be taken by the Government. This is my first point. Secondly, I would like to know whether all the Indian languages would get the due importance. Thirdly, I would like to know whether, in the intervening period, the police excesses against the students would be stopped or not. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, that is all. *...(Interruptions)...* No, no; I have allowed you already.

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, पीछे बैठने वालों में से भी एक-दो को बुला लीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

† چودھری منور سلیم : سر، پیچھے بیٹھنے والوں میں سے بھی ایک دو کو بلا لیجئے ...**(مداخلت)**...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, I am speaking only on this matter. Sir, in this matter, I would not repeat what I have already said. But, since the hon. Home Minister is here, the police is under his control. The police had led atrocities on the students who were agitating and they have been put behind the bars, and the cases have been registered. You are not taking a decision; you are delaying the decision. We thought that the decision would be coming today, but the Minister has already left the House! He should have remained here when the House is discussing this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister is here.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: But, the concerned Minister has left. At least some Statement from him should have come that these students who have faced the *lathi* charge, against whom cases have been registered, the cases would be withdrawn and the cases would not be initiated against them.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already said, 'no more'. ...**(Interruptions)**... I have already said many a time...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Madhya Pradesh): Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, you did not raise your hand.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Sir, I did raise my hand. We have also given a notice on this, Sir. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति: आप जल्दी बोलिए।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: माननीय उपसभापति जी, इस देश में लाखों बच्चे इस बात को लेकर के आंदोलित हैं कि विभिन्न भाषाएं जो हमारी क्षेत्रीय भाषाएं हैं, उसमें उनको ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: विभिन्न भाषाओं को, क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं को यूपीएससी के इम्तहानों में जो वेटेज मिलना चाहिए, वह वेटेज उनको नहीं मिल रहा है और अवसर भी नहीं मिल रहा है। एक खास वर्ग के लोगों को लाभ दिया जा रहा है, जो वर्तमान व्यवस्था इसके इम्तहानों की और टैस्ट की है। इस वजह से लाखों बच्चे आंदोलित हैं। इस आंदोलन के दौरान यहां पर चर्चा हुई। मंत्री जी ने यहां आकर सात दिन के अंदर इस मामले में सरकार के रुख को स्पष्ट करने की बात कही। उसकी रिपोर्ट भी सात दिन के अंदर आ गई। सात दिन भी पूरे हो गये। बच्चों के ऊपर मुकदमें लागू किए जा रहे हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; okay. Today is Friday... ...**(Interruptions)**... Please take your seat.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: उन बच्चों के भविष्य के बारे में सरकार क्या फैसला ले रही है ? ...**(समय की घंटी)**... इसके बारे में सरकार को स्पष्ट करना चाहिए।

श्री उपसभापति: अब आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: सरकार को सारे मुकदमे वापस लेने चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, take your seat. अब आप बैठ जाइए। Now, hon. Members, See, I have accommodated most of you, and I have given time for this discussion. Now, please cooperate for the rest of the...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, I cannot allow everybody. Please sit down. Now, please allow the rest of the Business to continue because ...**(Interruptions)**... Please, please. See, some Members have given their Zero Hour mentions, and for the last three-four days, they are waiting. They could not make their Zero Hour mentions. I would like to allow them. Second, the hon. Home Minister is here to make a Statement.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैंने प्वाइंट ऑफ आर्डर रेज किया है, उसका रिप्लाय आना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am replying to that. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sit down. I am coming to that. We have so much discussion on this, and I heard everybody. Therefore, now, for some time, I would request your indulgence and be silent, and let us go to the Business. Before the Home Minister, I would like to ask one question. Now, it was said earlier that a Statement will be made on this issue, which is raised here. And, after seven days or whatever maybe, the Minister concerned came and said that it is a sensitive matter and the report is only received. Now, the hon. Members would like to know whether and when the Government can make a Statement on this subject. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please,... **(Interruptions)**... If you can give an answer to that, we will be happy. That is one. Second, Mr. Minister, you have a Statement, which, if you would like to read, you can read; if you would like to lay it on the Table, it is up to you. ...**(Interruptions)**... I have called the Home Minister, nobody else. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, you have raised a very valid point. I am here to support you. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, please get the answer first.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: First, he will do that. ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, I put it like that.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Please get the answer.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I asked the Minister when and whether he can give. Second, I asked him about the Statement. ...**(Interruptions)**... He is the Home Minister. He can do that. Sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**... You do whatever you can. That is all.

गृह मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह): उपसभापति महोदय, यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन की परीक्षा में भाग लेने वाले छात्र हैं, जिनके द्वारा यह आंदोलन चलाया जा रहा है, इसे हम लोगों ने बहुत ही गंभीरतापूर्वक लिया है। हर पहलू पर सरकार विचार कर रही है और हाल ही में, जैसा कि हमारे सहयोगी मित्र ने पहले ही आकर यहां पर बतलाया है कि एक कमेटी जो यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन के द्वारा बनाई गई थी, उसकी रिपोर्ट अभी एक दिन पहले ही प्राप्त हुई है और उस रिपोर्ट का अध्ययन किया जा रहा है। सरकार चाहती है कि जल्दी से जल्दी इस समस्या का समाधान हो।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Statement. ...(Interruptions)... This is a Statement on landslide. ...(Interruptions)... Please take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Disaster caused by landslide in Pune District of Maharashtra*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH): Sir, I lay a Statement on the disaster caused by landslide in Pune District of Maharashtra. ...(Interruptions)...

"Sir, I rise to inform this House with profound sorrow about the tragic disaster that occurred in Pune district. The State Government of Maharashtra reported that a landslide occurred between 8.00 to 8:30 a.m. in village Malin under Ambegaon Taluka on 30th July. About 40 to 50 houses caved in due to the landslide, with about 158 persons trapped under the debris. The State Government reported that the Taluka level disaster management team under the supervision of an Executive Magistrate was mobilized immediately. The nearest Public Health Centre at Adiwale was earmarked to extend medical aid. Thirty dumpers, 20 JCBs and 50 ambulances were mobilized by the State Government. The rescue efforts were initiated with the help of about 300 labourers mobilized from the two nearby Municipal Corporations Junner and Alandi. Rescue teams with flood lights and other equipment were arranged from the Municipal Corporations of Pimpri Chinchwad and Pune. Nine teams of NDRF, the National Disaster Response Force, comprising about 380 personnel, with necessary equipment rushed to the spot. As per the report received at 8 a.m. today, eight injured persons could be rescued so far. Fifty-one dead bodies have been recovered. As per the 2011 Census figures, the village had a population of 704, of whom 666 belonged to Scheduled Tribes and 34 to Scheduled Castes. I received a report from the National Disaster Response Force that they received the first information from the district administration at 10:45 a.m. on 30th July. By 11 a.m., two teams of NDRF of the 5th Battalion at Pune left for Malangaon

*Laid on the Table.

and reached the spot at 3 p.m. Five more teams of NDRF reached at 5: 30 p.m. on 30th July. Further, two more teams of NDRF joined the operations at 4 a.m. on 31st July.

I visited the village on 31st July. I was briefed regarding the progress of the rescue efforts by the District Collector, Superintendent of Police and by the Commandant of NDRF. The rescue efforts are hampered due to continuous rains and the important need to take up the rescue work carefully, as the injured persons have to be given necessary medical aid after the rescue and the dead bodies need to be handled with dignity and respect. I found that the operations were going on continuously.

I assure this House that the Government of India is providing all the required financial and other assistance for the immediate rescue and relief efforts. I would like to inform this august House that this landslide occurred in a region that was not considered highly vulnerable to landslides so far. As per the classification made by the Geological Survey of India, the Western Ghats do not fall either under 'very high' hazard zone or 'high' hazard zone. We shall see that Geological Survey of India conducts a scientific study of the whole issue, so that necessary corrective and mitigation measures are taken up in the habitations in the Western Ghats region. It would not be correct to hazard any guess regarding the particular causes that have triggered this landslide without such scientific study.

I conclude by stating that we are with the bereaved families and that all possible support from all the Ministries of the Government of India will be provided to the Government of Maharashtra in the rescue and relief efforts as per the requirements. We need to see that appropriate lessons are drawn from the experience of this disaster so that we can initiate corrective measures."

INFORMATION TO THE HOUSE

Issue of Civil Services Examination conducted by UPSC — Contd.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: ले कर दिया। Yes, the Statement has been laid on the Table of the House. Now, we take up the Zero Hour Mentions. Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय उपसभापति जी, हम सदन से बहिर्गमन करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : उपसभापति जी, मंत्री जी के वक्तव्य पर मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी : उपसभापति जी, इंतजार कैसे किया जा सकता है ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : उपसभापति जी, छात्रों के बारे में कुछ नहीं बताया ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री के.सी.त्यागी : एक मिनट सुन लीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप पहले मेरी बात सुन लीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai for Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी : वे लड़के बंद हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is laid on the Table. Copies are coming. ...*(Interruptions)*.. It is laid on the Table. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री तपन कुमार सेन : जो रिपोर्ट है ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसका क्या हुआ ? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will have to adjourn the House. This is the only way now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : उपसभापति जी, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are on Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Statement is laid on the Table. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप पढ़िए ...*(व्यवधान)*... You read it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी: यह सोल्यूशन के साथ कब तक आएगा, ऐसा कुछ नहीं बताया है ...*(व्यवधान)*... मुकदमे वापस लेंगे या नहीं ...*(व्यवधान)*... उन पर लाठीचार्ज बंद होगा कि नहीं ...*(व्यवधान)*... ऐसा कुछ भी नहीं कहा गया है ...*(व्यवधान)*... यहां पर खाली बात हो रही है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री अश्विनी कुमार : उपसभापति जी, कोई स्टेटमेंट नहीं आया है कि हम इसका समाधान करेंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*... कोई समय सीमा तय होनी चाहिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस ओपन ऐंडड एश्योरेंस का कोई मतलब नहीं है ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमने तीन-चार दिन किस विषय पर चर्चा की ...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन की कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं चल सकी ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस पर कोई जवाब होना चाहिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, you gave a ruling asking the Government to report to the House when they will come back with a concrete reply. The hon. Home Minister has said, 'as soon as possible'. ...*(Interruptions)*... What does that mean? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is for the Government to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... I cannot give any date to the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: You ask for the date. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : उपसभापति जी, जो पहले मंत्री थे ...*(व्यवधान)*... वे कह कर गए हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... रिपोर्ट कल मिली है ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक सैकण्ड ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री महोदय कह कर गए हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... रिपोर्ट आज मिली है ...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन को बताया जाए कि रिपोर्ट आज मिली है

या नहीं मिली है ...**(व्यवधान)**... डीओपीटी के मिनिस्टर ने कहा कि रिपोर्ट कल मिली है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विजय गोयल : ऐसा नहीं कहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह गलत बात है ...**(व्यवधान)**... दोनों मंत्रियों का जवाब एक ही है ...**(व्यवधान)**... वे आज का बता रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I cannot give a date to the Government. It is for the Government to decide. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : मंत्री जी कह कर गए हैं कि रिपोर्ट कल मिली है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: You ask for a date. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is up to them. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will have to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will be forced to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*.. That is the only way. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will have to adjourn the House. That is the only way. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शरद यादव : हमें तकलीफ है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I cannot direct the Government to make a Statement on a particular issue. It is up to the Government to decide. You know the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have given the opportunity to the Home Minister. It is up to him. I cannot direct. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't press me, I cannot do that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय गोयल : उपसभापति जी, मुझे एक विषय उठाना है ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे जीरो ऑवर में यह उठाने की इजाजत दी जाए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will have to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, you are losing the Zero Hour again. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry for the Members who have given notices for Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Member, you say what you want to say. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Except what Mrs. Mohsina Kidwai says, nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: *

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : *

श्री शरद यादव : उपसभापति जी, हम सदन से वाक आउट करते हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

(इस समय कुछ माननीय सदस्य सदन से बाहर चले गए)

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, we are walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: We are walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber)

1.00 P.M.**MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION****Revision of text books and interference in the functioning of autonomous educational institutions**

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI (Chhattisgarh): Sir, I want to raise an urgent matter relating to interference in the functioning of autonomous educational and research institutions and changing the pattern of history writing in India. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just a couple of days back, one gentleman has claimed to meet hon. Minister of HRD requesting her to change the syllabus of schools and get the balance back in history writing. Hon. HRD Minister is said to have agreed to the proposal. ...*(Interruptions)*... The gentleman has also claimed that the reforms that he had been suggesting were being incorporated by the new Government and the process of implementing these reforms had already been initiated by reviewing and revisiting the curriculum policies of the NCERT, NCET, Open School and Central Board. He had also claimed that with the change of Government, there will be a change in education policies, the NCERT curriculum, and its working and policies which are directionless and which extensively promote westernization. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sir, Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): We are walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, you are walking out.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, we are walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Smt. Rajani Patil. ...*(Interruptions)*... Walked out. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri S. Muthukaruppan. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have only one or two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Detention of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, 43 fishermen had been arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy on 21st July, 2014. Nine boats have been seized by them. ...*(Interruptions)*... Further, 50 more fishermen were arrested and detained on 29th July, 2014, with five mechanized boats and two *vallams*, by the Sri Lankan Navy. My leader, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, have written letters to

the hon. Prime Minister on the very same day of incidents. But, so far, the fishermen have not yet been released; and, seized machine boats have also not yet been returned. I would like to urge upon the Government of India to take necessary steps so that fishermen be released and their boats be returned to them. Hon. Amma had also filed a writ petition ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief, else I would have to take the sense of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: In 2008, hon. Amma had also filed a writ petition, in this regard, before the hon. Supreme Court and the Revenue Department of Tamil Nadu had also ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. You have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. Maitreyan, do you want to associate. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Muthukaruppan, you have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him associate. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: As per the orders of the Supreme Court, in the ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will have to take the sense of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)... You have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)... You have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: For a permanent solution, retrieval of Katchatheevu Island is essential. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri S. Muthukaruppan, has said, but with a rider. ...(*Interruptions*)... My Chief Minister has repeatedly been writing letters to the hon. Prime Minister. The solution, which she has been suggesting for a lasting solution, is the retrieval of Katchatheevu Island. But what is worse today is that a private individual in Sri Lanka has written an article. We don't bother about that. But that article has been put on the website of the Defence Ministry of the Sri Lanka Government, which is very derogatory to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. ...(*Interruptions*)... I urge that the Government of India should take up this matter immediately because it concerns the sovereignty of this country.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri S. Muthukaruppan, has said.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri S. Muthukaruppan, has said.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today is Friday. We have already gone two minutes up. It being a Friday, I will have to ...(*Interruptions*)... Does the House agree to sit for some more time?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri – not present. Shri Balagopal. Make your point only in one minute. You know, today is Friday.

Communal violence and tension in different parts of country

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, this is regarding the need for Government's intervention to contain the increasing communal violence in different parts of the country. The latest such incidence was in Saharanpur. A lot of people have been displaced. The Government will have to take care of one thing. Many national leaders of the BJP say that only the Gujarat model...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is their opinion. You do not worry about that. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: The BJP wrote in its...(*Interruptions*)... 'Gujarat Model' is a model...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri P. Rajeeve. ...(*Interruptions*)... You have only one or two minutes. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Condition of Indians, including Malayali nurses in Libya

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, through my Zero Hour submission, I seek the immediate intervention of the Government to ensure the evacuation of the Indians stranded in Libya. Thousands of Indians are stranded in Libya due to insurgency there. Hundreds of them are Keralites; and, most of them are nurses. More than 200 nurses have called up and have sought help for evacuation. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. You have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Therefore, I urge upon the Minister of External Affairs to urgently intervene in the matter. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. That is okay. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: The Indian Embassy has sufficient strength to deal with the situation. I urge upon the Government to deploy diplomats and send...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, you have made your point. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri P. Rajeeve, has said.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Husain Dalwai – not present. Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra – not present. Shri Vijay Goel.

Ban on Multi-Digit Lottery

श्री विजय गोयल (राजस्थान) : सर, लॉटरी के कारण इस देश के अन्दर लाखों लोग बरबाद हो रहे थे। एनडीए की सरकार के समय एक अंक की लॉटरी पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाकर लाखों लोगों को बरबाद होने से बचाया गया था। अभी मल्टी डिजिट लॉटरी अथवा बहुसंख्य लॉटरी और ऑनलाइन लॉटरी चल रहे हैं, जिनके कारण आज भी लाखों लोग बरबाद हो रहे हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार बहुसंख्य लॉटरी और ऑनलाइन लॉटरी के ऊपर भी प्रतिबन्ध लगाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. (*Time-bell rings*)

श्री विजय गोयल : इस समय केवल आठ-नौ राज्यों में लॉटरी चल रही है। उन राज्यों से भी कहा जाए कि वे लॉटरी को बन्द करें, क्योंकि इसके कारण बहुत से लोग आत्महत्याएं कर रहे हैं।

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक) : सर, मैं इनके उल्लेख का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्रीमती बिमला कश्यप सूद (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : सर, मैं भी इनके उल्लेख का समर्थन करती हूँ।

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, online lottery should be banned. I associate myself with the point made by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, online lottery should be banned. I also associate myself with the point made by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Karimpuri. Take only one minute.

Declaration of National Holiday and creation of Museum in the memory of Martyr Udham Singh

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, कल शहीद ऊधम सिंह जी का शहीदी दिवस था। 13 अप्रैल, 1919 को जलियांवाला बाग, अमृतसर में शांतिपूर्वक इकठ्ठे होने पर जब अंग्रेज हुकूमत ने गोलियां चलवाई थीं, जिससे हजारों लोगों की जानें चली गई थीं, उसका बदला शहीद ऊधम सिंह ने 13 मार्च, 1940 को इंग्लैंड में जाकर जनरल डायर की हत्या करके लिया था। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सिर्फ सब्जेक्ट पर बोलिए।

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी : सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि उनकी शहीदी का सम्मान करते हुए, उनके शहीदी दिवस पर नेशनल हॉलिडे का ऐलान किया जाए।

दूसरा, उनकी याद में दिल्ली में एक बड़ा यादगार म्यूज़ियम बनाया जाए, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, That's all.

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी : ताकि हम शहीदों का सम्मान कर सकें, साथ ही देश के लोग उनको आदर्श मानकर आगे भी देश के सम्मान के लिए कुर्बानी का जज्बा रख सकें। धन्यवाद।

सरदार सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा (पंजाब) : सर, मैं इनके उल्लेख का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति : श्री महेंद्र सिंह माहरा, आप एक मिनट में सिर्फ सब्जेक्ट पर बोलिए।

Resentment over change in the pilgrimage route to Kailash Mansarovar

श्री महेंद्र सिंह माहरा (उत्तराखंड) : धन्यवाद, सर, मैं सदन को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि अभी जो ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन हुआ, उसमें माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपना भाषण दिया। उनके भाषण के कुछ अंशों से जहां पूरे भारत में हमारे शिव भक्तों की धार्मिक भावनाओं को ठेस पहुंची है, वहीं उत्तराखंड की सम्पूर्ण जनता की धार्मिक भावनाओं को भी बहुत ज्यादा ठेस पहुंची है।

सर, प्राचीन काल से, ऋषि-मुनियों के समय से ही कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा चलती थी, जिसका रास्ता टनकपुर से, जो लास्ट रेल हेड है, ब्रह्मदेव मंडी होते हुए जनपद पिथौरागढ़ से धारचूला तक जाता है।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri Husain Dalwai.

श्री महेंद्र सिंह माहरा : सर, मैं पढ़ देता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is enough. Sit down. Nothing more will go on record.

श्री महेंद्र सिंह माहरा : *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Husain Dalwai. Take just one minute.

Violence against Dalits and Women in Maharashtra

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, मैं खासतौर से यहां महाराष्ट्र का उल्लेख करूंगा। महाराष्ट्र में बड़े पैमाने पर दलितों के ऊपर अत्याचार और अन्याय हो रहा है। अहमदनगर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में खर्डा नाम का एक गांव है। वहां नितिन आगे नाम के एक लड़के के प्रेम सम्बन्ध एक वरिष्ठ जाति की लड़की के साथ थे। इसके लिए लड़की के भाइयों ने उसको तीन घंटे तक बेरहमी से मारा, उस पर अत्याचार किया, जिसके बाद वह मर गया।

शिर्डी में भी एक सोनई गाँव है, जहां वाल्मीकि समाज के साथ इसी तरह के प्रेम सम्बन्ध की एक बात उठी थी, जिसके बाद वाल्मीकि समाज के तीन लड़कों के टुकड़े-टुकड़े कर दिए गए। श्रीगोंदा, अहमदनगर में काष्टी गाँव में एक लड़के को घर में बुला कर मारा गया। गेवराई, बीड में 9 वर्ष के एक बच्चे की बलि दे दी गई।...(समय की घंटी)... आष्टी, बीड, दारेगाँव में चुनाव में नौ लोगों ने एक आदमी को मार डाला।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : अब इसमें क्या करना है, आप यह बताइए।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई : सर, कन्विक्शन रेट इतना कम है, महाराष्ट्र का कन्विक्शन रेट 7 प्रतिशत है। यू.पी. में कन्विक्शन रेट 50.7 प्रतिशत है। देखना यह चाहिए कि इसके बारे में क्या किया गया ? किसी तरह से भी दलितों को राहत और संरक्षण दिया जाना चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I am allowing the Special Mentions to be laid on the Table.

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

Demand for installing Braille Boards in National Heritage Monuments

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, first of all, I would like to praise the effort of Superintendent Archaeologist, Delhi, for installing Braille Boards for visually impaired in the various culturally and historically significant monuments around Delhi. This is a brilliant step that will help visually impaired tourists and visitors a lot. However, I believe this should not just be the effort of one Government employee. With the world's second largest population, India retains the unfortunate distinction of having the largest number of people with visual impairment globally. Some estimates put the figure of blind population in India over 50 million. That being said, it is the responsibility of the Government to aid its disadvantaged population in any way possible. All of these visually impaired tourists are helpless in important national heritage monuments with no information to tell them about their historical significance or even for the most mundane part of finding the direction to the restroom. Most of us take these things to be granted. However, for a visually impaired person, touring a place of national heritage becomes impossible without these aids. Thus the Ministry of Tourism along with the Archaeological Society of India should take the limited initiative of Superintendent Archaeologist, Delhi, throughout the country in every possible national heritage monument.

Demand to run Tulsī Express train daily and extend Intercity Express from Banda to Kanpur upto Lucknow

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान लोक महत्व के विषय मुम्बई से वाया झांसी-बांदा, मानिकपुर के बीच प्रतिदिन चलने वाले हज़ारों यात्रियों को ट्रेन सुविधा उपलब्ध कराए जाने के संबंध में दिलाना चाहता हूँ। उक्त रेलवे मार्ग पर केवल एक ट्रेन तुलसी एक्सप्रेस नं., 11069-11070 साप्ताहिक इलाहाबाद से लोकमान्य तिलक टर्मिनल (मुम्बई) के बीच चल रही है, जिससे हज़ारों यात्रियों को परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ता है। मैं मांग करता करता हूँ कि तुलसी एक्सप्रेस को प्रतिदिन किया जाए जिससे कर्वी, अतर्रा, बांदा, महोबा, हरपालपुर, मऊरानीपुर के यात्रियों को मुम्बई की तरफ जाने में ट्रेन की सुविधा मिल सके तथा बांदा-कानपुर के बीच चलने वाली इंटरसिटी

एक्सप्रेस ट्रेन को लखनऊ तक चलाया जाए। साथ ही बांदा-खैराड़ा के बीच रेलवे क्रॉसिंग नं. सी 452 के आगे महोबा-दुरेड़ी रोड़ पर नया रेलवे फाटक बनाया जाए, जिससे नवोदय विद्यालय तथा एकलव्य डिग्री कॉलेज के छात्रों को आने-जाने में कठिनाई न हो।

मैं रेलमंत्री से मांग करता हूँ कि इलाहाबाद-मुम्बई के बीच चलने वाली तुलसी एक्सप्रेस (साप्ताहिक) को प्रतिदिन चलाए जाने हेतु शीघ्र कार्यवाही करने की कृपा करें। बांदा-कानपुर के बीच चलने वाली इंटरसिटी एक्सप्रेस ट्रेन को लखनऊ तक चलाया जाए और बांदा-खैराड़ा के बीच रेलवे क्रॉसिंग नं. सी 452 के आगे महोबा-दुरेड़ी रोड़ पर नया फाटक बनवाने की कृपा करें।

Demand to take strict measures to stop human trafficking in the country

श्री अवतार सिंह करीमपुरी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, हमारे भारत में विषमताओं का बोलबाला इस हद तक बढ़ गया है कि भूमि, सम्पत्ति, पशुओं और साग-सब्जियों के साथ-साथ अब गरीब मजबूर व्यक्तियों और बच्चों की भी, धन अर्जित करने हेतु, खरीद-फरोख्त का घिनौना कार्य खुले आम हो रहा है। हद इतनी हो गयी है कि मासूम बच्चों, बच्चियों और विकलांगों का बहुत ही थोड़ी रकम में घरेलू कामकाज, यौन-शोषण करने और भीख मंगवाने हेतु प्रयोग करते हैं। इस प्रकार खरीदे गए बच्चों के मानवीय अधिकारों का खुला उल्लंघन हो रहा है। इससे पूरी मानवीय जातियाँ शर्मिदा हो रही हैं। वही चिंता का विषय यह भी है कि यह जो व्यक्तियों और बच्चों की खरीद-फरोख्त हो रही है, वह अधिकांश दलित और पिछड़े वर्ग के गरीब बच्चों से संबंधित है। 67 वर्ष के बाद भी आर्थिक संकट इतना गंभीर है कि भारतीय संविधान के मूल अधिकार का हनन हो रहा है। इस गंभीर समस्या पर देश की सरकार को जल्द से जल्द कोई ठोस कदम उठाना होगा।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से पूरजोर अपील करता हूँ कि शीघ्र ही इस गंभीर समस्या से निजात दिलाने के लिए ठोस कदम उठाए तथा इस खरीद-फरोख्त की अमानवीय प्रक्रिया को समाप्त किया जाए।

Demand to review the merger of Public Sector Banks

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, the initiative to amalgamate certain public sector banks needs the rethink. Each and every bank, however small or big it may be, is having its own history, character, approach and leading to competition and also choice to account holders. Union Government and the Reserve Bank of India are now intending to encourage launching of new small banks. The banking needs of rural and urban population across the nation are manifold, since the delivery of various welfare benefits including the direct transfer besides linking with Aadhar. Some corporations at Union Government level and of State Governments like Electricity Boards have been divided into separate entities to look after the needs of generation, transmission and distribution and showing useful results. Within major banks, these were several subsidiary units to look after different needs. Keeping these factors and global experiences in view, I urge upon the Union Finance Ministry to revisit and evaluate deeply before any further move for merger of certain public sector banks.

Demand the excise and customs duty on petro products and levying the same on unit basis

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I want to bring to your notice the issue of levying excise and customs duty on percentage basis on fuel and petroleum prices which is severely punishing the common man of our country. Changing the criterion for levying duty on petroleum products from percentage to unit basis will ensure a more rational basis for increase in the prices of petroleum products. For example, on a cost of every 100 dollars for a barrel of crude oil imported, the duty levied becomes more for the same quantity of oil which was earlier costing less. Elaborating further, in case of increase in prices of crude oil in the international market, the cost of import increases which result in the increase in domestic price of petroleum products. Additionally, there is a duty levied on percentage basis on the increased cost of petroleum products that further causes a differential increase in the cost of petroleum fuel and products for the end consumer. In this manner, prices of fuels like kerosene and diesel keep increasing which is additionally borne by the common man. However, if the duty is levied at a flat 10 dollars a barrel, then only the increase in the international prices of petroleum products will be passed on to the public, thereby providing some relief to the common man. Hence levying a fixed duty on the unit quantity of petroleum products, instead of on percentage basis, will prevent the prevalent irrational and unreasonable burden of inflation on the public.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. R. Lakshmanan, not present. Shri Chaudhary Munavver Saleem, not present. Shri Ambeth Rajan.

Demand to appoint persons belonging to SC/ST category at top levels in Indian Railways

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that none of the higher posts are occupied by persons belonging to SCs/STs in various organizations of Indian Railways, including Railway Board and Zonal Railway.

For administrative convenience, Railways has been divided into 16 zones. Besides this, two Metro Railways – Kolkata – Delhi – are there. Many metro railways will come into operation sooner or later. To cater to the needs of railways, various manufacturing units like Diesel Locomotive Factory, Integral Coach Factory, etc., and to provide various technical support, CRIS, RITES etc., are there. The claim by the Government that it is one of the major employers of the country is fully justified.

But, unfortunately, in various Railway organizations, including Railway Board and Zonal Railways, holding of the highest post by a person belonging to Scheduled Caste

or Scheduled Tribe still remains a distant dream. For example, there are nearly about 71 Divisional Railways and they are headed by DRM. The Government has fixed a criterion of 52 years as on 1st April of the empanelment year. This age criterion fixed by the Government, without any rationale, prevents a person belonging to SC/ST to become DRM.

Sir, I request the Government to take suitable action to appoint SC/ST people in higher administrative posts of railways to ensure equal opportunity and inclusive governance.

Demand to depute a central team of Medical Experts in Cuttack to check the menace of kidney ailments

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Odisha): Sir, kidney failure disease in Cuttack district of Odisha State is spreading fast, especially in the Narsingpur block of this region. It has taken in its fold more than two hundred lives, both young and others, where the families, one-after-the-other, are losing their bread earners. It has taken an epidemic form. Most of the victims belong to below poverty line.

The chronic dreadful disease has now assumed an alarming/unabated proportion in the rural areas of this region. The feeling in villages is that the cause of this menace is contamination of water and surrounding environment.

The State Government, with its meager resources, has been making all out efforts to control this disease, but they have so far not succeeded in their mission.

Hence, I request the Central Government to depute their medical experts to assess this abnormal situation for taking/evolving suitable measures/appropriate action to control this menace at the earliest.

Request for clearing Subsidy Bills of Solar Power companies

SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY (Telangana): Sir, I welcome the thrust given by Finance Minister on solar energy, the proposal to take up Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects on the lines of UMPP and allocation of ₹ 500 crores and ₹ 400 crores for agriculture pump sets driven by solar power.

Finance Minister correctly identified the existing duty structures are incentivising imports instead of domestic players and reduced the basic customs duty and excise duty on PV cells, machine and equipment, etc.

The point is, Government is collecting ₹ 14,000 crores in the form of Cess on coal for solar power every year. In the Budget proposals, Finance Minister allocated ₹ 1,000 crores for taking up new projects by new players, but what about the projects

that have been already under execution and the bills of various companies pending before Government? Subsidy bills to the tune of ₹ 3,210 crores of solar power companies are pending with the Government for the last four years. Without clearing pending bills, Government is giving incentives, etc., for new players. There is nothing wrong to invite new players. But, at the same time, Government should clear the dues of Solar companies pending for the last 4 years. Secondly, the agencies should be advised not to create problems for solar producing companies.

So, I request that subsidy bills pending with the Ministry be immediately cleared in the coming 1-2 months, only then we can expect the private solar power generators will be able to achieve the target of 10,000 MW.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the hon. Member.

Request to Declare Pranahita-Chevella the status of a national project

SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, as a part of Jala Yagnam with an objective to create 1.07 crore acres of additional ayacut, which is nearly half of the ₹ 2.5 crore acres contemplated under Bharat Nirman, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has initiated an ambitious Pranahita-Chevella Sujala Sravanthi Project on River Godavari, with an estimated cost of ₹ 38,500 crores. The objective of the project is to provide immediate irrigation benefits to ₹ 12.20 lakh acres of under-developed land in the State of Telangana, to provide drinking water to about 1,000 villages in Adilabad, Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Medak, Nalgonda and Ranga Reddy districts and also to prevent river water flowing into the sea. The project started long back, but due to paucity of funds and meagre allocations, the project is going on at a snail's pace. Tenders have been called for and the work is in progress, but not at the pace with which it ought to progress. So far, the Government has spent just ₹ 1,600 crores.

It is the policy of the Government of India to give one National Project to every State. Telangana State has recently been carved out from Andhra Pradesh. Polavaram in Andhra Pradesh has been given the national project status. On the same lines, Pranahita-Chevella also be given the National Project status for the benefit of farmers and people of Telangana.

Demand to bring a legislation to govern the Scope of Central schemes

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, it appears that the present Government is going all out to change the names of the existing schemes. If the Government applies its mind to improve upon the existing schemes with additional funds or to simplify the procedures involved in getting benefits, one could understand, but, the logic behind changing of names of the schemes is irrational.

Similarly, many State Governments do not inform the people about the true nature of the Central schemes and also about the funding that is provided by the Central Government. Many State Governments change the names of the Central Schemes and misrepresent to the people that they are State Government Schemes.

Whichever government may rule a State, there must be a clear distinction maintained with respect to the two Schemes and the distinction must be explained to the people in every village, tehsil or town.

In fact, I may go to the extent of suggesting that those who misrepresent to the people regarding funding of Central Schemes and also further indulging in the acts of changing names should be hauled for committing offences of cheating, fraud and misrepresentation, and, if need be, a special legislation should be enacted for the purpose.

Further, today schemes are prepared under executive powers of the Government and, therefore, their legal status is in grey area. It is, therefore, essential that a legislation should be enacted to govern the scope of Central schemes and misrepresentation with respect to the same should be treated as punishable offence.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Y.S. Chowdary, not present. Shri Santiuse Kujur.

Demand to increase the daily wages of tea-garden labourers of Assam

SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR (Assam): The tea industry of Assam is the biggest industry in the country. It is famous worldwide. Assam is the largest producer of tea and contributes more than half of country's tea production. The tea gardens of Assam contribute nearly 65 per cent of the Assam's economy and growth, annually.

There are about 800 tea gardens managed by big companies and multi-national companies in Assam. These companies have, over the years, been obtaining huge profits from these tea gardens. About 40-45 lakh workers from *adivasi* (tea garden) communities are fully engaged in nurturing, maintenance and development of these tea gardens throughout the year. The high margin profits enjoyed by the tea companies are not shared with the workers who have been exploited for more than 150 years.

The daily wages given to a tea garden labour is just ₹ 95.00 in Assam. They do not get a paid weekly off. Whereas in tea gardens in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, the wages are ₹ 216.53 and 209.27 per day respectively. This meager wage indicates forced labour in tea gardens, which is the violation of the Indian Constitution (Article-23) and laws, such as, the Plantation Labour Act 1951 and the Minimum Wage Act 1948. The Minimum Wage Act lays down the minimum wage at ₹ 169, per day.

This has led to increase in poverty among tea workers, un-hygienic living conditions, loss of human resources, as they are not able to have access to good education. Therefore, the youths are forced to migrate to big cities in search of livelihood as domestic helpers. When a child is 14 -15 years old, the parents send them to the plantations as child labourers. The children are given the work of spraying pesticides in the tea gardens. As a result, children lose out on their education. Worryingly, cases of migration and trafficking of *adivasi* (tea garden) community women and youth have increased.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to consider the matter positively by increasing the daily wages of tea garden labours of Assam to minimum ₹ 300.00 for their better life, health and education of their children, as these labourers tirelessly work and contribute to country's economy.

Demand to sett up institutions of vocational training and skill development in North-Eastern region

SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM (Meghalaya): Sir, the North-East happens to be a storehouse for HRD with high literacy and academic skills. Presently, migration of job seekers from the North-East to the mega cities in the country is on the increase. It is projected to be around 50,00,000. It has been revealed that 35 per cent of the migrants migrate for employment opportunities in other cities of India, out of which 15 per cent are for Government employment and 85 per cent for private sector jobs.

With hardly any facility to impart vocational training and skill development in the Region, the youths from the North-East are left with no choice but to accept low-paid jobs in mega cities as security guards and in case of girls, a job of housemaid/ baby sitter with private household, which makes them vulnerable to physical abuse, as is often reported in the media. Many local youths, aware of the depressing situation in mega cities, are drawn towards militancy/insurgency lured by rebel's cadres and outfits.

It is, therefore, essential that vocational training and skill development be made a part of the school curriculum in the North-East to equip the youths with ready employability in regular jobs. Like other regions in the country, the Centre should set up more ITIs and RVTIs to train youths in diverse industrial trades, so that they could find jobs in local ancillary units or venture into setting up their own units with adequate loan facilities made available under MSME schemes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Parimal Nathwani, not present. Shri Motilal Vora.

Demand to take concrete steps to check the increasing incidents of air miss at various airports of the country

श्री मोती लाल बोरा (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, हाल ही में 1 जुलाई, 2014 को इंदिरा गांधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एयरपोर्ट, नई दिल्ली पर रनवे 28/10 पर दो विमान एयर मिस के शिकार हुए। वर्ष 2014 में ही देश के अन्य हवाई अड्डों पर एयर मिस की 8 घटनाएं हो चुकी हैं तथा पिछले चार वर्षों में दिल्ली में 20 उड़ानें तथा देश के अन्य हवाई अड्डों पर एयर मिस की 78 घटनाओं को भी शामिल कर लिया जाए तो एयर मिस की कुल 98 घटनाएं हो चुकी हैं और ये थमने का नाम नहीं ले रही हैं। डीजीसीए के अनुसार एयर मिस के ज्यादातर मामलों में एटीसी की तरफ से एप्रोच फ्रीक्वेंसी का गलत एसाइनमेंट, सर्विलांस में कमी, यातायात की मॉनिटरिंग न किया जाना, सीडब्ल्यूएस की विफलता और सेक्टर को देर में खोले जाने जैसी गलतियां हैं। इसके अलावा एटीसी कर्मियों और पायलटों के समन्वय में कमी भी है। शायद गलतियों के लिए किसी को पर्याप्त दंड नहीं दिया जाता, इसलिए एयर मिस की घटनाएं रुकने का नाम नहीं ले रही हैं और इसकी सजा यात्रियों को भुगतानी पड़ती है।

मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि हवाई यात्रा करने वाले यात्रियों के हित में सरकार ठोस कदम उठाए ताकि एयर मिस की घटनाओं पर रोक लग सके।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Anil Desai, not present. The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned at thirteen minutes past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty-one minutes past-two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS

Continuous shortage of power and its adverse impact on the economic development of the country

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Private Members' Resolution. Further discussion on the Resolution regarding the continuous shortage of power and its adverse impact on the economic development of the country, moved by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. The next speaker is Vijay Goel; not present. Shri V.P. Singh Badnore. Don't speak too much; you have to come here!

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): That means, you are not interested in listening to my reply, Sir !

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would be here !

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, the only thing I wanted to say is, there is a debate on Power on Monday too. So, I wanted to get a sense of the House, whether I should give a very detailed response today or, they would like to have a more detailed response on Monday. I am open to both. I can speak twice. I have no problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can choose your way. You can make a detailed reply on both days. There is no problem. Now, Mr. Badnore, please.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): Sir, there was a Resolution moved by Dr. Reddy, "That this House expresses its deep concern over the continuous shortage of power and its adverse impact on the economic developmem of the country and urges upon the Government to take urgent measures."

Sir, first and foremost, let me start with the deep concern over continuous shortage of power. It is a fact that we have had Independence since 1947. It is nearly 67 years since then. In 1948, the Electricity Act came into existence, which was in the Independence era. At that time, the power scenario was such that we had power in just three-digits, in hundreds only. The last Electricity Act was in the 19th Century. After about 50 years, we had the Electricity Act in 1948. The regime changed, and instead of the private sector that used to look after power, the Government thought that most of the Central Public Sector Units, as they exist today, should be with the Government. And from those times, we have come to 2 lakh plus megawatts today. So, for sixty seven years, we have had progress in electricity. They have been in Government for fifty years out of that sixty seven years and the responsibility lies on them. But we do not want to score any brownie point and say that it is your doings that all this is happening. We have come to 2 lakh plus megawatts. The development and scenario has changed. But it is sad that after sixty seven years there is still a deficit; there is still a peak deficit. About twelve years ago, very few villages in the country had electricity; only big villages and cities had electricity. So, they started this flagship scheme of Rajiv Gahdhi Grameen Vidyut Yojana and under this Rajiv Gahdhi Grameen Vidyut Yojana lots of villages have been electrified —over one lakh villages. We also wanted that they should have some norms in the scheme 'what is electrification of a village'. Now, we say that if the Whole Village is 100 per cent electrified, then only will we say that the village is electrified. That could not-really come about, and they came out that if 10 per cent of that village is electrified they would think that the village has been electrified. In the Standing Committee we have been wanting to say that when, at least, 50 ber cent of that village is electrified, only then should it be declared as electrified . But that has not come out. What has been done is that you put up a pole at the centre-most point of that village, and if there is a Government building, that must be electrified. The OBCs, EWS

[Shri V.P. Singh Badnore]

should be provided free connections. That was also in this Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyut Yojana. But it is sad that after sixty seven years, hundreds and thousands of villages are still not electrified. Even if those villages are electrified, most of them don't get electricity for more than to ten hours. We have been insisting in the Standing Committee that we must have electricity for twenty four hours. When will we get to this position? So, the concern of Dr. Reddy is well taken; there is a deep Concern. The next point is the economic development of the country. If we do not have the electricity, what will happen? For industry, agriculture and even for this House, electricity has become the mainstay and in every walk of life we need electricity. I must say that the industry and the competitiveness of the industry, manufacturing and export, depend on electricity and when that doesn't happen it gets affected. So, if we do not have cheap power, we will not be competitive here and outside. Now, let me cite an example. In India, We have the National Grid. There was a time when there used to be a South Grid, a North Grid, a West Grid and a North-East Grid. Except for the North-East Grid, all that has now come under the National Grid. I will give you an example. In European countries, they have a European Grid, and there are times in those countries when at night, the power is available at a very cheap rate. They cannot shut a thermal power station. Everybody knows that a thermal power station is not like putting off the electricity. Once you shut a thermal power station, it takes a lot of money and time to revive that because you have the coal or the gas coming in. So, it is not easy to shut a thermal power station. These countries in Europe give very cheap power at night and that is when the electricity intensive industries, like cement, fertilizers and steel, use it at night. In India, We have not come to that position of surplus electricity. And, it becomes really a problem of where to put this electricity because electricity is a commodity which, when produced, has to be consumed immediately. It cannot be put into the sea even. So, there are times when these countries give it even at minus rate to keep their thermal power stations going. That is when these industries buy this cheap power and run their plants. If we get to that situation, then we will become really competitive. I remember when I was in Australia, I saw all the offices were lighted at night. I was wondering as to why they should be lighted. Was that because of the tourism that they had lighted up all those offices? Then, I found out that those offices had to compulsorily keep the lights on because they have to use that electricity. You can't put it into sea. You have to use it. So, they have to keep the lights on even if the rates are different at night. In the European Grid, at times, they give free electricity also, and that is when the industries become more competitive because they buy electricity at night. But that is the surplus regime that I am talking about. In India, I don't know when we will be able to get to

that situation. In India, because of village electrification, a scheme was started in Gujarat that we must separate the feeders. Now if we do not separate the feeders, there will be theft. In the farm sector, they put this device on the line and they take electricity at night. And, this was a very good idea that they started. This idea of feeder separation was started in Gujarat and then it was copied in other States also. Now, Gujarat has a different model and I am talking about the model that you have three phases, and in the farm sector, the three-phase system is used for pumps. So, if you do not give three-phase system, naturally that sector is totally closed and you give it to the villages. So, if you have a single phase, the theft also stops. This was started in Gujarat and copied in many States. Sir, talking about where and how we can really improve the scenario, I would say that we have been concentrating on the generation side, and, naturally, if we do not have the electricity, how can we go ahead. But it is a fact that if you spend one rupee on generation, you must spend two rupees on transmission, and, two rupees more on distribution. Now, that has not been adhered to. We have been concentrating on generation and equal money has not been spent on transmission. The National Grid has come about but the evacuation problem from many power plants is there. We say that there is great hydro potential in the north-east. There is great hydro potential in Bhutan, in Nepal but we have not been able to get the evacuation because we did not spend those two rupees, which we had to spend. We have not been able to spend that matching amount, that is, one rupee on generation, then, two rupees on transmission and then further two rupees on distribution.

Let us talk about Delhi. Exactly the same thing has happened. We put up the Bawana Power Plant, which is supposed to be a 1500-MW power plant. I do not know how the Congress Government thought of putting it up when there was no gas provided to it. It is hardly running. The PLF is really so low and then, there was the evacuation problem, which our Minister looked into, and, tried to get it from Bawana Plant but there is no gas provided for it. You spent lots of money on the Bawana Plant. Now, if you talk about distribution, Delhi and a few cities have been taken over by some private sector companies, and, if we do not have competition in the distribution, we will not be able to really go ahead. The crux of the matter is that we need to spend and do something about the distribution. Sir, in the 2003 Act, where I was also there, we put in 'open access', and, we said that you may not be able to do it right now, but we made it mandatory and said that in five years, we must have open access not just in the transmission but in distribution as well. And, that is how we will be able to usher in competition. Now, if you divide Delhi and give it to two private sector companies, there is really no competition because they are in different areas. It is like two cities being looked after by two different private players. So, what will happen? Let me give you an

[Shri V.P. Singh Badnore]

example of telephony. About 15-20 years ago, there used to be long queues for landline connections in the telephony, and, then, we got lots of people in the telephony. They opened it out. I will not get into the 2G or 3G issue but there were so many players who came in, and, then, you could go and buy a telephone connection, and, then, the mobile came. It is exactly the same system of 'open access', which we mentioned in the Electricity Act, 2003, that is, have more players. Let me give you an example of what happened in England in the nineties. The Thatcher Government had a problem when they wanted to reform the England Electricity Act. She was the person who wanted to introduce competition in the distribution. There was a hue and cry but she went ahead. Even with lots of complaints and lots of people complaining as to how this will happen, she ushered in competition. And, what did she do? Today, in London, if you are not happy with one player, you can change it. It is just like the telephony where if you are not happy with Vodafone, you can go to Airtel, and, if you are not happy with Airtel, you can go to MTNL, and, what not. In the same way, the systems are there, but you need to refurbish them, like in Delhi. But have more players. Then, like telephony, if you are not happy with Tata, go to Reliance; if you are not happy with Reliance, let US get L & T or whatever or whoever it be. Like in the telephony, this ushering in competition is required in the distribution sector. Unless that is done, this system will not really come up. He wanted this to come up and make it mandatory. It must come up in five year. But what did they do? They did it only of one megawatt, that too in transmission sector. Coming into distribution, the real competition would come in if we have more private players in the distribution like the telephony. Anybody can go and buy a telephone and get a connection. The same way, if you are not happy with one player, you switch to another or some other, like you have it in London, in South Africa and in America. I would urge the Minister to look into this open access. This is the crux of the matter, and if that is done, things will really improve. A young Minister can really take this up. Sir, about ten years ago ...*(Interruptions)*... हमारे सामने तो बहुत यंग हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Young and dynamic.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Yes, Sir, I forgot the 'dynamic' part of It.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY;
AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
Now, there is a word from the Chair!

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Sir, in 2005, on the generation side, the Congress thought that we must do something and reform this sector. That is when the ultra mega

power scheme was floated. It was a novel scheme and it was so largely trumpeted by them that this will be the panacea for all our ills and the power sector will really surge and we will come into the surplus section. (*Time-bell*) Because I will speak again on Monday, I will not take long time. I think it may become a very long speech then, so I will not take much time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. I want you to come here. That is why I rang it.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE: Okay, Sir.

Sir, I was saying about ultra mega power scheme. It was a great and a novel idea in the sense that instead of carting coal all the way to the land-locked areas and the areas where they do not have coalmines, why don't we have pithead generation where there is coal? Instead of tacing all other problems like congestion, traffic problems of the Railways, you have pithead generation and you wheel the power instead of carting coal there. It is a great idea. Also, have it on the coastal areas where if you get imported coal, have it and then again wheel it. They were supposed to be ultra mega because it had the super critical technology also into it. We wanted to get into the new technology where there was going to be less pollution. This was ultra mega scheme in the sense that there was supposed to have been 4,000-5,000 and above megawatts of power generation. So, if you had about 12 of them, had this problem been sorted out, you would have put in about 60,000 megawatt. They said that we would do it in about five-six years. It will take a little time. Where did they go wrong? I was in the Standing Committee and I said it would not work. I had suggested to them that you have these power projects, you identify them, you clear those projects, you get them land, the Government must get them land, you have all the NOCs cleared, the water connections and all that and then have international bids.

It would have worked. But you were more interested in finding how much per unit will cost. Then you left it saying you get the land from the States and you get all the connections. Only two of them have really come about. Instead of 60,000 mw power that you could have put in what you would have been able to do is only, I think, Sasan and Mundra and that too a couple of thousand mw of power. And booth are not going ahead.

Again, my request to the hon. Minister is this. This has to be remodelled. And it will Work, because it is a goed thing to have pithead generation are power plants on the sea coast.

Sir, I think on Monday I will be having lots of things to say, so I will speak then. In the meanwhile, I think I have said quite a bit. Thank you very much, Sir.

3.00 P.M.

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, आज सुब्बारामी रेड्डी जी ने बिजली को लेकर सवाल खड़ा किया है, वह सवाल भारत के आम आदमी से जुड़ा हुआ है, भारत की तरक्की से जुड़ा हुआ है और एक गंभीर सवाल है। अच्छा है कि बिजली विभाग के नौजवान मिनिस्टर यहां बैठे हुए हैं और उनसे बहुत सारी संभावना है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर) पीठासीन हुए]

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, रोशनी का अपने जीवन में एक महत्व होता है। जब आप खुद अपने बारे में सोचेंगे और उन लोगों के बारे में सोचेंगे जिनकी आंखों में रोशनी नहीं रही है, भगवान न करे ऐसा हो, तो आपको लगेगा कि जीवन में उजाले का क्या महत्व है। अगर उजाला नहीं है तो जीवन नहीं है। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि आज बिजली के क्षेत्र में भारतवर्ष ने भारी तरक्की की है। ये दो दशक ऐसे निकलें हैं, जो ऐतिहासिक तरक्की के दशक थे, लेकिन इसके बाद भी 37.6 फीसदी आबादी अभी भी बिजली की रोशनी से महरूम है। आज भी एक चौथाई से ज्यादा आबादी यानी 34.5 करोड़ लोगों के पास बिजली नहीं है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह उन लोगों के सामने एक सवाल है, जिन्होंने देश चलाया है और जो अब चला रहे हैं। अगर देश की 34.5 करोड़ आबादी बिजली की रोशनी से वंचित है, अंधेरे में अपना जीवनयापन कर रही है, तो हम सोचें कि हमने पैसंड साल की आजादी में क्या खोया, क्या पाया और अंतिम आदमी को क्या दिया ? मैं यहां उस तबके के दर्द को बयान करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यहां पर जो भाषण हुए, प्रस्ताव आए, सुझाव आए वे ज्यादातर सुझाव इस बात पर डिपेंड करते थे कि हमें खुली बाजार व्यवस्था के तहत बिजली को निजीकरण के क्षेत्र में दे देना चाहिए या नहीं। यदि हम खुली बाजार व्यवस्था के तहत सबको दावत देने लगेंगे, तो हिन्दुस्तान फिर से अर्थिक गुलामी में जकड़ जाएगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि बिजली की वे परियोजनाएँ, जिन्हें सरकार चला रही है, मिसाल के तौर पर हरियाणा में हरियाणा सरकार एक परियोजना चला रही है, जिसमें वह तीन रुपये प्रति यूनिट के हिसाब से बिजली बनाकर तैयार कर रही है। इसके विपरीत जब हम निजीकरण के क्षेत्र में जाते हैं, प्राइवेटाइजेशन करते हैं, तब यही बिजली छह रुपये प्रति यूनिट बनाई जाती है और मनमाने रेट पर बेची जाती है। यह कैसे होगा ? इससे गरीब आदमी लुटेगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ कि बहुत दिनों तक शासन में रहना मायने नहीं रखता। आप भले ही बहुत कम वक्त शासक रहें, लेकिन आप निर्णायक फैसले करके जाएँ, क्योंकि इससे इतिहास बनता है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके जरिए सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि दस औद्योगिक घरानों को ताकत देने के लिए, दस औद्योगिक घरानों की रणनीति के तहत बिजली का प्राइवेटाइजेशन किया जा रहा है और वे मनमाने ढंग से, अपने ढंग से बिजली बनाने और बेचने का काम कर रहे हैं। मैं उन घरानों के नाम नहीं लेना चाहता, हो सकता है कि किन्हीं क्षेत्रों में सरकार को उनका सहयोग आवश्यक हो, लेकिन बिजली के क्षेत्र में जो हमारी सरकारी परियोजनाएँ हैं, जो हमारे सरकारी संयंत्र लगे हैं, वे हमें जिस तरह की परफॉर्मेंस दे रहे हैं, चाहे वह एनटीपीसी हो, चाहे वह हरियाणा की विद्युत योजना हो, उनकी परफॉर्मेंस इस बात का ऐलान करती है कि अगर सरकार पूरी तवज्जो के साथ हमारे सरकारी संयंत्रों को ताकत दे, उनकी

मदद करे, उनको सुविधाएँ दे, तो हम देशवासियों को सस्ती दरों पर बिजली दे सकते हैं।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, रेड्डी साहब ने एक सवाल उठाया कि बिजली का और उत्पादन होना चाहिए, लेकिन उसमें चोरी भी होती है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि चोरी तो हर क्षेत्र में होती है। चोरी को रोकने का काम जिनका है, अगर उन्होंने चोरी नहीं रोकी, तो यह उनकी जिम्मेदारी है। अगर चोरी के भय से हम गरीबों को विद्युत कनेक्शन देना बंद कर देंगे, तो यह ठीक नहीं होगा। मैं सोचता हूँ कि हमारे देश में आज भी ऐसे लोगों की करीब आधा अरब आबादी है, जिनकी रोज की आमदनी बकौल एक कमीशन के 32 रुपए है। उन लोगों को बिजली का कनेक्शन दिया जाना चाहिए और मुफ्त दिया जाना चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश की 70 फीसदी आबादी गाँवों में रहती है। महात्मा गाँधी ने कहा था कि गाँव भगवान ने बसाए हैं और शहर इंसान ने। अगर हम शहर बना कर भगवान की बस्तियों को अंधेरे में रखेंगे, तो यह सरकार चलाने वालों के सामने एक प्रश्नवाचक चिह्न होगा। मैं सोचता हूँ कि गाँवों की सिंचाई के लिए हमें विशेष योजनाएँ देनी चाहिए। हमारी 60 फीसदी खेती आज भी पानी पर डिपेंड करती है और आसमानी बारिश से उसका ताल्लुक रहता है। हमें सिंचाई के लिए बड़े किसानों को कनेक्शन देना चाहिए, उनसे प्रति यूनिट कम कीमत लेनी चाहिए और छोटे किसानों को, जो पांच एकड़ या दस एकड़ वाले किसान हैं, उन्हें मुफ्त बिजली देनी चाहिए।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक सवाल और है। हम विदेश से महँगा कोयला लाते हैं और हिन्दुस्तान का कोयला सस्ती दरों में बरबाद कर देते हैं। **...(समय की घंटी)...** माननीय बिजली मंत्री इसमें एक इक्लावी फैसला लें, एक क्रांतिकारी कदम उठाएँ और हमारे देश में पैदा होने वाला कोयला अपने विद्युत संयंत्रों में उपयोग में लाया जाना चाहिए। विदेश से आने वाला कोयला कृत्रिम होता है, इसलिए उसको रोकना चाहिए। हमारे देश में कोयले को लेकर भी एक बड़ी बहस छिड़ी हुई है। मैं उसमें नहीं जाना चाहता, लेकिन कोयले और बिजली का चोली-दामन का साथ है। इसलिए उसके लिए भी एक नीति बननी चाहिए, ताकि हम अपने सरकारी संयंत्रों को ताकतवर बना सकें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक आखिरी बात कह कर, गुजरातिश करके अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ। मैं माननीय विद्युत मंत्री से कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप सब कुछ निजीकरण के क्षेत्र में ले जाएँगे, तो फिर यह बताइए कि राष्ट्र के पास क्या बचेगा। माननीय विद्युत मंत्री जी, मैं फिर एक बार कहता हूँ कि बिजली के क्षेत्र में दस औद्योगिक घरानों की जो रणनीति है, उसको तोड़ कर आप एक नया रास्ता बनाएँ और हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर बिजली पैदा करने वाले जो सरकारी कारखाने हैं, सरकारी संयंत्र हैं, उनको ताकतवर बनाएँ, एनटीपीसी को ताकतवर बनाएँ। मुझे लगता है कि इससे हम बिजली की समस्या को दूर कर सकते हैं। चूँकि बिजली इंसान की एक जरूरत बन गई है, अगर बिजली नहीं होगी, तो राज्यसभा भी नहीं चलेगी। अब चिरागों में हमारी आँखों को दिखना बंद हो गया है। इसलिए उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि माननीय विद्युत मंत्री जी मेरे मशिवरों पर गौर करेंगे और निजीकरण के क्षेत्र में वे जिस तेजी से दाखिल हो रहे हैं, अपने पैरों को रोकेंगे और देशवासियों को सरकार का महत्व समझाएँगे। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

† چودھری منور سلیم (اٹر پردیش) : آپ سبھا پتی جی، آج سبآرامی ریڈی جی نے بجلی کو لے کر جو سوال کھڑا کیا ہے، وہ سوال بھارت کے عام آدمی سے جڑا ہوا ہے، بھارت کی ترقی سے جڑا ہوا ہے اور ایک بہت گمبھیر سوال ہے۔ اچھا ہے کہ بجلی وبھاگ کے نوجوان منسٹر یہاں بیٹھے ہوئے ہیں اور ان سے بہت ساری سمیٹاؤنٹیں ہیں۔

(آپ سبھا ادھیکش (شری وی۔پی۔سنگھ پندور) پیٹھاسین ہوئے)

آپ سبھا ادھیکش جی، روشنی کا اپنے جیون میں ایک مہتو ہوتا ہے۔ جب آپ خود اپنے بارے میں سوچیں گے اور ان لوگوں کے بارے میں سوچیں گے جن کی آنکھوں میں روشنی نہیں رہی ہے، بھگوان نہ کرے ایسا ہو، تو آپ کو لگے گا کہ جیون میں اچالے کا کیا مہتو ہے۔ اگر اچالا نہیں ہے تو جیون نہیں ہے۔ میں یہ مانتا ہوں کہ آج بجلی کے چھیتر بھارت-ورش نے بھاری ترقی کی ہے۔ یہ دو دشک ایسے نکلے ہیں، جو ایتھاسک ترقی کے دشک تھے، لیکن اس کے بعد بھی 37.6 فیصدی آبادی ابھی بھی بجلی کی روشنی سے محروم ہے۔ آج بھی ایک چوتھائی سے زیادہ آبادی یعنی 34.5 کروڑ لوگوں کے پاس بجلی نہیں ہے۔ آپ سبھا ادھیکش جی، یہ ان لوگوں کے سامنے ایک سوال ہے، جنہوں نے دیش چالایا ہے اور جو اب چلا رہے ہیں۔ اگر دیش کی 34.5 کروڑ آبادی بجلی کی روشنی سے ونچت ہے، اندھیرے میں اپنا جیون یاپن کر رہی ہے، تو ہم سوچیں کہ ہم نے 65 سال کی آزادی میں کیا کھویا، کیا پایا اور انتم آدمی کو کیا دیا؟ میں یہاں اس طبقے کے درد کو بیان کرنے کے لئے کھڑا ہوا ہوں۔

مائنے آپ سبھا ادھیکش جی، یہاں پر جو بھٹن ہوئے، پرستاو آئے، سجھاؤ آئے، وہ زیادہ تر سجھاؤ اس بات پر ڈپینڈ کرتے تھے کہ ہمیں کھلی بازار ویوستھا کے تحت بجلی کو نجی-کرن کے چھیتر میں دے دینا چاہئے یا نہیں۔ اگر ہم کھلی بازار ویوستھا کے تحت سب کو دعوت دینے لگیں گے، تو ہندوستان پھر سے آرتھک غلامی میں جکڑ جائے گا۔ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ بجلی کی وہ پری یوجنائیں، جنہیں سرکار چلا رہی ہے، مثال کے طور پر بریائہ میں بریائہ سرکار ایک پری-یوجنا چلا رہی ہے، جس میں وہ تین روپے پرتی یونٹ کے حساب سے بجلی بنا کر تیار کر رہی ہے۔ اس کے وپرت جب ہم نجی کرن کے چھیتر میں جاتے ہیں، پرائیویٹائزیشن کرتے ہیں، تب یہ بجلی چھ روپے یونٹ

بنائی جاتی ہے اور من مائے ریٹ پر بیچی جاتی ہے۔ یہ کیسے ہوگا؟ اس سے غریب آدمی لٹے گا۔

اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، میں مائے منتری جی سے ایک بات اور کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ بہت دنوں تک شاسن میں رہنا معنی نہیں رکھتا۔ آپ بھلے ہی بہت کم وقت شاسن کریں، لیکن آپ نریاتیک فیصلے کر کے جائیں، کیوں کہ اس سے اتہاس بنتا ہے۔ اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، میں آپ کے ذریعے سرکار سے کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ دس اودھیوگک گھرانوں کو طاقت دینے کے لئے، دس اودھیوگک گھرانوں کی رن-نیتی کے تحت بجلی کا پرائیویٹائزیشن کیا جا رہا ہے اور وہ من مائے ڈھنگ سے، اپنے ڈھنگ سے بجلی بنائے اور بیچنے کا کام کر رہے ہیں۔ میں ان گھرانوں کے نام نہیں لینا چاہتا، ہو سکتا ہے کہ کنہیں چھیتروں میں سرکار کو ان کا سپیوگ ضروری ہو، لیکن بجلی کے چھیتروں میں جو ہماری سرکار پری-یوجنائیں ہیں، جو ہمارے سرکاری سنینٹر لگے ہیں، وہ ہمیں جس طرح کی پرفارمنس دے رہے ہیں، چاہے وہ این۔ٹی۔پی۔سی۔ ہو، چاہے وہ بریلہ کی ودھت یوجنا ہو، ان کی پرفارمنس اس بات کا اعلان کرتی ہے کہ اگر سرکار پوری توجہ کے ساتھ ہمارے سرکاری سنینٹروں کو طاقت دے، ان کی مدد کرے، ان کو سویدھائیں دے، تو ہم دیش واسیوں کو سستی دروں پر بجلی دے سکتے ہیں۔

مائے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، ریڈی صاحب نے ایک سوال اٹھایا کہ بجلی اور اتپادن ہونا چاہئے، لیکن اس میں چوری بھی ہوتی ہے۔ میں کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ چوری تو ہر چھیتروں میں ہوتی ہے۔ چوری کو روکنے کا کام جن کا ہے، اگر انہوں نے چوری نہیں روکی، تو یہ ان کی ذمہ داری ہے۔ اگر چوری کے ڈر سے ہم غریبوں کو ودھت کنیکشن دینا بند کر دیں گے، تو یہ ٹھیک نہیں ہوگا۔ میں سوچتا ہوں کہ ہمارے دیش میں آج بھی ایسے لوگوں کی قریب آدھا ارب آبادی ہے، جن کی روز کی آمدنی بقول ایک کمیشن کے 32 روپے ہے۔ ان لوگوں کو بجلی کا کنکشن دیا جانا چاہئے اور مفت دیا جانا چاہئے۔

اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، میں کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہمارے دیش کی 70 فیصدی آبادی گاؤں میں رہتی ہے۔ مہاتما گاندھی نے کہا تھا کہ گاؤں بھگوان

نے بسائے ہیں اور شہر انسلن نے۔ اگر ہم شہر بنا کر بھگوان کی بستیوں کو اندھیرے میں رکھیں گے، تو یہ سرکار چلانے والوں کے سامنے ایک پرسنواچک نشان ہوگا۔ میں سوچتا ہوں کہ گاؤں کی سینچائی کے لئے ہمیں خاص یوجنائیں دینی چاہئے۔ ہماری 60 فیصدی کھیتی آج بھی پانی پر ڈپینڈ کرتی ہے اور آسمانی بارش سے اس کا تعلق رہتا ہے۔ ہمیں سینچائی کے لئے بڑے کسانوں کو کنیکشن دینا چاہئے، ان سے پرتی یونٹ کم قیمت لینی چاہئے اور چھوٹے کسانوں کو، جو پانچ ایکڑ یا دس ایکڑ والے کسان ہیں، انہیں مفت بجلی دینی چاہئے۔

مائنے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، ایک سوال اور ہے۔ ہم ودیش سے مہنگا کوئلہ لاتے ہیں اور ہندوستان کا کوئلہ سستی دروں میں برباد کر دیتے ہیں۔ ... (وقت کی گھنٹی)... مائنے بجلی منتری اس میں ایک انقلابی فیصلہ لیں، ایک کرانتی کاری قدم اٹھائیں اور ہمارے دیش میں پیدا ہونے والا کوئلہ اپنے ودھت سنینٹروں میں اپیوگ میں لایا جانا چاہئے۔ ودیش سے آنے والا کوئلہ کرترم ہوتا ہے، اس لئے اس کو روکنا چاہئے۔ ہمارے دیش میں کوئلے کو لے کر بھی ایک بڑی بحث چھڑی ہوئی ہے۔ میں اس میں نہیں جانا چاہتا، لیکن کوئلے اور بجلی کا چوٹی دامن کا ساتھ ہے۔ اس لئے اس کے لئے بھی ایک نیتی بننی چاہئے، تاکہ ہم اپنے سرکاری سنینٹروں کو طاقتور بنا سکیں۔

اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، میں ایک آخری بات کہہ کر، گزارش کر کے اپنی بات ختم کرتا ہوں۔ میں مائنے ودھت منتری سے کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ اگر آپ سب کچھ نجی-کرن کے چھیتر میں لے جائیں گے، تو پھر یہ بتائیے کہ راشٹر کے پاس کیا بچے گا؟ مائنے ودھت منتری جی، میں پھر ایک بار کہتا ہوں کہ بجلی کے چھیتر میں دس اودھیوگک گھرانوں کی جو رن-نیتی ہے، اس کو توڑ کر آپ ایک نیا راستہ بنائیں اور ہندوستان کے اندر بجلی پیدا کرنے والے جو سرکاری کارخانے ہیں، سرکاری سنینٹر ہیں، ان کو طاقتور بنائیں،

این ٹی.پی.سی. کو طاقتور بنائیں۔ مجھے لگتا ہے کہ اس سے ہم بجلی کی سمسیمہ کو دور کر سکتے ہیں۔ چونکہ بجلی انسان کی ایک ضرورت بن گئی ہے، اگر بجلی نہیں ہوگی، تو راجیہ سبھا بھی نہیں چلے گی۔ اب چراغوں میں ہماری آنکھوں کو دکھنا بند ہو گیا ہے۔ اس لئے آپ سبھا ادھیشکس مہودے، میں امید کرتا ہوں کہ ماٹنے و دھت منتری جی میرے مشوروں پر غور کریں اور نجی-کرن کے چھیتر میں وہ جس تیزی سے داخل ہو رہے ہیں، اپنے پیروں کو روکیں گے اور دیش واسیوں کو سرکار کا مہٹو سمجھائیں گے۔ بہت بہت دھنیواد۔
(ختم شد)

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I rise to support the Resolution mainly dealing with different aspects of power sector in the country. Shortage of power, price of power and the supply side of power are very important aspects and the Resolution moved by Dr. Subbarami Reddy talks about that, which I am supporting. We have a new Government. The Power Minister was very dynamic and active when he was in the Opposition. I hope while sitting on the Treasury Benches, he will also be very dynamic in future. We expect that in the coming five years, the Government will do a lot of things to increase the efficiency of the power sector in the country. Nowadays it is very evident and it has been proved that power tariff and power sector are very important for coming to power and for getting uprooted from power. That is the example of Delhi. The Party which ruled the State for some years, was uprooted because of high power tariffs. Yesterday, while discussing the Delhi Budget, we raised the same issue. The elections gave a hung Assembly to Delhi. Even after the Aam Aadmi Party came to power for some time, and after that there is the President's Rule, the power tariff in Delhi was increased twice. The Congress Party was defeated in the elections and the new Government came which said that they would decrease the power tariff. The BJP in the election campaign promised that there would be 30 per cent reduction in power tariff in Delhi. Now the BJP is indirectly ruling Delhi. The BJP is ruling Delhi *de facto*. But the promises which they had made at the time of elections, have not been fulfilled. I hope the Power Minister would advise the Government to fulfil the promises which they had made. Recently, there was eight per cent increase in power tariff. Earlier also, there was eight to nine per cent increase in power tariff. I am not going into the details of Delhi. One thing is very clear from what actually happened in Delhi. Everybody knows that power tariff hike is not proper. Then CAG audit is also going on in Delhi. Everyone is saying and everyone believes that the tariff which they are charging in Delhi

[Shri K.N. Balagopal]

is very high and there are some kinds of adjustments in the accounting of private power companies. Earlier, the power sector was privatized in Delhi. This is one aspect of the power sector. Earlier, when the Electricity Act was passed, there was a talk that if we privatise the power sector, power sector will become more efficient, there will be more power generation, and the tariff will come down. But, actually in practice, tariff is not coming down, and generation has also not increased.

Sir, it is very clear that power is very important for the development of any society. Technology is also very important for the development of any society. History shows that the USA and Europe were a very good landmass and all kinds of geographical facilities were there. But they were not populated like India and Asia. Why? In those days, before technological development and industrial revolution, major parts of Europe and the USA -- habitants came in this number later -- were not very friendly for the people to live because of snow all around and the climate was also not very conducive. Later when the new technology came, because of industrial revolution, which was a result of colonization of India and other countries, because of technological development, because of airconditioners, heaters, and because of all these facilities, they could develop like that and started living there. So, technology is very much important for the development of any country. We are lucky. We are not a very far behind country now. If you take the global standards, the power sector in India is third or fourth in the world. I think in the case of power generation, we are third in the world. We are producing 4.8 per cent of the global production of power. We are placed after Japan and Russia. This is the information which I got from some records...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Mr. Balagopal, the allotted time for your party is five minutes and there is another speaker. I want you to speak because you are speaking so well. But that doesn't mean that you are you going to go on and on. Take just one or two minutes more.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, in consumption also, we are not very bad. We are fourth in the world. Statistics show that after China, the United States and Russia, we are fourth in the world. But the issue is this. As per some global study, the production that we have now should, at least, be tripled. In other words, we would need three times more power by 2050. That is the estimate. Now we have to make that. But how are we going to make that? That is the issue. We have to increase the present capacity by three or four times. The question is: How are we going to increase the capacity? Presently, Sir, we are mainly dependent on thermal power. We have to look into the use of technologies. I am not going into the details because of time constraints. But when you talk about production of power, our country uses 17 per cent of it from hydro energy. I am from

a State which uses maximum hydro power. In technologies, which were 100 years old, the initial unit was firm. But, from then to now, the same capacity is coming out from hydro electric power. If you take the case of motor vehicles, between the Ambassador car and the motor cars which are plying now, there is three times more fuel efficiency than those old technologies. Sir, if the hydro electric power, which we produced earlier, was 15 MW, we would have had, at least, 50 MW of production now if we had the same technology. But we are very, very pathetically behind in technologies. With the existing technology, we have to increase our capacity. The same thing is the case with thermal power.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): I hope, you know, today with Bhakra, hydro power costs only 5 paise per unit.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: That is very good information. But, in my State, Kerala, where we are producing 60 to 70 per cent using hydro energy, it is very costly nowadays. I am saying about the initial costs. The initial cost is high. The capital investment is very high. I am not an engineer by profession. I am an arts student. So, I cannot speak about technologies. With the use of nano technology, etc., how you can increase the capacity of turbines, this information can be given only by technical people. But we have to increase the capacity.

Sir, I wish to make one point more. I was told that the Gujarat Government has been very successful in using the solar energy. Once we went there and had some discussions with the higher authorities there. They said that they were planning to establish panels on Narmada canals. Even Rajasthan is coming up with new ideas on solar energy. So, we have to do something more in the field of solar energy...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): We are going to have a discussion on this on Monday. You can continue your speech during that discussion.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Unfortunately, I am not going to speak on that. You are going to speak on that. My party has decided my name for other subjects.

My last point is regarding power losses. We are now losing 23-25 per cent. We have targeted that by 2022, this should be brought down to 14 per cent. The European standard is 14-15 per cent. We are losing so much power. Maybe, if meters and wires are changed, we can bring down the transmission losses. But, Sir, we have to produce more energy. But privatization without any checks and balances will not help. That is the ultra mega power unit's story and we have to be up to the mark with regard to transmission and other things and we have to control ballooned project cost. Proper audit should be there. I support the Resolution and hope that in the coming five years the Government will do a lot in this.

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am very proud to participate in the Resolution moved by the learned Senior Member, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. Access to electricity is one of the key pre-requisites for economic development. Since electricity consumption is closely and directly linked to human development index, providing access to adequate quantum of electricity at affordable rates to all citizens should be the topmost priority for any nation. During the year 2013-14 the country faced an energy deficit of around 4.2 per cent and a peak deficit of about 4.5 per cent. In 2014-15, anticipated energy deficit is likely to be about 5.1 per cent to 5.5 per cent. There has been a recent reduction in the peak deficit due to additional generation capacity of 20,000 megawatts but it is obvious that power deficit continues to be a major power problem for the country. This energy deficit is although not the true representation of the energy paucity in the country, since a significant part of the population is living without energy access. About 25 per cent of rural households do not have access to electricity as per the Planning Commission's Twelfth Five Year Plan document. So the young and energetic Power Minister came to power without power!

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: You have given that power.

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: I said the young and energetic Power Minister came to power without power. Sir, the demand of power is ₹10,02,257 million units in the nation. The availability of power is only 9,59,829 million units. So there is a shortage of 42,428 million units. How are we going to equal this? What approach is the Government going to adopt? Please remember, here we have to reduce carbon emissions also. The world is crying now. We have to provide clear environment to our future generation. For this, the only option is to promote and encourage new and renewable energy in a big way. Now the Government is on the pathway. We have to appreciate that. Sir, here, I wish to place on record some of the facts relating to new and renewable energy scenario of India. India has been ranked fourth most attractive country for investment in renewable energy field by the reputed Ernst and Young magazine. With increasing focus on renewable projects, the renewable energy market is expected to grow significantly. Sir, our country is endowed with the availability of around 300 clear sunny days. With this, we can harness huge solar energy. By doing so, we can increase the contribution of solar energy to our total energy needs. Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission was launched in January, 2010 with the prime objective of producing 20,000 megawatt grid power from solar energy by March 31st, 2022. This Mission was to be implemented in true letter and spirit.

Coming to wind energy, Sir, Tamil Nadu is a pioneer in wind energy. The districts of Tirunelveli, Nagarcoil and Coimbatore have many wind farms. Power generated from here are evacuated and distributed to the whole of Tamil Nadu. Central Government

should also come forward to promote wind energy. Mr. Vice Chairman, Sir, we must inculcate the habit of using renewable energy for our household needs. We should make it compulsory. At this juncture, I request the Power Minister along with the Urban Development Minister to make it compulsory for having renewable resource in each and every house. If owner of house gives undertaking to have such renewable energy mechanism in his/her house, only then permission for building of new houses should be granted. Make this mandatory for all Government buildings, hospitals and police stations. Formulate an effective and comprehensive environment-friendly building code. Results will be wonderful. Unless and otherwise people are not made to realize about the advantages of having pollution-free energy, we will not succeed in our efforts to give a good, clear and pollution-less society to future generations. Here, I differ with Dr. Subbarami Reddy. It is because he is insisting that the Government should import coal for generation. But, I am differing with him on this point.

Sir, history is witness to having frequent drought in every decade in our country. So, we cannot totally rely on hydro power. Our learned friend, Mr. Balagopal, said that hydro power is also costly. No; it is less.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: No, no. Sir, I said about the capital investment.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Maybe, you might have been talking about construction of dam, etc. If it is so, construction of dam is also helpful for irrigation purpose.

Moreover, from planning stage to implementing stage, hydro power projects take long time. So, returns from hydro power projects are not that much encouraging now.

Sir, now, I am coming to traditional method of power generation in our country *i.e.*, coal-based power generation. When coal blocks allotted way back in 5 or 10 years are not developed then how you will meet the ever increasing demand of coal. If we turn our attention to import of coal ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Sir, I need five more minutes. It is a very important subject.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): We will be discussing on the working of the Ministry of Power again on Monday.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: There is power shortage, no time shortage.

Sir, it will only be a commercial venture, not a welfare activity. A few businessmen will get benefit from importing coal and the end result will be nothing. So, do not confine our dependence on only a particular method of power generation. Diversify our production capacity in various ways. Go for innovation. Promote research and development activity and come out with good results.

[Dr. K.P. Ramalingam]

Sir, a section raises hue and cry whenever announcement regarding free electricity to farmers is made. The expenses involved in giving free electricity to farmers are very meager when compared to administrative and establishment expenses of river, dams, channels, and lake irrigation.

Farmers are morally boosted by giving free electricity, because they are food-givers. So, don't say that we are giving free electricity to farmers which make shortage and all that. That is not true.

Then, I come to inter-connectivity of various grids. That is a major problem now. Strengthen their connectivity. Bring surplus power to those places where power is required. Reduce the transmission losses and bring them to zero. Only then we will be surplus. There will not be any necessary to import power as we are now importing it from Bhutan.

With these few submissions, I thank the Chair for giving me this opportunity. Thank you.

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, the Power Minister is missing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): He will come. Please, continue. Somebody on his behalf is noting down the points.

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: सर, यदि आप देखेंगे तो पाएँगे कि पावर सेक्टर अपने आप में घाटे का सौदा है। जब भी ग्रिड में एक-एक यूनिट उपलब्ध करवाया जाता है, तो उसमें प्रति यूनिट घाटा होता है। जितना जनरेशन कीजिएगा उतना ही घाटा बढ़ेगा। Unless and until you reduce theft in distribution, you will not be able to make power sector economically viable. A lot of efforts have been made to control theft in power sector at distribution point. But, unfortunately, it has not succeeded. We have to use technology to reduce the theft. The technology is available now; like the prepaid chips that you have in the telecom sector, we should have prepaid electronic meter chips at the distribution points, particularly amongst the consumers in the industrial sector and other sectors.

The second point I want make is that in our urge to electrify the largest number of villages, we are transmitting electricity at a very low voltage. The lower the voltage, the higher the transmission losses. In most of the developed countries, the transmission is never below 25 KVA. But, in most of our rural sectors in India, we are transmitting power at 11 KVA resulting in much higher transmission losses. The Power Ministry must try to convert all these low transmission lines into higher transmission lines and have at each consumer level distribution point a step-down transformer so that the transmission losses are controlled and the distribution losses also be controlled.

On the energy audit at the distribution point, you should fix responsibility of the person who is in-charge of the distribution point. Most of the distribution companies are running in losses, or are not being able to pay back the generating companies. Most of the State Electricity Boards owe huge sums to the generating companies. Most of the generating companies are becoming NPAs. Therefore, one of the major challenges in this country is to make the whole power sector economically viable. Until and unless you make this power sector economically viable, we shall always be power deficit.

Sir, I think, there are a number of old plants which are running at very low plant load factors. Modernisation of these plants will not need much of an investment and, therefore, they can be taken up at the State-level and at the NTPC-level also. The usual age of a power plant is about 35-40 years. Therefore, modernisation schemes should be taken up by the NTPC and the State Electricity Boards on a priority basis.

Sir, I think, availability of coal is a major problem. Unfortunately, most of our coal blocks which were allocated as per the Government policy of the NDA and the UPA landed themselves into the investigation by the CBI. Most of these coal blocks have to be unshackled; unshackled from the CBI, and unshackled from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Until and unless you unshackle our coal resources, you will be importing high priced coal from outside raising the generating cost.

Gas is an important fuel for our power sector. Unfortunately, a number of power plants came up with gas as a source for generation. But, then, the availability of gas is not there and thousands of crores of investment money has gone waste because of that.

Sir, I have always been a great votary of renewable sources of energy. I think the time has come, because of higher technology, every day, the solar energy prices are coming down. We should be looking at hybrid grids which can bring the wind energy, solar energy with our conventional energy so that through hybrid grids, we could economize our power generation. I have always felt, Sir, that one of the major energy resources, the biogas, somehow, has not been used to its full advantage. In the rural areas, if some amount of the subsidy that we are giving to the petroleum sector is channelized through the biogas in the rural sector, it can be one of the most decentralized forms of energy usage in the country. Every unit saved is energy generated. It should be made mandatory for these people, the builders to use innovative energy-saving devices in all the new buildings. CFL and LED bulbs now also throw up a great opportunity for energy saving. In most of the urban areas, Sir, the urban local bodies must look into this that all the street-lights should either be lit by using the CFL bulbs or be solar-powered.

Sir, the other thing which I wanted to say, Sir, was that ultimately power is absolutely essential for any country's development. This is an opportunity for the hon. Minister.

[श्री दिग्विजय सिंह]

I think, for the first time, in this country that the Power Minister also has the Coal Ministry. The end-user and the resource Minister is the same. This charge may have been given by the hon. Prime Minister for other reasons also, but the fact remains that here is a great opportunity before the Power Minister, being the end-user he also has in his authority the natural resource. Therefore, I say, Sir, this is a great opportunity for the hon. Minister to look into all the issues which my hon. Member of Parliament, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, has raised, and, I strongly support his Resolution. Thank you, Sir.

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आदरणीय डा० टी. सुब्बाराजी रेड्डी जी ने देश की आर्थिक स्थिति को सुधारने की दृष्टि से विद्युत का उत्पादन बढ़े, इसके लिए संकल्प पेश किया है। महोदय, समाज के सारे क्रमों में विद्युत का बहुत महत्वपूर्ण स्थान है। अगर उसके बारे में कोई कदम नहीं उठाए जाएंगे तो निश्चित रूप से देश के विकास में बहुत बड़ी बाधा उत्पन्न होगी। इसलिए सबसे पहले उनकी सलाह है कि नए रिफॉर्म्स आने चाहिए। रिफॉर्म्स लाते समय कई प्रकार की विद्युत की प्रणालियां हैं जैसे इनडिजिनस, ग्रामों में विद्युत का उत्पादन करने का जो तरीका है, जिसमें गोबर भी बनता है और विद्युत का उत्पादन भी होता है, उसको अगर और मजबूत किया जाएगा तो वह हमारे लिए बहुत लाभदायक होगा। दूसरा, जो हाइड्रो इलेक्ट्रिसिटी है, It is a one time investment. बाद में केवल मेंटेनेंस करना पड़ता है, लेकिन आजकल कई बार सरकार से जब हम अपने-अपने राज्यों में इस संबंध में सवाल पूछते हैं तो कई बार ऐसा सुनने को मिलता है कि हाइड्रो इलेक्ट्रिसिटी पैदा करने से क्या फायदा ?

यह एक बार होने के बाद इसकी कोई रिपेयरिंग नहीं, कोई मेंटेनेंस नहीं और चीज नहीं, तो इससे हमें इन्कम भी नहीं होती है। मैं विशेषकर यहां पर यह कहना चाहता हूं कि लगभग 1200 मेगावाट इलेक्ट्रिसिटी उत्पादन की क्षमता रखने वाली कृष्णा बेसिन की एक कैनाल का पानी थोड़ा डाइवर्ट करने के बाद रायचूर डिस्ट्रिक्ट के अंदर गोलपल्ली नाम के विलेज के नजदीक में, आंध्रा को पानी की कोई कमी न होते हुए फिर वही पानी आंध्रा को चला जाएगा, 1200 मेगावाट की इलेक्ट्रिसिटी उत्पन्न होती है। इस तरफ राज्य सरकार ख्याल नहीं करती है और केंद्र सरकार देश की आवश्यकता को समझकर ध्यान दे, ऐसा मैं मानता हूं। इस दिशा में कई ऐसी चीजें हैं जिन पर सरकार को गंभीरता से विचार करना चाहिए। साथ ही साथ माननीय सदस्य ने कोल की आवश्यकता के बारे में कहा है। निश्चित ही थर्मल प्लांट में कोल का एक महत्वपूर्ण रोल है। भारत के कोल की गुणवत्ता थोड़ी कम है, परन्तु हाइड्रो इलेक्ट्रिसिटी के अंदर हिमाचल प्रदेश एक बहुत बड़ी सेवा देश की कर सकता है। वहां पर कई ऐसी परियोजनाएं हैं, अगर सरकार उनको तुरन्त गति से लागू करेगी, तो हम देश की बहुत बड़ी समस्या से निपट सकते हैं और आर्थिक प्रगति की ओर बढ़ सकते हैं। टाइम बीइंग के लिए मजबूरी में हम कोल को विदेश से मंगाने के बारे में सोचें। इससे बढ़कर, जैसे थोड़ी देर पहले आदरणीय दिग्विजय सिंह ने कहा कि पावर मंत्री भी वही हैं, कोल मंत्री भी वही है। अगर वे स्वयं सोचें, जो भी hurdles भारत के कोल के उत्पादन के संबंध में हैं, उन्हें एक विशिष्ट कानून द्वारा तुरन्त दूर करके बड़ी मात्रा में अगर देश के कोल की उत्पादन क्षमता बढ़ाई जाएगी, तो निश्चित रूप से हम बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में अपने देश के कोयले के द्वारा ही, अपनी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा कर सकते हैं। कई बार सौर ऊर्जा से बिजली का उत्पादन होता है और सूर्य शक्ति का कोई अंत नहीं है, इसके

लिए कई कन्सेशन्स सरकार ने रखे हैं, लेकिन जब निचले स्तर पर राज्यों में जाने के बाद, जहां की जनता को यह सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए, तो उसमें कई बाधाएं पैदा होती हैं। कई कंपनियों के लोग भी इस दिशा में काम करने आते हैं, तो राज्य सरकारों द्वारा कई अनावश्यक hurdles निर्माण होते हैं जिसके कारण जितनी मात्रा में विद्युत का उत्पादन होना चाहिए, उसमें बाधा उत्पन्न हो रही है। इन चीजों को ध्यान में रखकर आवश्यकता पड़ने पर अगर माननीय पावर मंत्री जी राज्यों के पावर मिनिस्टर्स की एक विशेष मीटिंग बुलाकर इन समस्याओं को दूर करके अधिक से अधिक अपने देश की indigenous, जिस-जिस प्रकार की इलेक्ट्रिसिटी का उत्पादन कर सकते हैं, उस दिशा में विशेष रूप से प्रयास करेंगे, तो कम से कम दस परसेंट की आवश्यकता हम पूर्ण कर सकते हैं। इस बातों को कहते हुए, मैं आदरणीय सुब्बारामी रेड्डी जी के संकल्प का स्वागत करता हूं। एक सक्षम सरकार आई है और निश्चित रूप से माननीय मंत्री जी इस पर काम करेंगे। अभी थोड़ा ही समय हुआ है और यह समझ कर उनका जो भी जवाब मिलेगा, उसमें आप साथ देंगे, ऐसा मानते हुए, मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूं।

श्री नरेंद्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सुब्बारामी रेड्डी साहब के संकल्प को बल देने के लिए, मुझे कुछ महत्वपूर्ण सुझाव और शिकायत रखनी है। हमारे देश की यूपीए सरकार ने परमाणु करार किया, हालांकि हमने उसका विरोध किया, यह कह कर विरोध किया था कि परमाणु करार से जो बिजली का उत्पादन होगा, उसकी आपूर्ति होगी, शायद उसके दाम इतने ज्यादा होंगे कि हमारा देश परमाणु करार से उत्पादित बिजली का उपभोग करने में मुश्किल महसूस करेगा। फिर भी उस करार पर सहमति बनी और देश के लोगों में एक नई उम्मीद जगी। लोग यह महसूस करने लगे कि शायद बिजली आपूर्ति की समस्या के निदान का समय निकट है। लेकिन वह समय गुजरा। अब नई सरकार और मजबूत सरकार सत्ता में आई और एनर्जेटिक मिनिस्टर आदरणीय गोयल साहब को जिम्मेदारी मिली। देश के लोगों में फिर से एक उम्मीद जगी कि नई सरकार बनी है, युवा मिनिस्टर को मौका मिला है, परमाणु करार से न सही, शायद नई सरकार से कुछ हल निकल आए। यह बात भी ठीक है कि दो महीनों में इस प्रॉब्लम को सॉल्ट करना मुश्किल हो सकता है, लेकिन इन दो महीनों में मजबूत इरादों को जाहिर करना मुश्किल नहीं हो सकता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमें खास तौर से मीडिया के माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी के बयान और बातें सुनने को मिलती हैं। हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के बिजली संकट पर चर्चा हुई। उत्तर प्रदेश के माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने अपना बयान देकर कहा कि केंद्र की सरकार पैसे लेने के बावजूद भी कोयला नहीं दे रही है, हमारी बिजली का शेयर नहीं दे रही है। इस पर मंत्री जी का बयान जारी हुआ कि हम कोयला देना चाहते हैं, बिजली देना चाहते हैं, लेकिन यू.पी. की सरकार पैसे नहीं दे रही है। अब उत्तर प्रदेश की जनता इस गफ़लत में है कि बिजली की कमी की वजह केंद्र की सरकार है या यू.पी. की सरकार है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि उन 22 करोड़ लोगों का क्या कसूर है, जिन्होंने यू.पी. की सरकार बनाई, देश की सरकार भी बनाई और आज फुटबाल बन गए? उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से दो-तीन जानकारियां चाहता हूं। क्या मंत्री जी इस बात को स्पष्ट करने की कृपा करेंगे कि परमाणु करार हो जाने के उपरांत परमाणु विद्युत उत्पादन की कार्रवाई में क्या प्रगति हुई है ? मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है, मैं सकारात्मक दृष्टि से विचार करता हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश में केंद्र और सूबे की सरकार के बीच में एक गफ़लत का जो माहौल पैदा हुआ है, आखिर उसकी सच्चाई क्या है ? आप इसको स्पष्ट करें ताकि उत्तर प्रदेश के लोग इस बात से मुतमईन हो सकें कि बिजली की समस्या का निदान क्या

[श्री नरेंद्र कुमार कश्यप]

है ? उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय सही बात यह है कि सरकार मजबूत बनी, मीडिया में इरादे मजबूत दिखे, लेकिन दो महीने के रिजल्ट में मजबूती का कोई बहुत ज्यादा आभाष नहीं हुआ। मैंने पहले भी कहा है कि मैं किसी प्रकार से भी इनको आरोपित नहीं करना चाहता हूँ, दो महीने में बहुत बड़े नतीजों की उम्मीद रखना भी बेहतर नहीं होगा, लेकिन इन दो महीनों में ...(समय की घंटी)... बिजली का जो संकट देखने को मिला है, वह निश्चित तौर पर देश की सरकार के लिए एक गंभीर विषय है।

हम दिल्ली में रहते हैं, लेकिन दिल्ली में भी बिजली का क्राइसिस है। हम उत्तर प्रदेश के रहने वाले हैं, पर सच यह है कि इस वर्ष बरसात की कमी हुई, बिजली की कमी हुई और किसानों की धान की बुआई पूरी नहीं हो सकी। इस वर्ष ईख की खेती सूखी है। हमारे देश में बिजली की कम आपूर्ति की वजह से जितनी शहरी आबादी प्रभावित हुई है, उससे ज्यादा ग्रामीण आबादी प्रभावित हुई है। जब हम इसके दूरगामी नतीजों की कल्पना करते हैं, तो माननीय मंत्री जी, फिर हमारे देश के सामने मुश्किल आएगी। आप दो महीने बाद यह कहना शुरू कर देंगे कि वर्षा कम हुई, इसलिए गेहूँ महँगा हो गया, वर्षा कम हुई, इसलिए चीनी महँगी हो गई, वर्षा कम हुई, इसलिए महँगाई आ गई। इसलिए बिजली की आपूर्ति हमारे देश के लिए उतनी ही जरूरी है, जितनी ट्रेन जरूरी है, जितना पानी जरूरी है, जितना खाना जरूरी है। मुझे जो एहसास है, हम इस मुद्दे पर अपनी शुभकामनाएँ और सकारात्मक सहयोग सदन और सरकार को देना चाहते हैं, लेकिन अभी तक यह बिजली की समस्या कुछ वैसी ही लग रही है, जैसी भ्रष्टाचार की समस्या है। हम इसे हल करने की बात करते हैं, हल करने के दावे भी होते हैं, लेकिन हल नहीं हो पा रही है। यह समस्या वैसी समस्या लगती है, जैसी महँगाई की समस्या है। इरादा करते हैं, प्रयास करते हैं, लेकिन हल हो नहीं रही है। मैं पीठ के माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि यह गम्भीर समस्या और विकराल रूप न ले ले, इसलिए वे बिजली के उत्पादन के लिए कुछ-न-कुछ नए कदम उठाएँ।

महोदय, मैं व्यक्तिगत तौर से एक निवेदन और करना चाहता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर) : अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री नरेंद्र कुमार कश्यप : महोदय, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ, मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूँगा। मैं अपनी बात का अंत कर रहा हूँ।

महोदय, मंत्री जी से कम-से-कम मेरा एक निवेदन है कि जब महँगाई की शुरुआत होती है, देश में बहुत सारे लोग यह कह देते हैं कि अनाज की कमी होने वाली है, यह होने वाला है, वह होने वाला है, तो ऑटोमेटिकली महँगाई बढ़ जाती है। हमें ऐसे बयानों पर विराम लगाना पड़ेगा। कई बार आपका स्टेटमेंट भी आया था कि हमारे पास केवल दो दिन का कोयला बाकी है, अभी 24 घंटे का कोयला बाकी है। इस तरह के बयानात देने से कहीं-न-कहीं देश के लोगों में एक अविश्वास का भाव पैदा होता है। बिजली की समस्या पर पूरा देश और सदन आपके साथ है, लेकिन अगर आप कोई भी कदम उठाते हैं, ...(समय की घंटी)... कोई भी बयान देते हैं, तो कम-से-कम इस बात का ध्यान रखा जाना चाहिए कि हम उन बयानात से कहीं देश के अन्दर कोई और मुश्किल तो पैदा नहीं कर रहे हैं। बहरहाल, महोदय, मैं इस विचार का, इस संकल्प का समर्थन करते हुए माननीय बिजली मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि यह देश की एक गम्भीर समस्या है, देश के विकास में एक बड़ी बाधा है, किसान के विकास में बड़ी बाधा है, इसलिए वे इस बाधा को दूर करने के लिए अपना बजट बढ़ाएँ, अपना सिस्टम बढ़ाएँ, वे हमसे जो सहयोग चाहेंगे, हम भी सहयोग करेंगे, लेकिन वे समस्या के निदान का कोई रास्ता निकालें। महोदय, आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद।

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to share some of the highlighted energy-efficiency projects being implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu. I would like to point out that the Central Electricity Authority, which is the main advisory body to the Union Minister of Power, the young and energetic Minister, has set a target of 1,00,000 MW of additional power generation in the period of the Twelfth Five Year Plan, between 2012 and 2017. That is what is needed to meet the power demands of an economy forecasted to grow at nine per cent per annum. I know that in this process, ecological unsustainability is a major cause for concern. We are more worried about the impact that this additional generation will have on climate. About 70 per cent of this additional capacity is to be added through coal-based thermal power. I am sure that in our country there is a gap between the demand and the supply of coal. It was around 83 million tonnes at the end of 2012. The shortage would have been even more had all the coal-based power plants been commissioned on time. But the shortage is even forecast now to be 200 million tonnes because the Environment Minister has imposed a ban on mining in heavily-forested areas. It declared 35 per cent of forest area in nine major coal-mining zones as 'no-go' zones. This led to a complete halt on mining activity over a potential capacity of 600 million tonnes. So, this ban could affect power generation to the tune of 1,30,000 MW. Also, the equipment shortages have been a significant reason for India missing its capacity for adding up its additional targets. For this, Sir, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is promoting investments through public-private partnerships by tapping renewable energy resources from mini hydro, solar, biomass, urban/industrial waste and cogeneration, etc. As you all know, the Energy Saving Corporation, ESCO, has become a vital component for providing all the energy composite elements, especially, for running all the urban local bodies. In the city to which I belong to, Tirunelveli, where I was the Mayor, our hon. Chief Minister, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has introduced the first pilot visionary project for producing energy from the municipal solid waste which is collected every day from our city, which is about 150 metric tonne. It is then segregated, pelletized to produce refused driven fuel. From there, we were able to capture carbon credit and thus compensating for the carbon emissions from daily vehicular traffic. Also, 5 MW power is generated from the municipal solid waste. It is a visionary pilot project which was introduced in Tamil Nadu, and, that too, in my city, Tirunelveli, which is just about to commission.

Then, bio methanisation project in various cities of Tamil Nadu has also been introduced, and our hon. Chief Minister has provided funds for starting up new methanization projects. An amount of about rupees one crore has been provided for every city and ten major cities of Tamil Nadu are selected for this which are about to put up initial infrastructure for this. In that project all the food waste, bio medical waste, the fluid

[Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth]

waste, the hotel waste, etc., are collected and transported, and, through that, we are able to run 800 street lights every day. This has been possible through the bio methanization project as a result of which we are not only able to manage our liquid waste but we are also able to run 800 street lights. So, this is a very valuable information which I would like to share with this august House so that many of such projects which are run on renewable energy can be utilized in a much better way. Instructions can be given to all the local bodies. There should be emphasis on ESCO. New energy conservation projects can be promoted by issuing notifications. The Government sector can utilize it by issuing notifications regarding the mandatory use of solar water heating system. The usage of compact fluorescent lamps in all Government undertakings, corporations, cooperative organizations and local bodies must be made mandatory too. Then, we could have BIS marked pumpsets. Especially in agricultural pump-sets, we could switch over to energy efficient pump-sets. Use of solar water heating systems should be made mandatory in buildings having an area of more than 500 square yards. The State Government, under the dynamic leadership of our hon. Chief Minister, is well ahead, with the replacement of incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lamps in all our Government buildings and offices, including the Government guest houses, offices of the corporations, cooperative organizations and municipalities. This may be extended, so that Government could have a rethink on how to have an energy efficiency mechanism, in order to make this country more competitive, as well as to manage with the shortage. We know that we are short of power.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): We are short of time also today!

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: But we need to find ways to manage with the power that is available in India. We are going to boom this country with more power and more light.

I thank the hon. Vice-Chairman for giving me this opportunity to share my views.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Thank you. Shri Rangarajan.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. This is a good Resolution, and I have a lot of hopes from the Minister for Coal and New and Renewable Energy. I used to eagerly watch and listen to him whenever he spoke from that side; now, he has to perform from this side!

Sir, we are a developing country and we must explore every way of developing this country in the power sector. But, having said that, don't believe in the multinational

4.00 P.M.

company, Enron. That would be suicidal. We have already tasted the multinational company. It is suicidal. Don't go towards that again.

Sir, some years back, I was asked to attend a conference in France. The Conference had been sponsored by CGT, one the powerful trade unions there. The Conference was held in Southern France. The Conference was not a regular trade union conference. They had invited all the public sector companies and private sector companies of Europe. They had invested money in Africa and Latin America. They started generating power there. This Trade Union had done one thing; they went to Africa, country after country. The public sector electric companies went to places where there was no electricity. There were places where there were private sector companies, like in Congo and Tanzania, but they said there was no electricity in those areas. So, we asked the private sector multinational company's CEO, who was there, as to why he was not able to supply power to these villages and why the villages were still using hurricane light. The reply was, 'it is not profitable'. So, if it is not profitable, private sector companies would not invest, whereas public sector companies do not have the money to cover things.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

Still, we must think about India. ...(Time-bell-rings)... Sir, I have started just now.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. The point is, the discussion was only for one-and-a-half hours. I am sorry, the time is over. You may finish it.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: But, Sir, I know that you are very sympathetic towards me and this is a very important Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sometimes, I am unsympathetic too!

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM : No, Sir. You are never unsympathetic. You are always sympathetic.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, okay. Please.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN : Sir, the conference gave me a general look. In Europe, it is okay. My colleague Mr. Singh spoke here. In Australia, it is very good; I also visited Australia. But in a country like India you have to plan thinking that 70 per cent of the Indian population is farmers. You have to plan in such a way that three out of ten are below the poverty line according to the United Nations study. Without taking into consideration all those things, if you start planning and handing over things to private companies this way or that way, it will spoil the basic thing of the country. Sir, you have to plan a national grid. At the moment, the southern grid is very weak. I appeal the Minister to please consider strengthening of the southern grid and bring a national grid before the end of the Twelfth Five Year Plan. My AIADMK colleague

[Shri T.K. Rangarajan]

has given a very good example of how they are managing in Tamil Nadu. Supply and demand gap is going to be there permanently in this country. We have planned Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor; we have planned Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor. That is very good. Unless you plan the power production, ordinary people will suffer. When power will go to the factory and when power will go to multinational companies like Ford and Nokia, ordinary farmers in the villages will not get power. So, you plan keeping in mind that this is a developing country. We are neither Europe nor China. We are still a developing country. So, you plan in such a way that you can have full energy within a short period.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Minister. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Sir, *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for the Resolution is two hours. *...(Interruptions)...* All those who gave the name in time have been allowed. *...(Interruptions)...* Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Every day you are doing this. *...(Interruptions)...* I am not allowing. *...(Interruptions)...* This way you cannot dictate. *...(Interruptions)...* You are not doing it for the first time; you are doing it for the third time. I am noting it. *...(Interruptions)...* Why don't you give name in time? *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, our party has time *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not responsible for that. *...(Interruptions)...* Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* This is very unfortunate. For a number of times, bulletins have been issued stating that within half-an-hour the names should be given. Accordingly, we plan the time. After one hour or two hours you give the names. What will we do? You must remember that there is another hon. Member who is waiting here for the next Resolution. He is also an hon. Member. But you want to kill his time. This is not fair. There is a direction from the hon. Chairman that names given after half-an-hour should not be accepted. Already two hours are over. I am sorry. Kindly, bear with me. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: It is one-and-half hour. *...(Interruptions)...* It is not two hours. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Today it is one-and-hour hour; the other day it was half an hour. *...(Interruptions)...* You add it. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, be cool. We are all with you. Be comfortable; be smiling. I know there is much load on you. But it is not two hours.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Last Friday, we took hal-an-hour and today one-and-half hour. ...(*Interruptions*)... My advice to you is that you give the name in advance; then I will call you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: I have given the name in time. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Yes, I have given the name in time. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I was here for thirty minutes; then I went. Within that time, your name was not there. Now, Mr. Minister, you start please.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think it has been a very engaging debate which helped me a lot to learn in a new sector which, for me, was completely alien to my own professional and political background. But I must say that it has been a very good experience for me to hear the hon. Members of Parliament expressing their views, expressing their suggestions and giving me a lot of food for thought.

Sir, I do hope the Members will appreciate that when we concluded two weeks ago in this august House, I was on my legs and I was asked by the Chair to reply to the Resolution, but I had *suo motu* offered that we should continue it two weeks later so that more Members get an opportunity to express their views. I was very keen to hear more Members and I am happy that this has been a very challenging debate where a lot of balls have been thrown at me, but I hope I will be able to volley them back a little bit to the other side so that I am able to get and extract some support from all the hon. Members in the challenging days ahead and in the task ahead of me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, Mr. Minister, you have to reply one more discussion on power.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I have my replies for every Member of this august House.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): The Minister should first reply to my points.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I have replies for every Member. I have noted all the points. These are the number of pages with me and I have noted all the comments.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: But, first, you have to bear in mind what Resolution I have moved.

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, please inform the Minister about the time constraint.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister knows it. He is also from your State.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: But I must draw the background that we are standing herein today. First of all, June 2014 has been a better month than any of the previous months for the last two years, and the core sector has grown by over 7.3 per cent in June, as per the statistics released just a day ago. That is against 1.3 per-cent growth a year ago. I am happy to report to this House that the growth is largely at the back of coal and electricity. Electricity generation has grown by over 15 per cent in the month of June, which is the first month that I have taken charge in. I cannot claim credit for that. I cannot blame anybody all the time for the past, but I must state that, at least, the inning has started reasonably well. There were some hiccups in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, which I will address in the course of my reply, and I will also talk about the proactive action that this Government took. But the fact is that in the month of June, electricity generation has grown by over 15 per cent. The nation has seen a revival in the mood, the investment sentiment and we are Seeing the entire nation looking for better times, the entire nation backing this Government led by hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. And, I can assure this House that we are committed to our task of providing 24x7 power to every home, to every industrial and commercial establishment, irrespective of the State, irrespective of the Government in any State. For that, we will require your support, your co-operation and the similar enthusiasm at the State level which we are willing to provide from the Centre.

Sir, I must thank my very good friend, Dr. Subbarami Reddy, for having brought this Resolution before this House. It is a subject where, I think, none of the Members can disagree. It is a problem of pretty large dimension, pretty humongous ramification to the people of India and if I was on the other side, which I was two months ago, I would have, probably, brought in exactly similarly worded Resolution to attack the then Government. When hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister saw the Resolution, his first comment to me was, "Have you drafted out this Resolution and brought it to the House?" It almost sounded like an opportunity for me to express before this House the severe problems that I have inherited. I have before me a White Paper which I can speak on for two hours to show the nation, to show the hon. Members, the dire state in which the economy, particularly the power, the coal and renewable energy sector was inherited by this Government.

But as I said before, I am not looking to politicize this discussion. I do not wish to bring politics into this sector. I believe that we have to provide power to every citizen of this country, and, in that, the entire House is united, and, if we receive the same level of cooperation outside the House and in the States, I commit myself and our Government to provide 24 X 7 power to every home in this country.

The hon. Member from Uttar Pradesh did talk about certain happenings in the first three or four days of my Government. I would like to express to him, even on that day, on the national television, I had said— मैं इस विषय का राजनीतिकरण नहीं करना चाहता। मैं सुबह से उस विषय में एकदम चुप रहा था। मैंने अपनी तरफ से स्वयं उत्तर प्रदेश के माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी को खुद तीन बार बात करने के लिए फोन किया। वे दौरे पर थे, लेकिन मैंने मैसेज दिया था कि मैं चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ कि किस प्रकार से मैं राज्य सरकार की मदद कर सकता हूँ। जब दिल्ली में समस्या हुई, तब भी वह मेरा काम नहीं था। मैं केंद्र का ऊर्जा मंत्री हूँ, प्रदेश के काम प्रदेश की सरकारें देखती हैं, फिर भी मैं स्वयं आगे बढ़ा समस्या के निदान के लिए, समस्या को हल करने के लिए, मुझसे जो हो सके, वह करने के लिए। दुर्भाग्य से उत्तर प्रदेश के सम्माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने इस विषय का राजनीतिकरण करने की कोशिश की। उन्होंने केंद्र सरकार के ऊपर कुछ अनाप-शनाप आरोप लगाए, जो एकदम बेबुनियाद थे...(व्यवधान)... जिनके पीछे कोई सत्य नहीं था। उसी वजह से मुझे देश को बताना पड़ा कि 15 मई तक जो राज्य सरकार 377 मेगावॉट बिजली झण्डर से, एनटीपीसी, से खरीद रही थी, उन्होंने एकात्मक तरीके से 16 मई से वह बिजली लेनी बंद कर दी और उसकी वजह से जनता में त्राहि हुई। कोयले की भी जो समस्या हुई, वह निजी क्षेत्र के पावर प्लांट में हुई थी। केंद्र के किसी पावर प्लांट में उस दिन कोयले की समस्या नहीं थी, तो इन वजहों से जनता में त्राहि हुई, उत्तर प्रदेश में बिजली की समस्या हुई, लेकिन हमने फिर भी तैयारी रखी। हमने 377 मेगावॉट अनऐलोकेटेड बिजली तैयार रखी और रात को दस बजे, जैसे ही राज्य सरकार ने रियलाइज किया कि जनता अब और इस प्रकार से सहन नहीं करेगी, इस प्रकार के गलत तरीके सहन नहीं करेगी, और उन्होंने जब चिट्ठी लिखी कि हम वह बिजली खरीदना चाहते हैं, तो हमने डेढ़ या दो घंटे के अंदर वह बिजली उनको देनी शुरू कर दी और एकाध दिन में ही मुझे लगता है कि समस्या का हल हो गया। यह अलग बात है कि अब उन्होंने फिर से वह बिजली लेनी बंद कर दी है और अब उससे क्या समस्या होगी, मुझे नहीं मालूम।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेंद्र कुमार कश्यप : समस्या तो अभी भी वैसी की वैसी बनी हुई है।

श्री पीयूष गोयल : मैं समझता हूँ कि माननीय डा. सुब्बाराми रेड्डी जी ने जो विषय उठाया है, उसमें उन्होंने काफी गहराई से अपनी बात रखी है, काफी अच्छे तरीके से देश की समस्या को उजागर किया है और मुझे उनके किसी भी विषय पर व्यक्तिगत तरीके से एतराज नहीं है। पावर सेक्टर में रिफॉर्म होना चाहिए, कोयले का उत्पादन बढ़ना चाहिए। मैं नहीं समझता हूँ कि हम लंबे अरसे के लिए इम्पोर्ट पर डिपेंडेंट रह सकते हैं। सम्माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि कोयले के आंवटन में जो गड़बड़ियां हुईं, उसकी वजह से कोयले का उत्पादन कम हुआ है, यह सत्य है। यह हमारे सामने बहुत बड़ी समस्या है कि जो कोयले की खदानों का आंवटन हुआ, वे सब अभी सुप्रीम कोर्ट में फंसी हुई हैं। तो देश के सामने जो एक सपना था कि 2012 तक हम पावर फॉर ऑल देंगे, उस पावर फॉर ऑल के सपने को दिखाते हुए अगर आंवटन में कुछ गलत तरीके अपनाए गए और उनका भुगतान आज देश को करना पड़ रहा है, तो आज सबके सामने वह सत्य है। आप सबको पता है कि कोयले का उत्पादन मात्र 2 प्रतिशत हर वर्ष बढ़ रहा है जब कि जो डिमांड है- एक सम्माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि 77 हजार से लेकर 1 लाख 12 हजार मेगावॉट कोयले के उत्पादन की क्षमता इस देश में बढ़ी है। अगर पचास प्रतिशत कोयले से बिजली उत्पादन करने की क्षमता बढ़ती है और कोयले का उत्पादन मात्र 16 प्रतिशत बढ़ता है गत पांच वर्षों में, तो आप खुद अंदाज़ा लगा सकते हैं कि क्या

[श्री पीयूष गोयल]

होगा ? किस प्रकार से बिजली की कमी आएगी, किस प्रकार से बिजली के कारखाने बीमार होंगे ? यह एक सत्य है जिसको मैंने विरासत में लिया है। उस विरासत से मैं घबराता नहीं हूँ, डरता नहीं हूँ। मुश्किलें जरूर आएंगी-एक सम्माननीय सदस्य ने मुश्किलों की बात की—मैं मुश्किलों को स्वीकार करता हूँ, मुश्किलों से जूझने में मुझे आनन्द आता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि कोई भी समस्या असंभव नहीं है। इस चीज़ का समाधान करना असंभव नहीं है और समाधान के प्रति हम सब वचनबद्ध हैं, हम सब उसमें लगे हुए हैं। महोदय, मैं आपके सामने कुछ विषय जरूर रखूंगा। ऐसा बताया गया कि इस देश में साढ़े चार, पांच, साढ़े पांच प्रतिशत बिजली की कमी है। मैं सम्माननीय सदस्य और इस सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि ये मात्र सरकारी आंकड़े हैं। यह जो साढ़े चार-पांच प्रतिशत की कमी की बात होती है, वह सरकारी आंकड़े हैं। जिस दिन मैंने मंत्रालय संभाला, जब मैं रिव्यू में गया और जब उन्होंने बताया कि बिजली की इतनी कमी है, तब मेरा पहला सवाल था कि इस कमरे में क्या कोई भी व्यक्ति इस बात को मानने को तैयार है कि इस देश में सिर्फ साढ़े चार-पांच प्रतिशत की कमी है तो एक भी अफसर तैयार नहीं था। वस्तुस्थिति यह है कि आज भी पांच करोड़ घरों में बिजली नहीं पहुंच पाती। वस्तुस्थिति यह है कि आज भी जो औद्योगीकरण की क्षमता इस देश में है, उसका अभी तक हमने शायद बॉटम भी टच नहीं किया होगा, पीक पर जाना तो बहुत दूर की बात है। यह वस्तुस्थिति है कि जो लेटेंट डिमांड है, जो डिमांड सरकारी आकड़ों में कैप्चर नहीं होती, उसको अगर पकड़े तो यह जो बिजली की कमी है, इसकी अभी तक कोई क्रेडिबल स्टेटिस्टिक्स आज तक इस देश ने स्टडी नहीं की है, प्रेपेयर नहीं किया है और किसी के सामने यह आंकड़ा नहीं है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर हम हर घर को एडिक्वेट क्वांटिटी में, उपयुक्त मात्रा में बिजली देना चाहें, तो एक प्रकार से जो अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्टेटिस्टिक्स हैं, उनको अगर हम देखते हैं तो शायद बिजली की कमी दो, तीन, चार, गुणा भी बढ़े तो भी हम पूरी नहीं कर पाएंगे। उदाहरण के रूप में हम देखें तो गुजरात, जहां पर हर घर को, हर उद्योग को 24 घंटे बिजली मिलती है, वहां पर हर वर्ष पर-कैपिटल कंजमेशन ऑफ पावर 1800 यूनिट से अधिक है, लेकिन बाकी सारे देश को जब हम देखते हैं तो बिजली का जो पर-कैपिटल कंजमेशन है, वह 950 यूनिट के लगभग है। एक राज्य पूरे देश के एवरेज से डबल है। ऐसी स्थिति जब है तो यह स्वाभाविक रूप से समझ में आता है कि अगर पूरे देश में 24 घंटे बिजली देनी है तो कम से कम बिजली के उत्पादन को डबल करना ही पड़ेगा, उसके लिए कोयला भी लगेगा, जो अपारंपरिक ऊर्जा है, रिन्युएबल एनर्जी है, चाहे वह सौर ऊर्जा हो या विंड एनर्जी हो, इस सबका बहुत महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रहेगा। हमारी सरकार, रिन्युएबल एनर्जी, कोल प्रोडक्शन और जो बिजली के कारखाने आज बिजली पैदा करने की क्षमता रखते हैं, लेकिन उसका इवैक्यूएशन, उसको जनता तक, राज्यों तक पहुंचाने के लिए जो ट्रांसमिशन और डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन लाइनों की कमी है, उस पर ज्यादा इन्वेस्टमेंट हो, इन तीन विषयों पर अधिक मात्रा में ध्यान दे रही है। जिस प्रकार से देश में ये तीन विषय हैं, कोयले का उत्पादन, ट्रांसमिशन एंड डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन और जनरेशन के लिए क्लीन ग्रीन एनर्जी रिन्युएबल एनर्जी के रूप में बढ़े, इन तीन विषयों पर हम ज्यादा ध्यान देकर इस समस्या का हल निकालने में लगे हैं। महोदय, मैं इन तीनों विषयों पर थोड़ी जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ। अगर बिजली के पूरे इको सिस्टम को देखें तो उसमें चार प्रमुख विषय होते हैं। अगर पावर जनरेशन को मध्य में रखें तो फ्यूल अवेलेबिलिटी, किस प्रकार से कोयला, गैस, सूर्य की रोशनी, हवा, इन सबकी अवेलेबिलिटी इस देश में क्या है...। उसमें यह भी निर्भर करता है कि देश की एनर्जी सिक्योरिटी में देश कितना सक्षम है, आगे चलकर अपने बिजली के उत्पादन में, अपने पैरों पर खड़े होने में कितना

सक्षम है। इन विषयों को मद्देनजर रखते हुए हमने कोयले के विषय में, खासतौर से यह कोशिश की है कि किस प्रकार से environment clearances, forest clearances, mining plan approvals इन सब विषयों को expedite किया जाए। जहां-जहां पर बाधाएं आती हैं, उनमें हम departmental silos जो सरकार के अलग-अलग डिब्बों में काम करने की प्रणाली हमें मिली, उसको जोड़ते हुए, किस प्रकार से सरकार एकजुट होकर समस्याओं को हल करें ताकि हम environment clearances, mining plans, land acquisition, rehabilitation programmes, R and R policy हर विषय पर ध्यान देते हुए और राज्य सरकारों का सहयोग लेकर कोयले का उत्पादन बढ़ा सकें। इसी दौर में हमने कोयले की linkages की rationalisation का काम अपने हाथ में लिया है। जब मैं अलग-अलग राज्यों में गया, तो यह मालूम पड़ा कि कोई प्लांट जो समुद्र तट के नजदीक है, उसको linkages छत्तीसगढ़ या झारखंड की किसी खदान से मिली है और ट्रेन से लाखों टन कोयला बार-बार, रोज हजारों ट्रेनों के द्वारा समुद्र तट के प्लांट में आ रहा है। दूसरा प्लांट जो शायद झारखंड या हरियाणा में है, उसका कोयला इम्पोर्ट होता है, समुद्र तट पर आता है और रेल के द्वारा हजारों किलो मीटर दूर देश के अंदरूनी हिस्सों में पहुंचता है। शायद एक ही समय पर कोयले की दो-दो ट्रेनें अप एंड डाउन ट्रैक पर एक साथ जाती होंगी। अब इस प्रकार का जो irrational distribution system कोयले का रहा है, इसको हम स्टडी कर रहे हैं। उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्यों को बताना चाहूंगा कि rationalisation of coal linkages से मैं समझता हूं कि हजारों करोड़ रुपये का फायदा होगा और वह फायदा उपभोक्ताओं को होगा। आखिर जब regulated tariff system है, तो जितनी हमारी सरकार cost saving कर पाएगी, उसका फायदा कंज्यूमर्स को पहुंचेगा और जो रेल लाइनें, जो रेल ट्रैक्स फ्री होंगे, उससे और ज्यादा कोयला प्लांट्स तक पहुंच पाएगा और इलेक्ट्रिसिटी जनरेशन को हम इनक्रीज कर सकेंगे।

इसी प्रकार से कई खानें court cases में फंसी हुई हैं। कोर्ट, कचहरियों के दायरे में कई खानों का मामला अटका हुआ है। इस पर भी मैंने चर्चा शुरू की है। जिन लोगों की कोल माइन्स de-allocate हुई हैं, मैं सबसे अपील करूंगा कि कोर्ट, कचहरी में जाने के बदले जहां तक हो सके चर्चा के माध्यम से, जरूरत पड़े तो arbitration के माध्यम से, अगर निजी क्षेत्र, उपभोक्ता, राज्य सरकार, सरकार की इकाइयां, केंद्र सरकार, हम सब मिलकर राष्ट्र के हित में विषयों का समाधान जल्द से जल्द करें, तो मुझे लगता है कि देश की समस्याओं का हल हम सब मिलकर जल्दी निकाल पायेंगे। रेड्डी जी ने reforms की बात कही है, इस बारे में मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि 50 दिनों में reforms का कोई नया आयाम तो तुरंत नहीं दिखेगा, लेकिन मैं आपको विश्वास दिलाता हूं कि चाहे वह हमारी commitment हो, जो सम्माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने बजट में दी कि हर एक बिजली उत्पादन करने वाले कारखाने को पर्याप्त मात्रा में कोयला हम प्रदान करेंगे और 31 मार्च, 2015 तक जितने प्लांट्स आए हैं, उनको यह सहूलियत दी जाएगी कि वे चाहे कोयला हमसे लें या इम्पोर्ट करें, reasonable rate of return के साथ वे उत्पादन बढ़ा सकें ताकि जनता तक ज्यादा से ज्यादा बिजली पहुंच पाए। आपने coal shortage की बात कही, उसमें नई technology की बात माननीय सदस्यों ने की, मैं भी इस बात से एग्री करता हूं और मुझे लगता है कि coal mining technology में बहुत संभावनाएं हैं। कल जब हमारी पावर मिनिस्ट्री में मीटिंग चल रही थी तब इस विषय पर हमने कोल मिनिस्ट्री से भी बात करना शुरू किया है कि कैसे technology का साथ लेते हुए अंडरग्राउंड माइन्स से ज्यादा से ज्यादा कोयला निकले। उस पर हम विशेष ध्यान दे रहे हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, how many more minutes would you take?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I can speak for a couple of hours if the hon. Members want. I have answer to every one's queries.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have to take up the next Resolution. The Ministry would also be discussed. So, you would get another opportunity.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I will leave it to the hon. Members.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, till now, he has not touched upon the points raised by me specifically. He is speaking generally.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I do not think that I would like to join issue with the hon. Member. His suggestions, for example, coal is aplenty in Indonesia and South Africa and NPTC should import coal from Indonesia and South Africa, are things on which I think, as Minister, I cannot comment.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Subbarami Reddy, he is replying to you. Please sit down.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I think it is not in the interest of this House that I should be commenting on individual interest to import from a particular country or to import. My intention is to increase electricity generation and not further the interest of any import lobby or import country.

Well, of course, a mention was also made. Since the hon. Member has mentioned about how to resolve the coal problem by import, I must draw the attention of this House that two-and-a-half years ago, the then hon. Prime Minister had set up a committee under his Principal Secretary which was supposed to find a solution to this problem. That committee, in fact, worked for two years instead of the allocated three months to find a solution. Despite two years of working, they did not find any solution. They, in fact, only complicated the problems as we were probably coming to power six months later. Today, we have a situation that there are power plants aplenty which neither have a coal linkage, which neither have a PPA, which neither have the ability to import coal because they do not have a PPA and they cannot participate in the PPA bidding because they do not have a linkage. It is such an oxymoron that the situation in the country today is that if you have a power plant, you will not get the coal linkage till you have a PPA and you will not be allowed to bid for a PPA till you have a coal linkage. This is the situation which I have inherited today. Then, the hon. Member says that I should only allow import. How can anybody import if there is no purchase of that power? So,

I am making my efforts to find a solution to these problems which the hon. Member has rightfully raised. He also mentioned about loans. He mentioned that the India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited, IIFCL, should provide loans to the infrastructure sector and that I should remove all restrictions on financing power projects. Sir, I have been a votary that Government has no business to interfere in the lending decisions of the banks. I have never interfered in the lending of any of the PSU banks or the PSUs working under me. It is an independent decision. They have to look at the economic viability of each project. They have to assess that their money is safe in the hands of companies, whether private or public. I think, it is important for me to respect the sanctity of these independent companies and I will uphold their autonomy. I will not interfere even if there are certain interests who want me to liberalise the disbursement of loans.

Well, of course, I was told that the State Governments are not calling for bidding for power purchase. I can appeal to all the Members to request their State Governments to bid for power purchase. It is something that the Central Government cannot force. It's a federal structure. The subject is not a Central subject. I can only appeal to all the hon. Members to support me. Incidentally, there is paucity of time. Otherwise, I have three such booklets. These are booklets about issues pending with the State Governments. I have issues from each State Government. I am happy to read out for each State including the State of hon. Member from Andhra Pradesh. It also includes your State of Tamil Nadu. It also includes your State of Uttar Pradesh. Sir, I have mapped out the issues. I hope every State Government supports me in all these issues. I will talk more about it on Monday when we have the debate on the Power Ministry. But I need the support of the States. I need all of you to exert pressure in your Constituencies, in your States to help me resolve these problems. I can make one assurance from the Central Government; if your State takes one step ahead, the Central Government will take three steps ahead to support your States to give 24 x 7 power supply.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Odisha): Sir, the Power Minister of Odisha had come to Delhi and met the hon. Minister. He had requested the Minister to supply 300 megawatts of power to the State of Odisha. What is the Minister going to do in this regard?

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ। माननीय मंत्री जी ने हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री, अखिलेश यादव जी पर राजनीति का जो आरोप लगाया है, वह निराधार है। बल्कि अखिलेश जी एक दिन पहले से प्रयास करते रहे कि मंत्री जी से बात हो जाए, लेकिन संभवतः मंत्री जी को हेडक्वार्टर से इजाजत दूसरे दिन मिली, तब बात हुई। इसलिए मंत्री जी राजनीति कर रहे हैं, अखिलेश जी ने राजनीति नहीं की है।

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, the hon. Member from Odisha has raised an issue. I appreciate his sentiments.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : मंत्री जी, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप बहुत अच्छा बोल रहे हैं, पर्याप्त जानकारी दे रहे हैं। आपका काम ऐसा लग रहा है कि आप कई वर्षों से इस विभाग के मंत्री हैं। मैं आपका आदर करता हूँ। मैं आपसे एक ही विनती करना चाहता हूँ कि जब पॉवर मिनिस्ट्री पर डिस्कशन होगा, उस समय सुब्बारामी रेड्डी जी आदि ने जो मुद्दे उठाए हैं, उनके बारे में विस्तार से बताइएगा, ताकि मुझे मौका मिले, जिससे मैं विदर्भ की बात कर सकूँ। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि आप मेरी बात को सपोर्ट करें।

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, specifically, 300 megawatts is the request of Odisha from the Central Pool. I would like to know whether the Minister is in a position to give that to the State of Odisha or not. That is my specific question.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, there are two things. The hon. Members from Odisha have raised an issue. The hon. Power Minister of Odisha did come here. He did make certain assurances. I am in regular touch with him. But, sadly, the issue does not stand resolved, as I stand in this House today. I would urge the hon. Member to please appeal to your Government to resolve the issue of Talcher mines. One lakh metric tonne of additional coal can go to the power-hungry States and power plants, if that issue is resolved quickly. I will appeal to you to support us. As regards the hon. Member's request for additional power, it is something which had been formalized many years ago under a Gadgil Formula. The allocation of power is done by the Gadgil Formula, and I am not yet in a position to change the Gadgil Formula. In fact, it would be better if the State Government could support us. There are many power plants in your State. If you encourage them to come up faster, instead of depending on the largesse of the Central Government, you can generate more power in your State. If you need more, the NTPC will set up more power plants there, if your State comes forward with more proposals. As regards what the hon. Member of Parliament from a neighbouring State said, I have on record telephones made from my office. I would urge the hon. Member to provide the requisite information when his hon. Chief Minister contacted me. I am the most accessible person. After this debate, I will give you both my mobile numbers. I think half the people in the House have my numbers. I pick up my phones myself.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I have a small clarification. The hon. Minister has pointed out that there are some power plants which have come up without the PPA being signed and without any coal linkage. Would you please ask this from the bankers, who have financed these power plants without PPA and without coal linkages?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, it is a very good question and I am very happy that it has been put. Of course, all these power plants were financed in the last ten years, out of which, for four years, I was sitting on that side...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So you have no contribution to that!

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: And the hon. Member was sitting on this side of the House.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I was neither here nor there but I was outside. But the fact remains that he has made a very conflicting remark and a very confusing remark that power plants have come up, duly financed by banks, without a PPA being signed and without a coal linkage. He must verify that.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, many of these power plants have also come up on the back of coal block allocations which have been found to be irregular by the hon. CAG, and many of them have got into trouble because the process, which was followed by the erstwhile Government, caused agony to the entire coal sector and which the nation is suffering from today. I think it will be very interesting if the hon. Member would reflect whether it was the right method of giving coal blocks and making private sector and Government set up power plants on the back of these irregular allotments. It may also be very interesting to see whether there was any pressure from the then Government to those bankers to give those loans. It will be a matter of investigation. I will be delighted to have an investigation done on that.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Go ahead.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: But I am not sure whether the hon. Member will be very happy with the findings of that. Sir, many of the Members have talked about solar and wind energy. I can assure you that my hon. Prime Minister and the nation's Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, is, personally, very committed and that commitment reflects on the fact that out of 2,700 MW of solar, today one-third is in the State of Gujarat alone. I am very confident that under his able leadership, we shall be able to significantly increase the solar and wind generation. I also want to state that while the earlier thinking on renewable energy was one based on subsidy, this Government is finding out solutions to take the regime of subsidy out of renewable energy and make it stand on its own feet so that more and more people come into the ambit of renewable energy and, in the years to come, we will see a revolution in solar and renewable energy missions. It is already reflected in the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister where he has announced the setting up of solar parks in many States, and if any other State comes forward with land and requisite support, I can assure Members that we are looking towards expanding renewable energy even further. So, I would request them to come to us with more proposals for land and the ability to purchase. Without costing them expensive power, we have found out ways to get them cheap renewable power, affordable renewable power, and I urge upon all of them to come forward with more proposals.

Due to paucity of time, I can only appeal to Dr. Reddy and other hon. Members that I have noted with interest all their comments and am deeply concerned about this

[SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL]

crisis. I am sure that, with the support of all sections of the House, we will be able to overcome this situation and look for an era of an energy surplus, dynamic and a vibrant India. Also, Sir, I would request the hon. Member that keeping in view the Government's assurance in this regard, he may kindly withdraw the Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Subbarami Reddy, do you want to say something?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, firstly, let me congratulate Shri Piyush Goyal on his dynamic personality. He is a very smart person. In 2012, when he initiated the debate on the Finance Bill, Shri Pranab Mukherjee was impressed and he gave a full reply to it. So, he is such a capable man. Now, let me thank the hon. Minister and other hon. Members for having participated in the discussion and for supporting my Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No thanks for me? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Sir, I want to speak on my Resolution.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: What is this? I am the Mover of the Resolution. Can I not speak? So, Shri Piyush Goyal, please listen to me. Let me clarify. Firstly, since there is no time, please reply to the points raised by me afterwards in the interest of coal production and enhancement of power. Secondly, I would like to clarify. He has misunderstood my point. I never said NTPC should import coal. It is none of my business to say that NTPC should import. I merely told you that two years back when hon. Prime Minister constituted a Committee and checked up as to how to import, at that time it was 120 dollars. Now it is 60 dollars. Prices have come down up to 50 per cent. So, you just examine. It will be more viable. If you import coal and mix both imported coal and domestic coal, you will be able to do it. Examine this point.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I fully appreciate that suggestion. Prices have come down and I will take this very seriously.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Another point I would like to clarify is this. You have misunderstood my point. Indian Infrastructure Financial Corporation Limited was set up in 2006 by the UPA Government to support the power and infrastructure sector. But what has happened is, in reality, due to some restrictions imposed by Reserve Bank of India and the Government they are not able to fund. I never told you to fund X, Y or Z. I merely spoke about policy matter. So what you must examine is, IIFCL is not under you. it is a Finance Ministry's autonomous body. So you must restructure it and you must also fight with the Finance Ministry to give you more strength to do it.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would urge the hon. Member and draw his attention to a circular issued by Reserve Bank of India on 15th July, 2014 as a follow-up of the Budget presented by the FM in which we have now encouraged the banks and all financial institutions to lend a long tenor up to 25 years, money at

attractive rates for the infrastructure sector.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: One more thing, Sir. I raised the most important point. You have nicely said that you will appoint some professional as Chairman of Coal India. When are you going to do? Today it is headless. It is the prime institution of India, which produces coal.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Thank you, MP Sir for raising that. Sir, the Coal India has not had a Chairman.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, don't answer to every question. Don't answer like that. ...(Interruptions)... Then he will be tempted to put more questions!

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I won't withdraw the Resolution. My last point is, what Shri Digvijaya Singh raised, about PPA. The serious point is, State Governments don't invite biddings. PPA is not there. Then Coal India says that we can't give coal. You answer this point on Monday again. The last point is, in very peculiar circumstances, two brothers, after their marriage, when their wives fight, say, 'Divide Andhra Pradesh and Telangana'. Otherwise, they are very affectionate brothers. So you must help both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. They are suffering due to power shortage. As a special case you must take interest to help Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to solve the problem immediately.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Subbarami Reddy, you also say whether you are withdrawing it or not!

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Let me complete, Sir.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: The first point is, Coal India has a Chairman. As I answered, all the States of India are important for us. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are equally important and we will not discriminate. In fact, we have given additional power to both the States very recently.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is all. You say whether you are withdrawing or not.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Let me speak, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this? How many speeches you want?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I know the procedure. What I am saying is, before withdrawing, I want to make my humble submission. I spoke for 35 minutes. I spoke about so many issues, gave suggestions and sought clarifications. Kindly go through it and send me a reply. Secondly, on Monday, when you come, you clarify certain points.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; Mr. Minister, why do you want to reply point by point?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: This is a discussion in the House. I will clarify everything. What letter does he want, I don't know. I am not assuring any letter. If anything is not clarified, I will clarify right now.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever you could not reply, you write to him. That is enough.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I want to know what I have not replied!

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No discussion, please. Nothing like that, please. What you replied is replied.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, in conclusion, I am fully confident that Shri Piyush Goyal will make a mark, and, as a country we are all united. We are with you. I am withdrawing the Resolution.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Message from Lok Sabha.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: First, Message from the Lok Sabha. I will allow your point of order after the Message.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

Joint Committee on offices of Profit

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following Message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:

"I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Friday, the 1st August, 2014, adopted the following motion:-

"That a Joint Committee of the Houses to be called the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit be constituted consisting of fifteen members, ten from this House and five from the Rajya Sabha, who shall be elected from amongst the Members of each House in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote:

That the functions of the Joint Committee shall be -

- (i) to examine the composition and character of all existing "committees" [other than those examined by the Joint Committee to which the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957 was referred] and all "committees" that may hereafter

be constituted, membership of which may disqualify a person for being chosen as, and for being, a Member of either Houses of Parliament under article 102 of the Constitution;

- (ii) to recommend in relation to the "committees" examined by it what offices should disqualify and what offices should not disqualify;
- (iii) to scrutinize, from time to time, the Schedule to the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, and to recommend any amendments in the said Schedule, whether by way of addition, omission or otherwise;

That the Joint Committee shall, from time to time, report to both Houses of Parliament in respect of all or any of the aforesaid matters; That the Members of the Joint Committee shall hold office for the duration of the present Lok Sabha;

That in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Committee;

That in other respects, the rules of procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

That this House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do join in the said Joint Committee and to communicate to this House the names of the Members to be appointed by the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

2. I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya Sabha in the said motion, and also the names of the Members of Rajya Sabha appointed to the Joint Committee, may be communicated to this House."

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTION — Contd

Agrarian crises and persistent suicides by the farmers in Vidarbha region

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you. What is your point of order, Mr. Bhupinder Singh and under which rule? Tell me the rule.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I humbly draw your attention to Chapter VI - Arrangement of Business - and from Rule 24 which deals with Private Members' Business to Rule 26 which deals with Private Members' Resolutions.

Sir, I humbly submit that there is no mention that for a Resolution which has been taken up in the House for consideration has to be finished in two hours or three hours or four hours. There is nothing like that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is the direction of the hon. Chairman. It is as valid as rule ...(*Interruptions*)... See, the direction of the hon. Chairman is as valid as rule.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, it is a very important point. Let me finish it. The Resolution which has been taken up...

श्री विजय जवाहर लाल दर्डा : सर, मेरा Resolution है।

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : आपका आ जाएगा और वह अगले सप्ताह में जाएगा। आप क्यों घबरा रहे हैं ?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You reply to me.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: This Resolution was discussed on 18th also and it was inconclusive. For further discussion, it has come to this House today. Sir, I am not challenging the authority of the Chair. I am only submitting. The rule says that there is no fixed time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have already told you that it is the direction from the hon. Chairman. It is as valid as rule. Now, sit down. Now, Mr. Vijay Darda.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: It is not known to us. That is why I requested to participate in this debate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No problem. You keep this in mind next time. Give your name in advance, your name will come.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, I gave my name in time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Vijay Darda to move a Resolution regarding agrarian crisis and suicides by farmers in Vidarbha region. It is a very important subject.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा (महाराष्ट्र) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित संकल्प उपस्थित करता हूँ :

"इस तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि :—

- (क) विदर्भ एक और कृषि संकट तथा किसानों द्वारा लगातार की जा रही आत्महत्याओं से जूझ रहा है;
- (ख) इस क्षेत्र में ग्यारह जिले अर्थात्, बुलढाणा, अकोला, वाशिम, अमरावती, यवतमाल, वर्धा, नागपुर, भंडारा, गोंदिया, चंद्रपुर और गढ़चिरोली शामिल हैं;
- (ग) पिछले 17 वर्षों में करीब 3 लाख किसान आत्महत्या कर चुके हैं और भारत में कहीं न कहीं हर घंटे दो किसान ऐसा कठोर कदम उठाते हैं और उनमें से ज्यादातर विदर्भ से होते हैं;
- (घ) विदर्भ मुख्य रूप से वर्षा पर निर्भर रहने वाला कृषि क्षेत्र है, फसले मानसून की अनियमितता पर निर्भर होती है जिससे उपज और आय में अनिश्चितता के कारण किसानों का जीवन अनिश्चित हो जाता है और उनका जीना दूभर हो जाता है;
- (ङ) कृषि आधारित और कुटीर उद्योगों की कमी के कारण, रोजगार और वित्तीय आय बहुत कम होती है;

- (च) विदर्भ में 85 प्रतिशत कृषि भूमि अर्शित है और एक कृषक औसतन प्रति एकड़ तीन क्विंटल कपास उगाता है और इससे लगभग 15,000 रुपए कमाता है लेकिन इस पर निवेश लागत प्रति एकड़ 10,000 से 1,50,000 रुपये तक आती है; और
- (छ) नकदी फसलों के प्रतिकूल मूल्य निर्धारण तथा करोबार के खुलेआम शोषण के कारण कृषि एक घाटे का कार्य बन गया है और यह विदर्भ के किसानों में व्याप्त ऋण-भार तथा हताशा का प्रमुख कारण है;

सभा की यह राय है कि:—

- (i) केंद्र को विदर्भ में किसानों से ऋण वसूली की कार्यवाई को तुरंत स्थगित कर देना चाहिए और उनको खतरनाक वसूली एजेंटों से बचाना चाहिए;
- (ii) विदर्भ को 25,000 करोड़ रुपयों का एक पैकेज दिया जाना चाहिए जिससे क्षेत्र के बहुत सारे शेष कार्य संपन्न होंगे, संवहनीय फसल संवर्धन में सहायता मिलेगी, क्षेत्र में वृहत-सूक्ष्म सिंचाई योजनाओं तथा अवसंरचना के विकास से संबंधित अन्य योजनाओं को सहायता मिलेगी;
- (iii) कपास एवं सोयाबीन के लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (एमएसपी) उत्पादन की लागत तथा उस पर 50 प्रतिशत लाभ सीमा के समतुल्य होना चाहिए। किसानों को नई फसल के लिए दिया जाने वाला ऋण मौजूदा ऋण-शेष को माफ कर दिए जाने के बाद दिया जाना चाहिए तथा कृषि एवं सिंचाई के क्षेत्रों में नई प्रौद्योगिकी लाई जानी चाहिए;
- (iv) किसानों की विधवाओं को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने एवं उनके बच्चों को उच्च शिक्षा संबंधी सुविधाएं करने के लिए 200 करोड़ रुपए का एक पृथक कोष बनाया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि विदर्भ के किसानों की हजारों विधवाओं को एक राहत और पुनर्वास पैकेज की बड़ी आशा है;
- (v) जैसा कि माननीय वित्त मंत्री ने अपने बजट भाषण में वादा किया था, सरकार को शीघ्र की एक मूल्य स्थिरता कोष और कृषि उत्पादों के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय बाजार की स्थापना करनी चाहिए, सूखा संभावित क्षेत्रों में सूक्ष्म सिंचाई एवं जल संभर योजनाएं शुरू करनी चाहिए। भूमिहीन किसानों को फसल ऋण की सुविधाएं देनी चाहिए साख की पुनर्स्थापना के लिए नई बढ़ी हुई नाबार्ड निधि की स्थापना करनी चाहिए, भण्डारण में वृद्धि के लिए कदम उठाने चाहिए तथा विदर्भ में कृषि उत्पादों के विपणन पर से एपीएमसी प्रतिबंध समाप्त करने चाहिए;
- (vi) केंद्रीय वित्त मंत्रालय का बैंकों के लिए एक ऋण-स्रोत की स्थापना करनी चाहिए जिससे वे 1950 के दशक में दिए गए भूमि-विकास ऋणों की तर्ज पर विदर्भ के किसानों को बीस वर्षों के लिए ऋण दे सकें और जिसके माध्यम से किसानों के समेकित ऋण का समाधान हो सके और तीन अन्य घटकों, यथा आगामी 12 महीनों के लिए किसानों के उपयोग संबंधी आवश्यकताओं, भूमि-विकास में उसके निवेश और फसल ऋण तथा बीमे के लिए उसकी मार्जिन राशि को इसके दायरे में लाना चाहिए;
- (vii) ऋण शून्य प्रतिशत की ब्याज दर पर दिया जाना चाहिए, तथा ऋण भुगतान हेतु

[श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा]

पांच वर्षों का ऋण स्थगन किया जाना चाहिए, जिसके लिए केंद्र आवधिक ऋणों के वित्त पोषण हेतु विश्व बैंक के इंटरनेशनल डिवेलपमेंट एसोसिएशन (आईडीए) से सम्पर्क कर सकें;

- (viii) ऋण समेकन की परवर्ती कार्रवाई के रूप में केंद्र तथा महाराष्ट्र सरकार को विदर्भ में कृषि को एक व्यवहार्य विकल्प बनाने के लिए एक रणनीति बनाई जानी चाहिए और सिंचाई कार्य तथा बागवानी कार्यक्रमों के साथ-साथ कृषि उत्पादों के विपणन तथा संभाव्य लाभकारी मूल्य पर बाजार तक सम्पर्क इत्यादि जैसे प्रमुख मुद्दों पर भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए;
- (ix) किसानों के समक्ष वर्षा की अनियमितता, नाशीजीवों, मौसम में परिवर्तन तथा प्रौद्योगिकी अद्यतनीकरण (उदाहरण के लिए बीटी कॉटन) से उत्पन्न होने वाले जोखिमों जैसे अन्य मुद्दों एवं इन सबसे ऊपर आदान (इनपुट) गुणवत्ता पर भी साथ-साथ ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए;
- (x) केंद्र एवं राज्य को गैर सरकारी संगठनों की भूमिका को मान्यता देनी चाहिए तथा वित्त संभार तंत्र तथा संगठनों के संदर्भ में पूरी सहायता देनी चाहिए क्योंकि किसान सरकारी कर्मचारियों की अपेक्षा गैर सरकारी संगठनों पर अधिक विश्वास करते हैं;
- (xi) सरकार को एनजीओ की संक्षिप्त सूची बनानी चाहिए। तथा प्रत्येक जिले में कम से कम दो (अथवा अधिक, यदि संभव हो) एनजीओ नियुक्त करके सीधे-सीधे आठ सप्ताह में कार्य पर लगा देना चाहिए;
- (xii) प्राकृतिक संसाधन प्रबंधन तथा फसल प्रबंधन तंत्र में सुधार करके तथा मौसमी परिस्थितियों से मेल खाती वैकल्पिक फसल उत्पादन प्रौद्योगिकी प्रदान करके एक साल में फसल उत्पादन में अधिक स्थिरता प्राप्त की जा सकती है;
- (xiii) जल संभरण आधार पर भूमि एवं जल संसाधन के कुशल प्रबंधन हेतु प्राकृतिक संसाधनों जैसे वर्षा, भूमि एवं जल का इष्टतम उपयोग तथा मृदा एवं जल के क्षय और पर्यावरण का अपकर्षण कम-से-कम होना चाहिए। जिससे न केवल भू-क्षरण और फसल नष्ट होने का खतरा कम होता है, बल्कि प्रति इकाई क्षेत्र तथा समय के अनुपात में भूमि की उत्पादकता भी बढ़ती है; और
- (xiv) सूखे के अन्वेषण और उचित वर्षा जल प्रबंधन द्वारा उसके प्रभाव को कम करने के लिए तथा विदर्भ में ज्वार तथा कपास की बुआई के अनुकूल समय की भविष्यवाणी करने के लिए फसल निगरानी हेतु उपयोगी सूचना प्रदान की जानी चाहिए;

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं प्रस्तुत प्रस्ताव के माध्यम से विदर्भ में व्याप्त संकट की ओर समस्त सदन और देश का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। इस विषय पर इस सदन में अनेकों बार मामले उठाए गए हैं तथा विदर्भ की आपदा को आश्वासनों के बोझ में दबा दिया गया है। सरकारी घोषणाएं हुई, पैकेज की बात हुई, तमाम मंत्री तथा प्रधानमंत्री तक के दौरे हुए, लेकिन दौरों के बावजूद आज

तक वहां पर आत्महत्याओं का दौर ज्यों का त्यों चल रहा है यह विषय नेता लोगों के लिए पॉलिटिकल हो जाता है, मीडिया के लिए एक सेंसेशनल न्यूज तथा इकॉनमिस्ट और एग्रीकल्चरिस्ट के लिए एक और थ्योरी देने का काम करना है।

माननीय उपसभापति महादेय, मैं इसके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूं, वह यह है :

"दर्द बांटने से अब डर लगता है, मेरे गमों को उसने फलसफा बना दिया।"

महोदय, आज पूर्ण विदर्भ कृषि संकट से गुजर रहा है। आत्महत्या तो जैसे विदर्भ की जिन्दगी का एक हिस्सा बन गई है। अब कोई इन पर शोक नहीं मनाता है, बल्कि हर आत्महत्या एक नए आक्रोश को जन्म दे जाती है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर) पीठासीन हुए]

इस चिंगारी से मैं इस सदन आगाह करवाता हूं कि यह एक व्यापक दावानल का रूप ले रही है। पिछले 17 सालों में विदर्भ में 3 लाख से अधिक लोगों ने आत्महत्या की है। वहां जितनी मौतें हुई हैं उतनी तो कोई महामारी या कोई भीषण युद्ध में भी नहीं हुई होगी। आप इनकी विधवाओं, बच्चों और परिवार के बारे में सोचिए। विदर्भ के बच्चों में कुपोषण की बीमारी और विपन्नता है। यह विपन्नता इनको कहां लेकर जा रही है, इसको आप देखिए। यहां से बच्चे गायब भी हो रहे हैं। इनके लिए न तो पढ़ाई लिखाई का इंतजाम हो रहा है और न ही किसी भी तरह की मेडिकल फैसिलिटीज की व्यवस्था हुई है। उनके मां-बाप के पास इतना पैसा भी नहीं है कि वे अपने बच्चों की आगे की जिन्दगी के बारे में सोच सकें। मुझे दो पंक्तियां याद आती हैं :

"माँबाबा जब मेरी एक खाहिश के लिए एक दूजे का मुंह देखते हैं,
तो सोचता हूं मैं पैदा ही नहीं हुआ होता तो अच्छा होता।"

विदर्भ में बुलढाणा, अकोला, वाशिम, अमरावती, यवतमाल, वर्धा, नागपुर, गोंदिया, भण्डारा चंद्रपुर और गढ़चिरोली आते हैं। इनमें से कुछ भाग नक्सल प्रभावित हैं। यहां की कृषि सिंचाई साधनों के अभाव में वर्षा पर आधारित है, जिसकी वजह से फसल की पैदावार को लेकर अनिश्चितता बनी रहती है, जिससे जीवन और भी मुश्किल हो जाता है। ऐसा अक्सर होता है जब किसान भाई बैंकों से लोन लेकर बीजों की बुआई करते हैं और वर्षा न होने के कारण वे बीज मर जाते हैं तो उसके बाद वे साहूकार के पास पहुंचते हैं। उसे ज्यादा interest पर लोन देते हैं और फिर वे सहकारी बैंक और साहूकार रुपी दो पाटों के बीच में पिसते रहते हैं।

विदर्भ में कृषि पर आधारित कोई उद्योग नहीं है और न ही वहां पर मीडियम या स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज है, जिसकी वजह से वे ऐसे कदम उठाएं कि उनके आगे का भविष्य बन सके, उससे कृषि को भी एक सहारा मिल जाए और उनका परिवार चल सके। जैसा कि स्पष्ट है, विदर्भ की 85 परसेंट जमीन असिंचित है। यहां की मिट्टी काली और उपजाऊ है। वहां पर किसान कपास की खेती के लिए वहां की जमीन के महत्व को समझता है, लेकिन सिंचाई के साधनों के अभाव में वहां पर फसलों का कोई भविष्य नहीं है। अधिकतर किसान, जो कपास की फसल उगाते हैं, उन्हें प्रति एकड़ 4000 रुपए से 4200 रुपए तक मिलते हैं, जबकि उनकी लागत 6000 रुपए से 8000 रुपए प्रति एकड़ तक की होती है। कपास की लगातार गिरती कीमतों की वजह से वहां के लोगों में ऋण ग्रस्तता है। कपास की एमएसपी भी लागत से कम है। मैं इस प्रस्ताव के माध्यम से सरकार से यह मांग करता हूं कि भारत

[श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दडा]

सरकार को तुरंत किसानों से होने वाली रिकवरी को बन्द करना चाहिए। पिछले लोन वेवर से विदर्भ के किसानों को कोई खास फायदा नहीं हुआ है। मैं सरकार से यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि फाइनेंशियल इनक्लूजन के तहत वहां कितने किसानों के खाते खुले हैं तथा कितने किसानों को "किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड्स" दिए गए हैं ? ऐसे कितने किसान हैं जो अभी भी निजी कोऑपरेटिव बैंकों या साहूकारों से लोन ले रहे हैं तथा सरकार की ओर से उनके लिए क्या इंटररेस्ट रेट निर्धारित किया गया है ? मैं यह मांग करता हूँ कि प्रायोरिटी लेंडिंग के तहत सभी ग्रामीण बैंकों, सहकारी बैंकों और निजी बैंकों को इसके लिए बाध्य किया जाए कि वे विदर्भ के किसानों को लम्बी अवधि का लोन दें तथा इंटररेस्ट की सीमा किसी भी हालत में 5 प्रतिशत से अधिक नहीं होनी चाहिए। विदर्भ में फसल बीमा योजना का काम ठीक नहीं चल रहा है। इस बीमा योजना के अन्तर्गत सारे किसानों को टाइम बाउंड ढंग से लाया जाए तथा फसल खराब होने की स्थिति में इसका निपटारा 15 दिनों के अन्दर हो जाना चाहिए। विदर्भ में सिंचाई परियोजनाओं की हालत काफी गम्भीर है। जब भी किसी योजना की बात होती है तो उसे अन्य क्षेत्र को समर्पित कर दिया जाता है। यहां तक कि ओलावृष्टि में भी जब मुआवजा दिया गया तो उसमें भी विदर्भ के साथ सौतेला व्यवहार किया गया। मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि विदर्भ के लिए कम से कम 25 हजार करोड़ रुपये के आर्थिक पैकेज की घोषणा तुरंत की जाए, जिससे तमाम घोषित परियोजनाओं तथा सिंचाई परियोजनाओं को पूरा किया जा सके। सिंचाई की जो परियोजनाएं भारत सरकार के सिंचाई मंत्रालय में किसी वजह से पेंडिंग हैं चाहे उसकी वजह पर्यावरण हो या प्लानिंग हो, उन्हें फास्ट ट्रैक पर मंजूर कराया जाय।

सरकार से यह भी अनुरोध है कि वह कपास, पैडी और सोयाबीन की मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस, लागत मूल्य पर 50 प्रतिशत की लाभ सीमा तय करके निर्धारित करे। इसकी सिफारिश कई कमिटियां समय-समय पर कर चुकी हैं। जिन किसानों ने आत्महत्याएं की हैं, उनके परिवारों की विधवाओं, बच्चों, मां-बाप आदि के पुनर्वास के लिए 200 करोड़ रुपए का एक कोष बनाया जाए जिससे आश्रितों के लिए रोजगार तथा शिक्षा की व्यवस्था हो सके। कृषि विदर्भ के लिए अभिशाप साबित हो रही है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वहां के किसानों के लिए कृषि के अलावा किसी वैकल्पिक रोजगार की व्यवस्था हो जिससे कि वे फसल के खराब होने की स्थिति में जीवन यापन कर सकें। यह वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था लघु उद्योग, गाय-भैंस, मुर्गी पालन आदि की भी हो सकती है। मैंने देखा है कि जहां पर इस प्रकार की वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था है, वहां पर आत्महत्याएं नहीं हो रही हैं या कम हो रही हैं।

महोदय विदर्भ में Price Stabilization Fund और कृषि उत्पादों के लिए राष्ट्रीय बाजार की सख्त आवश्यकता है। सूखा प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में सिंचाई की छोटी-छोटी इकाइयों की स्थापना एवं वॉटर शेड स्कीम्स पर काम बहुत जरूरी है। यह सुझाव पूर्व राष्ट्रपति श्री ए.पी.जे. अब्दुल कलाम साहब ने भी दिया था। भूमिहीन किसानों के लिए भी कृषि ऋण की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए तथा उन्हें लघु उद्योग लगाने की सहूलियत दी जानी चाहिए।

महोदय, महाराष्ट्र में अभी एपीएमसी के अन्तर्गत तमाम मंडियां काम कर रही हैं। इन मंडियों में सुधार की बहुत आवश्यकता है। अनाज और कपास की मण्डियों का प्रबंधन तो काफी हद तक ठीक है लेकिन सब्जी और फलों की जो मंडियां हैं वहां पर दलालों का बोलबाला है। वहां पर उनसे 20 प्रतिशत तक कमीशन लेते हैं, किसानों को ठगा जाता है तथा उन्हें वहां किसी भी प्रकार की सुविधा नहीं मिलती है। इन मण्डियों में बड़ी संख्या में महिलाएं और बच्चे आते हैं लेकिन वहां उनके लिए न

टॉयलेट की व्यवस्था है, न ही उनके ठहरने की कोई व्यवस्था है और न ही पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था है। वहां पर इतनी ज्यादा गन्दगी है कि उस गन्दगी के कारण वहां बीमारियां भी हो रही हैं। जब वे वहां पर अपने छोटे-छोटे बच्चों को लेकर आती हैं तो उनके लिए creches की भी कोई व्यवस्था वहां पर नहीं है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूं कि इस ओर भी ध्यान दिया जाय ताकि वहां पर गन्दगी से जो इंफेक्शन्स हो रहे हैं जिसका बोझा भारत सरकार के आरोग्य विभाग पर पड़ता है, वह न पड़े।

महोदय, विदर्भ में लोग बड़ी मात्रा में कृषि छोड़ रहे हैं तथा बड़े शहरों में पलायन कर रहे हैं। उनमें आत्मविश्वास बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है। कृषि को लाभदायक धंधा बनाने की सख्त जरूरत है। बैंकों तथा नाबार्ड को इस पर लॉग-टर्म पॉलिसी बनाने की जरूरत है तथा किसानों को हाउसिंग लोन की तरह 15 से 20 साल की अवधि का लोन सस्ते रेट पर दिया जाना चाहिए। आज हम लोग कार खरीदते हैं, तो इसके लिए सात साल की अवधि के लिए लोन मिलता है, लेकिन किसानों को 6 महीने के अन्दर उसकी Penalty लगनी रिकवरी शुरू हो जाती है। अगर वे रिकवरी नहीं दे पाते हैं तो उन्हें डराया जाता है, धमकाया जाता है या उनको जेल भेजे जाने की बात कही जाती है। आज हम लोग देखते हैं कि कई बड़े-बड़े उद्योगों के पास खरबों-अरबों रुपए का एनपीए है, लेकिन उनकी ओर कोई उंगली नहीं उठाई जाती है जबकि किसानों के साथ किस तरह का व्यवहार होता है, तो हम यह कैसे कह सकते हैं कि हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है।

महोदय, विदर्भ के प्राकृतिक संसाधनों के साथ खिलवाड़ किया जा रहा है। विदर्भ में कोयला है, खनिज हैं, जंगल है, लकड़ी है, पानी है सब कुछ है लेकिन प्रबंधन नाम की कोई चीज़ नहीं है। इससे तो medieval time और British time में विदर्भ की स्थिति ज्यादा अच्छी थी। महोदय, प्राकृतिक संसाधनों का दोहन विदर्भ की भलाई के लिए होना चाहिए। महोदय विदर्भ क्षेत्र इससे पहले इतना गरीब और विपन्न कभी नहीं था, जितना कि अब हो चुका है। इसकी माटी सूखे से तो सूखी ही है, लेकिन अब आक्रोश और सौतेलेपन के व्यवहार से सुलग रही है। मैं सदन को आगाह करना चाहता हूं कि ये शोले छुटपुट बारिश की बौछारों से बुझने वाले नहीं हैं। हमें अपना हक चाहिए, हमें विदर्भ राज्य चाहिए।

महोदय, नागपुर देश का इकलौता शहर है जिसने आजादी के बाद अपना कैपिटल स्टेटस खो दिया है। पहले यह CP और Berar की राजधानी हुआ करती थी। महाभारत के काल से ब्रिटिश काल तक विदर्भ अलग राज्य के रूप में रहा है लेकिन भाषा के आधार पर जब राज्यों का विभाजन हुआ, तो विदर्भ को पतन के गर्त में डाल दिया गया। आप पश्चिमी महाराष्ट्र की प्रगति देखिए और विदर्भ की प्रगति देखिए। विदर्भ के साथ हो रहे सौतेलेपन के विकास की स्थिति साफ दिखाई देती है। एक तरफ लोग दौलत से खेल रहे हैं तथा स्लिम होने के लिए इलाज करा रहे हैं वहां विदर्भ, भुखमरी, अकाल और आत्महत्याओं से जूझ रहा है। एक तरफ गोदामों में अनाज सड़ रहा है, तो दूसरी तरफ लोग आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं और खाने के लिए तरस रहे हैं।

महोदय, विदर्भ की स्थिति इतनी गम्भीर और संवेदनशील है कि अब अलग विदर्भ राज्य के अलावा कोई चारा नहीं है। मैंने विदर्भ के विकास के लिए पिछले 15 वर्षों में बार-बार इस सदन में कई मुद्दे उठाए हैं। एक मुद्दा वर्धा-यवतमाल-नांदेड रेलवे लाइन का था। इस लाइन के लिए भूमि पूजन तत्कालीन रेल मंत्री श्री लालू प्रसाद यादव ने 2008 में यवतमाल में किया था। इसके लिए जो 697 करोड़ रुपये की योजना थी, वह आज 1600 करोड़ रुपए की हो चुकी है, लेकिन वह काम इतनी धीमी गति से चल रहा है जिससे अनुमान है कि इस project को complete करने में 108 वर्षों का समय लगेगा।

5.00 P.M.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Just a minute. Do you want...

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Sir, just give me two minutes.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी.सिंह बदनौर) : अगर आप चाहते हैं तो नेक्स्ट डे जब भी आपका रेजोल्यूशन होगा, तब आप इस पर फिर बोल सकते हैं। अब पांच बज रहे हैं, I think the House does not want to... ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Okay, Sir, I will continue next time.

SPECIAL MENTION — Contd

Demand to pass the communal violence Bill early so as to protect the fraternity and brotherhood in the country

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): Okay; this Resolution would be taken up on the next day allotted to the Private Members' Resolutions. But before that Chaudhary Munovver Saleem will lay his Special Mention.

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं एक मिनट में पढ़ दूंगा।

† چودھری منور سلیم : سر، میں ایک منٹ میں پڑھ دوں گا۔

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी. पी. सिंह बदनौर): आप ले कर दीजिए। आप पूरा नहीं पढ़ सकेंगे, पूरा पढ़ना आपको एलाउ नहीं किया है, आप थोड़ा सा बोलकर ले कर दीजिए।

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम : महोदय, मैं एक मिनट में पढ़ दूंगा। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय देश का स्वभाव और स्वरूप, सद्भाव, प्रेम और भाईचारा है। इसी कारण संविधान रचयिताओं ने संविधान की मूल भावना धर्म निरपेक्षता को ही माना है। महोदय, भारत वर्ष के इतिहास में यह गर्व प्राप्त है जब भक्तिकाल को पढ़ेंगे तो साहित्य में रहीम, रसखान, कबीर के बिना भक्तिकाल पूरा नहीं होगा।

† چودھری منور سلیم : مہودے، میں ایک منٹ میں پڑھ دوں گا۔ ماننے آپ سبھا ادھیکش

مہودے، دیش کا سوبھاؤ اور سوروپ سدبھاؤ، پریم اور بھائی چارہ ہے۔ اسی کارن

سنویدھان رچیتاؤں نے سنودھان کی مول بھاون، دھرم نریکشتا کو ہی مانا ہے۔ مہودے،

بھارت ورش کے اتھاس کو یہ گرو پراپت ہے کہ جب بھکتی کال کو پڑھیں گے تو سانبیہ

میں رحیم، رس-خان، کبیر کے بنا بھکتی کال پورا نہیں ہوگا۔

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी.सिंह बदनौर) : आप ले कर दीजिए प्लीज़।

چौधری منور سلیم: भारत वर्ष का यह सुनहरा इतिहास भी है कि एक मुस्लिम शासक के कार्यकाल में तुलसीकृत रामायण रची गई थी। मेरे भारत को यह रूतबा भी हासिल है कि यहां रहने वाली मुस्लिम आबादी ने अपना बाब-ए-कौम एक हिन्दू यानी गांधी जो को माना और बापू को महात्मा की महान उपाधि से सरफराज किया।

†**چودھری منور سلیم :** بھارت ورش کا یہ سنہرا اتہاس بھی ہے کہ ایک مسلم شاسک کے کارنے کال میں تلسی-کرت رامائن رچی گئی تھی۔ میرے بھارت کو یہ رتبہ بھی حاصل ہے کہ یہاں رہنے والی مسلم آبادی نے اپنا بابائے قوم ایک ہندو یعنی گاندھی جی کو مانا اور باپو کو مہاتما کی مہان اپادھی سے سرفراز کیا۔

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी. पी. सिंह बदनौर): आप ले कर दीजिए प्लीज।

चौधरी منور सलीम: वर्तमान सामाजिक माहौल में जिस प्रकार की सांप्रदायिक भाषा का उपयोग कुछ लोग विशेष रूप से मुस्लिम समाज के लिए कर रहे हैं। वह चिंताजनक है। महोदय, दुनिया का निजाम है कि ताकतवर कमजोर को सताता है, परंतु यह भी एक सत्य है कि संसार में नायक भी वहीं लोग कहलाए जिन लोगों ने निर्बल अथवा कमजोर लोगों का साथ दिया है।

†**چودھری منور سلیم :** ورتمان سماج ماحول میں جس پرکار کی سامپردائیک بھاشا کا ایپوگ کچھ لوگ وشیش روپ سے مسلم سماج کے لئے کر رہے ہیں، وہ چنٹا جنک ہے۔ مہودے دنیا کا نظام ہے کہ طاقتور کمزور کو ستاتا ہے لیکن یہ بھی ایک ستنے ہے کہ سنسار میں نائک بھی وہی لوگ کہلانے، جن لوگوں نے نربل اور کمزور کا ساتھ دیا ہے۔

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी.सिंह बदनौर) : धन्यवाद, अब आप ले कर दीजिए प्लीज। I allowed you only to lay your Special Mention.

चौधरी منور सलीम : महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि देश की तरक्की, खुशहाली और शांति के लिए यह जरूरी है कि...(व्यवधान)...

†**چودھری منور سلیم :** مہودے، میں آپ کے مادھیم سے سرکار سے انورودھ کرتا ہوں کہ دیش کی ترقی، خوشحالی اور شانتی کے لئے یہ ضروری ہے کہ...(مداخلت)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी.पी.सिंह बदनौर) : दर्डा जी, आप कुछ कह रहे थे?...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मैं यह कह रहा था कि मैं आगे कॉन्टीन्यू कर ही रहा हूँ...(व्यवधान)...

चौधरी منور सलीम : मज़हबी नफरत फैलाने वाले संगठन और लोग, जो भारत को कमजोर करना चाहते हैं, उन पर सख्त कार्यवाही हो।...(व्यवधान)...

†**چودھری منور سلیم :** مذہبی نفرت پھیلانے سنگٹھن اور لوگ، جو بھارت کو کمزور کرنا چاہتے ہیں، ان پر سخت کارواہی ہو...(مداخلت)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री वी. पी. सिंह बदनौर): नेक्स्ट डे आप ही शुरुआत करेंगे, तब आपको मौका मिल जाएगा। जब भी आपका प्राइवेट मेंबर्स डे आएगा और रेजोल्यूशन पर डिस्कशन होगा तब आपको शुरुआत करनी होगी।...(व्यवधान) ... सलीम साहब, आप बाकी ले कर दीजिए प्लीज़।

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम : ठीक है सर, मैं अपना शेष स्पेशल मेंशन ले करता हूँ। *महोदय, मैं कम्यूनल वाइलेंस बिल को दुबारा से सदन में लाने की मांग करता हूँ। मैं सोचता हूँ कि सद्भावी स्वरूप को बनाए रखने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि एक ऐसा मजबूत कानून सरकार द्वारा लाया जाए जिसके लागू होने के बाद सांप्रदायिक उन्माद फैलाते समय फिरकापरस्त ताकतों में भय व्याप्त हो जाए और इस तरह का कानून कम्यूनल वायलेंस बिल के रूप में तैयार है और पहले से ही पूर्व सरकार के पास विचाराधीन था। मैं सरकार से इस बिल को तत्काल पटल पर लाकर पारित कराने की मांग करता हूँ, जिससे भारत माता के सद्भावी स्वरूप को सामाजिक चेतना तथा सख्त कानून के माध्यम से बचाया जा सके। मैं अपनी बात माननीय उदय प्रताप सिंह जी की इन पंक्तियों के साथ पूरी करता हूँ :

"न तेरा है, न मेरा है, हिंदोस्तां सबका है,
नहीं समझी गई यह बात, तो नुकसान सबका है।
यहां मिलती हैं जो नदियां, वो दिखलाई नहीं देती,
महासागर बनाने में मगर अहसान सबका है।

† **چودھری منور سلیم :** تھیک ہے سر، میں اپنا شیش اسپیشل مینشن لے کرتا ہوں۔

* مہودے، میں کمیونل وائلینس بل کو دوبارہ سے سدن میں لانے کی مانگ کرتا ہوں۔ میں سوچتا ہوں کہ سدبھاوی سوروپ کو بنائے رکھنے کے لئے یہ ضروری ہے کہ ایک ایسا مضبوط قانون سرکار دوارا لایا جائے جس کے لاگو لوئے کے بعد سامپرڈانک انماذ پھیلاتے وقت فرقہ پرست طاقتوں میں بھنے ویایت ہو جائے اور اس طرح کا قانون کمیونل وائلینس بل کے روپ میں تیار ہے اور پہلے سے ہی پچھلی سرکار کے پاس وچاردھین تھا۔ میں سرکار سے اس بل کو تکال پٹل پر لاکر پارت کرانے کی مانگ کرتا ہوں، جس سے بھارت ماتا کے سدبھاوی سوروپ کو سماجک چیتنا اور سخت قانون کے مادھیم سے بچایا جا سکے۔ میں اپنی بات مائنے ادے پرتاپ سنگھ جی کی ان پنکتیوں کے ساتھ پوری کرتا ہوں۔

"نہ تیرا ہے، نہ میرا ہے، ہندوستان سب کا ہے
نہیں سمجھی گئی یہ بات، تو نقصان سب کا ہے
یہاں ملتی ہے جو ندیاں، وہ دکھلائی نہیں دیتیں
مہاساگر بناتے ہیں مگر احسان سب کا ہے"

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE): The House stands adjourned to meet on Monday, the 4th August, 2014 at 11.00 hrs..

*The House then adjourned at three minutes past
five of the clock till eleven of the clock
on Monday, the 4th August, 2014.*

* Laid on the Table.

† Transliteration in Urdu Script.

Demand to sett up institutions of vocational training and skill development in North-Eastern region (page 249)

Demand to taki concrete steps to check the increasing incidents of air miss at various airports of the country (page 250)

Demand to pass the communal violence Bill early so as to protect the fraternity and brotherhood in the country (pages 294-296)

Private Members' Resolutions —

Continuous shortage of power and its adverse impact on the economic development of the country — *Withdrawn* (pages 250-286)

Agrarian crises and persistent suicides by the farmers in Vidarbha region — *Under Consideration* (pages 287-294)

Message from the Lok Sabha — *Reported*

Joint Committee on offices of Profit (pages 286-287)

