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सत्यमेव जयते

Friday

25 July, 2014

3 Sravana, 1936 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 25th July, 2014/3rd Sravana 1936 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

The victims of bus-train collision in Medak district, Telangana

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

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सभापति जी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : एक मिनट... एक रेफरेंस कर लूं। ...(व्यवधान)... एक मिनट, मैं एक रेफरेंस कर लूं। ...(व्यवधान)... एक मिनट...बैठ जाइए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you are aware, fourteen school children as well as the driver and the cleaner of the bus lost their lives and twenty others suffered grievous injuries when a school bus carrying them collided with 57564 Nanded-Hyderabad Passenger Train at an unmanned railway crossing in Medak district of Telangana on 24th July, 2014.

The loss of innocent lives is indeed painful and sad. I am sure, the whole House will join me in expressing our heartfelt sympathy and concern for the families of those who lost their children in this tragedy and praying for the speedy recovery of the injured.

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 unfortunate tragedy.

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

RE. AGITATION BY U.P.S.C. ASPIRANTS

...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, एक नोटिस मैंने दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा एक नोटिस है।

श्री सभापति : एक मिनट...एक मिनट ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, यू.पी.एस.सी. के अंदर आज सारे स्टूडेंट्स एजिटेटेड हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... जो एकजाम देने गए थे ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One at a time, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute please. शरद जी, बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री सभापति : आपका भी है, शरद जी का भी है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक मिनट ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक मिनट ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please don't come into the well. ...*(Interruptions)*... शरद जी बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, नोटिस मेरा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... चेयरमैन साहब, मेरा नोटिस देखिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मेरा नोटिस लगा हुआ है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : मुझे सुन तो लेने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : मैंने नोटिस दिया है, आप कह दीजिए कि आपका नोटिस ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : मैंने आपका नोटिस देखा है, एक मिनट, आप बात सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : तो पहले हमको मौका मिलेगा नोटिस पर बोलने का। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : भाई, सुनिए। मैंने आपका नोटिस देखा है, शरद जी का नोटिस देखा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सुनिए...सुनिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार) : मैं सात दिनों से नोटिस दे रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : मुझे मालूम है, मैंने पढ़ लिया है आपका नोटिस। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन में अंग्रेजी को बढ़ावा दिया जा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप हमें मौका दीजिए ताकि हम अपनी बात तो रखें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शरद यादव : यह कोई गलत बात नहीं है कि ...*(व्यवधान)*... जब मैं सात दिन से नोटिस दे रहा हूँ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप क्या बात कर रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : देखिए, इस पर सरकार ने एक स्टेटमेंट टेबल ऑफ द हाउस पर रखा था। बारह बजे मंत्री जी आएंगे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : नहीं, नहीं, मंत्री जी न आएँ, प्रधान मंत्री जी आएँ।*

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं...देखिए... भाई प्लीज़... ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not going on record.

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत) : सर, यह गलत बात है, यह बहुत गलत बात है। ये इस प्रकार की बातें न करें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

*Not recorded.

संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री तथा विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद) : यह गलत बात है... यह गलत बात है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : भाई प्लीज़....नहीं...नहीं ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ बैठ जाइए।...(व्यवधान)...

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परि वर्तन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर) : सर, यू.पी.एस.सी. के मामले पर क्लैरिफिकेशन्स के लिए स्वयं मंत्री जी बारह बजे आएंगे और क्लैरिफिकेशन्स देंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : क्लैरिफिकेशन्स अभी क्यों नहीं हो रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सभापति जी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : भाई, बैठ जाइए। ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow Question Hour to proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't come into the Well. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The House is adjourned for fifteen minutes.

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

The House re-assembled at nineteen minutes past eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 261. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय सभापति महोदय ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : अब बात हो गयी है, 12 बजे करिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, मेरा नोटिस है ...(व्यवधान)... यह बड़ा बर्निंग टॉपिक है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : ठीक है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : कृपया मेरी बात सुनिए। कल दिल्ली में, यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन के जो एग्जाम्स हो रहे थे, वहां पर जो लड़के आए थे, वे लड़के थोड़ा उग्र हुए क्योंकि इस सरकार ने पिछली बार यह वायदा किया था कि यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन में अंग्रेजी की अनिवार्यता को समाप्त किया जाएगा और क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं को तरजीह दी जाएगी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल (राजस्थान) : सर, हम भी इस विषय पर बोलना चाहते हैं।

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, हम भी इस पर बोलना चाहते हैं। I am supporting him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : लेकिन उन्होंने ऐसा नहीं किया। मंत्री के बयान की कोई वेल्यू नहीं है ...**(व्यवधान)**... इनके एम.पी. ने अनशन तुड़वाया, फिर भी सारे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, हम चाहते हैं कि हमें भी इस विषय पर बोलने का मौका दिया जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... देखिए, 12.00 बजे मंत्री जी आएंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, यह हिन्दी और क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं की बात है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : कितने लोग एक साथ बोलेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**... नक्रवी साहब आप बोलिए। आप क्या कहना चाहते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, मेरा अनुरोध है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी आकर इस पर बयान दें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : यह 12.00 बजे होगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक्रवी : सभापति महोदय, यू.पी.एस.सी. की परीक्षाओं में जो भारतीय भाषाओं के इस्तेमाल की बात है, उनको शामिल करने की बात है, हम इसका समर्थन करते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो छात्रों की मांग है, वह मांग जायज़ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

† جناب مختار عباس نقوی : سبھا پتی مہودے، یو۔پی۔ایس۔سی۔ کی پریکشاؤں میں جو بھارتی بھاشاؤں کے استعمال کی بات ہے، ان کو شامل کرنے کی بات ہے، ہم اس کا سمرٹھن کرتے ہیں۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔ جو چھاتروں کی مانگ ہے، وہ مانگ جائز ہے۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: One by one. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक्रवी : जो छात्रों का आंदोलन है, वह जायज़ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जहां तक सरकार का सवाल है, हमारी मांग है कि सरकार इस पर प्रभावी कदम उठाए और यू.पी.एस.सी. की परीक्षाओं में भारतीय भाषाओं को शामिल किया जाना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सरकार इस बारे में 12.00 बजे अपना वक्तव्य देने वाली है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... निश्चित तौर पर 12.00 बजे तक हमें इंतजार करना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम मानते हैं कि सरकार की तरफ से कुछ न कुछ आवश्यकताएं मिलेंगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

†جناب مختار عباس نقوی : جو چیاتروں کا آندولن ہے، وہ جائز ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔
 جہاں تک سرکار کا سوال ہے، ہماری مانگ ہے کہ سرکار اس پر پربھاوی قدم
 اٹھائے: اور یو۔پی۔ایس۔سی۔ کی پریکٹھاؤں میں بھارتی بھاشاؤں کو شامل کیا جانا
 چاہئے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ سرکار اس بارے میں 12-00 بجے اپنا ویکٹوے دینے والی
 ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ نشیجے طور پر 12-00 بجے تک ہمیں انتظار کرنا چاہئے
 ۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ ہم مانتے ہیں کہ سرکار کی طرف سے کچھ نہ کچھ آسواسن ملے گا
 ۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री सभापति : श्री शरद जी। ... (व्यवधान) ... वन मिनट। ... (व्यवधान) ... आप बैठ जाइए।
 ... (व्यवधान) ... शरद जी, आप बोलिए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सभापति महोदय, यू.पी.एस.सी. में ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री शरद यादव : सभापति जी, ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : आप बैठ जाइए। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : इस विषय पर 12.00 बजे मंत्री जी जवाब देने वाले
 हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री विजय गोयल : जब हम छात्रों के समर्थन में खड़े हैं, तो बहस किस बात पर हो रही है?
 ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति : एक मिनट प्लीज़। आप बैठ जाइए। ... (व्यवधान) ... Yes, hon. Minister.
 ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह एक ऐसा विषय है जिस
 पर पूरे सदन की राय एक है। सरकार इस पर गंभीर है। अभी मैं आपसे विनम्रता से आग्रह करता
 हूँ कि 12.00 बजे मंत्री जी आकर उत्तर देंगे। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सरकार बिल्कुल गंभीर नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

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

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, मंत्री जी 12.00 बजे हाउस में आ रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... वे इस
 विषय पर विस्तार से अपनी बात रखेंगे। ... (व्यवधान) ... केवल 25 मिनट की बात है। हम मेम्बर्स से
 आग्रह करेंगे कि वे इस बात को स्वीकार कर लें। ... (व्यवधान) ...

† Transliteration in Urdu Script.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : प्रधान मंत्री जी या लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस को सदन में आकर बयान देना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विजयलक्ष्मी साधो (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, प्रधान मंत्री जी को आकर स्टेटमेंट देना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)...

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

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

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Freedom from hunger scheme

*261. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Goa is implementing a scheme called Freedom from Hunger;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including financial and other burden, if any, shared between Central and State Government during the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Scheme is linked to the National Food Security Act; and
- (d) if so, to what extent the same is linked to this Act or any other Act or scheme, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Interest-free loan to sugarcane growers

*262. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government would utilise the Sugar Fund accumulated through sugar cess for giving interest-free loans to sugarcane growers to bring them out of debt trap; and
- (b) if so, whether the Ministries of Agriculture and Finance would bear the interest

burden as 7 per cent and 5 per cent respectively, to net the 12 per cent interest to lending institutions to support mill owners to the tune of ₹ 4400 crore?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Time-frame for completing surveys for railway lines in Jammu and Kashmir

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

(a) the time-frame for completing surveys for constructing railway lines between Baramulla to Uri, Baramulla to Kupwara, Jammu to Doda and Jammu to Poonch in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) the time-frame for completing railway line from Katra to Banihal so that Delhi is connected to Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Details of surveys are as under:

Name of new line survey	Status
Baramulla-Kupwara	Survey completed.
Jammu-Poonch (<i>via</i> Rajauri)	Survey completed
Katra-Doda-Kishtwar and Premnagar- Bhadarwah	Jammu is now connected to Katra through broad gauge rail network and survey for Katra-Doda new line has been completed.
Baramulla-Uri	Survey not sanctioned.

(b) Katra-Banihal rail link is targeted to be completed by December, 2017.

Availability of fertilizers and insecticides in Chhattisgarh

†*264. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether consumption of fertilizers in the country is very high and fertilizers are used in plenty for cultivation of paddy in Chhattisgarh whereas there is no fertilizer factory;

(b) whether a fertilizer factory is likely to be set up in Chhattisgarh;

(c) whether the insects, namely, Gangai and Bhuramaro cause considerable damage to paddy fields and the insecticides are not proving to be effective resulting in huge losses to farmers last year; and

(d) whether fertilizers and insecticides will be made available to the farmers before hand as the rainfall is likely to be less in Chhattisgarh this year?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH-KUMAR): (a) Sir, the consumption (sales) of subsidized chemical fertilizers (Urea and P&K Fertilizers including DAP, MOP, NPK & SSP) in the country against the projected requirement during the last three years has shown a decreasing trend. The year-wise details of above mentioned fertilizers are given below:

(Figures in Million Metric Tonne)

Year	Projected Requirement	Consumption (Sales)
2011-12	63.46	59.87
2012-13	65.40	53.41
2013-14	63.74	50.95

Regarding Chhattisgarh, it is stated that paddy is a major Kharif crop of Chhattisgarh which occupies 76% of total Kharif cropped area. The consumption (Sales) of major fertilizers in Chhattisgarh in the last 3 year is as follows:

(Figures in Lakh Metric Tonne)

Year	UREA	P&K	Total
2011-12	6.30	7.36	13.66
2012-13	7.06	6.15	13.21
2013-14	6.34	5.71	12.05

There are two single super phosphate (SSP) manufacturing units and four mixture fertilizer manufacturing units in the States.

(b) There is no proposal for setting up of new fertilizer unit in Chhattisgarh. However, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved revival

of five units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) including Korba, which is located in Chhattisgarh. The Korba Unit is scheduled to be revived through a bidding route and same would be taken up considering the progress of Sindri, Talcher and Ramagundam Units of FCIL by nominated Public Sector Undertakings.

(c) The insects namely Gangai (Gall midge: *Orseolia oryzae*) and Bhura maro (BPH: *Nilaparvata lugens*) are the regular pests of Chhattisgarh region. During last year, their population remained below Economic Threshold Level and no loss due to these pests has been reported.

The insecticides are proven effective against insect pests if they are used as per the label claim registered with Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee.

(d) The status of availability of fertilizers in Chhattisgarh during current Kharif season (April to June, 2014) is as follows:

(Figures in Lakh Metric Tonne)

Name of fertilizer	Projected Requirement	Availability	Sales
Urea	2.45	2.45	2.30
DAP	1.02	1.17	0.96
MOP	0.25	0.31	0.19
NPK	0.51	0.35	0.29
SSP	0.69	0.65	0.39

State Government of Chhattisgarh has informed that there is sufficient stock of pesticides, insecticides and fertilizers in the state to meet the requirement of Kharif 2014.

Demand and supply of fertilizers

*265. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and availability of fertilizers in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) whether adequate quantity of fertilizers is going to be made available to farmers during the current sowing season;

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

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to provide adequate quantity of fertilizers to the farmers in the state?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) A statement showing demand (requirement), supply plan, availability and sales of all the fertilizers in the country including Maharashtra State for the current sowing season (upto June, 2014) is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) It can be seen from the Annexure above that availability of fertilizers in all the states including Maharashtra is adequate and comfortable. Further, distribution of all the fertilizers within the state is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. The Department of Fertilizers will make available adequate quantity of Fertilizers to the farmers in the current sowing season *i.e.* Kharif, 2014.

(d) The following steps are being taken by the Government to provide adequate quantity of fertilizers to the farmers in all the States/UTs.

1. The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season.
2. On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system:
 - (i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
 - (ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
 - (iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
 - (iv) The gap in the demand and domestic production of fertilizer is met through imports.

Statement

Cumulative demand (Requirement), Supply Plan, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers during the Kharif 2014 season (April to June)

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
GOA	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	4.60	4.70	5.12	4.72	1.85	2.68	1.28	0.97	0.33	0.78	0.32	0.25	1.66	2.06	1.54	1.37
Haryana	3.90	4.46	4.24	4.05	0.75	2.33	0.13	0.11	0.08	0.41	0.17	0.16	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.06
Himachal Pradesh	0.18	0.24	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.12	0.03	0.03
Jammu and Kashmir	0.40	0.62	0.46	0.40	0.20	0.51	0.26	0.21	0.03	0.11	0.06	0.05	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01
Jharkhand	0.65	0.89	0.47	0.36	0.25	0.41	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.30	0.09	0.09
Karnataka	2.75	4.81	3.64	3.28	2.17	4.04	1.89	1.42	0.71	1.91	0.79	0.59	2.90	5.53	3.30	2.29
Kerala	0.48	0.65	0.44	0.42	0.08	0.30	0.14	0.09	0.42	0.74	0.37	0.34	0.74	0.98	0.56	0.37
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	3.30	3.70	3.62	3.23	2.75	4.95	1.95	1.38	0.46	0.83	0.31	0.15	1.26	1.36	0.53	0.35
Maharashtra	7.35	8.38	7.74	7.44	2.45	4.09	1.45	1.39	0.98	2.24	1.38	1.15	4.91	7.48	3.89	3.41
Manipur	0.12	0.15	0.10	0.10	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00

Mizoram	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Odisha	0.80	1.86	1.36	1.04	0.47	1.07	0.48	0.31	0.31	0.60	0.26	0.20	0.70	1.76	0.72	0.47		
Pondicherry	0.06	0.09	0.04	0.04	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.13	0.01	0.01		
Punjab	10.00	9.13	7.89	7.66	2.60	3.39	1.68	1.39	0.14	0.54	0.20	0.12	0.17	0.24	0.05	0.04		
Rajasthan	2.30	2.82	2.82	2.74	0.62	2.12	1.22	1.13	0.05	0.14	0.03	0.01	0.33	0.34	0.12	0.11		
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
Tamil Nadu	1.69	2.64	1.87	1.85	0.51	1.06	0.25	0.18	0.65	0.94	0.45	0.44	1.30	1.81	0.85	0.64		
Telangana*	1.80	1.90	1.62	1.69	0.44	0.48	0.24	0.26	0.10	0.18	0.06	0.04	0.73	0.78	0.84	0.87		
Tripura	0.12	0.13	0.10	0.08	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00		
Uttar Pradesh	12.50	13.86	13.63	11.80	2.80	5.55	2.73	0.61	0.35	0.97	0.24	0.15	1.90	1.96	0.73	0.38		
Uttaranchal	0.75	0.95	0.78	0.76	0.14	0.22	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.15	0.09	0.06		
West Bengal	1.75	3.31	2.76	2.25	0.36	1.44	0.48	0.33	0.29	1.23	0.33	0.18	0.72	3.21	1.52	0.88		
TOTAL	66.04	81.61	71.07	64.55	21.96	41.81	16.70	11.44	6.68	14.81	5.93	4.31	22.46	36.66	18.48	13.28		

* Data related to Telangana is available from June'14 onwards.

Pendency of court cases

*266.SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the country from Supreme Court to Lower Courts till date, the court-wise detail thereof;

(b) whether Government is planning to reduce the pendency of cases in different courts, if so, the steps Government is taking in this regard;

(c) whether Government is planning to reduce the number of holidays observed in Courts, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government is planning to give 7/8 units to a Sub-Judge if he gets the matter compromised, if not, why?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (d) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information available, 65,970 cases were pending in Supreme Court as on 01.07.2014. Details of cases pending in the High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2013 are given in Statements-I and II (*See below*).

Disposal of pending cases in various courts is within the domain of the Judiciary. To enable the High Courts to clear the backlog of cases, the Chief Justice of India has given *in-principle* concurrence to the joint recommendation in the Chief Ministers / Chief Justices Conference to increase the sanctioned strength of High Courts by 25% of the existing strength. The High Courts and State Governments have been requested to convey their consent to the proposal, keeping in view the existing vacancies, as also the requirements of additional court room infrastructure, staff and budgets. Specific proposals in respect of the High Courts of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab & Haryana have been received from the State Governments, and approved by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. In the case of the other High Courts, the State Governments have been reminded to expedite their concurrence.

Government has written to the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts in June, 2014 to operationalise all sanctioned Courts by filling up vacant posts of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Judiciary. They have also been requested to organize Pendency Reduction Campaigns and Mega Lok Adalats to bring down pendency of cases in Courts.

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 Rs. 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 eCourts 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.

Holidays in Supreme Court and High Courts are regulated by the respective Courts. Holidays in 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.

The issue of assigning 7/8 units to a Sub-Judge for getting matters compromised, relates to the system of performance appraisal of Judges. Government has no role in performance appraisal of Judges/Judicial Officers, since administrative control over district and subordinate judiciary vests with the concerned High Court in terms of the provisions contained in the Constitution of India. Every High Court has its own rules/guidelines for assigning credit for disposal of various categories of cases, including cases compromised/settled through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

Statement-I*Pendency of cases in High Courts in 2013*

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Pendency of cases as on 31.12.2013
1	2	3
1.	Allahabad	1043398
2.	Andhra Pradesh	232459
3.	Bombay	349837
4.	Calcutta	280006
5.	Delhi	64652
6.	Gujarat	91953
7.	Gauhati	40912
8.	Himachal Pradesh	60073
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	93038
10.	Karnataka	196972
11.	Kerala	132159
12.	Madras	557479
13.	Madhya Pradesh	261611
14.	Orissa	206822
15.	Patna	132155
16.	Punjab and Haryana	262760
17.	Rajasthan	307640
18.	Sikkim	120
19.	Uttarakhand	20686

1	2	3
20.	Chhattisgarh	44139
21.	Jharkhand	72958
22.	Tripura*	5834
23.	Manipur*	3853
24.	Meghalaya*	1189
TOTAL		4462705

*Operationalization of 3 new High Courts was notified on 23rd March 2013.

Statement-II

Pendency of cases in District and Subordinate Courts in the year 2013

Sl. No.	Name of State / UT	Pendency as on 31.12.2013
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	983882
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6076
3.	Assam	248472
4.	Bihar	1807782
5.	Chhattisgarh	269116
6.	Goa	31703
7.	Gujarat	2226371
8.	Haryana	555669
9.	Himachal Pradesh	258791
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	175647
11.	Jharkhand	307853
12.	Karnataka	1190335

1.	2	3
13.	Kerala	1354379
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1097658
15.	Maharashtra	2884398
16.	Manipur	12907
17.	Meghalaya	4441
18.	Mizoram	3100
19.	Nagaland	3318
20.	Orissa	1134448
21.	Punjab	523759
22.	Rajasthan	1451881
23.	Sikkim	845
24.	Tamil Nadu	1288315
25.	Tripura	69715
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5604985
27.	Uttarakhand	152654
28.	West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2572667
29.	Chandigarh	59712
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	4712
31.	Delhi	522167
32.	Lakshadweep	354
33.	Pondicherry	30749
TOTAL		26838861

Allocation of fertilizers to Gujarat

†*267. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the quantum of ammonium sulphate, Urea and DAP, in Metric Tons, produced in the country during 2013-14;

(b) the demands made by Gujarat for the said fertilizers; and

(c) the quantum of fertilizers allocated to Gujarat during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) A statement showing Production of Ammonium Sulphate, Urea and DAP in the country during-2013-14 is as under:

(Lakh Metric Tonne)

Sl. No.	Product Name	Quantity
1.	Ammonium Sulphate	4.85
2.	Urea	227.15
3.	DAP	36.11

(b) and (c) The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture & Co-operation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments (including Gujarat), before commencement of each cropping season.

Grade-wise requirement is not projected by DAC, instead it projects total requirement of NPK fertilizers, as a group. Ammonium Sulphate is one of the grades in NPK group.

On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates adequate quantities of fertilizers to States including Gujarat, by issuing monthly supply plan. The demand (requirement), allocation (supply plan), availability and sales of NPK, Urea and DAP for the State of Gujarat during 2013-14 are as under:

(Lakh Metric Tonne)

Sl. No.	Product Name	Demands (Requirement)	Allocation (Supply Plan)	Availability	Sales
1.	NPK	4.73	5.31	4.77	4.60
2.	Urea	22.25	24.01	20.82	20.78
3.	DAP	5.40	7.02	3.97	3.79

Financial assistance to States having weak monsoon

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

- (a) whether in anticipation of weak monsoon, a delegation of Government of Maharashtra has met him and apprised of the State's situation;
- (b) whether Western India is likely to be affected the most by poor monsoon;
- (c) whether as per Meteorological Department, monsoon is likely to be less than normal at 93 per cent;
- (d) whether Government is ready to provide immediate financial assistance/help to those States which declare any of their areas as drought affected; and
- (e) whether Central Government has issued any guidelines to the States in anticipation of a weak monsoon and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) So far, no delegation of Government of Maharashtra has met Union Minister of Agriculture and apprised him of the State's situation regarding weak monsoon.

(b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that seasonal rainfall during South West Monsoon is likely to be 85% of Long Period Average (LPA) over North-West India, 94% of LPA over Central India, 93% of LPA over South Peninsula and 99% of LPA over North-East India, all with a model error of $\pm 8\%$.

(c) India Meteorological Department (IMD) has also forecast that rainfall during 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 $\pm 4\%$.

(d) In the eventuality of drought, State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of drought relief memoranda from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures.

(e) Government has taken several measures to address any situation arising due to deficiency in monsoon rainfall.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 520 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of weak monsoon/deficient rainfall.

States have been advised to ensure availability of short duration and drought tolerant varieties of seeds so as to be in a position to supply them to farmers in case such a need arises. States have also been advised to keep aside 10% of funds available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and other schemes for undertaking appropriate interventions to mitigate and situation arising out of deficient rainfall.

States have also been requested to construct water harvesting structures, restore irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals; energising tubewells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps and arranging power to meet irrigation needs.

Field functionaries and extension workers under Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) and other schemes are educating, training and making the farmers aware of various techniques to overcome deficient rainfall. Farmers are also being advised through Farmers' SMS Portal, Kisan Call Centres, Kisanvani Programme of All India Radio (AIR) and Krishi Darshan Programme of Doordarshan etc.

Farmers have been advised to adopt *in-situ* moisture conservation, on farm water conservation, ridge furrow sowing and suitable agronomic practices including mulching, inter cropping, mixed cropping, sowing of less water consuming crops etc. to deal with any water scarcity situation.

Safety standards of sleeper coaches

*269. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sleeper coaches being manufactured do not conform to the international safety standards;

(b) whether the material used in railway coaches emit toxic gases much beyond the permissible limit;

(c) whether there had been a number of accidents where a large number of passengers were charred to death because of asphyxiation resulting from inhalation of toxic gases generated by sub-standard material used in the interior furnishings; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Sleeper coaches being manufactured conform to UIC (International Union of Railways) norms.

- (b) Gases emitted are within the permissible limits of toxicity index.

(c) No case of death of any passenger due to toxic gases generated by sub-standard furnishing material used in coach has been reported.

- (d) Does not arise.

Public Distribution System

*270. SHRI G. N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by State Governments to implement the National Food Security Act, State-wise and the targeted date, if any, for its implementation;

(b) the number of persons receiving foodgrains under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and their ratio to the population, State-wise;

(c) the quantity of different food items provided to State Governments during the last three years under PDS, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government would provide ration under PDS in Jammu and Kashmir according to 2011 census?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (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).

States/UTs are required to take various preparatory actions to implement the Act, which *inter alia* include identification of eligible households for coverage under TPDS, creation of sufficient and scientific storage capacity at various levels in the State/UT, doorstep delivery of foodgrains, appointment/designation of District Grievance Redressal Officer (DGRO), setting up/designation of State Food Commission etc. So far, foodgrains

under the Act has been allocated to 11 States/UTs based on their preparedness and identification of beneficiaries reported by them, details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). In remaining States/UTs, allocation under existing TPDS is continuing based on accepted number of households. Coverage under existing TPDS is based on population estimates of Registrar General of India as on 1st March, 2000 and as per these estimates, the entire population is covered under Above Poverty Line, Below Poverty Line and Antyodaya Anna Yojana categories.

(c) State-wise details of the allocation of wheat, rice and sugar made to States/UTs under TPDS during the last three years are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) Jammu and Kashmir will get foodgrains on the basis of population estimates as per census, 2011 and percentage coverage determined for the State, once NFSA is implemented in the State.

Statement-I

*Details of beneficiaries identified by States/UTs under National
Food Security Act, 2013*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total population as per Census, 2011	Total coverage of population under the Act (in lakh)	No. of persons reported by States/UTs as identified for coverage (in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5
Complete Identification				
1.	Chhattisgarh	255.40	200.77	200.77
2.	Haryana	253.53	126.49	126.49
3.	Karnataka	611.31	401.93	401.93
4.	Maharashtra	1123.73	700.17	700.16
5.	Punjab	277.04	141.45	141.44
6.	Rajasthan	686.21	446.62	446.62

1	2	3	4	5
Partial Identification				
1.	Bihar	1038.05	871.16	760.63
2.	NCT of Delhi	167.53	72.78	32.00
3.	Himachal Pradesh	68.57	36.82	26.78
4.	Madhya Pradesh	725.98	546.42	480.00
5.	Chandigarh	10.55	4.96	1.98

Statement-II

Allocation of wheat and rice under TPDS for last three years

(Qty. in '000 tons)				
Sl. No.	State/UT	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3738.25	3822.82	3822.82
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	101.56	101.56	101.56
3.	Assam	1806.76	1886.86	1886.86
4.	Bihar	3650.31	3703.87	3804.79
5.	Chhattisgarh	1218.75	1244.11	1255.80
6.	Delhi	597.86	598.92	585.96
7.	Goa	60.32	63.04	63.04
8.	Gujarat	2018.74	2085.11	2085.11
9.	Haryana	732.42	756.01	632.50
10.	Himachal Pradesh	519.15	527.94	517.97
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	756.80	756.80	756.80
12.	Jharkhand	1339.03	1358.65	1358.65

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Karnataka	2386.65	2806.93	2456.38
14.	Kerala	1431.67	1472.69	1472.69
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2680.74	2736.43	2743.02
16.	Maharashtra	4647.11	4819.04	4716.14
17.	Manipur	160.45	170.95	170.95
18.	Meghalaya	181.70	188.58	188.58
19.	Mizoram	70.14	70.14	70.14
20.	Nagaland	126.88	126.88	126.88
21.	Odisha	2118.91	2194.27	2191.87
22.	Punjab	814.10	827.98	781.04
23.	Rajasthan	2115.14	2179.50	2485.54
24.	Sikkim	44.27	44.28	44.28
25.	Tamilnadu	3722.83	3722.83	3722.83
26.	Tripura	308.03	304.84	303.24
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7114.59	7268.52	7268.52
28.	Uttarakhand	501.70	617.99	511.99
29.	West Bengal	3763.75	3857.20	3857.20
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	34.02	34.02	34.02
31.	Chandigarh	34.98	36.78	35.85
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10.28	10.46	10.46
33.	Daman and Diu	5.43	5.65	5.65
34.	Lakshadweep	4.62	6.62	4.62
35.	Puducherry	58.91	60.31	60.31
TOTAL		48876.85	50468.56	50134.06

Allocation of sugar for PDS during last three years

(Qty. in '000 tons)

State/UT	Allocations		
	2010-11*	2011-12*	2012-13 *#
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	124.37	124.37	81.65
Bihar	251.07	246.98	123.41
Chandigarh	0.88	0.93	0.73
Chhattisgarh	56.28	45.27	30.72
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.6	0.61	0.41
Daman and Diu	0.12	0.13	0.09
Delhi	37.16	37.30	24.54
Goa	1.58	1.59	1.03
Gujarat	75.98	76.39	50.12
Haryana	32.06	32.22	22.23
Himachal Pradesh	57.08	56.22	38.35
Jharkhand	86.27	80.97	40.15
Karikal	0.64	0.64	0.42
Karnataka	109.7	109.74	72.31
Kerala	56.95	63.17	32.93
Madhya Pradesh	155.83	150.85	99.59
Maharashtra	176.43	173.57	116.26
Mahe	0.02	0.02	0.01
Odisha	108.58	104.74	66.26

1	2	3	4
Puducherry	2.2	2.30	1.47
Punjab	20.86	20.94	13.67
Rajasthan	94.61	94.74	59.92
Sikkim	4.76	5.20	2.77
Tamil Nadu	133.37	136.85	90.14
Uttar Pradesh	412.48	412.56	280.20
Uttarakhand	73.49	73.73	49.62
West Bengal	178.84	173.12	115.90
Yanam	0.15	0.15	0.10
FCI Operated States			
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14.74	2.19	2.37
Andhra Pradesh	10.27	10.36	7.00
Assam	224.52	223.82	149.97
Jammu and Kashmir	87.8	87.83	58.97
Lakshadweep	1.34	1.25	0.70
Manipur	21.93	21.97	14.71
Meghalaya	20.96	20.98	14.07
Mizoram	8.24	8.29	5.57
Nagaland	14.64	14.70	9.82
Tripura	32.86	32.94	21.77
TOTAL	2679.66	2649.63	1699.95

*Sugar season basis (October to September)

Allocation for the period October 2012 to May 2013. Levy obligations on sugar mills for the sugar produced from 2012-13 sugar season has been removed. Central Govt. has made levy allocations upto May, 2013 only.

Investment in agricultural sector

†*271. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the investment made by the previous Government in agricultural sector has normally been unproductive, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the present Government has been working on any action plan to make investment in agriculture optimally productive, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH):

(a) and (b) As per the Economic Survey 2013-14, agriculture sector registered a growth rate of 4.1 per cent during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-08 to 2011-12). Further, the growth rate of agriculture GDP was 1.4 per cent and 4.7 per cent during first two years of the Twelfth Plan. The robustness of the agriculture sector can be attributed to the steady increase in Gross Capital Formation (GCF), both public and private, from 16.1 per cent in 2007-08 to 21.2 per cent in 2012-13 (2004-05 prices).

Government of India enhanced the plan outlay of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) to ₹ 1,34,746 crore for 12th Five Year Plan as against Rs. 61,528 crore in 11th Five Year Plan to achieve the targeted growth rate of 4% during 12th Plan. The flagship scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) incentivized the States to increase their allocation to the agriculture and allied sector from 4.88% of total plan outlay in 2006-07 to 6.33% in 2012-13. The above measures led to increase in food-grain production from 230.78 Million Tonnes in 2007-08 to 259.30 Million Tonnes in 2011-12, and further to 264.40 Million Tonnes in 2013-14. Exports of agricultural commodities also increased from Rs. 79039.52 crore in 2007-08 to ₹ 187609.33 crore in 2011-12 and further to ₹ 268467 crore in 2013-14.

It may be pointed out that agriculture is a State subject. It is primarily the responsibility of State Governments to take necessary steps for the holistic development of agriculture based on local needs and priorities taking into account agro-climatic conditions, availability of technology and natural resources. Government of India supplements the efforts of the state Governments through various schemes.

Government has also taken several other steps to revitalize the agriculture sector and improve condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

inputs, extension, marketing etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of Government is primarily on expansion of farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages. Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in credit flow to agriculture sector, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure.

The steps initiated recently to optimise investments, in agriculture sector include enhanced institutional credit to farmers; promotion of scientific warehousing infrastructure for increasing shelf life of agricultural produce; improved access to irrigation through Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sichayee Yojana; provision of price stabilization fund to mitigate price volatility in agricultural produce, mission mode scheme for Soil Health Cards; setting up of agri-tech infrastructure fund for making farming competitive and profitable; and to develop commercial organic farming in North East Region.

Premium trains run by Railways

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

(a) whether it is a fact that only long distance routes have been chosen for running premium trains and their prices would be based on demand;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a survey has revealed a long waiting list for all classes of travel on 17 premium train routes, holding out potential for Railways to earn more; and

(c) whether Railways would ensure that the premium trains would not derail public service, if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) Premium Special Trains have been introduced over and above the regular trains on specific high demand sectors irrespective of the distance. The fare of Premium Trains operated on identified routes varies according to a dynamic factor based on demand intensity.

(b) The 17 Premium trains announced in the Railway Budget presented in

February 2014 were identified based on the demand for travel assessed on the basis of pattern of traffic during the previous year.

(c) Indian Railways operate a large number of suburban services, passenger services and Mail/Express services, which include Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duronto, Yuva and Garib Rath services, catering to various segments of the travelling public. The premium specials do not displace these regular services but complement them by providing a facility for travel at short notice by paying premium fares.

Railway works in Bhagalpur

†*273. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to construct a rail bridge on Ganga in Bhagalpur so that Bhagalpur could have a direct link with North-Eastern India;

(b) whether Government is also contemplating construction of an over bridge on Bhola Nath bridge at Ishakchak in Bhagalpur city;

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

(d) whether Government proposes to electrify the Bhagalpur loop line from Kiul to Barharwa and to construct double line passing through Jamalpur to Munger by demolishing the tunnel at Jamalpur in view of its dilapidated condition; and

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

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

(a) No, Sir. Bhagalpur is already connected to Northeastern India via Pirpainti, Barharwa, New Farakka, Malda Town and New Jalpaiguri.

(b) and (c) Railway considers proposals for construction of new Road Over Bridges on receiving requests from State Government. No request for construction of a new Road Over Bridge at Ishakchak has been received by Railways from the State Government.

(d) and (e) The proposal for electrification of Bhagalpur loop from Kiul-Bhagalpur-Barharwa has not been found viable on operational considerations. Doubling of Jamalpur-Ratanpur section is already a part of sanctioned work of construction of Munger Ganga Bridge. Existing tunnel in Ratanpur-Jamalpur section is in sound condition and second line will pass through separate new tunnel. However, doubling of Jamalpur-Munger section has not been sanctioned.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Voting in general elections by Armed Forces personnel

*274.SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission of India has registered serving Armed Forces personnel at peace stations as ordinary voters of those constituencies, as directed by the Supreme Court;

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

(c) the number of serving Armed Forces personnel — who voted in the recently concluded General Elections, who opted for voting by postal ballot and proxy voting, and percentage of Armed Forces and Paramilitary personnel who could not vote, constituency-wise; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to enable Armed Forces personnel serving in forward areas also to exercise their right to vote?

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

(a) and (b) Pursuant to the directions of the Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1005 of 2013 [Neela Gokhale *Vs.* Union of India and Anr.] and Special Leave Petition (Civil) No. 6554 of 2014 [Rajeev Chandrasekhar *Vs.* Union of India and Ors.] dated 24th March, 2014, the Election Commission issued necessary instructions to the Chief Electoral Officers of all the States and Union Territories for compliance of the said directions. Recently, on conclusion of the General Elections to House of the People-2014, the Election Commission on 2nd June, 2014 has directed that a service personnel, who have been posted at a peace station on 01.01.2014 and continues to be posted there on the date of filing claim application in Form 6 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960 for inclusion of name in electoral roll as general elector, the Electoral Registration Officer/ Assistant Electoral Registration Officer of such assembly constituency under which such peace station falls, shall dispose of Form-6 following all due process and verification for ascertaining the facts for registration as general electors under continuous updating. The Commission has further directed that—

(i) For that purpose, a certificate to the effect that service personnel in question has been posted at the peace station on 01.01.2014 and continues to be posted there on the date of commencement of the election process, issued by the appropriate authority (record office/commandant) may be relied upon.

- (ii) It should also be ensured that part-IV of Form-6 is duly filled up by the applicant.
- (iii) A declaration regarding his/her non-enrolment as service elector in the last part of any constituency should also be obtained from such applicant with the Form-6, as a service personnel, who is already registered/who have applied for registration in the last part of electoral roll of any constituency is not eligible for enrolment as general elector in accordance with the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- (iv) A separate list of such service personnel who have been enrolled as general elector after recently held general elections 2014 under continuous updating of electoral roll may also be maintained by the Electoral Registration Officer concerned.

The details of the service personnel registered as general elector, pursuant to the said Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Election Commission has informed that the data of jawans and officers who vote is not available, however, the total number of voters who voted through postal ballot at the recent Lok Sabha elections is 931790 as per the provisional data available. This would include all categories of service voters, special voters, voters on preventive detention and person appointed on election duty. As per the instruction issued by the Election Commission, those armed forces personnel posted at peace stations have option of enrolling themselves as general voter in the constituency of the area concerned. In such cases they would have voted in the relevant polling stations.

(d) As per the provisions of clause (a) of section 60 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, (i) members of the armed forces of the Union, and (ii) members of a force to which the provisions of the Army Act, 1950, are made applicable, with or without modifications, can vote (a) either in person, or (b) by postal ballot, or (c) by proxy appointed under rule 27N of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961. Thus there are adequate provisions to meet the requirement of the service personnel in enrolment as well as to facilitate them in voting.

Reduction in urea subsidy

†*275. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Chemicals and Fertilizers is passing through crisis and its subsidy fund is almost empty;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the urgent measures taken by Government to bail it out from the crisis;

(c) whether Government plans to enhance the prices of urea and reduce the subsidy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH-KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Normally, appropriate funds are allocated by the Government for release of fertilizers subsidy for the particular financial year. However, if availability of funds in the particular years found inadequate, the Department, with the approval of Ministry of Finance, allows the fertilizer companies to raise loan against subsidy receivables from nationalized banks for limited period under Special Banking Arrangement (SBA) till the regular funds are allocated to the Department. After operationalization of SBA, Department make repayment to Banks along with interest liable to the Government.

(c) No, Sir. Government has no such plan to enhance the prices of Urea and reduce the subsidy at present.

(d) Not applicable in view of the reply given in part (c).

Incidents of theft/looting at stations/ in trains in Andhra Pradesh

*276. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents of theft/looting occurred at railway stations/in trains in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details of action taken on these incidents; and

(c) the steps/ measures taken by Railways to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The details of incidents of theft/looting occurred at railway stations/ in trains during the years 2011, 2012 and 2013 in Andhra Pradesh are as under:

Year	Number of incidents of theft		Number of incidents of loot	
	At Rly. stations	In Trains	At Rly. stations	In Trains
2011	124	606	7	3
2012	159	904	4	3
2013	235	821	2	4

(b) and (c) 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 Govt. 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. 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 one 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 at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police.

Railway projects in North-East

*277. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for enormous delay in work progress and in achieving targets fixed for completion of the national projects as well as other projects of Railways in North-East;

(b) the details of measures being proposed by Government to speed up such projects, particularly the national projects; and

(c) the project-wise details of total outlay, amount sanctioned, amount released and utilization made, till date, indicating targets set for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) to (c) 10 National Projects and 8 other projects of New Lines, Gauge Conversion and Doubling have been taken up in North Eastern Region. Project-wise details are as under:

(₹ in crores)						
Sl. No.	Project (length)	Plan Head	Latest Anticipated cost	Expenditure upto March 14	Outlay for 2014-15	Target for completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
National Projects						
1.	Agartala-Sabroom (110 km)	NL	1741	596	500	March, 2016
2.	Bhairabi-Sairang (51 km)	NL	2393	121	200	Not fixed
3.	Bogibeel Bridge with linking lines between Dibrugarh and North Bank Line (46 km)	NL	4996	3041	600	March, 2017
4.	Byrnihat-Shillong (108 km)	NL	4083	3	5	Not fixed
5.	Dimapur-Kohima (88 km)	NL	2447	10	50	Not fixed
6.	Jiribam-Imphal (98 km)	NL	5996	1774	1750	March, 2018
7.	Sivok-Rangpo (44 km)	NL	3375	84	50	Not fixed
8.	Teteliya-Byrnihat (22 km)	NL	430	181	100	March, 2017

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9.	Lumding-Badapur-Silchar incl. Migrendia-Ditlockchera, Arunachal-Jiribam and Badapur-Kumarghat (369.45 km) & MM for GC of Baraigram-Dullabchera (29.40 km), Karimganj-Maishashan & Karimganj bypass line (13.50 km) (Total: 412.35 km)	GC	5185	3808	620	March, 2016
10.	Rangiya-Murkongselek alongwith linked fingers (510 km)	GC	3019	2457	500	March, 2015
Other Projects						
1.	Agartala-Akhaura (Bangladesh) (13 km)	NL	252	10	100	Not fixed
2.	Murkongselek-Pasighat (31 km)	NL	546	1.2	10	Not fixed
3.	New Moynaguri-Jogighopa NL with GC of New Mal-Moynaguri Road and New Changrabanda-Changrabanda (3 km) (289 km)	NL	2483	1487	400	Not fixed
4.	Dimapur-Tizit (257 km)	NL	4274	0.1	5	Not fixed

5.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon NL along with branch lines and new MM for Chalsa-Naxalbari (16 km) NL & Rajabhatkhowa-Jainti (15.13 km) NL (433 km)	GC	1418	1033	0.50	Not fixed
6.	Katahal-Bhairabi (84 km)	GC	331	134	100	March, 2016
7.	Lumding-Hojai Patch doubling (45 km)	DL	364	2	0.10	Not fixed
8.	New Bongaigaon-Kamakhya via Rangiya (142 km)	DL	1798	0.1	1	Not fixed

Kumarghat-Agartala which was a National Project has been completed as MG section and planned to be converted to BG alongwith Badarpur-Kumarghat gauge conversion section.

National Projects as well as other projects in North Eastern Region have been delayed mainly due to lack of adequate funds, and also due to land acquisition problems, delay in forestry clearances, law and order situation etc. Geological challenges in deep Himalayas have also caused delay in some of these projects.

An all time high outlay of ₹ 4500 crores has been provided in 2014-15 for National Projects of North Eastern Region. Field units have also been empowered for faster decision making.

Organic farming in tribal areas

†*278. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has developed any programme for the development of organic farming in the tribal majority and forest dweller areas, especially in Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for promotion, spread and strengthening of organic farming in the tribal areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH):
(a) to (c) Government is promoting organic farming across the country including the tribal and forest areas of Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal through various programmes under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (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. 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 biofertilizers production units, is provided as back-ended subsidy through NABARD.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Government is promoting organic farming through cluster approach as well as through adoption of organic village. Financial assistance @ ₹ 20,000/ha subject to maximum of ₹ 40,000/- per beneficiary for three year term is provided for adoption of organic farming through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification. Financial assistance of ₹ 10 lakh per village is provided for organic village adoption (maximum 10 village per annum/state).

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority under Ministry of Commerce is implementing National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) to provide various services such as certification, notification of standards, and assistance for promotion of exports of organic products.

Exhibitions/Fairs, TV/Radio programmes/Radio Jingles etc. are used to promote organic farming.

A centre of Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF), has been established at ICAR Research Complex, for North Eastern Hill (NEH) Region, Umiam, Meghalaya. Another centre of NPOF has been sanctioned for ICAR Complex, Gangtok, Sikkim. The center has developed package of practices for 12 crops so far. Technology for organic production has been demonstrated in a village (Mynasin) having about 60 ha. area with 130 households in Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya in a cluster approach under NPOF-tribal sub plan (TSP) programme. Trainings for analysts, field functionaries and extension officers are also conducted for capacity building in respect of organic farming.

Control in prices of vegetables and fruits

*279. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism has been put in place to monitor and regulate the demand and supply of vegetables and fruits to keep their prices under control, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, whether Government proposes to set up any regulating/ monitoring agency in this regard, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no separate mechanism to monitor and regulate the demand and supply of vegetables and fruits. Their prices are already being monitored on regular basis along with other essential

food items. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) indicates the price trends of essential food items including that of fruits and vegetables. The price trends based on WPI for the last six months (Jan.-June 2014) are given in the Statement (*See below*).

The Government has taken the following initiatives based on recent trends in prices of fruits and vegetables:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Statement

Per cent change in Wholesale Price Index (WPI) over last 6 months

Commodity Name	Jan.14	Feb.14	Mar. 14	Apr.14	May 14	Jun.14*
Food Articles	8.8	7.9	9.6	8.7	9.5	8.1
Fruits & Vegetables	9.8	6.4	11.7	9.2	9.2	6 . 1
Vegetables	13.5	2.4	6.2	1.6	-1.0	-5.9
Potato	16.0	7.7	31.4	33.0	31.4	42.5
Sweet Potato	127.9	127.9	125.9	123.0	113.8	82.7
Onion	0.5	-27.5	-15.0	-10.6	-2.8	-10.7

Commodity Name	Jan.14	Feb.14	Mar. 14	Apr.14	May 14	Jun.14*
Tapioca	77.3	58.2	31.4	23.6	12.7	8.1
Ginger (Fresh)	89.2	89.6	65.0	70.1	24.0	4.0
Peas (Green)	1.2	2.0	21.3	NR	NR	NR
Tomato	16.8	11.6	16.7	NR	NR	NR
Cauliflower	8.4	-5.8	-0.8	NR	NR	NR
Brinjal	-24.2	-22.7	-21.4	-24.6	-28.5	-28.9
Okra (Lady finger)	19.3	23.5	16.3	-7.9	-8.8	-11.7
Cabbage	32.3	4.7	-3.1	-6.3	-4.8	-11.9
Fruits	6.6	9.9	16.2	16.1	19.4	21.4
Banana	18.3	12.8	13.2	18.0	18.9	20.5
Mango	NR	NR	NR	2.6	13.7	23.8
Apple	-14.4	-12.5	-4.2	2.8	-0.2	NR
Orange	-0.5	1.5	7.4	8.6	10.5	10.8
Cashew nut	9.0	9.1	13.2	15.4	13.2	15.0
Coconut (Fresh)	21.2	23.3	32.8	45.3	51.6	49.1
Papaya	-9.9	4.7	19.8	-3.3	-20.2	-26.1
Grapes	-4.2	8.7	16.0	NR	NR	NR
Pineapple	-2.9	7.7	-1.2	8.3	-1.4	0.4
Guava	55.8	46.5	85.8	166.2	173.0	113.4
Lemon	-22.9	21.4	45.2	75.0	46.5	1.0

Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion

* latest available

Protection of consumer rights

*280.SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the action taken by the Ministry, in consultation with the Ministries of

Communications and Information Technology, Commerce and Industry and Corporate Affairs, on the fact that due to advancement in Information Technology, many marketing companies are attracting consumers for selling their products online and through teleshopping and many cases have come to light about mis-leading and cheating of customers but no proper mechanism is available for protection of right of consumers; and

(b) whether Government intends to bring proper guidelines in this regard, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The subject of E-commerce is relatively new which has become extremely crucial due to global digital integration, wide spread use of internet and convenience of online business transactions. E-commerce is in evolution stage not only in India but also in rest of the World. International organizations such as United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), OECD, International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network (ICPEN) are framing/reviewing guidelines on E-commerce.

The problems faced by consumers in e-commerce need to be tackled globally since in many cases buyers, sellers, manufacturers, website owners, payment gateways are located in different countries. India is in close touch with these International organizations like UNCTAD, etc. to ensure global cooperation in the matter and following International practices, guidelines in the field.

The matter was examined in detail in consultation with concerned Ministries such as Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Corporate Affairs. As regards protection of consumers, the existing regulations, acts applicable on physical business are equally relevant in case of online business also and consumers can seek relief under the relevant Acts such as The Consumer Protection Act, The Sales of Goods Act, 1930, The Indian Contract Act, 1872, The Indian Penal Code, 1860 etc. In addition to that some issues related to this new mode of communication are addressed under IT Act 2000.

IT Act contains provisions for imposing penalty and compensation for damage to computer related illegal activities as well as compensation for failure to protect data by a body corporate handling any sensitive personal data in a computer resource it. To prevent possible misuse arising out of transaction and other dealing concluded over electronic medium, IT Act 2000 has created comprehensive criminal and civil liability for contravention of its provisions and offences.

E-commerce issue was also taken up in agenda of Inter Ministerial Committee on

Direct selling with members from different Ministries. In its report, Inter Ministerial Committee has recommended that Department of Information Technology may be requested to take action under section 6 of Information Technology Act for checking website operating from outside India and filters may be placed at point of gateway. The Department is also considering as part of the proposed amendment to the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, inclusion of necessary safeguards for protection of rights of consumers of technology based marketing like E-commerce, telemarketing etc.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Availability of manure and seeds at cheaper price in Jharkhand

1831. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers do not get manure and seeds at lower prices in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to give special package to the State to ensure that manure and seeds are made available to farmers at concessional prices; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Presently there is no scheme for administering prices of manure and seed.

(b) and (c) 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 organic manure. For ensuring availability of manure, Government provides 100% financial assistance to State Government subject to a maximum ceiling of ₹ 190.00 lakhs for establishment of agro / vegetable waste compost production units. And 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, is provided to private entrepreneurs as back-ended subsidy through NABARD.

Government of India provides financial assistance for production and distribution of seeds through various Crop Development Programmes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Material) etc. The Details of Assistance/Subsidy for seed production and distribution provided under various existing Schemes/Programmes implemented by States is given in Statement.

Statement

Details of Assistance/Subsidy for seed production and distribution provided under various existing Schemes/Programmes implemented by States

Sl. No.	Scheme/Component	Crop	Scale of Assistance
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	Rice	<p>a. ₹ 5000/- per quintal or 50% of seeds cost whichever is less for certified hybrid rice seed distribution.</p> <p>b. ₹ 10/- per kg. or 50% of the cost, whichever is less for certified high yielding varieties certified seed distribution for less than 10 years old varieties.</p> <p>c. Full cost of seed Minikits of high yielding varieties.</p>
		Wheat	<p>a. ₹ 10/- per kg. or 50% of the cost whichever is less for certified high yielding varieties seed distribution for less than 10 years old varieties.</p> <p>b. Full cost of seed Minikits of high yielding varieties.</p>
		Pulses	<p>a. ₹ 2500/- per quintal or 50% of cost</p>

whichever is less for certified seeds distribution for less than 10 years old varieties.

b. Full cost of seed Minikits of high yielding varieties.

a. HYVs ₹ 1500/- per quintal or 50% of cost whichever is less for HYVs certified seeds distribution for less than 10 years old varieties.

Coarse cereals - HYVs seed

Hybrid seed

b. ₹ 5000/- per quintal or 50% of cost of seeds whichever is less for Hybrid coarse cereal certified seeds distribution for less than 10 years old varieties.

Commercial Crops-Jute and Mesta

a. 50% of the cost limited to ₹ 120/- per kg. for foundation seed production.

b. ₹ 50/- per kg for certified seed production.

2. National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)

All oilseeds, Hybrid seeds Oil Palm Sprouts Cultivation cost as assistance for gestation period for oil palm.

a. Full cost for purchase of Breeder Seed of oilseeds from ICAR/SAUs etc.

b. ₹ 1200/- per quintal or 50% of

Sl. No.	Scheme/Component	Crop	Scale of Assistance
			<p>Seeds cost whichever is less for variety /composites of oil seeds which are not older than 10 years for certified seeds distribution.</p> <p>c. 50% of the cost with a ceiling of ₹ 25 per Kg. of hybrid which are not older than 10 years for distribution.</p> <p>d. Full cost of Seed Minikits of high yielding varieties (implementing agency NSC/SFCI/NAFED/ KRIBHCO etc).</p> <p>e. 85% of the cost of planting material with a ceiling of ₹ 8000/ha. for entire land holding of farmers for oil palm.</p> <p>f. 50% cost during gestation period for 3 years with ceiling of ₹ 14000/per ha.</p> <p>Assistance for production of Foundation Seeds</p> <p>Rs. 1000 per quintal for all varieties / hybrids released during last 10 years and additional assistance of ₹ 100/- quintal</p>

on the varieties/Hybrids released in last 5 years. 75% of subsidy amount is meant for farmers and 25% for seed producing agencies for meeting expenditure towards certification and production etc. (SDAs/ NSC/ SFCI/ NAFED/ KRIBHCO/ IFFCO/ HIL/ IFFDC/Central Multi State Cooperatives such as NCCF).

₹ 1000 per quintal for all varieties / hybrids released during last 10 years and additional assistance of ₹ 100/- quintal on the varieties. Hybrids released in last 5 years, 75% of subsidy amount is meant for farmers and 25% for seed producing agencies for meeting expenditure towards certification and production etc. (SDAs/ NSC/ SFCI/ NAFED/ KRIBHCO/ IFFCO/ HIL/ IFFDC/ Central Multi State Cooperatives such as NCCF).

- | | | | |
|----|--|--|---|
| 3. | Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) | All Crops | All activities including Seed Infrastructure |
| 4. | National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)- | Seed Village Programme -
All Agricultural Crops | a. To upgrade the quality of farmer saved seed financial assistance for |

Sl. No.	Scheme/Component	Crop	Scale of Assistance
	Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Material (SMSP)		<p>distribution of foundation / certified seeds @ 50% cost of the seeds for Cereals crops and 60% for oilseeds, pulses, green manure and fodder crops is provided for 1 acre of area per farmer for production of quality seeds.</p> <p>b. Assistance to train the farmers on seed production and seed technology @ ₹ 15000/- for a group of 50-150 farmers.</p> <p>c. Seed treating/dressing drums Financial assistance for treating seeds @ ₹ 3500 per seed treating drum of 20 Kg. capacity and ₹ 5000 per drum of 40 Kg. capacity.</p> <p>d. Seed Storage bins To encourage farmers to develop storage capacity of appropriate quality, financial assistance is provided to farmers for purchasing Seed Storage</p>

bins. The rate of assistance is as under.

@33% for SC/ST farmers for 10 qtls. capacity ₹.1500

@33% for SC/ST farmers for 20 qtls. capacity ₹ 3000

@25% for General farmers for 10 qtls. capacity ₹ 1000

@25% for General farmers for 20 qtls. capacity ₹ 2000

Certified Seed Production of oilseeds, pulses, green manure and fodder crops through Seed Village (75% GoI and 25% State Share)

financial assistance for distribution of foundation / certified seeds @ 75% cost of the seeds of oilseeds, pulses, green manure and fodder crops is provided to the farmers.

- b. Assistance to train the farmers on seed production and seed technology @ ₹ 15000/- for a group of 50-150 farmers.
- c. 50% Seed Certification charges maximum of ₹ 600/ha or actual whichever is less for certification of

Sl. No.	Scheme/Component	Crop	Scale of Assistance
			seeds produced under the programme.
			d. Seed processing and seed storage godowns-Assistance is provided to establish seed processing and prefabricated or other type of seed storage godowns 150 sqm. @ ₹ 10000 per sqm. to process and store 200 MT capacity for each seed village.
			e. Financial assistance of ₹ 7.56 lakh will be provided for seed processing machinery and supporting equipments etc.
	Transport subsidy on Movement of Seeds -All Crops excluding potato		a. Available to North Eastern States including Sikkim, HP, J&K, Uttarakhand and Hill areas of W B.
			b. 100% difference between road and rail transportation charge is being reimbursed to implementing States / Agencies for movement of seeds

produced from outside the state to the identified State Capital / District Headquarter.

- c. Actual cost restricted to maximum limit of ₹ 120/- per quintal whichever is less for movement of seeds transported within the State from State Capital / District Headquarter to sale outlets / sale counters is being reimbursed.

Creation and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities in Public Sector

Assistance is provided to the States and Seeds Corporations etc. to create / strengthen infrastructure facilities for seed cleaning, grading, processing, packing and seed storage.

Assistance for boosting seed production in private Sector including individual/entrepreneurs self help group (SHGs)

Credit linked back ended capital subsidy @ 40% of the project cost in general areas and @ 50% in case of hill areas and scheduled area subject to upper limit of ₹ 150.00 lakh per project.

Improving seeds varieties of crops

1832. SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government/ICAR has taken any steps for improving seed varieties of various crops including pulses, cereals and oilseeds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the financial allocations made during each of the last three years for the purpose?

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

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has undertaken basic and strategic research programmes for improving seed varieties of various crops at 26 commodity/theme based research institutes in the country and has developed a base for applied research in different crops by 22 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) and 11 All India Network Projects (AINPs) mostly situated in State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) to develop location specific improved seed varieties and technologies as per the agro-ecological needs.

The efforts of ICAR have resulted in the release of 295 high yielding improved seed varieties/hybrids of various crops including pulses, cereals and oilseeds during the last three years are given in statement (*See* below). Early maturing and thermo tolerant crop varieties with higher nutrient and water use efficiency for newer niches and cropping systems have also been developed and released for cultivation.

(c) The allocation of Plan funds for the purpose during the last three years *viz.*, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are ₹ 392.77 crores, ₹ 410.00 crores and ₹ 375.00 crores, respectively.

Statement

Crop-wise list of improved varieties/hybrids released during the last three years (2011-2013)

Crops	Varieties/hybrids released
Cereals (176)	
1. Rice (66)	<p>SJR-5; Indam 200-017; NDR 2065; Chandrama; IGRKVR-1244; Indira Barani Dhan-1, Punjab basmati-2, Mugad Siri-1253, CR Dhan 500, TRY 3, ADT 49, ADT 50, Gujarat Anand Rice-2, NK 5251, JGL 3844, JGL 3828, US 382, Arize Tej, PNPB 24, NPH 924-1, GNR-2, RH-1531, NDGR201, JKRH 3333, CO 4, Narendra Sugandha Dhan, Narendra Usar Dhan 2009, Luna Bariat, Improved Lalat, Luna Sankhi, Improved Tapaswini, Poorna Bhog, Sumit, Jala Mani, Jayanti Dhan, Satyabhama, Pyari, HUE, CO4 (Hybrid), Sheethal, Siddhi, CNR 2, CR Sugandh Dhan 907, CSR 43, US 305, Ankur 7434, PAC 807, JKRH 401, SHIATS Dhan-1, VNR 2375 Plus, DRR Dhan-40, Arize Dhani, Malviya Basmati Dhan 10-9, Vallabh Basmati-21, NP 218, NP 124-8, NP 209, US 314, 27P52, 27P63, KPH 199, KPH 371, GAR-1, Pratap-1, Pusa Basmati-1509, Pusa-6.</p>
2. Maize (32)	<p>DKC 9081, IG 8011, IG 8237, Vivek Maize Hybrid 43, Vivek Maize Hybrid 39, P3501, SMH-3904, CO 6, KMH-25K60, KMH 3712, KMH-218 Plus, KMH-3426, NMH-731, NMH-803, HM-12, Vivek Maize hybrid, Hishell, CMH 08-282, Shalimar Maize Composite-3, KDM-438, Pant Shankar Makka-1, Pratap QPM Hybrid-1, P1864, Sun Vaaman, NSCH-12, NMH 1242, LG 32-81, BIO 605, KDMH 017, BIO 9544, S 6217, Bisco 97 Gold.</p>

Crops	Varieties/hybrids released
3. Wheat (31)	DPW 621-50; WH 1080; MP 3288; KRL-213; HD 2967; KRL-210; HD 3043; AKAW-4627; MP(JW)1201; Raj Vijay Wheat 4106, PBW 644, UAS - 428, CO W2, PDKV Washim, GDW-1255, GW-11, Pusa Pachheti, TL 2969, HPW 349, WH 1105, HI 8713 (Pusa Mangal) (d), HW 5216 (Pusa Thenmalai), DBW 71, UAS 304, MP 3336, DBW 90, DBW 88, HD 3086, HD 3090, Narendra Wheat 4018, K0402 (Mahi).
4. Pearl Millet (18)	PAC 909, 86M66, Mandor Bajra Composite 2, Shine (Hybrid), MP-7872, MP-7792, 86M86, CO 9, Kaveri Super Boss, 86M66, PKV-Raj, ABPC4-3, KBH 108, GHB 905, MPMH 17, HHB 234, Nandi 72, 86M89.
5. Sorghum (13)	CSV 27, CO 30, CSV 26, Phule Panchami, Phule Revati, Co5, CSH-27, SPH-1629, CSH 28, SPV-2033, CSH 30, CSH 31R, Wani 11/6.
6. Barley (6)	UPB 1008, DWRUB64, BH 885, DWRB 91, RD 2786, NDB 1445.
7. Finger Millet (7)	DHRS 1, PRM-2, KMr-301, VL Mandua 347, Indira Ragi-1, Dapoli safed- 1, HIMA.
8. Grain Amaranth (1)	Phule Kartiki,
9. Foxtail Millet (1)	SiA 3085
10. Kodo Millet (1)	Indira Kodo-1
Oilseeds (44)	
11. Rapeseed-Mustard (14)	Pusa Mustard 28, Pant Rai-19, RGN - 236, RGN - 229, Shalimar Sarson - 1, CORAL-437, DRMRJ 31, RH 0406, Raj Vijay Mustard-2, RH 0749, Pusa Mustard 29, Pusa Mustard 30, RRN 573, Divya-33.
12. Groundnut (10)	Divya, ICGV 00350, HNG-123, Raj Mungfali-1, Gujarat Junagadh Groundnut 31,

	Gujarat Junagadh Groundnut 9, CO 6, Gujarat Junagarh Groundnut-22, Gujarat Junagarh Groundnut-17, Dharani
13. Sesame (4)	Gujarat Til-4, DSS-9, JLT-408, HT-9713
14. Soybean (4)	SL744, Pant Soybean 19 (PS 1368), MACS 1188, Pratap Soya 45 (RKS 45)
15. Sunflower (4)	Bhadra, Kanthi, CO 2, PAC 3794
16. Castor (3)	DCS-107, JI-273, DSP 222
17. Linseed (2)	Mau Azad Alsi-2, Jawahar Linseed-41
18. Niger (1)	UTKAL NIGER-150
19. Safflower (2)	SSF-708, PKV Pink
Pulses (39)	
20. Chickpea (9)	Raj Vijay Kabuli gram 101, Raj Vijay gram 201, HK-4, PKV Harita, Raj Vijay Gram 203, L-555, GNG 1958, GNG 1969, NbeG 3
21. Mungbean (5)	IPM 02-14, Swati, MH-421, BM 2003-2, SML 832
22. Urdbean (8)	Co6 COBG 653, VBN (Bg) 7, Vishwas, VBN 6, UH-1, DU-1, TU 40, Pratap Urd-1
23. Pigeon pea (6)	TS-3R, Anand Grain Tur-2, BDN 711, Rajeshwari, Rudreshwar, PKV TARA
24. Lentil (4)	VL Masoor 514, LL931, VL Masoor 133, IPL-316
25. Field pea (4)	IPF 4-9, VL Matar 47, HFP 529, Gomati
26. Cowpea (1)	MFC-08-14
27. Horse gram (2)	Indira Kulthi-1, Gujarat Dantiwada Horsegram-1

Crops	Varieties/hybrids released
Fibre crops (14)	
28. Cotton (8)	Nirmal-12, H-1300, Anand Desi Cotton-1, Phule Anmol, Phule Dhanwantary, KR-64, CSHG 1862, RG 542
29. Jute (2)	Pradip, Partho
30. Mesta (3)	AMU-7, Shakti, JBM 71 (Shanti)
31. Sun hemp (1)	Ankur
Forage crops (9)	
32. Forage Bajra (1)	Narendra Chari Bajra-3
33. Forage oat (2)	Shalimar Fodder Oats-1, NDO-2
34. Forage Sorghum (3)	SPSSV 6, Pant Chari 7, Pant Chari-8
35. Anjan Grass (1)	Gujarat Anand Anjan Grass-1
36. Setaria grass (1)	Palam Setaria-1
37. Rice bean (1)	Him Shakti
Sugar crops (13)	
38. Sugarcane (13)	Haryana Ganna 128, CoOr 03151, Karan-9, Co 0237, Co 0403, CoVSI-9805, Pratap Ganna-1, Co 06027, Co 06030, Co 05009 (Karan-10), Uttara, Kanakamahalakshmi, Imarti (CoSe01421)

Recognition of Panchayat as a unit under insurance schemes

1833. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers benefited under Crop Insurance Scheme and Seasons Crop Insurance Scheme during the last three years, district-wise, in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether benefits of the above two insurance schemes also accrued to the farmers who have not availed any bank loan;
- (c) if so, the number of such farmers, district-wise in Maharashtra;
- (d) whether any proposal to recognize the Panchayat as a unit under the twin insurance schemes is under consideration of Government; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) District-wise details of farmers covered and benefited in the State of Maharashtra under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS)/Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) during last three years are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. District-wise details of non-loanee farmers covered and benefited under these schemes are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) and (e) Unit Area of Insurance has been reduced to village/village Panchayat level under MNAIS component of National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) and State implementing MNAIS at village/village Panchayat level are entitled for 50% reimbursement of incremental expenses on Crop Cutting Experiments from Government of India. States, which are unable to reduce insurance unit at village/village panchayat, could be allowed to implement at higher unit area level (upto a cluster of maximum 15 villages) for first 3-5 years by Government of India.

Statement-I

District-wise total farmers insured and total farmers benefitted under NAIS and WBCIS during last three years in Maharashtra

(Figs. in No.)

Sl. No.	Districts	2011-12						2012-13						2013-14				
		NAIS+MNAIS			WBCIS			NAIS			WBCIS			NAIS (Kharif 2013 only)		WBCIS		
		Farmers Insured	Farmers Benefitted	Farmers	Farmers Insured	Farmers Benefitted	Farmers	Farmers Insured	Farmers Benefitted	Farmers	Farmers Insured	Farmers Benefitted	Farmers	Farmers Insured	Farmers Benefitted	Farmers	Farmers Insured	Farmers Benefitted
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14					
1.	Ahmednagar	202667	59584	851	0	535193	475741	973	317	154248	5770	11518	6500					
2.	Akola	106455	21102	167	79	89432	19680			193420	62567							
3.	Amravati	49780	11263	3666	1099	40187	3258	8167	3522	68049	7716	6598	1					
4.	Aurangabad	413	36	1660	1660	49721	20851			5254	60							
5.	Beed	109205	476			179865	138270			17413	12							
6.	Bhandara	41569	31			29292	4			21782	104							
7.	Buldhana	45562	5630	82	70	11257	3197			17898	616							
8.	Chandrapur	76697	319			44624	0			64642	6125							

9.	Dhule	6418	2070		2078	312	197	108	1204	14	62	2
10.	Gadchiroli	19405	346		10228	4			10724	209		
11.	Gondia	26992	0		20341	0			12750	0		
12.	Hingoli	8226	261	15	3235	18	358	358	24061	6158	111	0
13.	Jalgaon	164	32	2010	8596	6202	12893	4423	4641	0	10879	113
14.	Jalna	73826	5417	1388	125562	119328	15685	1587	33037	11706	1597	111
15.	Kolhapur	0	0		9	0			37	0		
16.	Latur	834210	30744		248292	6700	178	26	116285	198	23	18
17.	Nagpur	4952	644	10269	4279	12	6142	2724	13655	7303	7243	2
18.	Nanded	91476	488	1222	8123	510	1898	1794	13873	1896	2157	0
19.	Nandurbar	929	21		3151	557	66	66	4874	1009	30	0
20.	Nasik	74965	2682	8491	52604	5656	5112	836	26181	0	1947	1236
21.	Osmanabad	221916	6155		289682	185489	468	66	40490	0	962	750
22.	Parbhani	74476	25756		21987	11			23733	24		
23.	Pune	18142	7215	816	28745	19382	12	10	18155	1444	6	5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24.	Raigad	3930	0	194	185	5856	0	1170	632	5324	0	996	1
25.	Ranagiri	168	0	1411	437	48	0	3296	1294			1570	9
26.	Sangli	127530	109249	3772	0	191673	159762			81631	685		
27.	Satara	93731	88522			71272	65200			27438	13173		
28.	Sindhudurg	22	0	2461	1052	86	0	3757	3005	12	0	3388	0
29.	Solapur	81976	50887	5228	0	105348	81464	3730	918	23326	6114	5055	3383
30.	Thane	9087	0	196	131	10582	0	824	524	7673	0	783	419
31.	Wardha	13293	578	1154	0	7222	310	1026	382	35047	4551	126	0
32.	Washim	59694	7385			28745	1365			159689	51896		
33.	Yavatmal	82370	9401	14	0	90545	33	3		257417	97906	20	0
TOTAL		2560246	446294	45067	10441	2317860	1313316	65955	22592	1483963	287256	55071	12550

Statement-II

District-wise non-loanee farmers insured and non-loanee farmers benefitted under NAIS and WBCIS during last three years

(Figs. in No.)

Sl. No.	Districts	2011-12				2012-13				2013-14			
		NAIS+MNAIS		WBCIS		NAIS		WBCIS		NAIS (Kharif 2013 only)		WBCIS	
		Non-loanee Farmers Insured	Non-loanee Farmers Benefitted	Non-loanee Farmers Insured	Non-loanee Farmers Benefitted	Non-loanee Farmers Insured	Non-loanee Farmers Benefitted	Non-loanee Farmers Insured	Non-loanee Farmers Benefitted	Non-loanee Farmers Insured	Non-loanee Farmers Benefitted	Non-loanee Farmers Insured	Non-loanee Farmers Benefitted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Ahmednagar	202642	59584	96	0	535193	475741	385	109	154248	5770	7055	4272
2.	Akola	91362	21102	14	12	89432	19680			193420	62567		
3.	Amravati	49780	11263	191	94	40187	3258	1174	317	68049	7716	484	1
4.	Aurangabad	413	36	21	21	49721	20851			5254	60		
5.	Beed	109205	476			179865	138270			17413	12		
6.	Bhandara	41569	31			29292	4			21782	104		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7.	Buldhana	29153	5630			11257	3197			17898	616		
8.	Chandrapur	76697	319			44624	0			64642	6125		
9.	Dhule	6418	2070			2078	312	43	12	1204	14	27	0
10.	Gadchiroli	19405	346			10228	4			10724	209		
11.	Gondia	26992	0			20341	0			12750	0		
12.	Hingoli	8226	261	15	10	3235	18	158	158	24061	6158	77	0
13.	Jalgaon	164	32	161	155	8596	6202	1193	350	4641	0	461	1
14.	Jalna	73826	5417	331	301	125562	119328	11333	1412	33037	11706	689	58
15.	Kolhapur	0	0			9	0			37	0		
16.	Latur	834210	30744			248292	6700	17	10	116285	198	11	6
17.	Nagpur	4952	644	38	25	4279	12	153	124	13655	7303	2141	0
18.	Nanded	91476	488	37	37	8123	510	344	280	13873	1896	287	0
19.	Nandurbar	929	21			3151	557	1	1	4874	1009	0	0
20.	Nasik	74965	2682	663	0	52604	5656	782	156	26181	0	8	4

21.	Osmanabad	221916	6155	289682	185489	22	3	40490	0	806	656
22.	Parbhani	74476	25756	21987	11			23733	24		
23.	Pune	18142	7215	28745	19382	1	1	18155	1444	6	5
24.	Raigad	3930	0	5856	0	936	531	5324	0	774	1
25.	Ratnagiri	168	0	48	0	208	27			214	0
26.	Sangli	127530	109249	191673	159762			81631	685		
27.	Satara	93731	88522	71272	65200			27438	13173		
28.	Sindhudurg	22	0	86	0	880	838	12	0	443	0
29.	Solapur	81976	50887	105348	81464	62	18	23326	6114	735	554
30.	Thane	9087	0	10582	0	816	516	7673	0	680	326
31.	Wardha	13293	578	7222	310	0	382	35047	4551	23	0
32.	Washim	45017	7385	28745	1365			159689	51896		
33.	Yavatmal	82370	9401	90545	33	3		257417	97906	6	0
TOTAL		2514042	446294	2317860	1313316	18511	5245	1483963	287256	14927	5884

Slaughtering and smuggling of cows

1834. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licenced slaughter houses in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that a large number of cows are either slaughtered or smuggled to Bangladesh, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to enact any law to ban cow slaughtering in the country and the action taken to prevent unauthorised slaughtering, transportation and trade of cows and their smuggling to Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Information regarding registered slaughter houses in the country as on 31.03.2012 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) As per Basic Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Statistics 2013, number of cattle slaughtered during 2011-12 was 30.40 lakh. Instances of cattle smuggling have been reported along the Indo-Bangladesh Border. As per available information, during the current year 5504 such instances have been reported up to 30.6.2014.

(c) As per Article 246(3) of the Constitution, the preservation of cattle is a matter on which State legislature has exclusive powers to legislate.

Statement*Number of registered slaughter houses*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of registered slaughter houses as on 31.03.2012
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	185
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	2
4.	Bihar	42
5.	Chhattisgarh	74

1	2	3
6.	Goa	1
7.	Gujarat	38
8.	Haryana	36
9.	Himachal Pradesh	37
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2
11.	Jharkhand	35
12.	Karnataka	96
13.	Kerala	154
14.	Madhya Pradesh	136
15.	Maharashtra	336
16.	Manipur	-
17.	Meghalaya	-
18.	Mizoram	1
19.	Nagaland	-
20.	Odisha	63
21.	Punjab	91
22.	Rajasthan	514
23.	Sikkim	4
24.	Tamil Nadu	121
25.	Tripura	-
26.	Uttarakhand	24
27.	Uttar Pradesh	285
28.	West Bengal	11

1	2	3
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-
30.	Chandigarh	1
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-
32.	Daman and Diu	-
33.	Delhi	1
34.	Lakshadweep	1
35.	Puducherry	2
TOTAL		2294

Damage to crops by monkeys and wild animals

†1835. SHRIMAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that due to heavy damage caused by monkeys and wild animals to crops in Uttarakhand, farmers have almost abandoned farming;

(b) if so, the area of land in hectares on which farming is not being carried out since the year 2009 till date, year-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government would give directions to agriculture research institute to develop such alternate farming pattern in Uttarakhand that could not be damaged by monkeys and wild animals; and

(d) if not, the manner in which loss being suffered by the farmers of Uttarakhand would be compensated for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Government of Uttarakhand has informed that monkeys are causing damage to agricultural crops. However, abandonment of farming by farmers due to damage caused by monkeys and wild animals to crops has not been reported.

(c) and (d) Alternate farming options like agro-forestry, protected cultivation,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

mushroom cultivation, fisheries in water harvesting tanks and methods to prevent monkeys damage such as use of ultrasonic monkey repellents, plastic covering, nailed wiring, tin covering in mid trunk of trees, etc. are under exploration at the research institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

The Government of Uttarakhand has promulgated the 'Manav Vanyajeev Sangharsh Rahat Bitaran Nidhi Niyamawali-2012' that contains provisions for payment of compensation for crop damage by wild animals like monkeys, elephants, wild pigs etc. as given below:

Name of Crop	Extent of damage (%)	Amount (₹ per acre)
Sugarcane	100	25,000
Paddy/Wheat/Oilseeds	100	15,000
All other crops	100	8,000

MSP of maize

1836. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers in Punjab were motivated to diversify and cultivate maize in a large area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether farmers have actually cultivated maize in a large area;
- (d) whether there is an increase in the MSP of maize;
- (e) whether there is a demand to raise MSP for maize; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to diversify cropping pattern from water guzzling paddy to alternate crops like maize, pulses, oilseeds and agro-forestry, Government is implementing Crop Diversification Programme in all 22 districts of Punjab since 2013-14.

Further, under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), coarse cereals including maize are being promoted in three districts of Punjab viz; Hoshiarpur, Ropar and Nawanshahr from 2014-15.

(c) Yes, Sir. Farmers have shown interest in sowing maize crop in Punjab. The State Government has reported that an additional area of 22,291 hectare has been brought under maize crop during 2013-14.

(d) to (f) A number of State Governments have suggested increase in Minimum Support Price (MSP) of maize for kharif marketing season 2014-15 as given below:

Sl. No.	State	₹/quintal
1.	Chhattisgarh	1400
2.	Gujarat	1500
3.	Haryana	1900
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1310
5.	Jharkhand	1566
6.	Karnataka	1650
7.	Madhya Pradesh	2000
8.	Odisha	1430
9.	Punjab	1815
10.	Rajasthan	1550
11.	Uttar Pradesh	1525

The MSP of maize for kharif marketing season 2014-15 has been fixed at ₹ 1310 per quintal at the same level as in kharif marketing season 2013-14.

Development of livestock in backward rural areas

†1837. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to start any technology mission for development of livestock in the country, especially in the backward rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the administrative clearance would be given and how much the amount is expected to be allocated in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Technology Mission on Dairy Development (TMDD) was launched by Government of India in 1988 and was implemented during the period 1988 to 1999. Presently, there is no proposal to start a “technology mission” for development of livestock in the Country. Development of Livestock in the country including the backward and rural areas is being carried out through Central Schemes like National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development, National Dairy Plan Phase-1 (NDP-I) and National Livestock Mission. National Livestock Mission (NLM) has been launched recently for the Twelfth Five Year Plan with the objective of sustainable development of livestock sector in the country including backward rural areas. The NLM has four Sub-Missions; viz. Sub-Mission on Fodder and Feed Development to bridge the basic gap of fodder availability; Sub-Mission on Livestock Development for risk management, innovative projects and entrepreneurship development; Sub-Mission on Pig Development in North-Eastern Region with special focus on the role of pigs in the livelihood of the poor in North-Eastern States; and Sub-Mission on Skill Development, Technology Transfer and Extension for structured approach and focus in livestock extension to address the diverse needs of the livestock owners. Government has also initiated National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development for genetic up-gradation of bovine population and strengthening infrastructure for milk procurement, processing and marketing. The National Dairy Plan Phase-1 (NDP-I) has been launched with assistance from World Bank for a period of six years from 2011-12 to 2016-17.

Suicide by farmers in Haryana

1838. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of suicides committed by farmers in various parts of the country during the last three years and the current year so far, State-wise, particularly in Haryana;
- (b) whether any special package has been granted to these farmers and their families;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to address the agrarian crisis and prevent the farmers from committing suicide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per “Accidental Deaths and Suicides in

India” report of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 14,027; 13,754 and 11,772 suicides were committed by persons self-employed in farming / agriculture during 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively. State/ Union Territory-wise, number of suicides committed by persons self-employed in farming/ agriculture during the aforesaid period is given in the Statement (*See below*). The data relating to suicide by farmers during the current year *i.e.* 2014 will be published by NCRB in 2015.

(b) to (d) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Government take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector and for welfare of farmers. Government of India, however, supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. Government of India has announced several packages to mitigate the hardships faced by farmers including Rehabilitation Package of ₹ 19,998.85 crore covering 31 suicide prone districts in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra, Package of ₹ 1,840.75 crore for development of Kuttanad Wetland Eco-system in Kerala, Package of ₹ 764.45 crore for mitigating agrarian distress in Idukki district of Kerala, Bundelkhand Special Package of ₹ 7,266 crore for drought mitigation and Vidarbha Intensive Irrigation Development Programme (VIIDP) with total allocation of ₹ 3,250 crore from 2012-13 to 2016-17.

Government of India has also taken several steps to revitalize the agriculture sector and improve condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs extension, marketing etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of Government is primarily to increase farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and establishing appropriate backward and forward linkages.

Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in institutional credit flow to agriculture and allied sector, post-harvest loan for six months to eliminate distress sale of agriculture produce by farmers, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, etc.

Statement*Number of suicides under sub-head Self Employed (Farming/Agriculture)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011	2012	2013
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2206	2572	2014
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	11	37
3.	Assam	312	344	305
4.	Bihar	83	68	127
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	4	0
6.	Goa	1	1	1
7.	Gujarat	578	564	582
8.	Haryana	384	276	374
9.	Himachal Pradesh	46	29	33
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	10	18
11.	Jharkhand	94	119	142
12.	Karnataka	2100	1875	1403
13.	Kerala	830	1081	972
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1326	1172	1090
15.	Maharashtra	3337	3786	3146
16.	Manipur	0	0	1
17.	Meghalaya	22	10	5
18.	Mizoram	14	10	6
19.	Nagaland	2	9	2
20.	Odisha	144	146	150

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011	2012	2013
21.	Punjab	98	75	83
22.	Rajasthan	268	270	292
23.	Sikkim	12	19	35
24.	Tamil Nadu	623	499	105
25.	Tripura	20	18	56
26.	Uttar Pradesh	645	745	750
27.	Uttarakhand	25	14	15
28.	West Bengal	807	NR	0
TOTAL (STATES)		14004	13727	11744
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	5
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13	6	15
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0
33.	Delhi (UT)	10	21	8
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0
TOTAL (UTs)		23	27	28
TOTAT ALL INDIA		14027	13754	11772

Source: Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.

Contingency plan in view of weak monsoon

†1839. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed contingency plan for many districts of the country in view of the impact of weak monsoon on agriculture in the current year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether districts of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar have also been included in this contingency plan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Government has prepared crop contingency plans for 520 districts covering 23 States of the country for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of weak monsoon/deficient rainfall.

These plans have been prepared by Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities and they outline strategies for various scenarios such as monsoon delays upto 2, 4, 6 and 8 weeks, long dry spells, unusual rains or floods etc. suggesting appropriate cropping pattern and/or seed varieties based on length of growing season available and cropping sequence followed in the district, apart from suggesting revised agronomic practices to be followed in the aberration conditions.

(c) and (d) These 520 contingency plans include 33 districts of Rajasthan, 38 districts of Bihar and 50 districts of Madhya Pradesh.

Negligible sowing of crops due to poor monsoon

1840. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether vast swathes of farm land covering several lakhs of hectares in States like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Karnataka have negligible sowing this season due to drought like situation prevailing there;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to tackle the situation;
- (c) whether deficient monsoon has led to spike in prices of food articles, vegetables and fruits; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) As on 18.07.2014, an estimated 345.69

lakh ha had been covered under various kharif crops, which is 224.60 lakh ha. less than the area of 570.29 lakh hectare normally covered upto corresponding period. Major shortfall in area coverage was reported in Rice (27.5 lakh ha.), Pulses (21.5 lakh ha.), Coarse cereals (76.8 lakh ha.), Oilseeds (63.3 lakh ha.) and Cotton (36.3 lakh ha). Statewise details of kharif sowing area including Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Karnataka are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Government has taken several measures to address any situation arising due to deficiency in monsoon rainfall.

Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 520 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of weak monsoon/deficient rainfall.

States have been advised to ensure availability of short duration and drought tolerant varieties of seeds so as to be in a position to supply them to farmers in case such a need arises.

States have also been advised to keep asides 10% of funds available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and other schemes for undertaking appropriate interventions to mitigate any situation arising out of deficient rainfall.

States have also been requested to construct water harvesting structures, restore irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals; energising tubewells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps and arranging power to meet irrigation needs.

(c) and (d) Production of agricultural crops and their prices are generally impacted by the overall rainfall situation in the country during the monsoon season.

Food inflation based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) has fallen to 8.14% during June, 2014 as compared to 10.27% during June, 2013. Government has taken various steps to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items. Notable among them are fixing Minimum Export Price (MEP) for potatoes, advising States to allow free movement of fruits and vegetables by delisting them from the APMC Act, release of additional five million tonnes of Rice to BPL and APL families in States pending implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA), issuing advisory to State Governments to take action against hoarding & black marketing and effectively enforcing the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 & the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980, imposing 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 etc.

Statement*State-wise Kharif Sowing Status of Major Crops (As on 18.07.2014)*

(Area in lakh ha.)

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Total		
		Normal Sown Area of Corresponding Week	Area Sown (2014)	Difference
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28.13	12.74	-15.39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.39	3.28	-0.11
3.	Assam	9.97	7.54	-2.43
4.	Bihar	11.75	13.06	1.31
5.	Chhattisgarh	25.28	22.38	-2.91
6.	Goa	1.85	0.14	-1.71
7.	Gujarat	46.39	25.70	-20.70
8.	Haryana	11.11	9.53	-1.58
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3.71	2.87	-0.84
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.23	3.92	-0.30
11.	Jharkhand	10.63	8.22	-2.41
12.	Karnataka	24.13	21.01	-3.12
13.	Kerala	14.06	6.08	-7.98
14.	Madhya Pradesh	81.55	20.00	-61.55
15.	Maharashtra	85.80	28.82	-56.99
16.	Manipur	0.61	0.17	-0.44
17.	Meghalaya	0.48	0.47	-0.02
18.	Mizoram	1.36	1.83	0.47
19.	Nagaland	16.61	13.75	-2.86

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Odisha	29.02	29.97	0.96
21.	Punjab	13.68	8.78	-4.91
22.	Rajasthan	51.22	18.06	-33.16
23.	Sikkim	1.72	1.45	-0.26
24.	Tamil Nadu	6.71	6.91	0.20
25.	Telangana	0.31	0.26	-0.05
26.	Tripura	33.28	34.38	1.10
27.	Uttar Pradesh	33.79	26.61	-7.18
28.	Uttarakhand	10.85	9.27	-1.58
29.	West Bengal	6.56	6.07	-0.49
	Other	2.12	2.42	0.30
	TOTAL	570.29	345.69	-224.60

Rejuvenation of coconut plantation

1841. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka having regard to the impact of dry spell/drought affecting the coconut plants seriously in the State and affecting the stake holders, has come up with a proposal of ₹585 crores for a period of two years for rejuvenation of coconut plantation alternate crops in the affected areas;

(b) whether the proposal has been examined; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. State Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal of ₹ 585.00 crore for rejuvenation of coconut plantation/ alternate crops in the affected areas. Subsequently, a revised proposal of ₹ 190.32 crore was submitted by the Government of Karnataka as per norms of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). An outlay of ₹ 147.00 crore under MIDH and ₹ 10.00 crore under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) has been allocated to the State during 2014-15.

Cost of production of agricultural crops

1842. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government would conduct a survey to ascertain the real cost of production of agricultural crops which are covered under MSP during current crop season;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the basis of deciding MSP of agricultural crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) Under the central sector scheme, “Comprehensive Scheme for Studying Cost of Cultivation of Principal Crops in India”, the representative data on inputs and output in physical and monetary terms is being collected on a continuous basis in the form of a detailed survey in respect of principal crops in 19 States to generate cost estimates. The cost of cultivation/production takes into account all paid out cost as well as imputed costs. Paid-out Costs include the cost incurred by the farmers towards value of seed, insecticides & pesticides, manure, fertilizer, irrigation charges, hired human animal and machine labour, land revenue, rent paid for lease in land, and Imputed Cost includes value of family, animal and machine (owned) labour, rent of own land and interest of own fixed capital, depreciation on implements and farm buildings etc.

The cost estimates generated under the scheme are used by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) for recommending Minimum Support Price (MSPs). While recommending MSPs, apart from cost of production, CACP considers various other factors. The Government announces MSP on the basis of recommendations of CACP.

Development of dairy sector

1843. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the action/steps taken by Government for rapid development of dairy sector in the country to meet the future demand;

(b) whether demand of milk would surpass the earlier projection of 180 million tonne during the year 2021-22;

(c) whether as per projections of National Dairy Development Board's (NDDB) Report, an increase of 6 million tonne per year is required to meet the growing demand of milk in the next ten years;

(d) whether Indian dairy sector grew more than 4.2 per cent annually in comparison to world's 2.2 per cent only; and

(e) the per capita availability of milk in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Government of India is implementing following schemes to meet the rapid growth in demand for milk:

- (1) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development
- (2) National Dairy Plan-Phase I
- (3) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme
- (4) Livestock Health and Disease Control
- (5) National Livestock Mission.

(b) There is no primary data indicating that demand of milk would surpass the earlier projections for the year 2021-22. The estimated projection for the year 2021-22 are: (i) 172.20 million tonnes by Planning Commission and (ii) 180 million tonnes, now re-estimated at 200-210 million tonnes, by NDDB.

(c) While National Dairy Plan-Phase I was being formulated, it was envisaged that an annual incremental milk production of 6 million tonnes would be needed to meet the demand for milk in the country.

(d) The milk production has increased from about 86.2 million tonnes in 2002-03 to about 132.4 million tonnes in 2012-13, which translates to a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 4.4% during the 10 year period compared to world's CAGR of 2.2%.

(e) The per capita availability of milk in the country during 2012-13 was 296.5 gms per day and is 305 gms per day (estimated) for the year 2013-14.

Long term plan to deal with drought

†1844. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government has made any long term plan to deal with drought in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of agricultural land in the country affected by drought, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) A number of Central Government Schemes/Programmes have evolved over time to address the need for medium and long-term drought mitigation requirements. Notable among them are Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes (MGNREGS), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) subsuming erstwhile Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), Swarna-Jayanthi Grameen Swarozagar Yojana (SGSY), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Fodder & Feed Development Scheme etc. Besides, various area development programmes by State Government either through their own resources or with Government of India's support like Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF), Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) etc. are contributing significantly to enhance drought resilience.

(c) As per report of the High Level Technical Committee headed by Prof. H.C. Hanumantha Rao, 74.59 million hectare area had been identified for implementation of Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), currently subsumed under IWMP. State-wise details are given in the Statement.

Statement

*States, districts and blocks identified for coverage under Drought
Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)*

Sl. No.	State	Number of Districts	Number of Blocks	Area in Million ha.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	94	9.9218
2.	Bihar	6	30	.9533
3.	Chhattisgarh	9	29	2.1801

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Gujarat	14	67	4.3938
5.	Himachal Pradesh	3	10	.3319
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	22	1.4705
7.	Jharkhand	15	100	3.4843
8.	Karnataka	17	81	8.4332
9.	Madhya Pradesh	26	105	8.9101
10.	Maharashtra	25	149	19.4473
11.	Odisha	8	47	2.6178
12.	Rajasthan	11	32	3.1969
13.	Tamil Nadu	18	80	2.9416
14.	Uttar Pradesh	15	60	3.5698
15.	Uttarakhand	7	30	1.5796
16.	West Bengal	4	36	1.1594
TOTAL		195	972	74.5914

Compensation to farmers

†1845. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the hectares of land used for sowing Kharif crops in the country during financial year 2012-13, State-wise;

(b) whether sowing of Kharif crops by farmers in financial year 2013-14 has been affected due to drought, in comparison to previous year;

(c) the statistics of loss to farmers due to their inability to sow the crops and drying of sown crops because of minimal rain, State-wise, all over the country; and

(d) whether Government is planning to take any concrete step to compensate the loss caused to farmers?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Details of area coverage are maintained agricultural year-wise i.e., (July to June). State-wise details of area coverage under Kharif crops during 2012-13 and 2013-14 are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

The year 2013-14 was a better agricultural year than 2012-13 and in most of the States, the overall area coverage under Kharif crops during 2013-14 has been higher than the corresponding area coverage during the previous year.

(c) and (d) The States suffering loss of crops due to drought/erratic rainfall situations in the country are provided assistance by Government of India from National Drought Relief Fund (NDRF). State-wise details of assistance provided to States for drought relief during 2012-13 and 2013 -14 are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise area coverage of Kharif crops during 2012-13 and 2013-14

	('000 Hectares)	
State/UT	2012-13	2013-14*
Andhra Pradesh	8134.0	8473.0
Arunachal Pradesh	199.6	#
Assam	2248.1	2243.8
Bihar	3924.6	3770.9
Chhattisgarh	4476.3	4462.4
Goa	32.9	#
Gujarat	7029.0	7900.0
Haryana	2463.7	2405.3
Himachal Pradesh	407.4	402.9
Jammu and Kashmir	634.3	632.3
Jharkhand	2076.6	1857.7

State/UT	2012-13	2013-14*
Karnataka	6228.0	6683.0
Kerala	154.6	155.5
Madhya Pradesh	12025.0	12386.1
Maharashtra	14690.0	15064.0
Manipur	54.4	#
Meghalaya	127.4	#
Mizoram	25.3	#
Nagaland	316.3	#
Odisha	4710.6	4802.1
Punjab	3557.2	3546.4
Rajasthan	10273.5	10782.1
Sikkim	68.7	#
Tamil Nadu	2724.2	3123.6
Tripura	210.2	#
Uttar Pradesh	11168.0	11223.0
Uttarakhand	643.8	610.0
West Bengal	5140.1	5166.7
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8.0	#
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	19.2	#
Delhi	10.7	#
Daman and Diu	2.3	#
Puducherry	15.1	#
Others	50.0	1118.6
ALL INDIA	103849.3	106809.4

* 3rd Advance Estimates

Included in others

Statement-II

*State-wise assistance approved by High Level Committee (HLC) from
National Drought Relief Fund (NDRF) during 2012-13 and 2013-14*

(₹ crore)

State/UT	Amount of assistance approved by HLC
2012-13	
Karnataka	526.06
Gujarat	864.71
Maharashtra	778.09
Rajasthan	320.64
Kerala	62.61
Andhra Pradesh	142.97
Tamil Nadu	624.69
2013-14	
Bihar	931.87
Karnataka	226.57
Andhra Pradesh	254.44*

* Approved by Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC)

Growth rate of fisheries sub-sector

1846. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the fisheries sub-sector after achieving a growth rate of five per cent per annum during the 80s and 90s, has been decelerating since mid 1990s;
- (b) if so, the factors responsible for this decline;
- (c) whether fish prices have more than doubled during the Eleventh Plan Period;
- (d) if so, how this has helped the fishing community, especially in Maharashtra;

- (e) the steps taken to increase production of fish; and
- (f) the plans chalked out for construction of cold storage chains in coastal regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) in fish production during 1980s and 1990s has been 3.35% and 4.62% respectively. The growth in fish production since mid 1990s has exhibited fluctuating but increasing trend.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) has increased from 101 during 2007-08 period to 251 during 2011-12 for inland fish and from 126 in 2007-08 to 247 in 2011-12 for marine fish.

(d) The increase in fish prices have not adversely affected overall fish production in the country, which has continuously increased since 2007-08. The fish production in Maharashtra has also registered an increase of 6.9% in 2012-13 as compared to 2007-08.

(e) The Government of India has several Central Sector Schemes for enhancement of fish production and productivity. These schemes are (a) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture, (b) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest operations, (c) Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information Systems (d) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB), and (e) National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen.

(f) The Government of India under its schemes on Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations and the National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) provides financial assistance for creation of cold chain facilities. Besides, Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and Ministry of Food Processing Industry also provide assistance for construction of cold storage.

Training to farmers to face drought condition

†1847. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed or proposes to assess the effect of a weak

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

monsoon/ shortage of rainfall in connection with the agricultural production and food security in the country during the current year and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has prepared any action plan/contingency plan to face this situation and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to educate, train the farmers and make them aware of the various techniques to face the shortage in rainfall and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) 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 $\pm 4\%$. Rainfall is likely to be 85% of LPA over North-West India, 94% of LPA over Central India, 93% of LPA over South Peninsula and 99% of LPA over North-East India, all with a model error of $\pm 8\%$. The monthly rainfall over the country is likely to be 93% of LPA during July and 96% of LPA during August, both with a model error of $\pm 9\%$.

Cumulative rainfall till 21.07.2014 was 252.8 mm. which is 29% less than normal (LPA) rainfall of 357.3 mm. Delay in onset of monsoon and its slow progress in earlier days has caused delay in sowing of paddy, coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds and cotton. However, with monsoon rainfall improving in recent weeks, sowing coverage is also expected to improve with further progress of monsoon.

Government has a well-defined system of assessing and announcing estimates of agricultural production each year. The stock of wheat and rice in the Central pool is well above buffer norms and is sufficient to meet the food security requirements of the country.

(b) Government has taken several measures to address any situation arising due to deficiency in monsoon rainfall.

Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities has prepared contingency plans for 520 districts for implementing location specific interventions to sustain agriculture production in the eventuality of weak monsoon/deficient rainfall.

States have been advised to ensure availability of short duration and drought tolerant varieties of seeds so as to be in a position to supply them to farmers in case such

a need arises. States have also been advised to keep asides 10% of funds available under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and other schemes for undertaking appropriate interventions to mitigate any situation arising out of deficient rainfall.

States have also been requested to construct water harvesting structures, restore irrigation infrastructure by desilting canals; energising tubewells, replacing/repairing faulty pumps and arranging power to meet irrigation needs.

(c) Field functionaries and extension workers under Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) and other schemes are educating, training and making the farmers aware of various techniques to overcome deficient rainfall such as *in-situ* moisture conservation, on farm water conservation, ridge furrow sowing, promoting suitable agronomic practices including mulching, inter cropping, mixed cropping, sowing of less water consuming crops etc.

Farmers are also being advised through Farmers' SMS portal, Kisan Call Centres, Kisanvani Programme of All India Radio (AIR) and Krishi Darshan Programme of Doordarshan etc.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under All India Coordinated Research Project on Agro Meteorology (AICRP-AM) has been conducting farmers' awareness programmes on various techniques to overcome weather aberrations including deficient rainfall.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NIGRA) is also conducting field demonstration to farmers on climate resilient agricultural practice/technologies through selected Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country.

Suicide by farmers

1848. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of instances of suicide by farmers reported from various parts of the country during last five years, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to identify factors responsible for each of such suicide, if so, the findings of such a study;

(c) the steps taken by Government to curb tendencies among farmers to commit

suicide, and the measures taken to assist farmers financially or otherwise, so that they don't resort to the ultimate step; and

- (d) the compensation offered to the bereaved families of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) State-wise, details of suicide committed by persons self-employed in farming/ agriculture, as per reports of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), during last five years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Government has not conducted any study to identify factors responsible for each case of suicide. However, the causes for suicides, as mentioned by NCRB, *inter-alia* include family problems, property dispute, bankruptcy or sudden change in economic status, poverty, professional/career problem, love affair, barrenness/ impotency, cancellation/ non-settlement of marriage, dowry dispute, fall in social reputation, causes not known, etc.

(c) and (d) Agriculture including agricultural indebtedness being a State subject, State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector in the State including payment of compensation to the bereaved families of farmers. Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. Government of India has also taken several steps to revitalize the agriculture sector and improve upon the condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing public investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure, extension, marketing, etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of Government is primarily on expansion of farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages. Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in institutional credit flow to agriculture sector, post-harvest loan for six months to eliminate distress sale of agricultural produce by farmers, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, etc.

Statement*Number of Suicides under Subhead Self Employed (Farming/Agriculture)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2414	2525	2206	2572	2014
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	18	13	11	37
3.	Assam	341	369	312	344	305
4.	Bihar	112	95	83	68	127
5.	Chhattisgarh	1802	1126	0	4	0
6.	Goa	4	15	1	1	1
7.	Gujarat	588	523	578	564	582
8.	Haryana	230	297	384	276	374
9.	Himachal Pradesh	24	61	46	29	33
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	8	18	14	10	18
11.	Jharkhand	164	173	94	119	142
12.	Karnataka	2282	2585	2100	1875	1403
13.	Kerala	896	895	830	1081	972
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1395	1237	1326	1172	1090
15.	Maharashtra	2872	3141	3337	3786	3146
16.	Manipur	1	4	0	0	1
17.	Meghalaya	21	16	22	10	5
18.	Mizoram	38	5	14	10	6
19.	Nagaland	1	0	2	9	2
20.	Odisha	154	162	144	146	150

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Punjab	97	80	98	75	83
22.	Rajasthan	851	390	268	270	292
23.	Sikkim	23	19	12	19	35
24.	Tamil Nadu	1060	541	623	499	105
25.	Tripura	45	58	20	18	56
26.	Uttar Pradesh	656	548	645	745	750
27.	Uttarakhand	30	39	25	14	15
28.	West Bengal	1054	993	807	NR	0
TOTAL (STATES)		17175	15933	14004	13727	11744
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	19	8	0	0	5
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	15	10	13	6	15
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi (UT)	5	9	10	21	8
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	154	4	0	0	0
TOTAL (UTs)		193	31	23	27	28
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		17368	15964	14027	13754	11772

Source: Report on 'Accidental Deaths & Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs

Agricultural Universities/Institutes

1849. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of agricultural universities/institutes in the country, State-wise;
- (b) how far these have helped in introducing progressive farm techniques and raising agricultural productivity in their respective State; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up more such universities/institutes in States with low agricultural growth, especially Jharkhand, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) There are 02 Central Agricultural Universities and 68 State Agricultural Universities/ICAR Deemed-to-be-Universities/Central Universities with agricultural faculty. Under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), 99 Research Institutes have also been established. List of State-wise Agricultural Universities and Agricultural Research Institutes is given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See below*).

(b) Detailed impact of farm techniques on growth of agriculture and allied sectors is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir. During the Budget (2014-15), presented in the Lok Sabha on 10-07-2014, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Government of India has allocated Rs. 200.00 crores for establishment of Agricultural Universities in states of Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan and also for Horticultural Universities in the states of Telangana and Haryana. Further, an amount of Rs. 100.00 crores has been allocated for establishment of agricultural research institutes in the state of Assam and Jharkhand on the pattern of Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

Statement-I

List of State Agricultural Universities/Central Agricultural University/ICAR Deemed University/Central University with agricultural faculty State-wise.

Andhra Pradesh

1. Acharya N. G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad
2. Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati
3. The Vice Chancellor, Dr. Y.S.R. Horticultural University, Venkataramannagudem, West Godavari

Assam

4. Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat
-

Bihar

5. Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samstipur
6. Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour, Bhagalpur

Chhatisgarh

7. Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Krishak Nagar
8. Chhatisgarh Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya, Durg, Chhatisgarh

Delhi

(ICAR Deemed University)

9. Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa,

Gujarat

10. Anand Agricultural University, Anand
11. Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh
12. Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari
13. Sardarkrushingar-Dantiwada Agricultural University Sardarkrushinagar, Dantiwada
14. Kamdhenu University, Gandhi Nagar Campus Office, Podium Level, M Floor, Sector 10-1, Gandhinagar

Haryana

15. CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar
16. Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, (ICAR Deemed University)
17. National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal

Himachal Pradesh

18. CSK HP Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Palampur
 19. Dr Y S Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan
-

Manipur

19. Central Agricultural University
20. The Vice Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Imphal

Jammu and Kashmir

21. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Jammu
22. Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Srinagar

Jharkhand

23. Birsa Agricultural University, Kanke, Ranchi

Karnataka

24. University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur
25. University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore
26. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad
27. University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot
28. Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar
29. University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Navile, Shimoga

Kerala

30. Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur
31. Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies, Papangad, Kochi
32. Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Pookode, Lakkidi, P.O. Wayanand

Madhya Pradesh

33. Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Krishi Nagar, Adhartal, Jabalpur
 34. . Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vidhyalaya, Race Course Road, Gwalior
 35. Madhya Pradesh Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur
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Maharashtra

36. Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Krishi Nagar, Akola
37. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dist. Ahmednagar, Rahuri
38. Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Ratnagiri, Dapoli
39. Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani
40. Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Sciences University, Seminary Hills, Nagpur
(ICAR Deemed University)
41. Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Panch Marg, Off Yari Road, Andheri
(West), Mumbai

Nagaland

42. Nagaland University, Lumani, Medziphema

Odisha

43. Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar

Punjab

44. Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana
45. Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Ludhiana

Rajasthan

46. Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner
47. Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur
48. Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner
49. Sri Karan Narendra Agricultural University, Jobneer, Jaipur
50. Agriculture University, Jodhpur, Mandor, Jodhpur
51. Agriculture University Kota, Borkhera, Kota

Tamil Nadu

52. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
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53. Tamil Nadu University Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Chennai
54. Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, First Line Beach Road, Nagapattinam

Uttar Pradesh

55. Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Kumarganj, Faizabad
56. Chandra Sekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur
57. UP Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Viswa Vidyalaya
Evam Go Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura
58. Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel University of Agriculture and Technology Roorkee
Road, Modipuram, Meerut
59. Manyavar Shri Kanshiram Ji University of Agril. and Technology, Banda
60. Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture Sciences and Technology,
Allahabad

Central Agricultural University

61. Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi

Central University with agricultural faculty

62. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
63. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

(ICAR Deemed University)

64. Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar

Uttarakhand

65. GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar
66. Uttarakhand University of Horticulture and Forestry, Bharsar, Pauri Garhwal

West Bengal

67. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia
68. Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, PO Pundbari, Cooch Behar
69. West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences, Kolkata

Central University with agricultural faculty

70. Vishwa Bharti, Birbhum Distri, Shantiniketan
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Statement-II

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	1
	1. Central Agricultural Research Institute, PB No. 181, Port Blair-744101, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2
	1. Central Tobacco Research Institute, Bhaskar Nagar, Rajamundry-533105 Andhra Pradesh	
	2. Directorate of Oil Palm Research, Near Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Pedavegi -534 450, West Godavari Dist., Andhra Pradesh	
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
	1. National Research Centre on Yak, Dirang, West Kameng-790101, Arunachal Pradesh	
4.	Assam	1
	National Research Centre on Pig, Rani, Guwahati-781131, Assam	
5.	Bihar	2
	1. National Research Centre for Litchi, Mushahari Farm, Mushahari, Muzaffarpur-842002, Bihar	
	2. ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, ICAR Parisar, P.O. Bihar Veterinary College, Patna-800014, Bihar	
6.	Chhattisgarh	1
	1. National Institute of Biotic Stress Management, Baronda, Raipur 493225, Chhattisgarh, Admn. Office: 1st Floor-DSW Office, IGKV Campus, Krishak Nagar, Raipur-492012 Chhattisgarh	
7.	Delhi	8
	1. Directorate of Maize Research, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-110012	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
2.	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, New Delhi -110012	
3.	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012	
4.	National Centre for Integrated Pest Management, LBS Bldg, Pusa Campus, New Delhi-12	
5.	National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, LBS Bldg., Pusa Campus, New Delhi-12	
6.	Directorate of Knowledge Management in Agriculture, KAB-I, Pusa, New Delhi-110012	
7.	Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute, Library Avenue, Pusa, New Delhi-110012	
8.	National Centre for Agricultural Economics & Policy Research, Post Box No. 11305, DPS Marg, Pusa, Library Avenue, New Delhi-110012	
8.	Goa	1
1.	ICAR Research Complex for Goa, Ela, Old Goa, North Goa-403402	
9.	Gujarat	2
1.	Directorate of Groundnut Research, Ivenagar Road P.B.No.5, Junagadh-362001, Gujarat	
2.	Directorate of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants Research, Boriavi, Anand-387310, Gujarat	
10.	Haryana	6
1.	Directorate of Wheat Research, P.B. No. 158 Kunjpura Road, Karnal 132001, Haryana	
2.	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Zarifa Farm, Kachhwa Road, Karnal 132001, Haryana	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
	3. Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes, Sirsa Road, Hissar-125001, Haryana	
	4. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, P.B.No.129, G.T. Road Bye-Pass, Karnal-132001, Haryana	
	5. National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal-132001, Haryana	
	6. National Research Centre for Equines, Hisar-125001, Haryana	
11.	Himachal Pradesh	2
	1. Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla-171001, Himachal Pradesh	
	2. Directorate of Mushroom Research, Chambaghat, Solan-173213, Himachal Pradesh	
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
	1. Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, K.D. Farm, Old Air Field, Rangreth, Srinagar-190007, Jammu and Kashmir	
13.	Jharkhand	2
	1. Indian Institute of Natural Resins and Gums, Namkum, Ranchi-834010, Jharkhand	
	2. Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology, Garhkhatanga, Ranchi, Jharkhand	
14.	Karnataka	5
	1. National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects, P.B. No. 2491, HA. Farm Post, Hebbal, Bellary Road, Bengaluru -560024, Karnataka	
	2. Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Hassaraghatta Lake Post, Bengaluru-560089 Karnataka	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
	3. Directorate of Cashew Research, Darbe, P.O.Puttur, Dakshina Kannada-574202, Karnataka	
	4. National Institute of Animal Nutrition & Physiology, Adugodi P.O., Bengaluru-560030 Karnataka	
	5. National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (NIVEDI), Hebbal, Bengaluru-560024, Karnataka	
15.	Kerala	5
	1. Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod-671124, Kerala	
	2. Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Sreekariyam, Thiruvananthapuram- 695017, Kerala	
	3. Indian Institute of Spices Research, P.B.No. 1701, Marikunnu P.O., Calicut-673012, Kerala	
	4. Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Willingdon Island, Matsyapuri PO, Cochin-692029, Kerala	
	5. Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, P.B.No. 1603, Ernakulam North P.O. Kochi-682018, Kerala	
16.	Madhya Pradesh	4
	1. Directorate of Soybean Research, Khandwa Road, Indore-452001, Madhya Pradesh	
	2. Indian Institute of Soil Science, Nabi Bagh, Berasia Road, Bhopal-462038, Madhya Pradesh	
	3. Directorate of Weed Science Research, Maharajpur, Adhartal, Jabalpur-482004, Madhya Pradesh	
	4. Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Nabi Bagh, Berasia Road, Bhopal- 462038, Madhya Pradesh	
17.	Maharashtra	10
	1. Central Institute for Cotton Research, P.B.No.02, Shankar Nagar P.O. Nagpur-440010, Maharashtra	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
2.	Directorate of Floricultural Research, MPKV, College of Agriculture Campus, Shivaji Nagar, Pune-411005, Maharashtra	
3.	National Research Centre for Grapes, PB No.3, Manjri Farm Post, Solapur Road, Pune-412307, Maharashtra	
4.	Directorate of Onion and Garlic Research, Pune-Nasik Highway, Rajgurunagar, Pune-410505, Maharashtra	
5.	National Research Centre on Pomegranate, NH-9, Bypass Road, Shelgi, Solapur-413006 Maharashtra	
6.	National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning, Amravati Road, Shankar Nagar, P.O. Nagpur-440010, Maharashtra	
7.	National Institute of Abiotic Stress Management, Malegaon, Baramati-413115, Pune Maharashtra	
8.	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology, PB No 16640, Matunga, Mumbai-400019, Maharashtra	
9.	Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Panch Marg, Off Yari Road, Versova, Andheri (West), Mumbai-400061, Maharashtra	
10.	National Research Centre for Citrus, Post Box No.464, Shankar Nagar P.O., Nagpur-440010, Maharashtra	
18.	Meghalaya	1
	1. ICAR Res. Complex for NEH Region, Umroi Road, Ri-Bhoi-793103, Meghalaya	
19.	Nagaland	1
	1. National Research Centre on Mithun, Jharnapani, P.O. Medziphema-797106, Nagaland	
20.	Odisha	4
	1. Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack-753006 Odisha	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
	2. Directorate of Research on Women in Agriculture, Plot No. 50, Mauza-Jokalandi, P.O. Baramunda, Bhubaneswar-751 003, Odisha	
	3. Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar, Khurda-751002 Odisha	
	4. Directorate of Water Management, PO SE Railway Project Complex, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar-751023, Odisha	
21.	Punjab	1
	1. Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering & Technology, P.O. PAU Campus, Ludhiana-141004, Punjab	
22.	Rajasthan	6
	1. Directorate of Rapeseed Mustard Research, Sear, Bharatpur-321303, Rajasthan	
	2. Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, 10th Milestone, Sri Ganganagar Highway, Beechwal Industrial, Bikaner-334006 Rajasthan	
	3. NRC on Seed Spices, Tabiji Farm, Ajmer-305206 Rajasthan	
	4. Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur 342003, Rajasthan	
	5. Central Sheep & Wool Research Institute, Avikanagar-304501, Rajasthan	
	6. National Research Centre on Camel, Post Bag No.07, Jorbeer, Bikaner-334001 Rajasthan	
23.	Sikkim	1
	1. National Research Centre for Orchids, Pakyong, Gangtok-737106, East-Sikkim	
24.	Tamil Nadu	3
	1. Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore-641007, Tamil Nadu	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. National Research Centre for Banana, Thogamalai Main Road, Thayanur Post, Tiruchirapalli-620102, Tamil Nadu 3. Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, 75, Santhome High Road, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028 Tamil Nadu 	
25.	Telangana	7
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Directorate of Rice Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad -500030, Telangana 2. Directorate of Oilseeds Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana 3. Directorate of Sorghum Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana 4. Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Santoshnagar, Hyderabad 500059 Telangana 5. National Research Centre on Meat, P.B.No.19, Chengicherla, Boduppal P.O. Hyderabad-500092, Telangana 6. National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana 7. Project Directorate on Poultry, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030, Telangana 	
26.	Uttar Pradesh	14
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Directorate of Seed Research, P.B.No.11, Village Kuhmaur, P.O.Kaithauli, Mau-275101, UP 2. Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute, Near Pahuj Dam, Gwalior Road, Jhansi-284003 Uttar Pradesh 	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
3.	Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kalyanpur, Kanpur-208024 Uttar Pradesh	
4.	Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, Raebareli Road, P.O. Dilkusha, Lucknow-226002, UP	
5.	National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Micro Organisms, Kusmaur, Post Box No.6, Mau Nath Bhanjan-275101 Uttar Pradesh	
6.	Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Rehmankhura, PO Kakori, Lucknow-227107, UP	
7.	Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, P.B. No 01, PO Jakhini, Shahanshahpur, Varanasi-221005, Uttar Pradesh	
8.	National Research Centre for Agroforestry, Jhansi-Gwalior Road, Near Pahuj Dam, Jhansi-284003 Uttar Pradesh	
9.	Project Directorate for Farming System Research, Modipuram, Meerut-250110, Uttar Pradesh	
10.	Central Avian Research Institute Izatnagar, Barielly-243122, Uttar Pradesh	
11.	Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoon, PO Farah, Mathura-281122, Uttar Pradesh	
12.	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly-243122, Uttar Pradesh	
13.	Central Institute for Research on Cattle, PB No. 17, Grass Farm Road, Meerut Cantt-250001 Uttar Pradesh	
14.	National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Canal Ring Road, Telibagh, P.O. Dilkusha, Lucknow-226002 Uttar Pradesh	
27.	Uttarakhand	4
1.	Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan, Almora-263601, Uttarakhand	

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory-wise List of ICAR Institutes	No of Institutes
2.	Central Soil and Water Conservation Research and Training Institute, 218, Kaulagarh Road, Dehradun -248195 Uttarakhand	
3.	Directorate of Coldwater Fisheries Research, Anusandhan Bhavan, Industrial Area, Bhimtal-263136 Uttarakhand	
4.	Project Directorate on Foot and Mouth Disease, IVRI Campus, Mukteshwar-263138 Uttarakhand	
28.	West Bengal	3
	National Institute of Research on Jute and Allied Fibre Technology, 12, Regent Park, Kolkata-700 040, West Bengal	
	Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore, 24 Parganas-700120, West Bengal	
	Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, P.O. Barrackpore, Kolkata-700120, West Bengal	
TOTAL NUMBER OF INSTITUTES		99

Statement-III

Impact of R & D of National Agriculture Research System on Agriculture and Allied Sectors

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has always worked in close coordination with the State Agricultural Universities and addressed the ICAR institutions and State Agricultural Universities as an integrated National Agricultural Research System (NARS). Due to consistent efforts of scientists across NARS, country has registered significant growth rate in each sectors of agriculture through developing high yielding, input efficient, disease tolerant varieties/hybrids along with their widespread adoption by the farmers which is visible in increasing the farm productivity as well as quality. In the last ten years, our food grain production increased from 198 million tonnes in 2004-05 to 259 million tonnes by 2011-12, at an average of about 6 million tonnes per annum. The two major staple cereals of the country, wheat and rice, registered an increase of nearly 50 million tonnes during this period. Overall, food grain production has continuously increased despite a virtual ceiling on cultivable area of 140±2 million hectares. Today,

India is among leading rice exporters in the world. India's export of agricultural and allied products has increased from ₹ 1,78,800 crore in 2011-12 to ₹ 2,01,000 crore in 2012-13, registering a growth of nearly 11%. Indian agriculture has been seeing growth in all its dimensions with a record production of food grains, fruits, vegetables, milk, meat, eggs and fish.

Table 1. Trend growth rate in Agriculture output since 1950 to 2010 (per cent/year)

Decade	Total Agriculture	Crop Sector	Livestock Sector
1950s	2.72	3.06	1.57
1960s	1.47	1.70	0.55
1970s	2.13	1.79	3.70
1980s	2.83	2.24	4.88
1990s	3.21	3.02	3.77
2000s	3.01	2.63	3.98

The agriculture and allied sectors achieved a compound growth rate of 3.3% during the Eleventh Five Year Plan which is higher than the 2.4 per cent registered in the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Table 2. Increase in productivity of selected crops during different decades for the entire country [Difference in average yield (Kg/hectare) of two years in the beginning and at the end of decade]

Decade	Rice	Wheat	Maize	Gram	Arhar	Ground nut	Soya- bean	Cotton	Sugar cane	Onion	Potato
1950s	242.5	122.5	288.0	131.5	-74.0	56.0	0.0	8.5	4432.0	NA	366.0
1960s	141.0	408.0	107.5	40.5	10.0	-81.5	0.0	27.0	12142.5	NA	1201.0
1970s	126.5	313.5	45.0	-48.0	-24.5	133.5	771.5	41.5	57.5	NA	3904.0
1980s	516.0	680.5	486.0	89.5	91.5	211.0	75.0	63.5	14066.0	80.5	3468.0
1990s	236.5	501.5	281.0	115.5	15.5	-41.0	272.5	-2.5	7767.0	272.0	2343.0
2000s	198.0	216.0	424.5	87.0	-95.5	87.0	-86.5	178.5	-3782.5	5499.5	1216.0

Sale of sub-standard seeds

†1850. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in Madhya Pradesh the Seed Mafia in collusion with Beej Pramanikaran Sanstha is selling sub-standard seeds to other States especially in Maharashtra by using the tag of Beej Pramanikaran Sanstha;

(b) whether sub-standard seeds with the tag of Beej Pramanikaran Sanstha have been seized in Akola in Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra has sent any letter to the Government of Madhya Pradesh in this regard; and

(d) whether his Ministry has taken cognizance of such communication, if so, the steps being taken by Government to protect the farmers from sufferings because of sub-standard seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) One case of sale in Akola, Maharashtra of sub-standard seeds with the tag of Beej Pramanikaran Sanstha of Madhya Pradesh came to the notice of the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(c) A letter in this regard from Maharashtra State Seed Certification Agency has been received by Madhya Pradesh State Seed Certification Agency.

(d) In order to curb the sale of spurious/fake seeds in the country, the Government of India has made provisions under the Seeds Act, 1966, Seed Rules, 1968 and the Seeds (Control) Order, 1983. The responsibility for enforcement of these provisions rests with the State Governments. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that:

- They have suspended the concerned official and also suspended the license of the seed producing company involved in the matter;
- The Collectors/District Magistrates have been instructed to take stern legal steps against anyone trying to store or sell sub-standards seeds;
- The photograph of Seed Grower for seed certification have been made compulsory;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- 7 licenses of Seed Sellers cancelled, 39 licenses suspended and 4 First Information Report lodged in Police Station along with one case filed in the Court of Law.

The Government of Maharashtra has strengthened their seed quality control set up and as part of seed law enforcement, the samples are drawn from the processing plants, warehouses, distributors and retail dealers. Thereafter, notified seed laboratories carry the analytical part and legal actions are taken against the concerned for supplying sub-standard seeds.

Performance of agricultural universities

1851. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is satisfied with the performance of various agricultural universities in the country with respect to raising the agricultural productivity in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the measures Government proposes to take to improve their performance?

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

(b) Detailed impact of farm techniques on growth of agriculture and allied sector is given in the Statement. [*Refer to the Statement-II USQ No. 1849 Part (b)*]

Shortage of cold storage capacity

1852. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of vegetables and fruits being produced in the country annually;

(b) whether it is a fact that shortage of cold storage capacity in the country leads to huge wastage of fruits and vegetables every year; and

(c) if so, State-wise details thereof of the cold storage capacity in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The total quantity of vegetables and fruits

produced in the country during 2012-13 was 162.19 million MT and 81.29 million MT respectively.

(b) A study published in 2012 Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), estimated that quantum of post harvest losses, including losses due to shortage of cold storages capacity, were in the range of 5.8 to 18% in fruits and 6.8 to 12.5% in vegetables.

(c) The State-wise capacity of cold storage in the country is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise Cold Storage Projects as on 31.03.2014

Sl. No.	States	Number	Capacity (MT)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)	2	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	397	1566378
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	5000
4.	Assam	30	118402
5.	Bihar	302	1406395
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	6	12216
7.	Chhattisgarh	87	427491
8.	Delhi	97	129857
9.	Goa	29	7705
10.	Gujarat	552	2017123
11.	Haryana	290	576149
12.	Himachal Pradesh	21	28182
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	24	64769
14.	Jharkhand	55	217280

Sl. No.	States	Number	Capacity (MT)
15.	Karnataka	185	514877
16.	Kerala	194	63105
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	1	15
18.	Madhya Pradesh	257	1096168
19.	Maharashtra	511	677858
20.	Manipur	0	0
21.	Meghalaya	4	8200
22.	Mizoram	1	3471
23.	Nagaland	2	6150
24.	Odisha	110	326639
25.	Pondicherry (UT)	3	85
26.	Punjab	599	1992088
27.	Rajasthan	150	479952
28.	Sikkim	1	2000
29.	Tamil Nadu	162	295371
30.	Tripura	13	39181
31.	Uttar Pradesh	2170	13618139
32.	Uttarakhand	17	72027
33.	West Bengal	495	5860618
TOTAL		6768	31633100

As per DMI report 2010 and NHB, NHM as on 31.03.2014

Suicide by farmers in Punjab

1853. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the study conducted by Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar around 7000 farmers in Punjab have committed suicide between 2000 and 2010;
- (b) whether the study has also stated that incidents of suicide are higher in cotton belt of Bhatinda than the other parts of the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether suicide by farmers in Punjab is continuing due to non-remunerative agriculture operations, particularly for small and marginal farmers, and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by Government to improve the condition of farmers in Punjab and other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) No, Sir. As reported by the State Government of Punjab, survey on farmers' suicide was conducted through the State Department of Revenue and three Universities of the State. As per study, the total number of suicide cases reported was 2943 during the period from 2000 to 2011.

(b) and (c) Out of the 2943 suicide cases reported, 2516 relate to the cotton belt of the State and remaining 427 cases relate to other districts of the State.

(d) The State Government of Punjab has informed that the reasons for farmers suicide in the State, as per the study, were indebtedness, economic, social and emotional.

(e) The Government of Punjab has informed that the State has taken a number of measures to improve the condition of farmers of the State by way of granting compensation to each victim, free power supply to farmers, grant of subsidy under various schemes implemented in the State, etc.

The Government of India has also taken several steps to revitalize the agriculture sector and improve condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure, extension, marketing etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of Government is primarily to increase farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and establishing appropriate backward and forward linkages.

Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in institutional credit flow to agriculture and allied sector, post-harvest loan for six months to eliminate distress sale of agriculture produce by farmers, debt waiver/relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, etc.

MSP of agricultural products

1854. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made its commitment to increase the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of certain agricultural produces, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of items that have been identified for increase of MSP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Government has fixed the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Kharif Crops of 2014-15 Season. The MSPs of Kharif Crops of 2013-14 and 2014-15 Season are given in the Statement.

Statement

Minimum Support Prices

			(₹ per Quintal)		
Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2013-14	2014-15	Increase in MSP 2014-15 Over 2013-14
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kharif Crops					
1.	Paddy	Common	1310	1360	50
		Grade 'A'	1345	1400	55
2.	Jowar	Hybrid	1500	1530	30
		Maldandi	1520	1550	30

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Bajra		1250	1250	-
4.	Maize		1310	1310	-
5.	Ragi		1500	1550	50
6.	Arhar (Tur)		4300	4350	50
7.	Moong		4500	4600	100
8.	Urad		4300	4350	50
9.	Cotton	Medium Staple	3700	3750	50
		Long Staple	4000	4050	50
10.	Groundnut in shell		4000	4000	-
11.	Sunflower Seed		3700	3750	50
12.	Soyabean	Black	2500	2500	-
		Yellow	2560	2560	-
13.	Sesamum		4500	4600	100
14.	Nigerseed		3500	3600	100

Second green revolution

1855. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to introduce second green revolution, especially in the eastern part of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the target and fund allocated under the scheme, State-wise; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Government of India has been implementing the 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 since 2010-11 with the objective to increase productivity and production of rice in these States.

(c) and (d) The total outlay of the scheme in 2014-15 is ₹ 1000 crore. The State-wise allocation of funds is as under:

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Fund allocated
1.	Assam	106.00
2.	Bihar	151.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	161.00
4.	Jharkhand	77.00
5.	Odisha	184.00
6.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	148.00
7.	West Bengal	171.00
8.	Monitoring, etc	2.00
TOTAL		1000.00

Under the programme, 50% funds are earmarked for cluster demonstrations of improved technologies of rice production, 20% funds for assistance on asset building activities such as shallow tubewells, dugwells, borewells, pumpsets and farm machinery, 20% for site specific activities including construction/renovation of irrigation channels, water harvesting structures, etc. and 10% for interventions on marketing such as promotion/creation of primary processing facilities including farm level storage, drying, grading, parboiling of paddy, bagging etc.

Assistance to small and marginal farmers

1856. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to do for effective integration of small farmers in markets by providing necessary rural marketing infrastructure, strengthening the capacity of farmers to access and use information for problem solving and increasing the quality of agricultural research and education;

(b) the special incentives being provided to small and marginal farmers particularly in Vidarbha; and

(c) the schemes in place in Vidarbha to boost farming, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Government is implementing the Central Sector Scheme “Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing” for creation of storage and marketing infrastructure in rural areas for facilitating post-harvest storage and marketing of agricultural produce. Assistance is provided to develop marketing infrastructure in agriculture and allied sectors including dairy, meat, fisheries and minor forest produce.

Further, with a view to availing benefit of economics of scale in sourcing inputs and marketing of agricultural produce, small and marginal farmers are encouraged to form Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs).

Government of India has launched a SMS Portal for farmers for disseminating information and giving topical and seasonal advisories through SMSs to farmers of all States and UTs in 22 languages. Farmers can register for this service by calling Kisan Call Centres using the Toll Free Number 1800-180-1551 or through the web-portal.

Government of India has launched Agmarknet portal to enable farmers including small farmers to get market related information/data on agricultural commodities and take market related decision.

Government of India has decided to establish two more institutions of excellence on the pattern of Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa in Assam and Jharkhand. Government of India has also decided to set up Agriculture Universities in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan and Horticulture Universities in Telangana and Haryana to promote quality agriculture research and education.

(b) and (c) A number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes are under implementation in Maharashtra including Vidarbha Region. A specific scheme for Vidarbha region under implementation is Vidarbha Intensified Irrigation Development Programme (VIIDP) since 2012-13 in 11 districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra with a total allocation of ₹ 3250 crore from 2012-13 to 2016-17. The allocation for the year 2014-15 is ₹150 crore.

Agricultural practices requiring lesser water

1857. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain World Bank projects have been launched in different States in the country calling upon the farmers to adopt agricultural practices involving lesser amount of water for agriculture to control exploitation of ground water in such areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether objective of these projects is to increase agricultural production, control wastage of water and augment income of farmers;

(d) whether such projects have proved successful in certain regions of the country; and

(e) if so, the action plan of Government to encourage such projects in other regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (e) No specific World Bank projects are under implementation to adopt agricultural practices involving lesser amount of water for agriculture to control exploitation of ground water. However in the national and bilateral programmes/projects including World Bank supported projects in agriculture and irrigation sector, emphasis is given for enhancing agricultural productivity and resource conservation technologies.

Setting up of agricultural university in Andhra Pradesh

1858. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Central Government intends to accord its approval to the proposal for setting up of an Agricultural University in Andhra Pradesh consequent upon the bifurcation, the details thereof;

(b) the latest position of this proposal; and

(c) the reasons for delay in establishing the University and the action taken to expedite the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Central Government has already issued

Gazette Notification dated 01.03.2014 for setting up of an Agricultural University in Andhra Pradesh under the provisions of Section 93 (Thirteenth Schedule) for the Andhra Pradesh State Re-organization Act, 2014.

(b) Government of Andhra Pradesh has in June, 2014 earmarked 500 acres of land for establishment of Agricultural University.

(c) There is no delay.

Dairy development in Tamil Nadu

1859. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has allocated a fund of ₹ 200 crore for a Special Programme for Dairy development under National Mission for Protein Supplements (SPDD-NMPS);

(b) whether Tamil Nadu, which is one of the major milk producing States, has been included in this programme; and

(c) if so, the steps taken under this programme in the State of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Union Government is not making any subsector-wise allocation under National Mission for Protein Supplements (NMPS) from the Financial Year 2013-14. However, State-wise allocations are being made to allow the States the flexibility to prepare projects for dairy/fisheries/goatery/piggery as per the requirement of the States/UTs subject to the condition that the total cost of dairy development projects should not exceed 50% of the total allocation for a particular State/UT.

(b) Tamil Nadu has been included in the NMPS scheme and an allocation of ₹ 14.00 crore has been made to the State of Tamil Nadu for the year 2014-15 including for dairy development activities, out of total allocation of ₹ 300.00 crore under the Mission.

(c) The Government of Tamil Nadu had submitted two project proposals under NMPS for approval by State Level Sanctioning Committee (SLSC) in its meeting held on 29.01.2014 for implementation during 2014-15, details of which are as under:

1. Intensive Goat Production for Enhancing Protein Supplement in 10 districts of Tamil Nadu ₹ 510.00 lakh.

2. Strengthening infrastructure for production of Ultra Heat Treatment (UHT) Milk and related products at Salem Dairy ₹1570.91 lakh.

SLSC of the State approved the above projects and accordingly, Union Government has released an amount of ₹ 7.00 crore as first instalment against an allocation of ₹14.00 crore for the year 2014-15.

**Payment under crop insurance scheme to farmers
of Madhya Pradesh**

†1860. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether crop insurance scheme is under implementation in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) the company which has been authorized for crop insurance in Madhya Pradesh;
- (c) the number of farmers whose crops were insured in the years, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 and the number of farmers out of them who have been given crop insurance during said period;
- (d) the soyabean crop in Madhya Pradesh suffered huge loss due to heavy rain in the year 2013-14; and
- (e) the names of districts where such crop loss was suffered and the number of farmers along with the amount paid to them under the crop insurance scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is being implemented by the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) in the country including Madhya Pradesh. However, under Modified NAIS (MNAIS) and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) Components of National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP), State Government including Madhya Pradesh have the choice to select one or more companies from the list of eleven empanelled companies viz. Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd., ICICI- Lombard, IFFCO-TOKIO, HDFC-ERGO, Chola mandalam-MS, Tata-AIG, Future Generali India, Reliance, Bajaj Allianz, SBI and Universal Sompo General Insurance companies for implementation of crop insurance programme.

- (c) Details are given in the following table:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

No. of farmers	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Covered	3374706	4060131	2410937
Benefited (to whom claims paid)	661779	434642	1470666*

* Kharif 2013 season only.

(d) and (e) Due to heavy rains soyabean crop suffered loss in several districts of Madhya Pradesh during Kharif 2013. The implementing agency i.e. AIC has worked out the total claims of the order of ₹ 2187.40 crore including ₹ 2179.71 crore for soyabean crop under NAIS during Kharif 2013 season in Madhya Pradesh. District-wise details of farmers covered, claims worked out and the affected farmers for soyabean crop during 2013-14 (Kharif 2013) under NAIS are given in Statement.

Statement

*NAIS- Kharif 2013- Madhya Pradesh- Claim Details for
Soyabean Crop (District-wise)*

District	Admissible Claims	Affected Farmers
Alirajpur	14656.29	49
Ashok Nagar	163619262.51	16163
Barwani	1771067.25	3867
Betul	598406189.12	57589
Bhopal	441572528.10	28272
Burhanpur	115555.56	30
Chhattarpur	44926050.03	10266
Chhindwara	189314731.74	24992
Damoh	336919956.84	18444
Dewas	1615302573.88	120903
Dhar	66569693.24	12489
Guna	536523443.51	23788

District	Admissible Claims	Affected Farmers
Harda	2082173650.36	52613
Hoshangabad	2964343946.60	79563
Indore	322038879.58	41667
Jhabua	1061256.55	491
Khandwa	435595640.36	25441
Khargone	822862.16	1128
Mandsaur	183270297.33	32832
Narsinghpur	278788960.11	12651
Neemuch	31710547.57	7092
Panna	13407488.18	1080
Raisen	1541319808.07	89219
Rajgarh	1542335878.77	110860
Ratlam	146840385.31	49995
Rewa	9009953.14	1629
Sagar	1449251121.67	77646
Satna	66902482.20	5452
Sehore	2958461056.31	136737
Seoni	373624270.13	16956
Shahdol	37514.63	9
Shajapur	992078756.62	109177
Shivpuri	142204313.54	14865
Tikamgarh	44360637.36	9767
Ujjain	1476467421.49	110882
Vidisha	745946207.23	78952
TOTAL	21797109043.32	1383556

Decline in agricultural land

1861. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan to address the issue of very marginal but steady decrease of agricultural land from 182.48 million hectares in 2006-07 to 182.03 million hectares in 2010-11;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the current data on available agricultural land during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, land and its management comes under the purview of State Government and therefore, it is for the State Governments to take suitable steps to increase the agricultural land in the country.

However, under the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 (NPF, 2007), State Governments have been advised to earmark lands with low biological potential such as uncultivable land, land affected by salinity, acidity, etc., for non agricultural development activities, including industry and construction activities. National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 (NRRP, 2007) has recommended that as far as possible, projects may be set up on waste lands, degraded land or un-irrigated land. Acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural use in projects may be kept to the minimum and avoided, to the extent possible, in respect of multi-cropped land. Acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, may be kept to the minimum.

Further, under the Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acid Soils (RADAS) scheme of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), since inception upto 2013-14 about 9.0 lakh hectares of problem lands where almost no crop was grown prior to reclamation have been developed. From 1st April, 2014 Reclamation of Problem Lands (Alkali/Saline and Acid Soils) is being funded under sub components of National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) being implemented by the DAC.

(c) As per the latest land use statistics data (2011-12) compiled by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, agricultural land during 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 was 182.18 million hectares, 182.02 million hectares and 181.98 million hectares respectively.

Adverse effect of poor monsoon on onion production

1862. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards media report that poor monsoon will have adverse effects on the production of onion in Maharashtra and price of this commodity will cross rupee one hundred a kilogram by October, 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Although sowing of Kharif crop in Maharashtra had been affected on account of delayed monsoon, it has picked up from the second week of July, especially in the main producing areas of western Maharashtra. The crop is expected to be harvested in mid-November.

(c) Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) *w.e.f.* 1.1.2014, which subsumes ongoing schemes on horticulture including National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH).

To enhance the production and productivity of vegetables including onion, MIDH provides support for seed production, vegetable cultivation in open fields, Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)/Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and organic farming. Assistance is also extended for constitution of low cost onion storage structure to prevent post harvest losses. Besides, the scheme provides for setting up markets at different levels *viz.* wholesale, rural/apni Mandi, retail markets and even vending carts. Government is also implementing scheme on Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) under the overall aegis of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) which covers these activities. In addition, the Integrated Scheme for Agriculture Marketing (ISAM) also provides for creation of post harvest infrastructure including storage.

To enhance overall production of onion, 'early Kharif' producing States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana have been requested to bring more area under onion cultivation. Besides, the hilly States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand have been advised to cultivate long day summer varieties of onion.

State Governments have also been asked to exempt fruits and vegetables from the

purview of the Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act to enable direct sale of fruits and vegetables by the farmers.

Besides, import of onion is free with nil import duty. The Government is further facilitating the import of onion by relaxing the phytosanitary requirements. Moreover, Minimum Export Price (MEP) of USD 300 per Metric Tonne (MT) was imposed from 16.6.2014, which has been raised to USD 500 per MT *w.e.f.* 2.7.2014.

Plan to tackle poor monsoon in Maharashtra

1863. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poor monsoon has adversely affected the sowing of cotton, oilseeds, pulses etc. in the State of Maharashtra which has adversely affected the farmers of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the contingency plan Government has prepared to provide timely relief to the farmers of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Delay in onset of monsoon and its slow progress in earlier days has caused shortfall in sowing of coarse cereals, oilseeds and cotton in the State of Maharashtra. Area coverage under Pulses and Sugarcane has been reported to be satisfactory. However, with monsoon rainfall improving in recent weeks, sowing coverage is expected to improve with further, progress of monsoon. Cropwise details of area sown are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Government has prepared contingency plans for 33 districts of Maharashtra to implement location specific interventions for sustaining agriculture production in the eventuality of weak monsoon/deficient rainfall. In the eventuality of drought, State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of drought relief memoranda from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures.

Statement

*Kharif sowing status of major crops (As on 18.07.2014)
in the State of Maharashtra*

(Area in lakh ha.)

Crops	Normal Area (Average of last 5 years)	Area Sown as on 18.07.2014	Difference
Pulses	0.03	0.04	0.01
Rice	0.80	0.75	-0.05
Sugarcane	9.23	10.54	1.31
Oilseeds	22.64	4.77	-17.87
Cotton	34.73	11.84	-22.89
Coarse Cereals	18.38	0.87	-17.51
TOTAL	85.81	28.81	-57.00

Introduction of new crop insurance policy

1864. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce a new comprehensive crop insurance policy in Maharashtra and rest of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the new crop insurance policy is likely to come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) A comprehensive crop insurance policy namely the National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP), which comprises of Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) and Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS), was recently approved by the Government for implementation *w.e.f.* Rabi 2013-14 in the country. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), one of the earlier schemes, was to be rolled

back simultaneously. However, based on representations from some States including Maharashtra, NAIS was allowed to such States for implementation during Rabi 2013-14. Again, all State Governments/UT Administrations have been given the option to implement either NAIS or MNAIS for the year 2014-15.

Increasing milk production through co-operatives

1865. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any assessment of quantum of milk produced and consumed in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the efforts made by Government to increase milk production through co-operatives;
- (d) whether milk production in the country has increased as a result of these measures; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Government assess the quantum of milk production in the country through annual Integrated Sample Survey. The State-wise estimates of milk production are given in Statement-I (*See below*). The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducts Household Consumer Expenditure survey to collect consumption quantity and expenditure of all goods and services including milk (liquid). Based on the results of Household Consumer Expenditure survey conducted by NSSO during 68th Round (July, 2011 – June, 2012), average monthly consumption of milk in household sector for each State/UT is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

- (c) The Government is implementing following dairy development schemes to increase milk production in the country:
 - (i.) National Dairy Plan (Phase-I) (NDP-I).
 - (ii.) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD).
 - (iii.) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS).

(d) and (e) The milk production in the country has increased from 127.9 million tonnes in 2011-12 to 132.4 million tonnes in 2012-13 registering a growth of 3.54%.

Statement-I

State-wise estimates of milk production in the year 2012-13

Sl. No.	States/ UTs	Milk Annual Estimates (000 Tns.) 2012-13
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12761.65
2.	Bihar	6844.84
3.	Chhattisgarh	1164.05
4.	Goa	61.24
5.	Gujarat	10314.63
6.	Haryana	7040.24
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1138.60
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1630.56
9.	Jharkhand	1679.00
10.	Karnataka	5718.22
11.	Kerala	2790.58
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8837.79
13.	Maharashtra	8733.69
14.	Odisha	1724.40
15.	Punjab	9724.34
16.	Rajasthan	13945.92
17.	Tamil Nadu	7004.73
18.	Uttar Pradesh	23329.55
19.	Uttarakhand	1478.38
20.	West Bengal	4859.23

1	2	3
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.72
22.	Assam	799.67
23.	Manipur	80.03
24.	Meghalaya	80.52
25.	Mizoram	13.63
26.	Nagaland	78.66
27.	Sikkim	42.24
28.	Tripura	118.04
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	21.45
30.	Chandigarh	44.03
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11.00
32.	Daman and Diu	1.00
33.	Delhi	286.58
34.	Lakshadweep	2.21
35.	Puducherry	47.17
TOTAL		132430.59

Statement-II

*Average monthly consumption of milk (liquid)# in household
sector for each State/UT in 2011-12*

State/UT**	68th round (2011-12)	
	quantity per 30 days (Kilolitre) in rural area	quantity per 30 days (Kilolitre) in urban area
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh*	196383	119370
Arunachal Pradesh	876	278

1	2	3
Assam	33880	5290
Bihar	322784	36897
Chhattisgarh	12088	13084
Delhi	8600	103383
Goa	2770	3601
Gujarat	182665	148621
Haryana	253054	80919
Himachal Pradesh	53850	5901
Jammu and Kashmir	59825	18901
Jharkhand	43615	23208
Karnataka	124966	92052
Kerala	70042	29889
Madhya Pradesh	195351	84166
Maharashtra	187207	235227
Manipur	435	259
Meghalaya	2148	851
Mizoram	274	967
Nagaland	121	101
Odisha	39556	15306
Punjab	191699	100218
Rajasthan	436230	123681
Sikkim	2703	544
Tamil Nadu	137636	148836

1	2	3
Tripura	2600	752
Uttar Pradesh	721818	232125
Uttarakhand	53739	17109
West Bengal	83789	58523
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	246	293
Chandigarh	761	7539
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	96	829
Daman and Diu	297	297
Lakshadweep	4	8
Puducherry	1993	4530
ALL INDIA	3424336	1713446

* Values are inclusive of Telengana State as during the survey periods Telengana state was not formed

** Estimates for small states and UTs are based on small sample sizes and may be affected by sampling errors.

Including milk transformed at home into curd, casein, ghee, butter, etc. for the purpose of household consumption.

Setting up of Special Economic Zones abroad

†1866. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to set up Special Economic Zone abroad to ensure availability of raw materials and feed stocks to chemicals industries at reasonable rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is working to chalk out any special action plan so as to enable the petroleum chemicals and petrochemicals section to gather momentum; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) Government of India is exploring the possibility of developing reverse SEZs abroad. Consultations with other Departments like Department of Fertilizers, Department of Commerce, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs etc. are on and details are being worked out.

(c) and (d) The Government has introduced Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemical Investment Region Policy (PCPIR) in 2007 to provide state of art infrastructure and common services with objective to boost manufacturing and employment through cluster development approach. Setting up of PCPIRs in four states of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha and Tamil Nadu has been approved so far.

Demand and supply of fertilizers

1867. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

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

(a) the demand and availability of fertilizers in the country particularly in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal;

(b) whether adequate quantity of fertilizers is going to be made available to farmers during the current sowing season;

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

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to provide adequate quantity of fertilizers to farmers of these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) A Statement showing demand (requirement), supply plan, availability and sales of all the fertilizers in the country including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal for the current sowing season (upto June, 2014) is given in the Statement. [*Refer to the Statement appended to USQ 265 Part (a)*]

(b) and (c) It can be seen from the Annexure above that availability of all the fertilizers in all the States including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal for

the current sowing season is adequate and comfortable. Further, distribution of all the fertilizers within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

(d) The following steps are being taken by the Government to provide adequate quantity of fertilizers to the farmers in all the States/UTs:

1. The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season.
2. On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system:
 - (i) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS);
 - (ii) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their state institutional agencies like Markfed etc.
 - (iii) Regular Weekly Video Conference is conducted jointly by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
 - (iv) The gap in the demand and domestic production of fertilizer is met through imports.

Indigenous production of fertilizers

1868. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether demand of fertilizers is met by domestic production;
- (b) if not, the details of import of fertilizers and the cost of this during the last three years;

(c) whether Government has taken any step to increase the indigenous production of fertilizers; and

(d) the details of public investment in fertilizer sector during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) Demand of fertilizers in the country is met both through domestic production and by means of import. In this regard, details of annual demand, production and import of Urea, DAP and NPK are given as under:

(Figures in LMT)

Year	Urea			DAP			NPK			MOP		
	Annual Demand	Production	Import	Annual Demand	Production	Import	Annual Demand	Production	Import	Annual Demand	Production	Import
2011-12	305.16	220.20	78.34	126.15	40.57	75.57	107.36	79.52	36.71	48.26	00	26.93
2012-13	315.43	225.79	80.44	123.58	36.44	58.53	111.52	61.80	4.06	47.81	00	18.80
2013-14	316.60	227.09	70.81	109.85	36.08	32.95	107.36	69.09	3.58	35.11	00	20.66

The subsidy outgo on Urea and Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers during the last three years is given below:

(₹ crore)

Year	Total subsidy for Urea	Total subsidy for P&K	Total Subsidy
2011-12	37683.00	36107.94	73790.94
2012-13	40016.01	30576.12	70592.13
2013-14	41824.36	29426.86	71251.22

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Department of Fertilizers had notified the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 on 2nd January, 2013 to facilitate fresh investment in Urea sector in future and to reduce import dependency in the country. The policy provides for revamp, revival, brownfield projects and greenfield projects in Urea sector.

Apart from above, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in August, 2011 had approved the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of five Units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) namely Sindri, Talcher, Ramagundam, Gorakhpur and Korba and three units of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Limited (HFCL) namely Haldia, Barauni and Durgapur. Three closed units of FCIL namely Sindri,

Ramagundam and Talcher being revived by the Public Sector Undertakings through nomination route. Remaining two closed units namely Gorakhpur and Korba of FCIL and three units of HFCL namely Barauni, Durgapur and Haldia of HFCL are to be revived through bidding route.

CCEA in its meeting held on 9.5.2013, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest of FCIL 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. CCEA has also directed that revival of HFCL will be taken up once revival of FCIL is on track. Government contemplates gainful utilization of the land and assets lying idle by setting up a minimum 1.15 million tonnes per annum urea plant at each of closed units of FCIL.

No time schedule has been fixed as yet, however, it takes normally around three years to fully operationalise a urea plant from its zero date. The estimated expenditure is expected to be ₹ 4700 crore for each plant.

There is also a proposal for setting up a new ammonia urea complex of minimum 8.646 Lakh Metric Tonne Per Annum (LMTPA) at a estimated cost of ₹ 4400 crores at Namrup within the existing premises of BVFCL on Public Private Partner (PPP) basis which subsequently replace the existing two uneconomical operating ammonia-urea plants, Namrup II and III. The project will be developed by a Joint Venture (JV) consisting of BVFCL, Government of Assam (GoA), Oil India Limited (OIL) and private/public entity. BVFCL (11%), GoA (11%) and OIL (26%) will be awarded equity in the project on nomination basis while private/public parties (52%) will be inducted through competitive bidding. BVFCL's share on equity shall be by way of transferring the useful and equivalent tangible assets to the proposed JV. The remaining Assets of BVFCL shall remain with BVFCL.

It is also informed that in order to meet domestic requirement of Potassic and Phosphatic (P&K) fertilizers, the Department of Fertilizers has been encouraging the fertilizers companies to increase the fertilizer production. In this regard, the Government has been encouraging/facilitating the indigenous fertilizer companies for acquisition of raw materials assets abroad through joint ventures and also for Long Term Agreement with fertilizer control rich countries for supply of raw materials/intermediates.

New Drugs (Prices Control) Order

1869. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the New Drugs (Prices Control) Order has been finalized by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the extent to which this Order is expected to be beneficial for common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) to (d) Pursuant to the announcement of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy (NPPP), 2012, the Government has notified Drug (Price Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) on 15.05.2013 in supersession of DPCO, 1995. All the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM), 2011 have been included in the first schedule of DPCO, 2013 and brought under price control. Consequent to the price fixation of drugs under this Order, the accessibility (to the drugs) of poor people has improved considerably.

The following table shows the prices of drugs under Schedule 1 have come down from 5% to 40%:

% Reduction with respect to highest price to retailer	No. of Drugs
0<=5%	35
5<= 10%	41
10<= 15%	50
15<=20%	40
20<=25%	60
25<=30%	43
30<=35%	27
35<=40%	34
Above 40%	114
TOTAL	444

Note: In addition to above, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has fixed prices of 108 non-scheduled formulations under DPCO, 2013

Production capacity of Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd.

†1870. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of urea production units in the State of Rajasthan along with their production capacity;
- (b) whether the proposal with regard to permission for enhancing the production capacity of Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited unit is pending with the Government of India, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when Government would accord permission to the said unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) There are three urea production units in the State of Rajasthan. The name and their production capacity is as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Production Unit (in the State of Rajasthan)	Production capacity (‘000’ MT)
1.	Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (CFCL): Gaddepan-I	864.6
2.	Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (CFCL): Gaddepan-II	864.6
3.	Shriram Fertilizers and Chemicals: Kota	379.5

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has notified the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 on 2nd January, 2013 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector in future to reduce India’s import dependency in urea production. The amendment to NIP-2012 has been approved by CCEA on 28th February, 2014 and is under consideration of Department of Fertilizers.

Field demonstration and soil-testing campaigns by RCF

1871. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) undertakes field demonstration and carries out soil-testing campaigns;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of such campaigns undertaken in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years; and

(c) to what extent this has helped farmers in the State?

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

(b) Details are given below:

Sl. No.	Head	Year (Number of activities conducted)				
		2009- 2010	2010- 2011	2011- 2012	2012- 2013	2013- 2014
1.	Product Demonstration	17	9	20	23	27
2.	Method Demonstration	2	1	3	5	8
3.	Soil Testing Days	13	7	11	11	12

(c) The programmes are aimed at development of agricultural knowledge, including soil health, the balancing use of nutrients and micronutrients, advanced agricultural technology, balance chemical fertilizers with organic and bio-fertilizers, irrigation, subsidiary occupations etc. Increased response from the farmers for the various extension programs of RCF is a measure of success of Field Demonstration and Soil Testing Campaigns. This is reflected in advancement of farming community towards economic use of fertilizers & maximizing crop yields.

Agricultural exhibitions

1872. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) participates in various agricultural exhibitions organized by State/District Administration at district/Taluqa level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the exhibitions organized in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the achievements made in the exhibitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) Yes, Sir. The Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) organizes Krishi Melas in various parts of the country for the benefit of farmers. Besides, it also participate in various Agriculture Exhibitions conducted by the State/District Administrations at district/Taluqa level.

(b) In the last one year, RCF participated in 74 Krishi Melas/ Agriculture Exhibitions in various States.

(c) In the last one year, RCF participated in two Agriculture Exhibitions of one day each at Vanwasi (Kurnool) organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kurnool and Anakapalle (Vizag) organized by Regional Agriculture Research Station, Anakapalle.

(d) RCF was able to create awareness among farmers about the efficient use of Nitrogen by introducing Neem coated urea and its benefits, increase response to the soil testing facilities offered by RCF and increase enquires about RCF's products, location retail points and product availability by participating in these Agriculture Exhibitions.

Domestic production of urea

†1873. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether domestic production of urea has declined in the country;
- (b) whether to compensate for the shortage in urea production, Government is importing urea from abroad, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is taking any steps to increase the domestic production of urea through the fertilizer companies in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for declining urea production each year by fertilizer companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (d) No, Sir. The domestic production of urea has not declined in the country as can be seen from the production details of last five years, given in table below:

	(Lakh MT)				
Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Urea Production	211.12	218.80	219.84	225.75	227.15

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Yes, to meet the requirement of urea as projected by DAC, Government is importing urea. The details of urea Import in last five years is as follows:

[LMT]					
Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Imported Urea	52.09	66.09	77.92	78.66	70.87

(c) Yes, Sir. The Department of Fertilizers had notified the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 on 2nd January, 2013 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector in future and to reduce import dependency in the country. The policy provides for revamp, revival, brownfield projects and Greenfield projects in urea sector.

Apart from above, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in August, 2011 had approved the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of five Units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) namely Sindri, Talcher, Ramagundum, Gorakhpur and Korba and three units of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Limited (HFCL) namely Haldia, Baruni and Durgapur. Three closed units of FCIL namely Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher are being revived by the Public Sector Undertakings through nomination route. Remaining two closed units namely Gorakhpur and Korba of FCIL and three units of HFCL namely Barauni, Durgapur and Haldia of HFCL are to be revived through bidding route.

CCEA in its meeting held on 9.5.2013, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest of FCIL 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. CCEA has also directed that revival of HFCL will be taken up once revival of FCIL is on track. Government contemplates gainful utilization of the land and assets lying idle by setting up a minimum 1.15 million tonnes per annum urea plant at each of closed units of FCIL.

No time schedule has been fixed as yet, however, it takes normally around three years to fully operationalise a urea plant from its zero date. The estimated expenditure is expected to be ₹ 4700 crore for each plant.

There is also a proposal for setting up a new ammonia urea complex of minimum 8.646 Lakh Metric Tonne Per Annum (LMTPA) at a estimated cost of ₹ 4400 crores at Namrup within the existing premises of BVFCL on Public Private Partner (PPP) basis which subsequently replace the existing two uneconomical operating ammonia-

urea plants, Namrup-II and III. The project will be developed by a Joint Venture (JV) consisting of BVFCL, Government of Assam (GoA), Oil India Limited (OIL) and private/public entity. BVFCL (11%), GoA (11%) and OIL(26%) will be awarded equity in the project on nomination basis while private/public parties(52%) will be inducted through competitive bidding. BVFCL's share on equity shall be by way of transferring the useful and equivalent tangible assets to the proposed JV. The remaining Assets of BVFCL shall remain with BVFCL.

Allocation of fertilizers

†1874. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demand made by Government of Bihar for allocation of urea and other fertilizers during the last three years; and

(b) the reasons for non-allocation of fertilizers as per the demands of States by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season. On the basis of projection given by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/adequate quantity of fertilizers to the States.

It can be seen from the following table that availability against sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK in the State of Bihar for the last three years had been adequate and comfortable.

(Lakh MT)			
Year	Requirement	Availability	Sales
Urea			
2011-12	20.75	18.17	18.12
2012-13	21.50	21.10	21.01
2013-14	21.50	18.77	18.71

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Requirement	Availability	Sales
DAP			
2011-12	5.00	4.72	4.41
2012-13	5.00	5.65	5.41
2013-14	5.25	3.79	3.60
MOP			
2011-12	2.45	1.29	1.26
2012-13	2.30	1.15	1.14
2013-14	1.54	1.46	1.40
NPK			
2011-12	3.75	4.03	3.56
2012-13	3.65	3.03	3.00
2013-14	3.75	1.80	1.72

Revival of loss making fertilizer plants

1875. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of fertilizer plants established by Government so far;
- (b) how many of them are running in profit and how many of them are running in loss; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to revive the loss making units, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) The details are as under:

Name of PSU	Plants	Present Status
National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)	Nangal (Punjab)	Loss
	Panipat (Haryana)	Loss
	Bathinda (Punjab)	Loss

Name of PSU	Plants	Present Status
	Vijaipur-I (Madhya Pradesh)	Loss
	Vijaipur-II (Madhya Pradesh)	Profit
Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL)	Chennai	Profit
Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF)	Trombay (Mumbai, Maharashtra)	Profit
	Thal (Raigad, Maharashtra)	Profit
The Fertilizers And Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)	NP 20:20 Plant (Udyogmandal Division, Kerala)	Loss
	Ammonium Sulphate Plant (Udyogmandal Division, Kerala)	Loss
	NP 20:20 Plant (Cochin Division, Kerala)	Loss
	Urea Plant (Cochin Division, Kerala)	Closed
Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizers Ltd. (BVFCL)	Namrup-I	Closed
	Namrup-II	Profit
	Namrup-III	Profit
The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)	Sindri (Jharkhand)	Closed
	Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)	Closed
	Ramagundam (Telangana)	Closed
	Talcher (Odisha)	Closed
	Korba (Chhattisgarh)*	Closed
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL)	Haldia (West Bengal)	Closed
	Durgapur (West Bengal)	Closed
	Barauni (Bihar)	Closed

(c) Government has planned financial restructuring of three sick units namely, MFL, BVFCL and FACT to sustain their operations. Government has also planned to revive five closed units of FCIL. Proposal/action plan on revival of HFCL units to be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track.

**Providing fertilizers to farmers at affordable prices
and in adequate quantity**

†1876. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether prices of fertilizers have been increased recently;
- (b) if so, fertilizer-wise details thereof during each year of the last three years and current years and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the existing mechanism to monitor the volatility in prices of fertilizers in the country;
- (d) whether fertilizers is enough quantity are made available to farmers during sowing seasons and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for providing fertilisers at affordable prices to farmers in adequate quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) and (b) Urea is provided to the farmers at the statutory price of ₹ 5310 per MT since 1.4.2010. This price was increased slightly by ₹ 50 per MT *w.e.f.* November 2012 to meet the expenses of retailers for acknowledging the receipt of fertilizers in the mobile based Fertilizer Monitoring System (m-FMS). So now the MRP is ₹ 5360 per MT excluding the Central Excise Duty of 1% for the domestically produced urea and 1% Counter Vailing Duty (CVD) on the imported Urea and local taxes (VAT etc.) levied by various State Governments.

As regards Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers, the Government is implementing Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy *w.e.f.* 1.4.2010. Under the NBS Policy, a fixed amount of subsidy is provided on each grade of subsidized P&K fertilizers depending upon its nutrient (N, P, K & S) content. The prices of P&K fertilizers are fixed by the fertilizer companies at reasonable level.

Our country is import dependent to the extent of 100% in Potassic sector and about 90% in phosphatic sector in the form of either finished fertilizers or intermediates. Any increase in prices of fertilizers and its raw materials/intermediates in the international market and fluctuation in exchange rate has a direct bearing on the prices of P&K fertilizers in the country.

With the easing of international prices of P&K fertilizers and its raw materials/intermediates, the prices of P&K fertilizers have remained stable since 2012-13 onwards. The quarter-wise MRPs of various subsidized P&K fertilizers fixed by fertilizer, companies during the last three years and the current year are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

- (c) In order to monitor the prices of fertilizers, the following steps/measures have been put in place under the NBS Policy:

- (i) Prices of P&K fertilizers are monitored through web based Fertilizer Monitoring System (FMS).
 - (ii) Fertilizer companies are required to submit month-wise MRP data of their fertilizer products under FMS.
 - (iii) The fertilizer companies have been asked to submit cost data of their fertilizer products from 2012-13 onwards on six monthly basis.
 - (iv) In order to devise proper monitoring system regarding prices of P&K fertilizers, the fertilizer companies have been directed to have the same MRPs printed on the bags as applicable for each State in the FMS.
- (d) The Government provides adequate quantity of fertilizers to the farmers during Rabi as well as Kharif seasons. In this regard, a statement showing requirement, availability and sale of fertilizers during the previous years and the current year up to June 2014 is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).
- (e) The following steps have been taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of subsidized chemical fertilizers to the farmers:
- (i) The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season;
 - (ii) On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC, Department of Fertilizers allocates sufficient/ adequate quantities of fertilizers to States by issuing monthly supply plan and continuously monitors the availability through following system;
 - (iii) The movement of all major subsidized fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system www.urvarak.co.in also called as FMS;
 - (iv) The State Governments are regularly advised to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies through timely placement of indents for railway rakes through their State institutional agencies like Markfed etc.;
 - (v) Regular weekly Video conference is conducted jointly by DAC, Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.

Statement-I

Highest Maximum Retail Price (MRP) in Rs/MT of P&K fertilizers fixed by the fertilizer companies under the Nutrient Based Subsidy regime

# Grades of Fertilizers	11-12 (Qtr.-wise)				2012-13 (Qtr.-wise)				2013-14 (Qtr.-wise)				2014-15 (Qtr.-Wise)	
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV		I
1. DAP: 18-46-0-0	12500	18200	20297	20000	24800	26500	26500	26500	26500	26520	25000	24607	24607	24080
2. MAP: 11-52-0-0		18200	20000	20000	20000	24200	24200	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
3. TSP: 0-46-0-0	8057	8057	17000	17000	17000	NA	NA	17000	17000	NA	17000	17000	NA	NA
4. MOP: 0-0-60-0	6064	11300	12040	12040	16695	23100	24000	18750	18638	17750	17750	17750	17750	17892
5. 16-20-0-13	9645	14400	15300	15300	15300	18200	18200	18200	17280	17710	17510	17010	17010	17940
6. 20-20-0-13	11400	14800	15800	15800	19000	24800	19176	24800	20490	19166	23500	23500	23500	19710
7. 23-23-0-0	7445	7445						Excluded from NBS Policy						
8. 10-26-26-0	10910	16000	16633	16386	21900	22225	22225	22225	22213	22200	21160	21160	21160	22260
9. 12-32-16-0	11313	16400	16500	16400	22300	23300	22500	24000	23300	23300	21475	21105	21105	22580
10. 14-28-14-0		14950	17029	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
11. 14-35-14-0	11622	15148	17424	17600	17600	23300	23300	23300	23300	23300	23300	21810	21810	23340

12.	15-15-15-0	8200	11000	11500	11500	13000	15600	15600	15600	15600	15600	15600	15150	15150	15150	16894
13.	AS: 20-3-0-0-23	7600	11300	10306	10306	11013	11013	11013	11013	11013	11106	11106	11184	11689	13020	
14.	20-20-0-0	9861	14000	15500	18700	18700	24450	24450	18500	15561	15262	18000	18000	16910		
15.	28-28-0-0	11810	15740	18512	18700	24720	24720	23905	23905	23905	23410	21907	21907	23100		
16.	17-17-17-0				17710	20427	20522	20572	20672	20672	22947	24013	23231	23231		
17.	19-19-19-0				18093	19470	19470	19470	NA	NA	0	20915	20915	20915		
18.	SSP(0-16-0-11)*	3200	4000 to 6300				6500 to 7500			6200-9900	9270	10300	9270	9600		
19.	16-16-16-0	7100	7100	15200	15200	15200				18000	18000	17000	17000	17000		
20.	DAP lite (16-44-0-0)	11760	17600	19500	19500	19500	24938	24938	24938	24938	23875	22900	22000	NA		
21.	15-15-15-09	9300	12900	15750	14851	15000	15000	15000	NA	NA	0	15670	16618			
22.	24-24-0-0	9000	11550	14151	14297	14802	16223	16223	18857	18857	17896	17896	17896	19840		
23.	13-33-0-6		16200	17400	17400	17400	17400	17400		Excluded from NBS Policy						
24.	MAP lite (11-44-0-0)		16000	18000	18000	18000	21500	21500								
25.	DAP lite-II (14-46-0-0)		14900	18690	18300	18300	24800	24800								

MRP is exclusive of Taxes.

Fertilizers grade mentioned at Sl. No. 7,23,24,25 are not under subsidy scheme presently.

Blank space/NA means not available in the market/not under subsidy scheme.

Statement-II

(In Lakh Metric Tonne)

Cumulative Requirement, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers during the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 (upto June 2014)

State	2013-14						2014-15 (Upto June 2014)					
	Urea			P&K			Urea			P&K		
	Req.	Avl.	Sales	Req.	Avl.	Sales	Req.	Avl.	Sales	Req.	Avl.	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	32.50	35.12	34.87	38.00	30.51	29.16	6.00	5.87	4.53	6.96	4.57	2.54
Arunachal Pradesh	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Assam	3.45	2.68	2.67	2.13	1.21	1.14	0.62	0.92	0.86	0.37	0.20	0.10
Bihar	21.50	18.77	18.71	10.54	7.05	6.72	3.15	4.22	3.60	1.65	1.31	0.55
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	7.00	6.43	6.34	6.06	3.99	3.75	2.45	2.26	1.90	1.78	1.74	1.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Meghalaya	0.11	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.09	0.06	0.06	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Odisha	6.80	5.33	5.21	7.85	4.29	4.04	0.80	1.29	0.83	1.49	1.38	0.81
Puducherry	0.27	0.22	0.22	0.28	0.12	0.12	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.01
Punjab	26.40	26.21	26.18	11.05	5.55	5.28	10.00	7.73	6.27	2.91	1.93	1.14
Rajasthan	18.00	18.50	18.45	7.48	5.23	5.04	2.30	2.82	2.40	1.00	1.37	1.01
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	10.50	9.12	9.11	14.84	9.82	9.35	1.69	1.84	1.77	2.46	1.43	1.11
Tripura	0.53	0.22	0.20	0.17	0.07	0.07	0.12	0.10	0.06	0.08	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	62.00	59.38	58.76	31.45	21.05	19.07	12.50	13.15	10.80	5.05	3.70	0.90
Uttarakhand	2.50	2.80	2.76	0.94	0.63	0.57	0.75	0.74	0.69	0.39	0.13	0.08
West Bengal	14.50	12.50	12.39	17.87	11.97	11.34	1.75	2.69	2.05	1.37	2.30	1.25
TOTAL	316.90	306.75	304.54	252.37	175.57	165.64	66.04	69.17	57.26	51.10	40.18	23.68

Promotion and protection of Indian pharmaceutical industry

1877. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan for constituting a regulatory body for promotion and protection of Indian pharmaceutical industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NIHAL CHAND): (a) No, Sir.

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

Implementation of Food Security Act

1878. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise status in the matter concerning infrastructure of shops for distribution to beneficiaries in urban and rural areas all over the country for implementing food security scheme of the Central Government; and

(b) whether it is a fact that certain State Governments have refused to plan according to the above Act?

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

(a) Subsidised foodgrains under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) are to be distributed through Fair Price Shops (FPSs) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The Act provides for State Governments to establish institutionalized licensing arrangements for FPSs in accordance with relevant provisions of the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001. The Act also contains provision for preference to public institutions or public bodies such as panchayats, self-help groups, co-operatives in licensing of FPSs and management of FPSs by women or their collectives. State/UT-wise number of FPSs operating in the country as reported upto 31.03.2014 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) No, Sir.

Statement*Statement indicating State/UT-wise total number of fair price shops**(as upto 31.03.2014)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total No. of Fair Price Shops
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	45322
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1568
3.	Assam	37124
4.	Bihar	44480
5.	Chhattisgarh	10888
6.	Delhi	2508
7.	Goa	501
8.	Gujarat	17251
9.	Haryana	9201
10.	Himachal Pradesh	4455
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	5902
12.	Jharkand	14395
13.	Karnataka	20405
14.	Kerala	14308
15.	Madhya Pradesh	20688
16.	Maharashtra	45828
17.	Manipur	2551
18.	Meghalaya	4202
19.	Mizoram	1247

1	2	3
20.	Nagaland	1425
21.	Odisha	29482
22.	Punjab	17815
23.	Rajasthan	23491
24.	Sikkim	1420
25.	Tamil Nadu	33490
26.	Tripura	1755
27.	Uttar Pradesh	73004
28.	Uttarakhand	8915
29.	West Bengal	20368
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	504
31.	Chandigarh	59
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	76
33.	Daman and Diu	51
34.	Lakshadweep	38
35.	Puducherry	516
TOTAL		515233

* Including State of Telangana. Separate information i.r.o. States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana has not been made available by them.

Prices of medicines

†1879. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to control the prices of many other medicines;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this direction so far; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and 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, 2011) have been included in Schedule 1 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) which contains 348 drugs covering 680 formulations. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), an independent body of experts under this Department, has been delegated the power under DPCO, 2013 to fix the ceiling price or retail price of any drug. NPPA has also fixed the prices of antidiabetic and cardiovascular medicines in respect of 108 non-scheduled formulations on 10.7.2014.

Gas based fertilizer units

1880. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to convert all naphtha based urea manufacturing fertilizer units into gas based urea manufacturing fertilizer units;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken all necessary steps to ensure that adequate gas is supplied to all Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which are manufacturing urea; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) As per the prevailing gas utilization policy of the Government, gas based urea plants are at first priority in the matter of allocation of gas. During the year 2013-14, 42.95 mnscmd of gas (domestic + RLNG) was supplied to Fertilizer sector.

EGoM in its meeting held on 23rd August, 2013 has decided that supplies to domestic gas to Fertilizer Sector be maintained at a level of 31.5 mnscmd.

Moreover, to ensure the supply of domestic gas to CPSUs, Department of Fertilizers takes up the matter with MoP&NG on regular basis.

Status of Bills passed by Madhya Pradesh Assembly

†1881. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the number of Bills passed by Madhya Pradesh Assembly which are pending for Hon'ble President's assent and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): The Government of Madhya Pradesh has forwarded the Bills as passed by the State Legislature and reserved by the Governor of Madhya Pradesh, under article 200 read with article 254(2) of the Constitution of India for consideration of the President of India under article 201 of the Constitution of India. The lists of the Bills are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Bills	Date of receiving
1.	The Madhya Pradesh Aatankavadi Evam Uchhedak Gatividhiyan Tatha Sangathit Apradh Niyantran Vidheyak, 2010.	25.05.2010
2.	The Madhya Pradesh Stamp Bill, 2009.	03.03.2010
3.	The Madhya Pradesh Kapas Bij (Purti, Vitran Evam Vikray ka Viniyaman Tatha Vikray Mulya ka Nirdharan) Vidheyak, 2010.	08.10.2010
4.	The Code of Criminal Procedure (Madhya Pradesh Amendment) Bill, 2013.	23.09.2013

It is further stated that the State Legislations are examined in consultation with the Central Ministries/Departments concerned from three angles, viz.

- (i) Repugnancy with Central laws
- (ii) Deviation from National or Central Policy; and
- (iii) Legal and Constitutional validity.

Whenever necessary, the State Governments are advised to modify/amend provisions of such legislations/Bills keeping the above in view. Sometimes, discussions are also held with the State Governments and Ministries/Departments of the Government of India with a view to arrive at the final decision. Hence no time frame can be fixed for finalizing the Bill.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Developing the country as IT hub

†1882. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to develop the country as an IT hub;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether its roadmap has been prepared alongwith the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any plan to make broadband services available to all villages in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and by when this task is proposed to be completed?

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

(b) To strengthen and enhance India's position as the Global IT hub and to use IT and cyber space as an engine for rapid, inclusive and substantial growth in the national economy, the National Policy on Information Technology (NPIT) was approved by the Cabinet on 14th September, 2012. The focus of the policy is on deployment of ICT in all sectors of the economy and providing IT based solutions to address citizen centric issues. It also aims to further boost the contribution of our IT and IT enabled services (IT-ITeS) sector to the national economy. The policy seeks to achieve the twin goals of bringing the full power of ICT within the reach of the entire country and harnessing the capability and human resources of the nation to enable India to emerge as the global hub and destination for the IT and ITe Sector by 2020.

(c) and (d) Government has approved the National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) scheme. The scheme envisages connecting all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to be created for the purpose. The details of the Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the country State/UT-wise are given in the Statement (*See below*).

The Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) viz. Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) was incorporated on 25.02.2012. BBNL is getting the project executed through 3 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) Railtel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Government of India, concerned State Governments and BBNL for free Right of Way (RoW) for laying of OFC have been signed with all States and UTs except Tamil Nadu and Lakshadweep.

NOFN project is being implemented in a phased manner and is likely to be completed by March, 2017.

Statement

*The details of Gram Panchayats to be connected by
Optical Fibre Cables (OFC)*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number Gram Panchayats (GPs)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar (UT)	67
2.	Andhra Pradesh	21852
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1756
4.	Assam	2205
5.	Bihar	8474
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	17
7.	Chhattisgarh	10041
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)	10
9.	Daman and Diu (UT)	14
10.	Gujarat	14141
11.	Haryana	6279
12.	Himachal Pradesh	3241
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	4146
14.	Jharkhand	4464
15.	Karnataka	5631
16.	Kerala	977

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number Gram Panchayats (GPs)
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	10
18.	Madhya Pradesh	23028
19.	Maharashtra	27971
20.	Manipur	3011
21.	Meghalaya	1463
22.	Mizoram	776
23.	Nagaland	1123
24.	Odisha	6234
25.	Puducherry (UT)	98
26.	Punjab	12800
27.	Rajasthan	9200
28.	Sikkim	163
29.	Tamil Nadu	12617
30.	Tripura	1038
31.	Uttar Pradesh	51994
32.	Uttarakhand	7555
33.	West Bengal	3352
TOTAL		245748

Amendment in Information Technology Act

1883. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of several recent incidents highlighting misuse and discretionary interpretation of Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2008. Government would consider amending the Act accordingly, so as to prevent such actions which pose a danger to the constitutional guarantee of free speech for all citizens;

(b) whether Government would also consider annulling the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules, 2011 which violate constitutional rights of freedom of speech and expression and replace them with new set of rules framed through a public, multi-stakeholder consultation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The provisions of section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 are in line with the freedom of speech and expression and citizen's rights enshrined in articles 19 and 21 of the Constitution of India. Section 66A was provided in the Information Technology Act, 2000 based on the international best practices and similar provisions in the Communications Acts of a number of countries. Detailed discussions were held on 29.11.2012 in the Cyber Regulation Advisory Committee (CRAC) set up under Section 88 of Information Technology Act 2000 with stakeholders including the Industry Associations, intermediaries, Civil Societies and users on Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000. In the meeting, it was unanimously agreed that the law as such is quite appropriate but care need to be taken to prevent the possibilities of its misuse and all concerned would work together to minimize the unintended consequences and evolve the processes and guidelines to prevent misinterpretation of the provisions of the Act.

Accordingly, Government on 9.1.2013 issued an Advisory to State Governments for proper implementation of Section 66A of the Information Technology Act 2000.

In a writ petition No. 167 of 2012, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 16.5.2013 has directed all the States/ Union Territories to ensure compliance to the Advisory before effecting arrest under Section 66A of IT Act 2000. Hon'ble Supreme Court also directed that a copy of the Order be sent to Chief Secretaries of all the States / Union Territories. Accordingly, the copy of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order and Advisory was sent to the Chief Secretaries of all the States / Union Territories on 10.6.2013. State Governments have informed that steps have been initiated to comply with the Advisory in line with the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(b) and (c) The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 was reviewed in a Round Table meeting on 2nd August 2012 and also on 29.11.12 in the CRAC meeting with all stakeholders including Members of Parliament, Industry representatives and Intermediaries. After detailed deliberations, there was a consensus from all the participants in the meeting on the need for the intermediaries to observe due

diligence and exercise care while uploading the content as well as removal / disablement of objectionable content. There was also consensus that the process followed by the Government in framing the Rules was fair and transparent.

In fact, in the Writ Petition No 3672/2012 of K.N. Govindacharya vs Union of India, Delhi High Court directed the intermediaries, including the social networking sites such as Facebook and Orkut, to follow the Sub Rule 11 Intermediary Guidelines Rules 2011 and publish the names of the respective Grievance Officers on their websites along with contact numbers as well as mechanism by which any user or any victim who suffers as a result of access or usage of computer resource by any person in violation of rule 3, can notify their complaints against such access or usage. Further, the Division Bench of the Allahabad High Court (Lucknow Bench) had also issued directions to ensure that Sub Rule 3(11) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 is implemented in the country in its letter and spirit.

Communication and information technology connectivity in the country

†1884. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the population of the country which has access to communication and information technology connectivity so far;

(b) the total number of villages which have got connectivity resources like telephonic and computer linkages, so far;

(c) whether Government is working upon any plan to completely link the North western and Himalayan States with communication and info media; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) There are 938.34 million total telephone subscribers as on 31.05.2014, and 251.59 million internet subscribers as on 31.03.2014 in the country. National tele-density (per 100 subscribers) is 75.51% as on 31.05.2014.

(b) As on 31.05.2014, 5,82,368 out of the 5,93,601 inhabited villages of the country as per Census 2001 have been covered with Village Public Telephones (VPTs). Computers

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

are provided by users which includes concerned agencies of Central Government and State Governments.

(c) and (d) Various schemes are being implemented/planned with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for providing telecom services in rural and remote areas of the country.

National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project is planned to connect all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 Lakh) in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibers of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Railtel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) and laying incremental fiber wherever necessary to bridge the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats (GPs) and Blocks. The project is being executed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL). Once NOFN is implemented, broadband connectivity would be available at all Gram Panchyats including villages in North-Western India and Himalayan States.

In its meeting held on 13.06.2014, the Telecom Commission accorded 'in-principle' approval for a scheme for providing mobile services in uncovered villages with the financial support of USOF and directed that Detailed Project Report (DPR) be prepared for the same. Uncovered villages in the country are proposed to be covered in a phased manner including villages in North-Western India and Himalayan States.

Effect of mobile phones on teenagers

1885. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of teenagers who are using mobile phones in the country;
- (b) whether excessive use of such phone causes any kind of harmful effect on children;
- (c) whether it is a fact that teenagers who use such phones are prone to abnormalities, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action plan to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, the information about percentage of teenagers using mobile phones is not maintained in Department of Telecom (DoT).

(b) and (c) Some concerns about ill effects of EMF radiations due to use of mobile phones on humans (including children) have been raised. However, World Health Organization (WHO) in its Fact Sheet No. 304, May 2006 on Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health (Base Stations and Wireless Technologies) has concluded that “considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak Radio Frequency (RF) Signals from base stations and wireless networks cause adverse health effects.” “From all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF Signals produced by base stations (mobile phone towers)”.

Further, in a Writ Petition filed in Hon’ble High Court Allahabad, Lucknow bench, the Hon’ble Court vide its order dated 10.01.2012 constituted a committee including Members from NTs Kharagpur, Kanpur, Delhi, Roorkee, Bombay and from other scientific institutions of the country including Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) Delhi. The committee submitted its Report on 17-01-2014. The Committee in its report has observed that: “as regards the possible health hazards of EMF radiation from mobile phones, WHO has concluded in its Fact Sheet No. 193, year 2011 that a large number of studies have been performed over the last two decades to assess whether mobile phones pose a potential health risk”. Further, “to date, no adverse health effects have been established as being caused by mobile phone use. The studies are still going on in different parts of the world to assess possible health effects of mobile phone exposure”.

(d) WHO has recommended that ‘National authorities should adopt international standards to protect their citizens against adverse levels of RF fields. They should restrict access to areas where exposure limits may be exceeded.’ WHO has referred to the International Exposure Guidelines developed by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) for Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) radiation limits. Department of Telecommunication (DoT) has already prescribed stricter precautionary limits for EMF radiation from mobile tower. The present prescribed limits for EMF radiations from Base Station in India are one-tenth (1/10th) of the limits prescribed by ICNIRP.

In order to ensure compliance to the prescribed EMF radiation limits from mobile tower in India, self-certificates are required to be submitted by telecom service providers as per the guidelines issued by DoT. To cross check these, audit of base transceiver station (BTS) sites is carried out by Telecom Enforcement Resource & Monitoring (TERM) field units of DoT. This is regularly done by TERM units for the purpose of monitoring that

the EMF radiation exposure is within prescribed norms. In case, any BTS site is found to violate the prescribed EMF norms, as per the prescribed procedure, actions are taken by imposing a penalty of ₹ 10 lakh per BTS per incidence.

Fight against cyber crime

1886. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to enter into a CBI-National Association of Software and Services Companies pact to fight cyber crime;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) how far will this ensure bringing in the latest technological development from across the globe and industry to CBI to control this menace?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In the year 2010, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Data Security Council of India (DSCI), a not-for-profit company, set up by National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) for the period 2010-12. The said MoU between CBI and DSCI was renewed again in the year 2014 focusing on the capacity building of Law Enforcement Agencies for combating Cyber Crime in the Country. A number of courses pertaining to Cyber Crime Investigation are coordinated at CBI Academy in collaboration with DSCI.

(c) The MoU enables in bringing in the latest technological developments from across the globe and the industry to CBI to control the Cyber Crime menace. As part of the MoU reputed national and international faculties have been invited for various sessions on computer forensics and Cyber Crime Investigations and also to apply innovative information technology tools in Cyber Forensics. The training for cyber crime investigation has been provided to officers from CBI, investigation officers of state police organisations and countries of South Asia.

Classifying set top boxes as telecom network equipment

1887. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has come forward to resolve the hurdles and issues in the indigenization of digitization by classifying Set Top Boxes (STBs) as telecom network equipment;

(b) whether this move is likely to bring down the prices of STBs to facilitate completion of phase 3 and 4 of the on-going digitization process, requiring around 7-8 crores; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Department of Telecommunications has declared Set Top Boxes as a part of Telecommunication Network, on the basis of which a proposal is under consideration in the Department of Revenue to include Set Top Boxes in the definition of goods for use in the “Telecommunications Network” under Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 to extend the facility of form ‘C to Set Top Boxes, which is likely to reduce their prices as this would result into applicability of 2% of Central Sales Taxes on inter-state sales and make them more competitive *vis-a-vis* imported Set Top Boxes.

Cyber attack

1888. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian cyber space is becoming more vulnerable to cyber attacks and terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of incidents of cyber attacks during last three years and the current year;

(c) the nations from where maximum cyber attacks are originating against India;

(d) the steps taken to take up this matter with the stakeholders of those nations to prevent such attacks; and

(e) whether Government proposes to set up a National Cyber Coordination Centre, a multi-agency body, to check cyber attacks and terrorism, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) With the increase in the proliferation of Information Technology and related services there is a rise in number of cyber security incidents. The trend in increase in cyber incidents is similar to that worldwide. During the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 (till May), a total no. of 21699, 27605, 28481 and 9174 Indian websites were hacked by various hacker groups spread

across worldwide. In addition, during these years, a total No. of 13301, 22060, 71780 and 62189 security incidents respectively were reported to the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In). These incidents included phishing, scanning, spam, malicious code, denial of service, website intrusion etc.

(c) It has been observed that attackers are compromising computer systems located in different parts of the World and use masquerading techniques and hidden servers to hide the identity of actual system from which the attacks are being launched. It is difficult to attribute the origin of cyber attacks. The majority of these attacks against Indian cyber space have been observed to be originating from the cyber space of a number of countries including USA, Europe, Brazil, Turkey, China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Algeria and UAE.

(d) Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) on receiving the reports of cyber attacks from foreign nations, work with its counterparts and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) in the respective country from where the attacks are originating to identify the sources of attacks and taking appropriate actions to stop such activities as may be necessary and within their jurisdiction.

(e) The Government has initiated action to set up National Cyber Coordination Centre to coordinate with multiple agencies and stakeholders for preventing cyber attacks, reducing vulnerability to cyber attacks and minimizing damage and recovery time from such attacks when they occur.

Complaints regarding faulty/sub-standard telephone devices

1889. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints have been received regarding sub-standard quality of telephone devices installed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) which do not function properly;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received in this regard during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to replace the faulty/sub-standard telephone devices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported that no complaint has been received regarding faulty devices of Basic Telephone services being provided by it in the country. However, sometimes telephones services get affected in the following conditions:

- Fault occurring in devices due to aging.
- Faults occurring due to mishandling of the device.

(c) BSNL takes prompt action to replace the faulty device as soon as the same are detected and achieve the quality of service parameters prescribed by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

BSNL has taken many steps to prevent faulty devices of Basic Telephone Services, some of which are as under:

- By seeking warranty from the manufacturer/supplier for a prescribed period of time.
- By undertaking quality assurance tests before acceptance of device and its use in the BSN Network.
- By awarding Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) to the supplier/original device manufacturers for keeping the device in good condition.

Usage charge for new spectrum

1890. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set 5 per cent usage charge for new spectrum; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) It has been decided that the Spectrum Usage Charges (SUC) for the spectrum in 1800 Megahertz (MHz) and 900 MHz bands acquired through auction held in February, 2014 will be levied at the rate of 5 percent of the Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR). In case of the combination of existing spectrum in these bands, and spectrum acquired through the auction, the weighted average will apply to the entire spectrum held by the Telecom Service Provider in 900 MHz and 1800 MHz bands. The licensees who do not acquire spectrum in this auction shall continue to pay SUC according to the existing slab rate.

Complaints regarding faulty telephone and shifting of telephone connections

†1891. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had issued instructions in June, 1996, whereby there is provision of shifting of local telephone connections in seven days, shifting from one exchange to another in 15 days, shifting from one State to another in one month and repair of out-of-order telephone within 48 hours; and

(b) if so, the number of complaints officials of several telecommunication/ MTNL especially in Delhi have received separately from June, 1996 to till date, State-wise and which have not been redressed as per above-said instructions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Fire at National Institute of Electronics and Information
Technology, Chandigarh**

1892. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a major fire in the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology in Chandigarh;

(b) whether dowsing of fire could not be speeded up in view of the faulty building design of the institute;

(c) the reasons behind the fire;

(d) the extent of damage caused due to fire; and

(e) what preventive steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. A fire incident has taken place in the rented premises of National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), Chandigarh.

(b) NIELIT has reported that, the Estates Officer or Fire Department of Chandigarh Administration has not served any violation notice regarding faulty building to the NIELIT, Chandigarh Centre.

(c) The actual cause of fire has not yet been established.

(d) The loss due to fire is estimated by NIELET to be approximately to the tune of ₹ 5 crore to 7 crore.

(e) A detailed advisory aimed towards preventing such incidents in future has been issued by the office of Registrar, NIELIT and the Managing Director, NIELIT to the Directors of all NIELIT Centres.

Import of telecom equipments

1893. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the increase in import of telecom items and devices in the recent years, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to increase domestic production of telecom equipments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. India's import of Telecom equipments for the last three years are as under:

Year	Value (₹ crores)
2011-12	59447.40
2012-13	61539.01
2013-14	74116.21

Source: DGCIS.

(b) and (c) The Government has imposed basic custom duty at 10% on specified telecommunication products that are outside the purview of the information technology agreement. The Government has also imposed education cess on imported electronic products to provide parity between domestically produced goods and imported goods.

The policy for providing preference to domestic manufacturers for 23 notified telecom products in Government procurement is under implementation.

Department of Telecommunications has declared Set Top Boxes as a part of Telecommunication Network, on the basis of which a proposal is under consideration in the Department of Revenue to include Set Top Boxes in the definition of goods for use in the "Telecommunications Network" under Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 to extend the

facility of form 'C' to Set Top Boxes, which is likely to reduce their prices as this would result into applicability of 2% of Central Sales Taxes on interstate sales and make them more competitive *vis-a-vis* imported Set Top Boxes.

Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme provides financial assistance for creating world-class infrastructure for electronics manufacturing units and Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) provides financial incentives to offset disability and attract investments in the manufacturing of electronics products (including telecom).

Government has approved setting up of two semiconductor wafer fabrication (FAB) manufacturing facilities in India which would create the necessary ecosystem for design and manufacturing of telecom equipments.

Foreign direct investment up to 100% is allowed in manufacturing of telecom products under the automatic route.

Further, Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI)-and industry led autonomous "not for profit" Standards Development Organization (SDO) for Telecom products and services has been set up for the development of standards for Telecom especially suited to Indian environment and incorporation of the same in the International standards. This SDO for Telecom will help Indian companies to develop standards for telecom products and services to meet Indian specific environment, which is expected to promote indigenous R&D and manufacturing.

Certificate of authenticity by global GSM handset makers

1894. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has asked the global GSM handset makers to provide a certificate of authenticity to ensure that mobile phones with dubious International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) numbers do not enter the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the move is aimed at checking circulation of unauthorised GSM phones, which is affecting handset makers such as Samsung, Sony, Nokia and Black Berry; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has issued a notification No. 14/2009-2014 dated 14th October, 2009 that import of 'Mobile Handsets' classified under ITC (HS) code '8517' without International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) Number or with all zeroes IMEI is prohibited with immediate effect. In the same notification, import of Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) mobile phones (classified under ITC (HS) '8517' without Electronic Serial Number (ESN)/Mobile Equipment Identifier (MEID) or with all zeroes as ESN /MEID is prohibited with immediate effect.

Further, to check the circulation of unauthorized Global System for Mobile (GSM) phones, the instructions have been issued by Department of Telecommunications (DoT) *vide* letter dated 27.11.2009 directing all the telecom service providers that calls from mobile handsets with any IMEI number which is not available in the latest updated IMEI database of GSM Association or without IMEI or all 'Zero' as IMEI should not be processed and must be rejected with effect from 30.11.2009.

Radiation emitted from mobile towers

†1895. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the radiation emitting from the mobile towers installed on the homes/buildings adversely affect human body, and it is likely to cause various diseases, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any report regarding above mobile towers or the standards adopted in other countries in this regard so that it may not cause any adverse effect on human body, the details thereof; and

(c) the norms set by Government for mobile towers in view of protection of health of human beings, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, World Health Organization (WHO) in its Fact Sheet No. 304, May 2006 on Electro Magnetic Fields (EMF) and Public Health (Base Stations and Wireless Technologies) has concluded that "considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak Radio Frequency (RF) Signals from base stations and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

wireless networks cause adverse health effects.” “From all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF Signals produced by base stations (mobile phone towers)”. Further, WHO has referred to approximately 25,000 studies, conducted around the world over past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has concluded: “current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to EMF radiation”.

(b) and (c) WHO has recommended that “National authorities should adopt international standards to protect their citizens against adverse levels of RF fields. They should restrict access to areas where exposure limits may be exceeded.” WHO has referred to the International Exposure Guidelines developed by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) for Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) radiation limits. Many countries have adopted EMF radiation limits prescribed by ICNIRP. However, Department of Telecommunication (DoT) has prescribed stricter precautionary limits for EMF radiation from mobile tower which is one-tenth (1/10th) of the limits prescribed internationally by ICNIRP.

The present norms for exposure limits for the radio frequency field (Base Station Emission) in India are placed below-

Frequency Range	E-Field Strength (Volt/Meter (V/m))	H-Field Strength (Amp/Meter (A/m))	Power Density (Watt/Sq. Meter (W/Sq.m))
400 MHz to 2000 MHz	$0.434f^{1/2}$	$0.0011f^{1/2}$	$f/2000$
2GHz to 300GHz	19.29	0.05	1

[f = frequency in Mega Hertz (MHz)]

Software Technology Parks

1896. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of physical and financial targets fixed and achieved by the Software Technology Parks in the country during the current plan so far;

(b) whether there has been under performance in this regard;

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to achieve the targets set?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) A total of 53 Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) centres are currently operational in the country. As per policy for setting up a new STPI centre, on receipt of a proposal from the State Government, STPI jointly with the State Government concerned conducts a feasibility study to evaluate the export potential and commercial viability of the proposal. Since the initiative for setting up a STPI centre lies with the State Government, it is not feasible for STPI to set targets for setting up of new STPI centres.

(b) to (d) As per reports, the STPI Centres are performing satisfactorily. The main objective of STPI is to promote IT-ITeS exports from the country. The services rendered by STPI Centres include statutory services to various STP units as per the Foreign Trade Policy, Datacom Services and the incubation facilities. The Centres are rendering aforesaid services to their clients.

Health hazards from mobile towers/phones

1897. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that varying reports are coming out regarding health hazards of radiation from mobile towers and mobile phones;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken any scientific study in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Further, in a Writ Petition filed in Hon'ble High Court Allahabad, Lucknow bench, the Hon'ble Court *vide* its order dated 10.01.2012 constituted a committee including Members from IITs Kharagpur, Kanpur, Delhi, Roorkee, Bombay and from other scientific institutions of the country including Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) Delhi. The committee submitted its Report on 17-01-2014. The committee in its report has observed that: "as regards the possible health hazards of EMF radiation from mobile phones, WHO has concluded in its Fact Sheet No. 193, year 2011 that a large number of studies have been performed over the last two decades to assess whether mobile phones pose a potential health risk". Further, "to date, no adverse health effects have been established as being caused by mobile phone use. Further studies are ongoing in different parts of the world to assess possible health effects of mobile phone exposure".

(b) to (d) WHO has referred to approximately 25,000 studies, conducted around the world over past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has concluded: "current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to EMF radiation".

In India, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has taken initiative to study possible impact of EMF radiation exposure from mobile towers and handsets in the non-ionizing band (300MHZ to 3 GHZ) on life. *i.e.* Humans, Living Organisms, Flora & Fauna and Environment. SERB has short listed 79 proposals for carrying out scientific studies.

Amendment in TRAI Act

1898. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to revive investor confidence in the telecom sector and make it more viable given that the sector has suffered greatly on account of poor Regulatory Orders and excessive litigation;

(b) whether Government would consider reviewing and amending the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act to address the regulatory inadequacies and impediments in the effective discharge of TRAI's functions;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when this is likely to be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government is preparing a plan of action, the details of which are being worked out.

(b) to (d) Comprehensive legislative proposal to review and harmonise the existing legal framework is under consideration of the Government.

Information access to US agencies

1899. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that US agencies are getting access to information exchanged by people within this country through google and such US based internet channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government would take steps to protect secrecy of information stored and exchanged at Government level, between Government and people as also among people within country; and

(c) whether Government would spend its own resources to have alternate servers and agencies rather than depend on foreign agencies and FDI?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Sir, Taking note of the disclosure by foreign media reports in June 2013 about extensive electronic surveillance programmes deployed by the US agencies to collect internet and telephony data, Government has expressed concerns over reported US monitoring of internet traffic from India. The violation of any of Indian laws relating to privacy of information of ordinary Indian citizens by such programmes is unacceptable. It would be a matter of concern for Government if intrusive data capture has been deployed against Indian citizens or Government infrastructure. Government has clearly conveyed these concerns to the US Government.

Government is working to enhance its capacity to protect data and information flows by building better cyber and telephony infrastructure and by evolving new cyber and telecom security practices. Government is promoting Indian players in the Information Technology field to develop and offer Internet Services by having their servers located in India, in order to protect the interests and secrecy of communication of Indian citizens. Already Rediff and Indiatimes have set up servers and accessories in the country to provide email and other services to Indian citizens.

Further, Government is also working with international fora for promoting the evolution of better international internet governance-norms, through ongoing discussions. In this direction, India is actively involved in the deliberations of United Nations Group of Governmental Experts (UNGGE) on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security. UNGGE is focusing on various issues including building cooperation for a peaceful, secure, resilient & international security and norms, rules and principles of responsible behavior by States.

Availability of foodgrains

1900. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

DR. K .V .P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

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

- (a) whether procurement of foodgrains during 2014-15 is expected to be low owing to low production;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to overcome the shortage of foodgrains, crop and State/UT-wise; and
- (d) whether adequate foodgrains stock is available to meet the contingency?

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

(a) and (b) It is too early to have an assessment of procurement in 2014-15.

(c) There are adequate foodgrain stocks available in Central pool to meet the domestic requirement.

(d) As on 01.07.2014, 212.36 lakh tonnes of rice (including unmilled paddy equivalent to 76.2 lakh tonnes of rice) and 398.01 lakh tonnes of wheat was available in the central pool. Adding the expected procurement of rice in KMS 2014-15, there would be substantially higher level of stocks available in Central Pool with Food Corporation of India (FCI) to fully meet the requirement of foodgrains in 2014-15.

Clearance to arrears to cane growers

1901. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that sugar mills owed arrears to the tune of Rs. 7000 crore to cane farmers in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that despite various incentives given to sugar mills, these arrears are not cleared by them; and
- (c) if so, the measures being taken to pressurize the State Government to see that the arrears are cleared immediately?

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

(a) As on 15.07.2014, the dues of the sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh for the current sugar season 2013-14 are ₹ 6737 crores.

(b) The cane price dues mainly pertain to supply of sugarcane in the current season and are mainly on account of low realization from sale of sugar. However, the payment of cane dues to the farmers is an ongoing process and the position is changing continuously.

(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 Uttar Pradesh have informed that they have issued Recovery Certificates including the interest amount against 52 defaulter sugar mills and lodged 60 FIRs against the 43 sugar mills for the crushing season 2013-14.

Implementation of NFSA

1902. SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) deemed to have come into force on 5 July, 2013; and
- (b) the present status of implementation of the Act in various States particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (d) Yes Sir, 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 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. States/UT of Uttarakhand, Assam and Lakshadweep have also reported completion of identification of beneficiaries. Remaining States/UTs, including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, 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.

Implementation of market intervention scheme

†1903. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards the rise in the price of essential commodities like foodgrains, pulses, edible oils and vegetables including onion in the country during the recent months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether export of tomato and onion led to their price rise; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken by Government to implement effective market intervention scheme with regard to fruits and vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) There has been increase in the prices of some essential food items including vegetables in recent months. The price increase is on account of several factors such as rise in transportation costs, anticipation of deficit rains, supply constraints and artificial

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

shortage due to hoarding and black-marketing. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) The latest steps taken in this regard by the Government include the following:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Statement*All India Average Retail Prices*

Commodity Name		Price as on 21.7.2014	1 Month Back 20.6.2014	2 Month Back 21.5.2014	3 Month Back 21.4.2014	4 Month Back 21.3.2014	5 Month Back 21.2.2014	6 Month Back 21.1.2014
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Rice	28	28	28	27	27	27	28	26
Wheat	21	21	21	21	21	22	22	22
Gram Dal	46	47	49	49	49	49	48	49
Tur/Arhar Dal	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	69
Urad Dal	72	72	69	66	66	66	65	64
Moong Dal	87	87	89	88	88	85	83	79
Masoor Dal	66	67	65	62	62	60	59	59
Sugar	36	36	36	36	36	35	34	34
Milk (Ltr.)	37	37	37	37	37	36	36	35

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Groundnut Oil (Pkd.)	123	118	124	123	121	123	121
Mustard Oil (Pkd.)	96	99	99	97	98	98	98
Vanaspati (Pkd.)	77	78	77	77	77	75	75
Soya Oil (Pkd.)	85	86	84	86	86	84	83
Sunflower Oil (Pkd.)	95	97	97	95	97	97	95
Palm Oil (Pkd.)	70	71	71	72	73	70	71
Potato	25	22	21	18	16	15	18
Onion	29	22	19	18	17	18	21
Tomato	39	19	19	18	15	15	19

Source: State Civil Supplies Department

Computerization of TPDS commodities

1904. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is pursuing the project of installing Global Positioning System (GPS) in all vehicles carrying PDS foodgrains in all States/UTs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the current status of the project regarding computerisation of TPDS commodities and smart card based delivery of essential commodities; and
- (d) whether Government is pursuing formulation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme regarding the same for all States/UTs?

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

(a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) In October 2012, Government approved Component-I of the Plan Scheme on 'End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations' for its implementation on cost sharing basis during 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17). The Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme. Component-I comprises activities, namely, digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerisation of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievance redressal mechanisms. The details regarding the status of the scheme as upto 31.05.2014 is given in the Statement (*See* below). A Pilot Scheme on smart card based delivery of essential commodities was approved in 2008-09 for its implementation in State of Haryana and Chandigarh UT. The pilot scheme has been subsumed under the Plan Scheme on 'End-to-end Computerisation of TPDS Operations'.

Statement*Statement on status of End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations*

(as upto 31.05.2014)

State/UT	FPS Data*	Godowns data*	Ration Card Data*	Online allocation	Supply- chain	Trans- parency Portal	Online grievance	Toll free number
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100%	-	100%	In Progress	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Andhra Pradesh	100%	100%	100%	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Arunachal Pradesh	100%	64%	76%	Few locations	-	Yes	-	Yes
Assam	100%	82%	-	-	-	-	-	Yes
Bihar	100%	100%	89%	In progress	In progress	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chandigarh	100%	100%	79%	Not operational	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chhattisgarh	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100%	100%	57%	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Daman and Diu	100%	100%	51%	-	-	Yes	-	-

Delhi	100%	n/a	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	-	Yes
Goa	89%	100%	100%	In Progress	In Progress	Yes	-	Yes
Gujarat	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	In Progress	Yes	Yes	Yes
Haryana	100%	100%	100%	Only 4 blocks	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Himachal Pradesh	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jammu and Kashmir	100%	100%	100%	-	-	-	-	Yes
Jharkhand	100%	100%	98%	3 Districts	-	Yes	Yes	-
Karnataka	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kerala	100%	100%	100%	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lakshadweep	100%	100%	90%	-	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	100%	100%	100%	Yes	In progress	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maharashtra	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Manipur	100%	100%	54%	-	-	-	-	Yes
Meghalaya	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mizoram	100%	100%	65%	-	-	-	-	Yes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Nagaland	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Odisha	100%	100%	2%	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes
Puducherry	100%	-	100%	2 divisions	2 divisions	Yes	Yes	-
Punjab	100%	100%	83%	-	-	Yes	-	-
Rajasthan	92%	100%	60%	-	-	-	Yes	Yes
Sikkim	100%	100%	100%	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Tamil Nadu	100%	100%	100%	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-
Tripura	100%	100%	80%	-	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	100%	100%	34%	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Uttarakhand	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	-	-
West Bengal	100%	100%	69%	In 3 districts	-	Yes	Yes	Yes

Data in most States is in the process of being verified. Some States are to push data in standard format.

Functioning of FCI

1905.SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the action taken by Government for streamlining the functioning of Food Corporation of India (FCI);
- (b) whether Government intends to bifurcate FCI in various segments; 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) For streamlining the functioning of Food Corporation of India (FCI):

- (1) A Memorandum of Understanding is signed on annual basis between Department and FCI. Through this MoU Government is, *inter-alia*, ensuring modernization of godowns, purchase of equipments for computerized analysis of foodgrains, implementation of e-procurement and e-tendering, e-upgradation of godowns and installation of CCTV in godowns, etc.
- (2) The Government has sanctioned IISFM Project as a Plan Scheme with a total estimated cost of ₹ 96.74 cr. to put in place an online MIS for stock position in any given point of time. The scope of the project was widened to include “Financial Accounting of FCI” and “Computerization of State Agencies” of major procuring / distributing States.
- (3) The District Stock Accounting Module (DISFM) / District Module is fully functional at 170 district offices.
- (4) Web-based software to automate the hiring/de-hiring process of depots, Depot Code Management System (DCMS) has been developed and released to all Districts / Regions for updation of depot capacity, category etc. This application has been successfully integrated with IRRS and is helping in managing the hiring/ de-hiring of depots, their codification, changes in storage capacity etc.
- (5) The on-line, simplified depot application Rapid reporting Service (IRRS) has been implemented in all depots across the country. Most of the depots are updating stock information on a daily basis. IRRS generated reports are being used for decision making at various level.

(b) Government has not taken any decision so far to bifurcate FCI in various segments.

(c) Does not arise.

Buffer stock of foodgrains

1906. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has huge buffer stock of foodgrains to meet any challenges of food crisis in the country;

(b) if so, the total quantity of foodgrains that constitute the buffer stock, food article-wise;

(c) whether a huge quantity of foodgrains lying in the warehouses are vulnerable to spoliation and unfit for human consumption; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) Government has sufficient quantity of foodgrains in the Central Pool, which includes buffer stocks, to meet the requirements under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) at the existing level of allocation.

(b) The existing buffer stock norms for rice and wheat are as under:

(in lakh tons)			
Period	Rice	Wheat	Total
1st April	142.00	70.00	212.00
1st July	118.00	201.00	319.00
1st October	72.00	140.00	212.00
1st January	138.00	112.00	250.00

(c) and (d) Foodgrains are stored in scientific manner in covered godowns and in CAP (Cover and Plinth). Due care is taken to ensure that health of the grain is monitored and maintained all the times. However, some quantities become non-issuable due to

various reasons. The details of the quantity of foodgrains stocks declared damaged during past three years and current year is as follows:

(in lakh MT)	
Year	Accrual of Non-issuable/Damaged foodgrains with FCI
2011-12	0.030
2012-13	0.030
2013-14	0.250
2014-15 (upto 31.5.2014)	0.017

Import duty on sugar

1907. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has increased the percentage of import duty on sugar, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, whether any discussion had taken place to increase it, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether sugar import duty is coming under any of the Free Trade or other agreements, if so, the details thereof including the percentage of duties as per the agreements?

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

(a) No Sir.

(b) An Informal Group of Ministers met on 23.06.2014 and deliberated upon the prevailing situation regarding cane price arrears and issues relating to Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme, Production and Export of Raw Sugar, Import Duty on Sugar and Excise Duty Loan to sugar mills.

(c) Rate of basic customs duty on raw sugar is 50% of the applied rate of duty under the Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Nil under the Free Trade Agreement with Sri Lanka.

Construction of godowns through PPP

1908. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of metric tons of foodgrains became uneatable during last three years due to non-availability of proper storage by FCI and other Government agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons that Government is not constructing godowns for proper storage through Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no shortage of storage capacity in the country. Against the total foodgrain stocks of 610.37 lakh tons in central pool as on 1.7.2014, total storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies for storage is 762.87 lakh tons. During storage, scientific code of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are adopted. However, some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged during storage due to various reasons such as storage pest attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, spillage during movement and handling of foodgrains, exposure to rains, floods, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc.

Details of foodgrains (wheat and rice) accrued as damaged during last three years and current year in Food Corporation of India (FCI) is as under:

Year	Accrual of damaged/non-issueable foodgrains (in lakh tons)	Percentage (%) against offtake from FCI
2011-12	0.033	0.007
2012-13	0.031	0.006
2013-14	0.247	0.047
2014-15 (as on 1.6.2014)	0.017	0.025

(c) The Government is developing godown capacity in Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode under the ongoing Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) scheme. Under the scheme, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) gives guarantee of ten years of assured

hiring to private entrepreneurs. In all, a capacity of 203.76 lakh tons have been approved for construction of godowns in 19 States under the scheme, out of which 20 lakh tons capacity is earmarked for construction of Silos. A total capacity of 120.30 lakh tons has been completed under the scheme including 91.77 lakh tons by private investors as on 30.6.2014.

National Food Security Act

†1909. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the two-thirds population in all the States of the country have been given the right to affordable food under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and they have begun to draw ration under the same;
- (b) whether the Act not yet been implemented in some of the States;
- (c) whether Central Government has issued directives or order to the States in this regard;
- (d) whether Government is making efforts to address many other issues like controlling food prices; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population of the country for receiving foodgrains at subsidized prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two thirds of the population.

The Act 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 their preparedness and identification of beneficiaries under TPDS reported by them. States/UT of Uttarakhand, Assam and Lakshadweep have also reported completion of identification of beneficiaries. 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.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) and (e) Implementation status of the Act is reviewed on a regular basis and necessary advisories are issued to States/UTs, wherever required. The steps taken by Government to control food prices are given in the Statement.

Statement

Steps taken by Government to control food prices

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- Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains (wheat and rice) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been kept unchanged since 2002. Under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), the issue prices are kept at highly subsidized levels *i.e.* ₹ 1/2/3 for coarse grains/wheat/rice respectively.
 - To moderate open market prices, 95 lakh tons of wheat was allocated for tender sale to bulk consumers/small private traders under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS (D)] during 2013-14. Additional 5 lakh tons of wheat was allocated for retail sale to States/UTs/Cooperatives. The quantity of wheat sold under the scheme during the year was 61.16 lakh tons. 5 lakh tons of rice was also allocated under OMSS (D) for retail sale to States/UTs during 2013-14, against which 1.68 lakh tons has been sold.
 - Government has allocated additional five million tons of rice for BPL and APL families, at BPL and APL rates respectively, for States where implementation of NFSA is yet to start.
 - Import duties for wheat, onion and pulses have been reduced to zero.
 - Banned export of edible oils (except coconut oil, forest based oil and edible oils in blended consume packs up to 5 kg with a Minimum Export price of US Dollar 1500 per ton) and pulses (except kabuli chana and organic pulses and lentils up to a maximum of 10000 tons per annum).
 - Imposed stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities such as pulses, edible oils and edible oilseeds for a period up to 30.09.2014 and in respect of paddy and rice up to 30.11.2014.
 - Suspended Futures trading in rice, urad and tur.
 - Fixed Minimum Export Price (MEP) of US Dollars 500 for onion *w.e.f.* 2.7.2014.
 - Fixed Minimum Export Price (MEP) of US Dollars 450 for potato *w.e.f.* 26.6.2014.
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- Imposition of stock holding limits on onions & potatoes under Essential Commodities Act and empowering State Governments/UTs to fix the stock limits *w.e.f.* 03.07.2014.
 - State advised to allow free movement of fruits and vegetables by delisting them from Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act.
 - Advisory issued to State Governments to take effective action against Hoarding and Black Marketing under the Essential Commodities Act 1955 and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act 1980.
 - Decision to amend Essential Commodities Act.
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Payment of dues to sugarcane farmers

†1910. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dues of the sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh is more than ₹ 9000 crore;
- (b) whether the Allahabad High Court has also instructed to pay the remaining dues to the sugarcane growers immediately;
- (c) whether the sugarcane growers are not paid interest even after delay in payment of arrears to them; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to make payment of sugarcane prices to the farmers and to check the trend of delayed payment and to ensure payment of interest to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):
(a) As on 15.07.2014, the dues of the sugarcane growers of Uttar Pradesh for the current sugar season 2013-14 are ₹ 6737 crores.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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.

(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 banks 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.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that they have issued Recovery Certificates including the interest amount against 52 defaulter sugar mills and lodged 60 FIRs against the 43 sugar mills for the crushing season 2013-14.

**Effectiveness of measures taken to tackle high inflation
of onions and potatoes**

1911. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision to put the stocks of potato and onion under Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA), 1968 is effective enough to tackle the prices of onions and potatoes;

(b) if so, the details of the mechanism involved;

(c) the loophole in the market that Government is trying to check through this decision; and

(d) the reasons for Government to put the procurement of onion and potato out of the purview of APMC Act?

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

(a) to (c) No such decision has been taken by the Government under ESMA, 1968.

(d) States have been advised to delist fruits and vegetables from the APMC Act to improve their free movement and availability.

Coordination between Centre and States for effective implementation of PDS

1912.DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that proper coordination between Central Government and State Governments is lacking due to which Public Distribution System (PDS) is not being implemented upto the expectations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial measures being taken by Government to ensure proper PDS and coordination between States and Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of Food Corporation of India (FCI). The operational responsibilities for lifting and distributing the allocated foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated foodgrains to eligible cardholders through Fair Price Shops (FPSs) are that of State/UT Governments.

TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of Central and State/UT Governments wherein close coordination is maintained for its smooth implementation. Consultations are regularly held with States/UTs before implementing various legislative/policy measures, preparing schemes for strengthening of TPDS, etc. Central Government also issues periodic advisories and holds meetings, conferences, etc. with States/UTs from time to time regarding issues relating to implementation of TPDS such as correct identification of beneficiaries, leakage free distribution of foodgrains, transparency in TPDS operations, etc.

Storage capacity

†1913. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the storage capacity of foodgrains including wheat and rice available in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is contemplating on any proposal for storage of entire estimated agricultural products, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to protect the collected foodgrains from the harms of storing in the open; and

(d) the details of the wheat, rice and other foodgrains rotten in godowns during the last ten years, State-wise?

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

(a) The total storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies for storage of central pool stocks of foodgrains including Wheat and Rice is 762.87 lakh MT. State-wise details are given below:

Sl. No.	State	Covered Godown (in LMT)	Cover and Plinth (CAP) in LMT
1	2	3	4
1.	Bihar	14.10	1.00
2.	Jharkhand	1.75	0.05
3.	Orissa	12.99	-
4.	West Bengal	14.33	0.51
5.	Assam	3.13	-
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.28	-
7.	Meghalaya	0.28	-
8.	Mizoram	0.26	-
9.	Tripura	0.38	-
10.	Manipur	0.32	-
11.	Nagaland	0.33	-
12.	Delhi	3.36	0.31
13.	Haryana	74.44	56.85

1	2	3	4
14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.34	-
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	3.16	0.10
16.	Punjab	144.64	113.55
17.	Rajasthan	24.13	6.08
18.	Uttar Pradesh	38.56	5.19
19.	Uttarakhand	3.54	0.21
20.	Andhra Pradesh	45.86	2.62
21.	Kerala	9.27	0.21
22.	Karnataka	13.74	1.36
23.	Tamil Nadu	16.71	0.67
24.	Gujarat	11.44	0.27
25.	Maharashtra	33.37	1.02
26.	Goa	0.20	-
27.	Madhya Pradesh	73.29	6.87
28.	Chhattisgarh	21.78	0.01
	TOTAL	565.98	196.89
	GRAND TOTAL	762.87	-

(b) There is no such proposal with the Government.

(c) The Cover and Plinth (CAP) method of storage is undertaken to deal with the increased arrival of foodgrains in the procurement season. CAP is a scientific method of storage. However, the following precautions are taken in CAP storage to protect the foodgrains from loss/damage:

- (i.) The site is so selected that it is above the adjoining ground and away from drains/streams to prevent any flooding during rainy season.
- (ii.) Adequate dunnage is provided for all stacks and is disinfected either by fumigation or by treating with contact insecticides such as DDVP.

- (iii.) In the CAP, stacks are built in the form of dome (inverted 'U') to facilitate easy flow of rain water and prevent accumulation of water on the top.
- (iv.) Each stack is covered with a polythene cover, especially made for this purpose, and properly lashed by nylon ropes vertically to prevent damage to the covers due to high velocity winds, rains, dusts, storms etc.
- (v.) Rodent control measures are also taken by fumigating the rat burrows with aluminium phosphide or by poisoning the rodents with Zinc Phosphide. Anti-termite measures are also taken.
- (vi.) Stocks held in CAP are generally issued/moved on priority based on the principle of "First In First Out" (FIFO).

Augmentation of covered godowns capacity is also being done to minimise use of CAP storage. Under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme, a capacity of 203.76 Lakh MT has been approved for construction of godowns in PPP mode in 19 States and construction of 120.30 Lakh MT has been completed as on 30.06.2014. Godowns are also being constructed under a Plan Scheme to create capacity of 3,68,950 MT during 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) mostly in the North Eastern Region and the capacity completed in the last two years (2012-13 and 2013-14) is 27,070 MT.

(d) The details of wheat, rice and other foodgrains accrued as Non- Issuable (damaged) with FCI during storage in the last ten years are given below:

(Fig. in MT)

Year	Wheat	Rice	Others	Total
2005-06	14840	8025	-	95075
2006-07	1007	24311	35	25353
2007-08	924	32615	887	34426
2008-09	947	19163	4	20114
2009-10	2010	3680	1012	6702
2010-11	1997	1908	2441	6346
2011-12	2401	936	-	3337
2012-13	2417	728	3	3148

Year	Wheat	Rice	Others	Total
2013-14	13329	11366	-	24695
2014-15 (upto 31.5.2014)	938	806	-	1744

Campaign against hoarding and black-marketing

1914. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to amend the concerned legislations relating to hoarding of essential commodities to make hoarding and black-marketing a non-bailable offence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it would strengthen the mechanism of vigilance, monitoring and market intelligence to prevent hoarding at a large scale throughout the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether local representatives and NGOs would be involved in the mass campaign against hoarding and black-marketing;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, how Government proposes to deal with such cases in a streamlined way on a permanent basis?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government intends to amend 'the Essential Commodities Act, 1955' and 'the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980'.

(b) Amendments are proposed to make both the Acts more stringent and to strengthen enforcement. The amendment proposed primarily relate to the following aspects:

I. The Essential Commodities Act, 1955:

- Offences to be made non-bailable

- Setting up of special courts
- Definition of 'Foodstuffs'

II. The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980:

- Increase in the limit of detention period
- Increase in time limit for approval by State Government and
- Reporting to the Central Government.

(c) The vigilance, monitoring and market intelligence to prevent hoarding is to be ensured by the State Governments and UTs as enforcement authorities.

(d) The deterrence against the offences under the Essential Commodities Act, will strengthen.

(e) and (f) There is no decision of mass campaign as on date. NGOs, States and Local bodies may awaken the people against hoarding and black-marketing. Both the Acts do not bar any person, organization, association, authority or public representative from campaigning against hoarding and black-marketing.

(g) The States and UTs have been empowered enough to deal with the cases of hoarding and black-marketing as they are the enforcing authorities.

Price-rise of essential commodities

1915. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that prices of essential commodities continue to rise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the percentage of increase in some of the commodities like rice, wheat, pulses, edible oil, milk, etc. during the last four quarters, quarter-wise, commodity-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to control prices and to insulate the common man?

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

(a) to (c) The rise in prices of essential commodities is due to several factors such as rise in transportation costs, anticipation of deficit rains, supply constraints and artificial shortage due to hoarding and black-marketing. Details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

- (d) Details are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I*All India Average Retail Prices and Quarterly Variation (%)*

All India Average Retail Price (Rs. per kg.)

Commodity	As on 21.7.2014	I Quarter		II Quarter		III Quarter		IV Quarter		% Variation Over			
		21.04.2014		21.01.2014		21.10.2013		22.7.2013		I quarter			
		As on	As on	As on	As on	As on	As on	As on	As on	I quarter	II Quarter	III Quarter	IV Quarter
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
Rice	28	27	26	27	26	3	5	4	6				
Wheat	21	21	22	21	20	2	-2	3	5				
Gram Dal	46	49	49	51	53	-5	-6	-10	-12				
Tur/Arhar Dal	70	70	69	69	69	0	1	1	2				
Urad Dal	72	66	64	61	58	9	12	18	24				
Moong Dal	87	88	79	74	74	-2	9	17	17				
Masoor Dal	66	62	59	59	58	6	12	12	13				
Sugar	36	36	34	36	36	1	5	1	0				
Milk (Ltr.)	37	37	35	34	34	0	5	8	8				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Groundnut Oil (Pkd.)	123	123	121	126	130	0	2	-2	-6
Mustard Oil (Pkd.)	96	97	98	95	98	-1	-2	0	-2
Vanaspati (Pkd.)	77	77	75	74	71	-1	3	4	9
Soya Oil (Pkd.)	85	86	83	84	84	-1	2	1	1
Sunflower Oil (Pkd.)	95	95	95	98	98	-1	-1	-3	-3
Palm Oil (Pkd.)	70	72	71	69	67	-3	-1	1	4
Potato	25	18	18	18	18	33	39	37	36
Onion	29	18	21	56	31	65	37	-48	-7
Tomato	39	18	19	32	41	121	104	23	-3

Source: State Civil Supplies Departments

Statement-II*Recent steps taken by the Government*

The recent steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items include the following:

- 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 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.
-

Corruption in PDS system

†1916. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government's plan to completely computerise the public distribution system is under process;

(b) if so, the details of the achievements made in this direction so far and by when this task will be completed;

(c) whether massive corruption is prevalent in the public distribution system of many States in the country and the stored foodgrains for public distribution are black marketed on large-scale; and

(d) if so, the short-term as well as the long term plan of Government for putting an end to corruption and black-marketing altogether?

†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) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has initiated implementation of Component-I of the Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System Operations'. Component-I comprises digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portal and grievance redressal mechanisms. The status of implementation of Component-I as upto 31.05.2014 is given in the Statement (*See* below). As per the timelines under the scheme, digitisation of beneficiary database was to be completed by March, 2013 and computerization of supply-chain management was to be completed by October, 2013 by all States/UTs. However, implementation is uneven across the country due to delay in finalization of action plans by States/UTs, late submission of their proposals for financial assistance, practical problems faced during implementation, etc.

(c) and (d) There have been complaints about irregularities including corruption, leakage/diversion, etc. in the functioning of TPDS in some States/regions in the country. As and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action. In consultation with the State/UT Governments, a Nine Point Action Plan was evolved in 2006, which *inter-alia* includes continuous review of BPL/AAY lists and to eliminate bogus/ineligible ration cards alongwith strict action to be taken against the guilty to ensure leakage free distribution of foodgrains. State/UT Governments were also requested to initiate penal action against the Government staff found responsible for issuing bogus/ineligible ration cards and the families/persons possessing such ration cards.

In order to maintain supplies and securing availability and distribution of essential commodities, Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been notified by the Government which mandates, the State/UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. PDS (Control) Order, 2001 empowers State/UT Governments to take punitive action under clauses 8 and 9 in case of contravention of relevant provisions of the Order.

Strengthening and streamlining of TPDS is a continuous process. To improve functioning of TPDS, Government has been regularly issuing advisories and holding conferences wherein State/UT Governments are requested for continuous review of lists of beneficiaries, improving the offtake of allocated foodgrains, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools, improving the viability of FPS operations, etc.

Statement*Statement on status of Component-I of End-to-end Computerization of TPDS Operations*

		(as upto 31.05.2014)						
State/UT	FPS Data*	Godowns data*	Ration Card Data*	Online allocation	Supply-chain	Trans- parency Portal	Online grievance	Toll free number
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100%	-	100%	In Progress	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Andhra Pradesh	100%	100%	100%	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Arunachal Pradesh	100%	64%	76%	Few locations	-	Yes	-	Yes
Assam	100%	82%	-	-	-	-	-	Yes
Bihar	100%	100%	89%	In progress	In progress	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chandigarh	100%	100%	79%	Not operational	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chhattisgarh	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100%	100%	57%	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Daman and Diu	100%	100%	51%	-	-	Yes	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Delhi	100%	n/a	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	-	Yes
Goa	89%	100%	100%	In Progress	In Progress	Yes	-	Yes
Gujarat	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	In Progress	Yes	Yes	Yes
Haryana	100%	100%	100%	Only 4 blocks	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Himachal Pradesh	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jammu and Kashmir	100%	100%	100%	-	-	-	-	Yes
Jharkhand	100%	100%	98%	3 Districts	-	Yes	Yes	-
Karnataka	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	Implemented	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kerala	100%	100%	100%	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lakshadweep	100%	100%	90%	-	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	100%	100%	100%	Yes	In progress	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maharashtra	100%	100%	100%	Implemented	-	Yes	Yes	Yes
Manipur	100%	100%	54%	-	-	-	-	Yes
Meghalaya	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes

Mizoram	100%	100%	65%	-	-	-	-	Yes
Nagaland	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Odisha	100%	100%	2%	Yes	Partially	Yes	Yes	Yes
Puducherry	100%	-	100%	2 divisions	2 divisions	Yes	Yes	-
Punjab	100%	100%	83%	-	-	Yes	-	-
Rajasthan	92%	100%	60%	-	-	-	Yes	Yes
Sikkim	100%	100%	100%	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Tamil Nadu	100%	100%	100%	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-
Tripura	100%	100%	80%	-	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	100%	100%	34%	-	-	Yes	-	Yes
Uttarakhand	100%	100%	-	-	-	Yes	-	-
West Bengal	100%	100%	69%	In 3 districts	-	Yes	Yes	Yes

*Data in most States is in the process of being verified. Some States are to push data in standard format

**Includes State of Telengana

Settlement of arrears to cane farmers

1917. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had envisaged a financial package plan for payment of cane price arrears of previous sugarcane season and timely settlement of cane price for current season to sugarcane farmers; and

(b) if so, the details of the fund earmarked for this purpose and the amount settled so far since inception of the financial package, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) The Central Government on 03.01.2014 has notified a 'Scheme for Extending Financial Assistance to Sugar Undertakings, 2014 (SEFASU, 2014)' envisaging interest free loans worth ₹ 6600 crores by Banks as additional working capital to sugar mills for clearance of cane price arrears of previous sugarcane season and timely settlement of cane price for current season to sugarcane farmers. As per the information received from the nodal bank i.e. State Bank of India, loans amounting to ₹ 5914 crores have been sanctioned upto 30.06.2014 under the scheme. Out of the sanctioned amount, ₹ 5211 crores have been disbursed to the sugar mills upto 18.07.2014. A statement indicating state-wise details of the loan amount sanctioned and disbursed to sugar mills under the scheme is given in the Statement.

Statement*Amount of loan sanctioned/disbursed to Sugar Mills under SEFASU, 2014*

Sl. No.	States	Sanctioned		Disbursed	
		No. of Mills	Amount (₹ in crore)	No. of Mills	Amount (₹ in crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26	187.45	17	141.29
2.	Bihar	4	50.78	1	9.62
3.	Delhi	2	175.06	2	175.06
4.	Goa	1	2.98	1	2.98

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Gujarat	13	286.96	13	283.64
6.	Haryana	11	104.10	11	104.10
7.	Karnataka	42	476.73	32	363.71
8.	Madhya Pradesh	7	26.56	0	0.00
9.	Maharashtra	109	1889.08	105	1724.99
10.	Punjab	18	151.30	7	69.22
11.	Telangana	1	1.04	1	1.04
12.	Tamil Nadu	37	606.38	37	556.66
13.	Uttar Pradesh	76	1875.27	75	1779.44
14.	Uttarakhand	9	80.71	0	0.00
TOTAL		356	5914.40	302	5211.75

Source: TUFS Cell, State Bank of India

Measures to control rising prices of essential commodities

1918. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the current Whole sale Price Index (WPI) of essential commodities including vegetables, foodgrains, edible oil, pulses etc.;

(b) whether there has been a rise in the prices of essential commodities during the last six months, if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government has assessed the extent of losses on account of damage to foodgrains due to shortage of storage space, unsafe storage and poor handling and if so, the details and the outcome thereof indicating the quantum and value of foodgrains lost during last five years; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by Government to control the rising prices of essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Over the last six months (i.e. January, 2014 to June, 2014), the rate of inflation for Food Articles rose by 6.85% and for Food Products by 1.84% respectively. The details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) As reported by FCI, no damage of foodgrains can be directly attributed to lack of adequate storage space. However, foodgrains can be damaged due to loss of moisture during prolonged storage, spillage, exposure to rains, floods, pilferage, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc.

The requisite details during the last five years in FCI is as under:

Year	Accrued quantity of damaged/non issuable foodgrains (in tonnes)	Estimated loss (In ₹)
2009-10	6,702	629,25,012.00
2010-11	6,346	658,12,772.80
2011-12	3,338	345,16,636.00
2012-13	3,148.44	248,94,207.49
2013-14	24,695.455	2,386,79,454.40

Source: FCI

(d) The recent steps taken by the Government to contain price rise of essential commodities are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Food Inflation based on Wholesale Price Index (January 2014 to June 2014)

Commodity	Wholesale Price Index		% Variation (Jan.- June'2014)
	January 2014	June 2014	
1	2	3	4
Food Articles	233.7	249.7	6.85
Cereals	229.9	231.3	0.61
Rice	230.0	241.1	4.83

1	2	3	4
Wheat	220.2	206.7	-6.13
Pulses	226.9	233.8	3.04
Gram	208.0	197.5	-5.05
Arhar	214.4	217.0	1.21
Moong	305.4	351.9	15.23
Masur	223.1	248.4	11.34
Urad	243.3	269.7	10.85
Vegetables	216.8	271.6	25.28
Potato	198.6	304.0	53.07
Onion	341.6	302.8	-11.36
Tomato	181.8	NA	NA
Fruits	202.4	226.9	12.10
Milk	225.7	237.6	5.27
Eggs, Meat & Fish	284.9	293.1	2.88
Food Products	168.5	171.6	1.84
Sugar	184.5	187.3	1.52
Edible Oils	147.1	145.1	-1.36
Vanaspati	123.4	125.1	1.38
Groundnut Oil	173.0	160.6	-7.17
Palm Oil	128.4	129.9	1.17
Mustard & Rapeseed Oil	159.2	154.2	-3.14
Soyabean Oil	158.6	155.3	-2.08
Sunflower Oil	128.2	125.8	-1.87

Source: Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion.

Statement-II

*The 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 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.
 - 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.
-

Food processing units at Goa

1919. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of food processing units functioning in Goa and the items they process;
- (b) the financial assistance given to each of such units;
- (c) the essential features of the present schemes in force;

(d) whether any further financial assistance is proposed to be given to the units in Goa; and

(e) whether cashew nuts are included in the scheme of the Government; and if so, the assistance given to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not maintain data on number of food processing units functioning in the country including Goa. However, as per Annual Survey of Industries, 2011-12, there were 36,881 registered food processing units in the country including Goa. The details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

During 11th Plan, Ministry of Food Processing Industries implemented a Plan Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries. Under the Scheme the sub-sectors related to processed Food Products like bakery Products, Consumer Industries, Fishery, Flour Milling, Fruit and vegetables, Meat and Poultry, Milk and Dairy, Oil Milling, Pulse Milling, Rice Milling etc. are covered. The Ministry extended financial assistance to food processing units in the country including Goa in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant & machinery and technical civil works, subject to maximum of ₹ 50.00 lakhs in general areas, and @ 33.33% subject to a maximum of ₹ 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas such as Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. The details about financial assistance extended under this Scheme during 11th Plan and 12th Plan (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15) is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Ministry implements the following Central Sector and Centrally sponsored Scheme in 12th Plan.

Central Sector Schemes: (Details and pattern of assistance of Central Sector Schemes is given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

- (i) Scheme for infrastructure Development (Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain and Abattoirs).
- (ii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, R&D and Promotional Activities.
- (iii) Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes: (Details and pattern of assistance of Centrally sponsored Sector Scheme is given in the Statement-IV (*See* below).

(d) The Ministry has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) in 12th Plan (2012-17). As per Guidelines of the mission and its schemes, all the new applications in 12th Plan are received, sanctioned, and funds are released by the respective State/ UT Governments, for setting up of Food Processing units in the country under the Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernisation of Food Processing Industries of the mission.

(e) Yes, Sir. The details of number of Food Processing Units including cashew nuts processing units approved State-wise and amount released is given in the Statement-V (*See* below). These were sanctioned by State Governments under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation of National Mission on Food Processing (Centrally Sponsored Scheme) in 12th Plan (w.e.f. 2012-13). The assistance is provided under mission's scheme and the details thereof is given in the Statement-V.

Statement-I

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

Sl. No.	State/UT	Numbers
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.	Pudducherry	70
25.	Punjab	2,784
26.	Rajasthan	777
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

Statement-II

State-wise no. of units assisted and financial assistance provided during 11th Five year Plan, FY 2012-13, FY 2013-14 and 2014-15 under the scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of EPIs. (Rs. Lakh)

Sl. No.	State	11th Five Year Plan		2012-13*		2013-14*		2014-15* (30.06.2014)	
		Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh (including Telangana)	267	5000.40	221	4245.40	143	2877.00	34	591.00
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	460.23	0	0.00	2	69.00	0	0.00
4.	Assam	89	2156.20	18	376.12	11	255.00	0	0.00
5.	Bihar	20	388.14	2	36.43	2	27.00	2	35.00
6.	Chandigarh	7	163.08	0	0.00	2	33.00	0	0.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	116	1348.60	149	1753.70	68	801.00	16	231.00
8.	Delhi	28	703.93	9	198.70	6	118.00	2	50.00
9.	Goa	6	140.83	1	19.42	5	93.00	1	25.00

10.	Gujarat	271	5318.80	53	858.71	77	1394.00	11	139.00
11.	Haryana	129	2056.70	86	1122.20	34	566.00	2	48.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	48	1329.50	5	133.45	10	260.00	1	9.00
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	30	379.15	2	16.43	3	55.00	0	0.00
14.	Jharkhand	10	155.18	4	76.53	2	38.00	0	0.00
15.	Karnataka	168	2703.20	81	1271.00	68	840.00	17	256.00
16.	Kerala	183	3302.70	15	252.44	43	740.00	5	91.00
17.	Madhya Pradesh	79	1235.10	31	422.19	30	405.00	4	14.00
18.	Maharashtra	587	9047.40	137	1864.80	168	2367.00	40	453.00
19.	Manipur	24	484.69	21	467.49	38	944.00	0	0.00
20.	Meghalaya	7	390.83	1	5.42	3	72.00	0	0.00
21.	Mizoram	1	11.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
22.	Nagaland	7	276.89	2	14.21	2	22.00	0	0.00
23.	Odisha	31	566.96	15	259.00	5	73.00	2	28.00
24.	Puducherry	3	56.30	6	150.00	1	25.00	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25.	Punjab	262	3337.60	231	2420.80	83	949.00	9	131.00
26.	Rajasthan	249	3371.20	41	615.63	50	545.00	8	100.00
27.	Sikkim	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
28.	Tamil Nadu	229	4101.60	44	689.19	58	997.00	17	271.00
29.	Tripura	3	53.84	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
30.	Uttar Pradesh	238	4545.20	39	622.29	57	1028.00	23	343.00
31.	Uttarakhand	38	1117.10	5	115.49	7	225.00	2	66.00
32.	West Bengal	93	1818.00	8	186.85	18	390.00	11	172.00
33.	MM IV	0	0.00	5	426.28	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		3229	56020.00	1232	18620.00	996	16208.00	207	3053.00

* Committed liabilities of 11th Plan

Statement-III*Scheme-wise details of the Pattern of Assistance of Central Sector Schemes*

Sl. No.	Scheme	Grant-in-aid			
		General Areas	Difficult areas including Northeast areas, Sikkim and Hilly areas like J&K, H.P., Uttarakhand and ITDP areas	Maximum limit of Grant-in-aid	Installments of Grants-in-Aid
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Mega Food Park Infrastructure backward and forward linkage	50%	75%	₹ 50 crore	4
2.	Cold Chain	50%	75% (except ITDP areas)	₹ 10 crore	3
3.	Abattoir (Plant & Machinery, Technical Civil Works)	50%	75%	₹ 15 crore	3
4.	Technology Up-gradation/ Establishment/ Modernisation of FPIs (Cost of Plant & Machinery & Technical Civil Works)	25%	33.33%	₹ 75 lakhs (for difficult areas) ₹ 50 lakhs (for others)	2

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Setting up/ Up gradation of Quality Control/Food Testing Labs				3
	(a) State/Central Govt./Universities-				
	(i) Equipment	100%	100%		
	(ii) Technical Civil Works & furniture and fixtures**	25%	33%		
	(b) Other Institutes -				
	(i) Equipment	50%	70%		
	(ii) Technical Civil Works & furniture and fixtures	25%	33%		
6.	R&D Scheme-				3
	(a) Govt. Organisation (Equipment + consumables+ manpower+TA)	100%	100%		
	(b) Private Organisation (equipment)	50%	70%		
7.	HACCP			₹ 22 lakhs* (for difficult areas)	1
	Implementation cost	50%	75%	₹ 17 lakhs* (for others)	

8.	HRD				
	1. Infrastructure for running Degree/ Diploma course			₹ 75 lakhs	2-3
		—	—	₹ 2 lakhs	
	2. EDP				
	3. FPTC				
	(a) Single Product Line				
	(i) Fixed Capital Cost	—	—	₹ 4 lakhs	
	(ii) Revolving Seed Capital	—	—	₹ 2 lakhs	
	(b) Multi Product Line	—	—	₹ 11 lakhs	
	(i) Fixed Capital Cost	—	—	₹ 4 lakhs	
	(ii) Revolving Seed Capital	—	—		

* increased from Rs. 20/17 lakh *vide* latest guidelines w.e.f 01.04.2014

** Committed liabilities of 11th Plan

Statement-IV*Snap shot of schemes and pattern of assistance under NMFP (2013-17) centrally sponsored scheme*

Sl. No.	Scheme	Grant-in-aid (2013-17)					Installments of Grants-in-aid
		General Areas	Difficult areas including Hilly areas like J&K, H.P., Uttarakhand & ITDP areas	NE States including Sikkim	Maximum limit of Grant-in-aid		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernisation of FPIs (Cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil Works)	25%	33.33%	50%	Max. ₹ 50 lakhs (for general areas) Max. ₹ 75 lakhs (for difficult areas) Max. ₹ 100 lakhs (for NE States)	2	
2.	Cold Chain for Non-Horticulture products	35%	50%	50%	Max. ₹ 5 crores Interest subvention @ 6 % & 7%/ per year subject to max. of ₹ 2/3 crores in general areas and difficult	3	

3.	Abattoir (Plant & Machinery, Technical Civil Works)	50%	75%	75%	Max. ₹ 15 crores or interest subvention max of ₹ 6 crores for 3 years for general areas and ₹ 9 crores for 5 years in NE/ Difficult areas, respectively.	3
4.	HRD Infrastructure for running Degree/ Diploma course	-	-	-	Max. ₹ 100 lakhs	2
5.	EDP					
6.	FPTC					
	(b) Single Product Line					
	(iii) Fixed Capital Cost	—	—	—	Max. ₹ 3 lakhs	3
	(iv) Revolving Seed Capital	—	—	—	Max. ₹ 6 lakhs	3
	(b) Multi Product Line					
	(iii) Fixed Capital Cost	—	—	—	Max. ₹ 3 lakhs	3
	(iv) Revolving Seed Capital	—	—	—		
	Capital	—	—	—	Max. ₹ 15 lakhs	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Promotional Activities					
	a. Organizing Seminar/ Workshops	50%	50%	50%	Max. ₹ 4 lakhs	2-3
	b. Conducting Studies/Surveys	50%	50%	50%	Max. ₹ 4 lakhs	
	c. Support to Exhibitions/Fairs	-	-	-	Quantum of assistance will depend on merits of the proposal	
	d. Advertisement & Publicity	-	-	-		
6.	Scheme for Creating Primary Processing Centers / Collection Centers in Rural Areas	50%	75%	75%	Max. ₹ 2.50 crores (for general & difficult areas including NE States)	2
7.	Modernisation of Meat Shops	50%	75%	75%	Max. ₹ 5 lakhs (for general & difficult areas including NE States)	1
8.	Reefer Vehicles	50%	50%	50%	Max. ₹ 50 lakhs (for general & difficult areas including NE States)	1

Statement-V

State-wise no. of units assisted and financial assistance approved under the Technology Upgradation Scheme of National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) (Centrally Sponsored Scheme) in 12th Plan (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15)

(₹ in Lakh)

Sl. No.	State	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15	
		Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	419.00	0	0	-	-
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	-	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	150.00	0	0	-	-
4.	Assam	3	46.00	0	0	-	-
5.	Bihar	2	45.00	1	12.00	-	-
6.	Chhattisgarh	2	100.00	0	0	-	-
7.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	-	-
8.	Goa	6	104.00	2	79.00	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Gujarat	53	1911.00	9	286.00	-	-
10.	Haryana	9	388.00	4	179.00	-	-
11.	Himachal Pradesh	21	593.00	0	0	-	-
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	630.00	0	0	-	-
13.	Jharkhand	1	24.00	6	350.00	-	-
14.	Karnataka	36	1392.00	14	471.00	-	-
15.	Kerala	7	258.00	11	439.00	-	-
16.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	-	-
17.	Madhya Pradesh	20	622.00	24	936.00	-	-
18.	Maharashtra	60	2045.00	31	970.00	-	-
19.	Manipur	3	12.00	0	0	-	-
20.	Meghalaya	4	83.00	5	100.00	-	-
21.	Mizoram	2	35.00	2	40.00	-	-
22.	Nagaland	7	89.00	0	0	-	-

23.	Odisha	7	285.00	0	0	-	-
24.	Pondicherry	1	50.00	2	66.00	-	-
25.	Punjab	3	124.00	0	0	-	-
26.	Rajasthan	8	323.00	34	1186.00	-	-
27.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	-	-
28.	Tripura	0	0	2	174.00	-	-
29.	Tamil Nadu	5	174.00	2	94.00	-	-
30.	Uttar Pradesh	36	1459.00	0	0	-	-
31.	Uttarakhand	0	0	2	23.00	-	-
32.	West Bengal	10	395.00	36	1626.00	-	-
TOTAL		337	11756	187	7031	-	-

FPIs in the country

1920. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of food processing industries established in the country during the last five years;
- (b) the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the conditions for starting new food processing units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not establish food processing units on its own in the country and also does not maintain data in this regard. However, financial assistance extended under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries during 11th Plan and 12th Plan (2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not fix pre-requisite conditions for starting new food processing units in the country. However, sector specific certain statutory licenses/clearances/approvals/No Objection Certificates (NOCs) are required to be obtained by interested entrepreneurs/units from various Central/State Governments/Agencies for starting new food processing units in the country.

FPIs in the country

Sl. No.	State	11th Five Year Plan		2012-13*		2013-14*		2014-15* (30.06.2014)	
		Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh (incl. Telangana)	267	5000.40	221	4245.40	143	2877.00	34	591.00
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	460.23	0	0.00	2	69.00	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Assam	89	2156.20	18	376.12	11	255.00	0	0.00
5.	Bihar	20	388.14	2	36.43	2	27.00	2	35.00
6.	Chandigarh	7	163.08	0	0.00	2	33.00	0	0.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	116	1348.60	149	1753.70	68	801.00	16	231.00
8.	Delhi	28	703.93	9	198.70	6	118.00	2	50.00
9.	Goa	6	140.83	1	19.42	5	93.00	1	25.00
10.	Gujarat	271	5318.80	53	858.71	77	1394.00	11	139.00
11.	Haryana	129	2056.70	86	1122.20	34	566.00	2	48.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	48	1329.50	5	133.45	10	260.00	1	9.00
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	30	379.15	2	16.43	3	55.00	0	0.00
14.	Jharkhand	10	155.18	4	76.53	2	38.00	0	0.00
15.	Karnataka	168	2703.20	81	1271.00	68	840.00	17	256.00
16.	Kerala	183	3302.70	15	252.44	43	740.00	5	91.00
17.	Madhya Pradesh	79	1235.10	31	422.19	30	405.00	4	14.00
18.	Maharashtra	587	9047.40	137	1864.80	168	2367.00	40	453.00
19.	Manipur	24	484.69	21	467.49	38	944.00	0	0.00
20.	Meghalaya	7	390.83	1	5.42	3	72.00	0	0.00
21.	Mizoram	1	11.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
22.	Nagaland	7	276.89	2	14.21	2	2-2.00	0	0.00
23.	Odisha	31	566.96	15	259.00	5	73.00	2	28.00
24.	Puducherry	3	56.30	6	150.00	1	25.00	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25.	Punjab	262	3337.60	231	2420.80	83	949.00	9	131.00
26.	Rajasthan	249	3371.20	41	615.63	50	545.00	8	100.00
27.	Sikkim	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
28.	Tamil Nadu	229	4101.60	44	689.19	58	997.00	17	271.00
29.	Tripura	3	53.84	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
30.	Uttar Pradesh	238	4545.20	39	622.29	57	1028.00	23	343.00
31.	Uttarakhand	38	1117.10	5	115.49	7	225.00	2	66.00
32.	West Bengal	93	1818.00	8	186.85	18	390.00	11	172.00
33.	MM IV	0	0.00	5	426.28	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		3229	56020.00	1232	18620.00	996	16208.00	207	3053.00

* Committed liabilities of 11th Plan

Uneven distribution of cold storages

1921. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an uneven distribution of cold storages across the country is one of the major challenges faced by the cold chain industry;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of the cold storage capacity in the country; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for even distribution of cold storages across the country and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) 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 in the country. The existing capacity of cold storage is around 32 million MT in the country. Thus present

gap is around 29 million MT. There is an uneven distribution of cold storages across the country which is one of the major challenges in maintaining the supply chain especially of the perishable food products. State-wise details of cold storage capacity in the country is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure since 2008 with the objective of providing integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities without any break from farm gate to the consumer. Under the scheme, 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.

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 Rs. 5 crore and (b) **Interest Subsidy:** @ 6% per annum subject to a maximum of Rs. 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) and National Horticulture Board (NHB) are also providing assistance for setting up cold storages under their respective schemes. Under these schemes, credit linked back-ended subsidy @ 35% of the project cost in general areas and 50% in NE, Hilly and Scheduled Areas is available. The scheme is entrepreneur driven through commercial ventures and is implemented across the Country. Further, the cold storages are being set up in various States for fruits and vegetables depending upon their shelf life under different storage conditions. Economics of a cold storage system depends upon to what extent shelf life can be improved and to what extent losses can be reduced in a properly designed system.

Under these schemes of Government of India differentiated higher scale of assistance is being provided in difficult and remote areas like North-Eastern Region and hilly States to encourage investments in cold chain infrastructure.

Statement

State-wise Distribution of Cold Storage (31.03.2014)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Cold Storages	Capacity in MT
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	404	1577828
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	5000
4.	Assam	34	119652
5.	Bihar	303	1406395
6.	Chandigarh	6	12216

1	2	3	4
7.	Chhattisgarh	89	427766
8.	Delhi	97	129857
9.	Goa	29	7705
10.	Gujarat	560	2030873
11.	Haryana	295	588649
12.	Himachal Pradesh	32	38557
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	28	64769
14.	Jharkhand	55	217280
15.	Karnataka	189	526752
16.	Kerala	197	78355
17.	Lakshadweep	1	15
18.	Madhya Pradesh	260	1097168
19.	Maharashtra	540	706302.6
20.	Manipur	1	2175
21.	Meghalaya	4	8200
22.	Mizoram	3	3931
23.	Nagaland	2	6150
24.	Odisha	111	326639
25.	Puducherry	3	85
26.	Punjab	606	2004778
27.	Rajasthan	154	480032
28.	Sikkim	2	2000
29.	Tamil Nadu	163	295671

1	2	3	4
30.	Tripura	13	39181
31.	Uttar Pradesh	2176	13633039
32.	Uttarakhand	28	84545
33.	West Bengal	502	5901925
TOTAL		6891	31823701

Source: DMI, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and MoFP

Village courts

†1922. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which Gram Nyayalaya Act was passed and the names of the States where it is in effect, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in the expansion of village courts and the solution for doing away with the delay; and

(c) whether measures would be taken for setting up mobile courts and courts at panchayat centres in the first phase?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (c) The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 was notified in January, 2009. It provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at intermediate panchayat level for the purpose of providing access to justice to the citizens at their doorsteps. It extends to whole of India except the State of Jammu & Kashmir, the State of Nagaland, the State of Arunachal Pradesh, the State of Sikkim and to the tribal areas. The Act authorises Nyayadhikari to hold Mobile Court and conduct proceedings outside its headquarters under certain conditions.

As per information available, 180 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far by nine State Governments. Year-wise and State-wise details of Gram Nyayalayas notified are given in Statement (*See below*).

Besides the fact that the number of States have set up regular courts at Taluka level, the other causes for slow progress of Gram Nyayalayas are overlapping jurisdiction of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Gram Nyayalayas with regular courts and shortage of first Class Judicial Magistrates to man the positions of Nyayadhikaris in Gram Nyayalayas. Lukewarm response of Bar, reluctance of police officials and other State functionaries to invoke jurisdiction of Gram Nyayalayas and non- availability of notaries, stamp vendors etc. are other factors affecting the progress.

The issues affecting the implementation of the Gram Nyayalayas scheme were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It has, *inter-alia*, been decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems. The focus is on covering those Talukas under the Gram Nyayalayas scheme where regular courts have not been set up.

Statement

Year-wise progress of Gram Nyayalayas notified

Sl. No.	State	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
1.	Madhya Pradesh	40	49	-	-	-	89
2.	Rajasthan	45	-	-	-	-	45
3.	Maharashtra	9	-	1	-	8	18
4.	Jharkhand	-	-	-	6	-	6
5.	Odisha	1	-	7	6	-	14
6.	Karnataka	-	-	2	-	-	2
7.	Goa	-	-	-	2	-	2
8.	Punjab	-	-	-	2	-	2
9.	Haryana	-	-	-	2	-	2
TOTAL		95	49	10	18	8	180

Legal assistance on equal terms

† 1923. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE by pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether measures will be taken to provide the victim legal assistance at par with the socially and economically rich and capable accused person to delivery of justice in the cases of injustice and atrocity on the people of socially and economically weaker sections;

(b) the State-wise, latest or nearest available time or year, number of cases till date or as in 2014, under consideration under the sections of law related to cognizable offences committed against the people of scheduled castes or scheduled tribes; and

(c) with reference to (a) and (b) above the speedy action that will be taken to dispose of the cases?

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

(a) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, was enacted and brought into force on 31.01.1990, with a view to preventing atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, to provide for Special Courts for the trial of such offences and for relief and rehabilitation of the victims of atrocities. The SCs/STs/women/ socially and economically weaker sections of the society are entitled to free legal services from the legal services authorities, under section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

(b) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) has reported that during the years 2011, 2012 and 2013, the total number of cases registered under crimes committed against SCs were 33,719, 33,655 and 39,408, respectively. Similarly, during the years 2011, 2012 and 2013, the total number of cases registered under crimes committed against STs were 5,756, 5,922 and 6,793, respectively. The State/Union Territory-wise information regarding the number of cases registered, cases charge-sheeted, cases convicted, persons arrested, persons charge-sheeted and persons convicted under the crimes committed against persons belonging to SCs and STs, during the years 2011, 2012 and 2013, is given in the Statement-I and Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) For ensuring speedy trial of cases under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Special Courts have been set up by various States/UTs.

Number of Cases Registered (CR), Cases Chargesheeted (CS), Cases Convicted (CV), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Chargesheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted (PCV) under total crimes committed against SCs during 2011 to 2013

Sl. No. State/UT		2011						2012						2013					
		CR	CS	CV	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CS	CV	PAR	PCS	PCV	CR	CS	CV	PAR	PCS	PCV
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4016	1984	256	4373	3768	411	3057	1491	179	4655	4398	174	3270	1652	138	4251	3919	347
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	8	1	5	19	1	4	16	2	4	22	3	8	2	0	5	2	0
4.	Bihar	3623	3857	196	6783	6481	418	4821	4211	221	8711	8855	381	6721	4608	204	10173	9650	300
5.	Chhattisgarh	253	219	109	589	564	226	262	216	73	467	487	147	242	297	75	587	542	132
6.	Goa	4	1	0	7	0	0	10	6	0	7	7	0	12	15	0	19	12	0
7.	Gujarat	1063	979	14	2577	2581	29	1028	996	70	2790	2788	113	1190	1110	29	3061	2983	57
8.	Haryana	408	275	34	604	627	107	252	214	24	423	432	41	493	353	48	724	747	84
9.	Himachal Pradesh	94	65	2	274	225	2	129	93	4	189	242	16	148	108	9	208	224	13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	636	304	66	753	687	230	696	273	58	724	672	104	978	438	105	624	649	154
12.	Karnataka	2481	1968	105	5206	4962	208	2605	1962	72	5165	4605	238	2566	2162	71	5400	4668	177
13.	Kerala	761	346	17	478	482	23	810	374	7	665	566	6	756	387	22	557	597	33
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3245	3147	891	6961	6923	1796	2875	2833	911	6200	6262	2181	2945	2760	767	5781	5733	1757
15.	Maharashtra	1143	925	45	3951	3679	100	1091	932	39	3287	3319	105	1678	1303	44	4965	4517	112
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	1455	1396	105	2098	2221	140	2265	1452	85	2260	2067	159	2592	1741	51	2996	3044	70
21.	Punjab	90	50	9	170	142	32	71	43	6	127	114	15	126	66	13	210	122	30
22.	Rajasthan	5182	2235	777	4425	4385	1378	5559	2173	325	5036	4570	494	6475	2434	844	4497	4492	966
23.	Sikkim	9	7	7	9	9	9	S	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	13	7	7	9
24.	Tamil Nadu	1391	885	293	3429	2455	419	1647	1179	119	2927	2706	275	1845	1265	106	3726	3073	329

25.	Tripura	22	14	1	37	18	1	76	76	6	78	81	12	48	48	0	57	56	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7702	5818	3870	22711	15537	9716	6202	4675	1855	20335	13891	4563	7078	5336	1772	21836	15188	4113
27.	Uttarakhand	32	21	26	56	68	52	33	14	24	23	22	46	34	22	22	57	59	35
28.	West Bengal	59	37	0	66	38	0	85	105	1	147	167	1	115	88	0	200	141	0
TOTAL (STATES)		33670	24541	6824	65562	55871	15298	33585	23344	4087	64233	56286	9080	39327	26201	4333	69941	60425	8718
29.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	2	4	0	4	2	0	2	2	0
31.	D&N Haveli	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	28	12	3	30	29	4	44	23	5	35	31	5	55	55	0	71	70	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	18	16	1	23	26	4	24	24	1	85	87	1	21	12	1	36	30	1
TOTAL (UTs)		49	28	4	53	55	8	70	52	6	124	124	6	81	69	1	109	102	1
TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)		33719	24569	6828	65615	55926	15306	33655	23396	4093	64357	56410	9086	39408	26270	4334	70050	60527	8719

Source: Crime in India.

Statement-II

Number of Cases Registered (CR), Cases Chargesheeted (CS), Cases Convicted (CV), Persons Arrested (PAR), Persons Chargesheeted (PCS) and Persons Convicted (PCV) under Total Crimes Committed against STs during 2011 to 2013

Sl. No.	State/UT	2011					2012					2013							
		CR		CV		PAR	PCS		PCV	CR		CV		PAR	PCS		PCV		
		CR	CS	CV	CS		CR	CS		CV	CR	CS	CV		CR	CS		CV	CR
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	805	514	41	956	844	118	666	347	19	1069	993	88	672	421	18	909	874	26
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	34	20	16	29	21	17	10	15	4	8	13	4	1	1	0	1	1	0
3.	Assam	2	11	1	5	17	1	0	10	1	0	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	97	88	12	216	195	47	119	140	13	249	278	17	91	62	0	123	152	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	336	340	137	787	777	196	344	333	184	522	526	215	331	340	69	525	481	199
6.	Goa	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	10	1	0	1	0	0
7.	Gujarat	153	141	4	354	332	8	221	208	6	518	512	11	224	220	8	467	462	23
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	1	0	2	1	0	3	4	0	5	7	0	2	1	0	1	1	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
25.	Tripura	30	21	1	49	24	1	29	26	0	23	27	0	24	33	0	34	34	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	35	30	6	84	64	17	44	42	2	196	178	3	25	22	4	59	52	16
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	0
28.	West Bengal	41	25	0	23	21	0	91	83	0	131	130	0	122	70	1	222	149	1
TOTAL (STATES)		5747	4124	754	8577	8034	1381	5914	4296	789	9129	9050	1413	6783	4730	531	9270	8954	1097
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7	7	0	26	26	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	2	5	3	4	6	3
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	1	0	1	1	0	4	1	0	7	1	0	7	1	0	1	4	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (UTs)		9	8	1	27	27	1	8	1	0	10	1	0	10	6	3	5	10	3
TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)		5756	4132	755	8604	8061	1382	5922	4297	789	9139	9051	1413	6793	4736	534	9275	8964	1100

Source: Crime in India.

Women's Reservation Bill

1924. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enact the Bill seeking one-third reservation of seats for women in Parliament and State Assemblies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is going to be passed in the Parliament?

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

(a) and (b) It has been the endeavour of the Government to provide for reservation of one-third seats for women in the House of the People and the State Legislative Assemblies. The issue involved needs deep study and careful consideration on the basis of consensus among all political parties before a Bill for amendment in the Constitution is brought before the Parliament.

Prison inmates not having access to legal aid

1925. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of prison inmates of the country do not have access to legal aid despite implementation of the National Legal Services Authorities Act;

(b) if so, the number of prisoners who do not have access to legal aid, State-wise;

(c) the number of prisons covered by the service of 'duty counsels', State-wise;

(d) whether Government has any plan under consideration to increase the access to lawyers and justice of prisoners who are below poverty line; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) No, Sir. All the prison inmates have access to legal aid as they are eligible for legal aid under section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e) While it is the endeavour of the Government to provide prisoners access to lawyers and justice, no separate plan for prisoners who are below poverty line, is under consideration, at present.

Shortage of Judges

1926. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI:

SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of Judges in various courts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for delay in appointment of Judges; and
- (d) the steps Government is taking to fill the vacancies at the earliest?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details showing the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India and various High Courts as on 21.07.2014 and vacancies of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Judiciary as on 31.12.2013 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge in the Supreme Court rests with the Chief Justice of India and for appointment of a Judge of a High Court rests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. In this arrangement, number of posts have remained vacant for want of proposals from the High Courts to fill the positions.

Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among Constitutional authorities to select suitable candidates for higher judiciary, which is a time consuming process. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, they do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges. The Government has been periodically reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts to initiate proposals in time for filling the existing as well as the anticipated vacancies in the High Courts.

Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the

members of subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court and State Government. Thus, as regards the Judge strength in the District and subordinate courts and filling them up is concerned, the responsibility vests with the respective State Governments and the High Courts.

Statement

The details of the vacancies of the Judges in the Supreme Court of India and various High Courts as on 21.07.2014 and vacancies of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Judiciary as on 31.12.2013

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 21.07.2014	Vacancies of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Judiciary as on 31.12.2013
1	2	3	4
A.	Supreme Court of India	05	-
B.	High Court		
1.	Allahabad	71	184
2.	Telangana & Andhra Pradesh	18	146
3.	Bombay	11	278
4.	Calcutta	19	140
5.	Chhattisgarh	05	294
6.	Delhi	11	718
7.	Gauhati	11	178
8.	Gujarat	11	6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	03	18
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	04	360
11.	Jharkhand	10	30
12.	Karnataka	17	109

1	2	3	4
13.	Kerala	05	194
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11	90
15.	Madras	16	616
16.	Manipur	02	398
17.	Meghalaya	0	296
18.	Orissa	03	6
19.	Patna	09	72
20.	Punjab and Haryana	20	43
21.	Rajasthan	13	165
22.	Sikkim	0	6
23.	Tripura	0	0
24.	Uttarakhand	03	35
TOTAL		273	4382

Assistance to Goa under various schemes of the Ministry

1927. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial assistance is given to the Government of Goa under various schemes of the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the scheme-wise details of assistance given during the last five years?

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

(a) and (b) The details of financial assistance released to the State Government of Goa under the Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary and the Scheme for establishment and operationalisation of Gram Nyayalayas during last five years and under the Thirteenth Finance Commission Award (2010-15) are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Statement

(i) Assistance released to Government of Goa under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure facilities for judiciary during last five years upto 31.3.2014

(₹ in lakh)					
Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-2014
Amount	00	00	172.00	00	00

(ii) Assistance released to Government of Goa for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas during last five years upto 31.3.2014

(₹ in lakh)					
Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-2014
Amount	00	00	00	25.20	00

(iii) Assistance released to Government of Goa under Thirteenth Finance Commission Award (2010-2015) upto 31.3.2014

(₹ in lakh)		
Sl. No.	Item	Amount
1.	Morning /Evening /Shift Courts	154.00
2.	Lok Adalat and Legal Aid	18.00
3.	Training of Judicial Officers	15.00
4.	Training of Public Prosecutors	9.00
5.	Heritage Court Buildings	28.00
6.	ADR Centres/ Training to Mediators	54.00
7.	Court Managers	22.00
TOTAL		300.00

Setting up of National Judicial Commission

1928. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has resumed consultations for setting up of a National Judicial Commission that will replace the present Collegium system of appointments to the Supreme Court and High Courts;

(b) whether there are many instances in the last five years wherein many recommendations sent by the Supreme Court Collegium and High Courts had to be returned due to allegations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to consult eminent jurists and various political parties on setting up of a 'Judicial Appointments Commission' for appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

(b) and (c) There have been a few instances in the recent past wherein some of the recommendations made by the Supreme Court Collegium have been referred back to the Supreme Court for clarification/reconsideration.

**Changing the name of Bombay High Court as
Mumbai High Court**

†1929. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from the Government of Maharashtra for changing the name of Bombay High Court into Mumbai High Court;

(b) if so, the details and the current status of the proposal; and

(c) by when this proposal is to be finalised and the reason for its delay?

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

(a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra in 2008, conveyed no objection to the proposal for changing the name of 'Bombay High Court' as the 'Mumbai High Court'. The proposal has been considered together with similar cases pertaining to changing the names of High Courts of Madras and Calcutta. The process involves consultation with all the stake holders such as the concerned State Government and High Court. It also involves examination of legal and relevant constitutional provisions for changing the name of a High Court.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Creation of Indian Judicial Service

†1930. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government proposes to create an Indian Judicial Service (IJS) on the lines of IAS and IPS, if so, from when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): A comprehensive proposal was formulated for constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers of the States and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that the issue needs further deliberations and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts have been sought on the proposal.

Justice through Grama Nyayalaya

†1931. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places where efforts have been made to provide justice through Mobile Courts after coming into effect of Grama Nyayalaya Act for making judicial process simple and accessible through “Grama Nyayalaya” and “Mobile Courts” in villages, State-wise; and

(b) the time-bound target for expansion of said facilities during next five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 has come into force with effect from 2nd October, 2009. It provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at intermediate panchayat level for the purpose of providing access to justice to the citizen at their door steps. The Act authorises Nyayadhikari to hold Mobile Court and conduct proceedings outside its headquarters under certain conditions.

As per information available, 180 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far by nine State Governments. Year-wise and State-wise details of Gram Nyayalayas notified are given in Statement. [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 1922 (Part (a) to (c))]

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In terms of section 3(1) of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, it is for the State Governments to establish Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. The issues affecting the implementation of the Gram Nyayalayas scheme were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It has, *inter-alia*, been decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems. The focus is on covering those Talukas under the Gram Nyayalayas scheme where regular courts have not been set up.

Keeping courts open round the year

1932. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of any proposal mooted recently to keep the courts open round the year and doing away with the traditions practiced from colonial era to go for a summer break;

(b) whether India has a work schedule of 193 days of work a year in Supreme Court, 210 days in High Courts and 245 days in trial courts, while in US and France courts are never closed for summer vacation; and

(c) whether the Bar Associations across the country have expressed reservations on the practicality of the no-summer vacation proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (c) From the media reports, it has come to the notice of the Government that the Chief Justice of India has suggested to keep the Supreme Court, High Courts and trial courts open 365 days in a year by preparing a calendar for arranging the benches in the Supreme Court and High Courts to ensure that judiciary functions throughout the year. The media has also reported reservations expressed by the Bar Associations in this regard.

The practice of vacation in Courts is continuing since pre-independence in India. The duration of vacations is governed by the Rules/Regulations framed by the concerned High Courts and the Supreme Court. 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 Court holidays. The Supreme Court Rules, 2013 will come into force with effect from 19th August, 2014.

Disposal of rape cases

1933. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of rape cases pending in various High Courts and Supreme court till date, State-wise; and

(b) the details of number of such cases disposed till date during last five years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) and (b) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per information available, details of pendency and disposal of rape cases in Supreme Court and High Courts are given in Statement.

Statement

I. Pending Rape Cases in Supreme Court and Rape Cases disposed of by Supreme Court

Number of Cases relating to sexual harassment, kidnapping and abduction including rape pending as on 17.07.2014.	Number of Cases relating to sexual harassment, kidnapping and abduction including rape disposed of during 01.01.2009 to 17.07.2014.
310	1,455

II. Pending Rape Cases in High Courts and Cases disposed of by High Courts during last three years. (As on 31.01.2014)

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Number of pending Rape Cases as on 31.01.2014	Number of Rape Cases disposed during last three years
1	2	3	4
1.	Allahabad	10,740	298
2.	Madhya Pradesh	4,602	1,304

1	2	3	4
3.	Punjab & Haryana	3,511	512
4.	Rajasthan	2,951	741
5.	Chhattisgarh	2,015	242
6.	Patna	1,442	3,429
7.	Bombay	1,220	1,098
8.	Orissa	1,183	41
9.	Delhi	1,008	1,112
10.	Jharkhand	502	2,312
11.	Andhra Pradesh	440	235
12.	Gujarat	397	225
13.	Kerala	286	2,407
14.	Madras	228	429
15.	Himachal Pradesh	223	393
16.	Gauhati	210	277
17.	Uttarakhand	184	285
18.	Karnataka	101	45
19.	Jammu and Kashmir	82	36
20.	Tripura*	53	22
21.	Calcutta	5	6
22.	Sikkim	3	4
23.	Meghalaya*	0	0
24.	Manipur*	0	0
TOTAL		31,386	15,453

*Operationalisation of three New High Court was notified on 23rd March, 2013.

Language used in High Courts

1934. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in any High Court, any language other than English, is used as language of court proceedings, at present as provided under Art. 348(2) of the Constitution of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any request to use any language other than Hindi to be a court language is pending with Government;

(d) whether Government has acceded to such request; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Use of Hindi has been authorised in the proceedings of the High Courts of the States of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar.

(c) to (e) Government of India received requests from the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat regarding use of Tamil and Gujarati in the proceedings of the Madras High Court and Gujarat High Court respectively. Government had taken up these requests with the Chief Justice of India. The Full Court of the Supreme Court considered the requests for use of Hindi and regional languages in the High Courts 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 requests. The Government has abided by this decision.

The Government recently again received a request from the Government of Tamil Nadu for use of Tamil in the proceedings of the Madras High Court and has written to the Chief Justice of India in this regard.

Doubling of railway routes

†1935. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the railway stations on the railway route from Delhi to Jodhpur between which the railway lines have been doubled;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether any plan to complete the doubling of railway lines between remaining railway stations is pending with the Ministry, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether railway line between Delhi and Jodhpur, being strategically important is proposed to be doubled in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Doubling of Delhi-Rewari-Alwar and Bandikui-Jaipur-Phulera sections has been completed.

(b) Doubling of Alwar-Bandikui (60.37 Km) has been taken up at a cost of ₹ 242.09 crore Doubling of Phulera-Jodhpur section has not been sanctioned.

(c) No, Sir.

Rishikesh-Karnprayag railway line

†1936. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of amount allocated during the last financial year for under construction Rishikesh-Karnprayag railway line in Uttarakhand;

(b) the length of railway line laid from the allocated amount;

(c) the quantum of funds likely to be allocated for laying of the said line during 2014-15; and

(d) the reasons for providing less funds for laying of this railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) The project alignment passes through very challenging Himalayan geology and accordingly, detailed geological investigations along the proposed alignment have been taken up for which allotments of ₹ 5 crores and ₹ 20 crores in 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively have been made.

Shortage of railway personnel under Southern Railway

1937. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether the shortage of train drivers and railway staff is the reason for delay in launching new projects under Southern Railway;
- (b) the details of the shortfall in railway personnel; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to recruit more staff under Southern Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The vacancy position of the following posts in Southern Railway as on 01.04.2014 (provisional) is as under:

Loco Pilot	:	278
Other Safety Category	:	7612
Non Safety Category	:	7958

(c) There is no compromise made in the railway services including the operation and safety of trains. In the Financial Year 2013-14 and upto 30.06.2014, total 7034 panels/persons were given to Southern Railway. Further, new indents for 9987 posts have been placed on the recruitment agencies by Southern Railway.

Implementation of suggestions of Sam Pitroda Committee

†1938. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Sam Pitroda Committee had been constituted for modernization of Railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether there is any proposal to implement the suggestions of this Committee;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to carryout the construction and expansion works of Railways on low cost with the help of programmes like MGNREGA; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways had constituted an Expert

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Committee for Modernisation of Indian Railways under the chairmanship of Shri Sam Pitroda in September, 2011 to, *inter-alia*, recommend ways and means to modernise Indian Railways. The report of the Committee submitted in February, 2012 contained 113 recommendations covering 15 areas. The recommendations included those pertaining to modernization of tracks and bridges, signalling systems, rolling stock, stations and terminals, PPP (Public-Private-Partnership) initiatives, utilisation of land and air space, construction of dedicated freight corridors, high speed passenger corridors, expeditious implementation of “Priority Projects” harnessing Information and Communication technology, indigenous development and safety. It has also recommended mobilisation of resources for the aforesaid purposes along with human resource development to increase specialisation and some organisational changes including setting up of Railways Tariff Regulatory Authority. The Expert Group has projected an investment requirement of ₹ 5,60,396/- crores on modernisation in the next five years. The recommendations are far reaching in scope and spread, require in-depth analysis and detailed deliberation and are presently under active examination in Railway Board.

Pending acceptance of the recommendations, Railways have already initiated action for implementation of some of the recommendations like the ones pertaining to elimination of level crossings, modernisation of rolling stock, development of PPP models to attract private investment, construction of Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors and setting up of Rail Tariff Regulatory Authority.

- (c) There is no such proposal at present.
- (d) Does not arise.

Loss of money due to forging of cheques

1939. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM:

SHRI S. THANGAVELU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have lost a sum of ₹ 13.54 crore due to forging of cheques of the Reserve Bank of India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Railways have ordered any inquiry into it to unearth the culprits; and
- (d) if so, the findings of the said enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Forged Railway cheques amounting to Rs. 16.82 crore have been cleared by Reserve Bank of India.

(b) The details are as under:

Railway	No. of cheques	Amount (₹ in crore)
North Central Railway	2	0.21
North Eastern Railway	15	14.55
Northeast Frontier Railway	7	1.33
North Western Railway	17	0.73

(c) and (d) The cases were handed over to police/CBI who have initiated criminal proceedings after investigation. The cases are sub-judice in courts of law.

Muslim/Sufi circuit for tourism

1940. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALLYAWI:

SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce Muslim/Sufi Circuit for railway tourism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when this circuit would be functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation proposes to develop Muslim/Sufi circuits. The introduction of circuits would be subject to market potential, financial viability, operational feasibility etc.

Works in Railways under MGNREGA

1941. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently constituted any Committee for suggesting modernization of Indian Railways;
- (b) if so, whether Government has received any recommendations/suggestions from that Committee;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government is planning to initiate the works in Railways under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA); and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Ministry of Railways had not recently constituted any Committee for suggesting Modernisation of Indian Railways. However an Expert committee under the chairmanship of Shri Sam Pitroda was set up in September 2011 to *inter-alia* recommend ways and means to modernise Indian Railways. The report of the committee submitted in February 2012 had made 113 recommendations in 15 areas covering Track & Bridges, Signalling, Rolling Stock, Stations and Terminals, PPP Initiatives, Land and Airspaces, Dedicated Freight Corridor, High Speed Passenger Train Corridor, Review of Projects, Information and Communication Technology, Indigenous Development, Safety, Funding, Human Resource development and Organisational changes.

(d) and (e) No such proposal in this regard has been finalized with the concerned ministries.

Proposal to carve out new divisions

1942. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposal to carve out new divisions in the country, particularly Kazipet division in Warangal District and Waltair division in Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and action taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Receipt of proposals from various State Governments, elected representatives, etc., for creation of new divisions, is a continuous process. Proposal for creation of a new division at Kazipet has been examined in the Ministry of Railways and has not been found feasible.

A railway division with head-quarters at Waltair is already operational under East Coast Railway.

Condition of coaches in South-bound trains

1943. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has plans to improve the quality of maintenance of trains with special mention to South-bound trains from Chennai;

(b) by when all the bad condition coaches would be replaced by new ones as the condition of coaches in all South-bound profitable trains are in ruined condition as compared to Northern ones; and

(c) whether passenger-friendly coaches, especially by improving toilets, special improvised coaches for aged and differently-abled and with providing special information in AC coaches about crossing stations, would be made available in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways always endeavors for continual improvement in maintenance and upkeep of passenger coaches including those running in South-bound trains from Chennai.

(b) Replacement of coaches on age-cum condition basis, after attaining their prescribed codal life, is an ongoing process.

(c) Improvement of passenger amenities, including in coach toilets, and for aged passengers is an ongoing process. For differently abled passengers, considering their need, specially designed compartments with amenities have been provided in Second Class cum Guard van coaches with/without luggage compartment.

Complaints regarding Konkan Railway online ticket bookings

1944. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received many complaints on the recent online Konkan Railway Corporation (KRC) reservation scam in which many natives of Konkan region who tried to book KRC route train tickets for ensuing Ganpati season, were handed over wait listed tickets numbering 302;

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

- (c) whether Government has initiated any investigation in this matter;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the culprits so far; and
- (e) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) One complaint in connection with booking of tickets for travellers to Konkan region for upcoming Ganesh festival has been received on 01.07.2014.

- (b) An investigation into the matter has already been initiated.
- (c) Yes, Sir, as indicated at (b) above.
- (d) Based on the investigation report, action will be initiated as per rules.
- (e) During the Ganesh festival season, a large number of people travel from Mumbai to Konkan region. Passengers get confirmed accommodation to the extent of berths/seats available. Owing to the huge rush, the available capacity gets exhausted within a short time after the opening of the booking. Special trains are running and extra coaches are attached to regular trains to cater to the surge in demand. For the Ganesh festival this year, special trains have already been planned to be run between Mumbai - Ratnagiri/Sawantvadi and between Madgaon-Mumbai/Ahmedabad.

Special trains for Ganesh festival

1945. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have made special arrangements/special trains during the peak period of Ganesh festival in Maharashtra, particularly in Mumbai-Konkan 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) Yes, Sir. Special trains are being run to clear extra rush of passengers during peak seasons, festivals, special events including for Ganesh festival in Maharashtra which include Mumbai-Konkan region keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources. Running of special trains on various sectors is a continuous process.

Shortage of TTEs

1946. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total sanctioned strength of TTEs in Railways;
- (b) whether there is a shortage of TTEs at present; and
- (c) if so, the shortage position; zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The sanctioned strength of various categories of ticket checking staff on all Zonal Railways is 36551.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Zone-wise details of vacancies in ticket checking staff are as under:

Railways	Vacancies in ticket checking cadre
1	2
Central	579
Eastern	250
East Central	743
East Coast	265
Northern	629
North Central	1067
North Eastern	200
North Western	186
Northeast Frontier	175
Southern	575
South Central	495
South Eastern	165

1	2
South East Central	172
South Western	210
Western	400
West Central	371
TOTAL	6482

Suburban railway service in Kerala

1947. SHRI K.N BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received a proposal to start Suburban Railway service in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways has received a letter from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala to sanction Rapid Rail Transit System in Kerala between Thiruvananthapuram and Chengannur by use of the existing Broad Gauge double line between these stations. As per the Detailed Project Report submitted by Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd. (MRVC), employed by Government of Kerala, the proposed work, costing about ₹ 3300 crore, will facilitate the introduction of train services to cater the suburban passengers between Thiruvananthapuram and Chengannur.

Electrification of railway section

1948. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes electrification of Allahabad-Varanasi-Chhapra railway section;

(b) if so, the details thereof and details of survey work undertaken so far in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Electrification of Chhapra- Ballia- Ghazipur- Varanasi- Allahabad section (330 Route Kilometres) has been included in Railway Budget 2014-15 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 299.52 crores.

(c) Does not arise.

Katra-Udhampur railway line

1949. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly constructed Katra Railway station in Jammu and Kashmir is being developed as model Solar Energy Station to meet energy requirement of the station and if so, whether Ministry proposes to develop more such stations in the country;

(b) whether the train between Katra to Udhampur has been named Shri Shakti Express;

(c) whether Ministry proposes to extend Katra-Udhampur rail line to Banihal and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total length of this newly constructed line and the approximate cost of construction; and

(e) the present composition of the train running between Katra to Udhampur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Harnessing of solar energy at about 200 Railway stations including Katra Railway station has been planned.

(b) Train Number 22461/22462 New Delhi, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra AC Express has been named as Shri Shakti Express.

(c) Yes, Sir. Katra-Banihal rail link has been taken up as a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project.

(d) The length of Udhampur-Katra rail link is 25 km, and the latest sanctioned cost of this rail link is ₹ 927.61 crore.

(e) Three DEMU services are running with composition of 8 car and a train between New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra is of 18 coaches.

Railway projects in Odisha

1950. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of setting up wagon factory at Sitalapalli of Ganjam district and coach repairing factory at Narala in Kalahandi district of Odisha;
- (b) how much funds have been provided for these projects, so far; and
- (c) the status and survey report of Lanjigarh and Junagarh railway line to extend upto Ambaguda, Koraput district in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Ministry of Railways is reviewing the need and requirement of new wagon construction factories to be set up based on the current requirement of new wagons on account of slow growth in freight traffic *vis a vis* the capacity for manufacture already available. In view of this, work on the project of setting up a wagon manufacturing factory at Sitapali of Ganjam district has not started. As regards coach repairing factory, there is no proposal, at present, to set up a new coach repairing factory at Narala in Kalahandi district of Odisha.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Work of rail line between Lanjigarh and Junagarh has been completed. Though Survey for a new line from Junagarh to Amagura via Nabrangpur (179 Km) has been completed with a project estimated cost of ₹ 1586.52 crore, the present shelf of huge ongoing projects and the pace of funding, do not permit Railways for taking up new projects.

Stoppage of trains at district headquarter railway station

1951. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) will the Ministry, as a matter of policy, provide stoppage of all Express and Mail trains at the district headquarter railway stations;
- (b) the number of districts where Express, Mail and Superfast trains do not have stoppage at the headquarter station in the country; State-wise break up thereof; and
- (c) whether Railways would instruct the concerned authority to have stoppage of all trains at Nuapada railway station of Nuapada district in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Indian Railways have a policy on provision of stoppage of trains at stations (including district headquarters) which *inter-alia* stipulates operational feasibility and commercial justification as basic parameters. Indian Railways do not provide stoppage on State-wise/district-wise basis as railway network cuts across State/district boundaries.

(c) Nawapara Road is the serving station for Nuapada district of Odisha. The present level of traffic offering at Nawapara Road station does not justify provision of stoppage of additional train services at Nawapara Road which presently is being adequately served by 4 pairs of Mail/Express and 4 pairs of passenger trains.

Indore-Bhopal Double Decker AC train

1952. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Double Decker AC train between Indore and Bhopal is running into losses;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with total financial losses in this regard; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by Government to make this train service popular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Train -wise figures of profitability, earnings and expenditure are not separately maintained. Therefore, details regarding profitability of Indore-Bhopal Double Decker AC train are not available.

(c) To improve the occupancy of Train Nos. 22183/22184 and 22185/22186 Bhopal/Habibganj-Indore Double Decker AC Express services, the punctuality of this train is closely monitored.

Railway projects identified for closure

1953. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to close those railway projects for which Rate of Return (RoR) is very low or almost nil;
- (b) if so, whether Government has identified such railway projects; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Due to huge throwforward of ongoing projects, their priority is reviewed from time to time. None of the ongoing projects has been processed for closure.

Upgradation of Chennai Basin Bridge and Egmore Maintenance Yards

1954. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has planned to undertake upgradation work at Chennai Basin Bridge and Egmore Maintenance Yards and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has allocated sufficient funds for this work; and
- (d) by when this work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The upgradation works at Chennai Basin Bridge and Egmore Maintenance Yard costing ₹ 5.17 crore have been taken up. These works, *inter-alia*, include augmentation of water supply, provision of stabling line and cross over connecting ETR Line and pit line-1.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) 31.03.2015.

Vacancies in Southern Railway

1955. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of vacancies in all groups under the Southern Railway division;
- (b) whether Government has conducted exams and interviews to fill up these vacancies and if so, details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) As on 01.4.2014, the total number of staff vacancies in all Groups is 15848 (provisional) under Southern Railway.

(b) and (c) In the Financial Year 2013-14 and upto 30.06.2014, total 7034 panels/persons were given to Southern Railway. Further, new indents for 9987 posts have been placed on the recruitment agencies by Southern Railway. Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) and Railway Recruitment Cell (RRC) are continuously holding examination/selections to supply panels to Southern Railway.

Trial run of fastest train between New Delhi and Agra

1956. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have recently carried out the trial run of country's fastest train between New Delhi and Agra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of deployment of railway officials and RPF Jawans for this trial;
- (d) whether a large number of passenger as well as goods trains got delayed during the trial run; and
- (e) if so, the details in this regard along with the number of passenger and goods trains go delayed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Confirmatory Oscillograph Car Run (COCR) trial of Shatabdi Express and similar trains up to a maximum speed of 160 kmph between New Delhi-Agra and back was conducted on 3rd July, 2014 for assessing the condition of fitness of track at a particular speed and was found to be successful at 160 kmph. The trial train took 102 minutes and 105 minutes from NDLS-AGC and AGC-NDLS respectively.

(c) 20 no. of Railway officials accompanied the trial run and 156 no. of RPF Jawans were deployed during the trial.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) 30 Mail Express/Passenger and 28 no. of Goods trains got delayed. This was on account of one of the trial conditions which stated "While conducting Confirmatory Oscillograph Car Run (COCR) beyond the sectional speed, no train shall be permitted to run the adjoining track with a double line/multiple line section."

Laying of new railway lines in place of old ones

1957. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken laying of new railway lines in place of existing railway lines which have become old and are in a dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise, in the Eleventh and Twelfth Plan period; and

(c) if not, by when such work would be undertaken to ensure the safety of passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Track renewal is a continuous process which is taken up every year on Indian Railways, as and when a stretch of track becomes due for renewal on the basis of criteria laid down in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual and there is no track in unsafe condition. The details of laying of new railway lines in place of old ones; zone-wise is as under:

(Figures in CTR (Complete Track Renewal) units)

Railway	XIth Plan (2007-08 to 2011-12)	XIIth Plan (upto May 2014)
Central	1453	376
Eastern	936	450
East Central	1119	482
East Coast	319	251
Northern	3184	1127
North Central	1491	630
North Eastern	720	170
Northeast Frontier	611	160
North Western	734	120
Southern	914	266
South Central	1834	729
South Eastern	988	412

Railway	XIth Plan (2007-08 to 2011-12)	XIIth Plan (upto May 2014)
South East Central	406	201
South Western	648	227
Western	1658	453
West Central	1433	471
TOTAL	18448	6525

Survey for bullet train

†1958. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any initiative to conduct necessary survey regarding running of the first Bullet train in the country;

(b) whether this survey also involves measures like availing of the experiences of western countries, China, Japan etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) A joint feasibility study for Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Corridor is being done by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The study among others will also compare High Speed Rail system in different countries providing information on technologies, costs and financing of High Speed Rail in different countries.

Incidents of crime in trains

1959. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government data suggests that all kinds of criminals, not just terrorists, have a free run in trains;

(b) whether it is also a fact that cases of on-train robbery have grown from 382 in 1993 to 1096 in 2013; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that murders have gone up from 246 to 270 in 2013; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Railways to contain the incidents of crimes in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. During the year 2013, 499 incidents of robbery have been reported in trains over Indian Railways in comparison to 225 incidents reported in the year 1993.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per information received from Government Railway Police of the States concerned, murders have gone up from 246 in the year 2012 to 270 in 2013.

(d) 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, 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.

The following measures in place 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 Railway Control Rooms to enable passengers to seek security related assistance.
3. An Integrated Security System including electronic surveillance through CCTV to enhance surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations is under implementation.
4. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police.

Fuel adjustment component to revise fares

1960. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways would adopt fuel adjustment component to revise passenger fares every six months;
- (b) whether there would be a periodic hike once in every six months; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) In Ministry of Railways, Fuel Adjustment Component (FAC) linked periodic revision in passenger fare and freight rates, say twice a year, is linked to revision in fuel prices to insulate the Railway revenues from fuel cost escalation.

Railway projects in Kerala

1961. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the pending projects, including doubling, electrification, new factories etc. in Kerala;
- (b) the present status including the total allocation of funds made therefor; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any steps for speedy implementation of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Details of ongoing projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala including electrification and new factories taken up in the State are given as under:

(All figures in ₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Project	Anticipated Cost	Expenditure upto March, 2014	Outlay 2014-15	Status
1	2	3	3	3	4

A. New Line

1.	Tirunavaya-Guruvayur (35 km)	137.71	19.44	5	Project alignment has been approved by State Government in 2009 but Final Location Survey has not progressed due to public protests.
2.	Angamali-Sabarimala (116 km)	1565.99	120.51	20	The project has suffered delay due to late finalization of alignment by State Government, local resistance against land acquisition, court cases, abnormal increase in land cost, etc. State Government has been requested to provide land free of cost and share 50% construction cost of the project, however, the same has not been acceded to.

B. Gauge Conversion

3.	Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur & Tenkasi-Virudhunagar(357 Km)	1034.92	809.90	35	Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur (61 Km), Tirunelveli-Tenkasi-Bhagwatipuram (86 Km), Virudhunagar-Tenkasi (122 Km) and Quilon-Edamann (52 Km) sections completed. Earthwork and bridges & tunnels work in balance portion <i>i.e.</i> Bhagvatipuram-New Ariyankavu-Edamann (36 Km) have been taken up.
4.	Dindigul-Pollachi-Palghat and Pollachi-Coimbatore (224.88 Km)	914.98	709.01	80	Dindigul-Palani-Pollachi (121 Km), Pollachi-Muthalamada (27 Km), Podanur-Coimbatore (6 Km) completed. Earthwork, bridges and ballast supply works in balance portion have been taken up.

C. Doubling

5.	Mulanturutti-Kuruppantara (24 Km)	185.77	128.67	57	Work on Mulanturutti-Piravam Road (11 Km) completed and earthwork, bridges & ballast supply works in balance portion have been taken up.
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1	2	3	3	3	4
6.	Kuruppantara-Chingavanam (26.54 Km)	346	24.85	10	Final location survey completed and land acquisition papers submitted to State Government.
7.	Chingavanam-Chengannur (26.5 Km)	221.67	112.11	36.67	Work on Chengannur-Changanacherry has been taken up.
8.	Ernakulam-Kumbalam (7.71 Km)	189	3.63	2	In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal rise in cost of land, State Government was requested for free land and sharing 50% of construction cost of the project. However, State Government did not accede to Railway's request.
9.	Kumbalam-Thuravur (15.95 Km)	250	6.48	3	In view of considerable increase in project cost due to abnormal rise in cost of land, State Government was requested for free land and sharing 50% of construction cost of the project. However, State Government has not responded to Railway's request.

10.	Ambalapuzha-Haripad (18.13 Km)	125	28.14	10	Work stopped due to local protest.
D. Railway Electrification					
11.	Shoranur-Mangalore -Penambur (328 RKM)	371.52	202.14	60	Electrification work taken up.
E. New Factories					
12.	Rail Coach Factory at Palakkad	550	0.97	0.25	Work taken up under Public Private Partnership model. Land required for the project has been purchased by Railway from Government of Kerala on payment of Rs. 32.44 crore.
13.	Acquisition of land (239 Acre) and connected preliminary works for setting up of Rail Coach Factory or Palakkad.	43.86	33.47	0.27	Railway has also done the work of provision of boundary wall at site. M/s RITES have been appointed as consultant for the bid process management. Request for Qualification issued had to be discharged due to inadequate response.

Co-ordination meetings have been held with the State Government of Kerala for speedy resolution of various issues affecting the Railway Projects in the State.

Railway routes in Uttarakhand

†1962. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated in 2014-15 for laying of Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar and Ramnagar-Mohan-Marchula-Chaukhutia-Bhikiasein rail routes which are pending for approval;

(b) whether there are rail routes in the country which are not profit making, still Railways are operating trains on these routes, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government considers rail routes of Uttarakhand strategically significant for the country; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in the sanctioning of laying of these rail routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) These are not sanctioned projects.

(b) Yes, Sir. There are 90 rail routes in the country which are not profitable and the Railways are operating trains on these routes. Indian Railways takes measures to reduce expenditure on these lines. The matter has also been taken up by this Ministry with the State Governments to enable Indian Railways to reduce the cost of running such lines. Zonal Railways have approached their respective State Governments for sharing the loss on 50:50 basis or approve the closure of these lines. Concerned Zonal Railways are interacting with the State Governments to enable Indian Railways to reduce such uneconomic lines even further. However, no fruitful response has been received from State Governments so far.

(c) and (d) 5 new rail routes *i.e.* Tanakpur-Bageshwar (155 km). Dehradun-Uttarkashi (90 km), Rishikesh-Karanprayag (125 km), Karanprayag-Chamoli (28.2 km.) and Tanakpur-Jaulijivi (90 km) falling fully/partly in Uttarakhand have been identified by Ministry of Defence as strategically important routes. Rishikesh-Karanprayag new line project has been sanctioned in 2011-12 at an anticipated cost of ₹ 4295.30 crore to be fully funded by Ministry of Finance.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

As Railways are having a large shelf of ongoing projects and facing acute funds constraints, remaining rail lines could not be taken up.

Status of Gulbarga as divisional headquarter

1963. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) when was Gulbarga approved as a railway division;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to complete the task and by when it would commence as divisional headquarter; and
- (c) the progress in work of Gulbarga-Bidar railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) and (b) During the course of discussions on the “Vote on Account” Budget of Railways. 2014-15 in Rajya Sabha on 18.02.2014, creation of three new divisions, including one with head-quarters at Gulbarga, was announced by the Hon’ble Minister for Railways. Action has already been initiated by the Ministry of Railways in this regard. However, it is difficult to set any time frame for making this division operational.

(c) Take off point for the project is Khanapur as Bider to Khanapur railway line already exists. Khanapur-Hallikhed (54 Km) and Gulbarga-Sultanpur (10 Km) has been completed. Work in the remaining section has been taken up.

Doubling of railway line

1964. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a survey was proposed for doubling of railway line between Mathura and Farrukhabad and Farrukhabad and Kanpur;
- (b) if so, the progress made in the matter so far; and
- (c) by when the work of doubling of the railway line would be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) to (c) A survey for doubling of Kanpur- Farrukhabad-Kasganj- Mathura (352 km.) has been taken up. Sanction of a project is considered only after the survey is completed.

Demand for AC 3 tier coaches

1965. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is more demand for berths in AC 3 tier coaches by railway passengers;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the action being taken by Railways to make more AC 3 tier class coaches available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The demand for berths in AC 3 tier coaches exceeds its availability. In the current financial year, the average occupancy in AC 3 tier coaches including the waitlisted passengers, is 111%.

- (c) The production of AC 3 tier coaches in Production Units is taken up as per traffic requirements. During the last three financial years, the production of AC 3 tier coaches has been increased from 319 to 361 and further to 382 respectively.

Security of train passengers

1966. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures the Ministry proposes to take to reduce thousands of incidents of theft during the long-distance train travel; and
- (b) the measures the Ministry proposes to take for securing the overall safety of the train passengers during long-distance train travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) and (b) Policing on Railways is a State Subject and the prevention and investigation of crime, in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through their Government Railway Police (GRP). Hence, crime on Railways are reported to and investigated by the Government Railway Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by escorting important trains in affected sections and access control duties at important and sensitive stations.

Besides, the following measures are taken by the Railways to ensure security of the passengers:

1. 1275 trains are escorted by RPF daily on an average, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.
2. Sensitization through awareness campaigns amongst the front line Railway Staff like ticket checking staff, RPF and on-board employees who have constant interface with the travelling public towards crime against passengers is being done.
3. Security Help-Line numbers have been set up in the Zonal Control Rooms to enable passengers to seek security related assistance.
4. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police.
5. Ladies special trains are being escorted by lady RPF staff wherever available in sub-urban sections over Central, Eastern, Northern, Western and Southern Railways. The strength of women RPF personnel is being increased by eight companies already sanctioned, and another 4000 as announced in the current budget, with a view to further enhance security of women passengers.
6. An integrated Security System including electronic surveillance through CCTV to enhance security over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations is under implementation.

Railway projects in Bihar

†1967. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether operating Bullet train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad has been announced in this year's budget, if so, the total expenditure estimated on operation of the train;

(b) the expenditure estimated on the completion of on-going railway projects in Bihar; and

(c) whether in place of the Bullet train, the Ministry would get railway projects of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Bihar completed with such amount of funds, if so, the time by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) Yes, Sir. In Budget 2014-15, Ministry of Railways has proposed introduction of bullet trains on Mumbai-Ahmedabad sector. RITES report of 2010 has estimated likely construction cost of ₹ 63,100 crores.

(b) At present 46 railway projects comprising 34 New lines, 6 Double lines and 6 Gauge conversion falling fully/partly in Bihar, are going on at an estimated cost of ₹ 23,154 crore. So far an expenditure of ₹ 9,814 crore have been incurred and ₹ 13,340 crore is required for completion of these projects in Bihar.

(c) No, Sir. No funds have been allocated for bullet train project.

Premium trains

1968. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the thrust on premium trains is causing Railways a huge loss as other trains are treated second rate and most of them are running late;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the delayed running has pushed short distance travellers to road transport;

(c) whether Railways have suffered a loss of ₹ 3,700 crore in passenger earnings this year especially because of the drop in the number of short distance passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) No, Sir. The premium trains are schedule time tabled trains and do not interfere with the schedules of other time tabled trains.

(b) No, Sir. During the period April to June (2014-15) *vis-a-vis* the corresponding period of previous year, Indian Railways registered an overall growth of 6.65% in the total number of passengers. This included a growth of 11.08% in suburban passengers (short distance) also. Coincidentally, in this period *i.e.*, April to June (2014-15) 29 premium special trains were introduced which did 702 trips over Indian Railway network.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Passenger earnings have increased by ₹ 5,209.41 crore during

2013-14 as compared to the previous year. During current financial year up to June 2014, there is an increase in ₹ 1431.98 crore as compared to corresponding period of previous year. Further suburban passenger increased by 11.08% during April-June 2014 over the corresponding period of previous year.

Sanctioning of new divisional headquarters

1969. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to sanction many divisional headquarters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Sareen Committee had recommended setting up of many divisional headquarters in the country;
- (d) whether the proposed divisional headquarters would be made functional in just two years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) and (b) At present, Indian Railways do not have any plan to create any new division, other than the ones with headquarters at Gulbarga, Jammu and Silchar, which have been announced recently.

(c) Railway Reforms Committee (RRC), headed by Shri H.C.Sarin, had recommended setting up of 11 new Divisions on Indian Railways.

(d) and (e) Of the 11 divisions recommended by RRC, divisions at Ambala, Bhopal, Malda, Ahmedabad, Guntur and Tinsukia have already been made operational, while the remaining were not set up on account of operational and administrative reasons. At present no time frame has been set for operationalisation of the 3 new divisions announced recently.

Facilities at railway stations for sick and disabled

1970. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that most of the railway stations are not disabled

and sick friendly and it is difficult even to take sick persons to the compartments from the gate of stations;

(b) whether Government is also aware that railway stations of major cities in the country, where people go for treatment, lack proper facilities for sick and disabled;

(c) if so, whether escalators/lifts are being put in place at railway stations across the country for easier access to foot-bridges; and

(d) the other initiatives being taken to make stations more disabled and sick friendly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) to (d) Provision/augmentation of amenities at stations, including those for differently abled passengers is a continuous process. Short term facilities like standard ramp for barrier free entry, earmarking at least two parking lots, non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to building, signages of appropriate visibility, at least one toilet (on the ground floor) and at least one drinking water tap suitable for use by differently-abled persons and 'May I help you' Booth, have been planned at all stations beginning with 'A1', 'A' and 'B' category stations. Long term facilities viz. provision of facility for inter-platform transfer and engraving on edges of platform, are planned after provision of short term facilities. Instructions also exist for provision of wheel chairs at stations. This facility is provided, duly escorted by coolies (on payment) as per present practice. 'Battery Operated Vehicles for Disabled and Old Aged Passengers' have also been provided free of cost at some of the major railway stations.

Provision of escalators at 'A-1', '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 funds. Provision of lifts has also been planned at important Railway stations.

Security lapses

1971. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the derailment of Delhi-Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express is the fifth in four months and the second during period of new Government and nearly 60 to 70 lives have been lost in this period, with untold hardships to those injured;

(b) if so, whether Government is seriously considering the security aspect of Railways and would take stringent measures considering the security lapses; and

(c) what security lapses have been detected in Railways over the years, particularly in the incidents occurring during the last three years and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) During the last four months *i.e.* 1st March to 30th June, 2014, altogether 26 consequential derailments have taken place on Indian Railways wherein 57 persons lost their lives, 68 persons suffered grievous injury and 154 persons suffered simple injury.

(b) and (c) No security lapse has been detected in any consequential train accident during the last three years. However, there is three-tier security mechanism of Railway Protection Force (RPF), Government Railway Police (GRP) and District Police over Indian Railways in which prevention and detection of crime in Railway premises and running trains are the responsibility of States through their GRP. Railway Protection Force supplements the efforts of GRPs to ensure protection and security of railway property and passengers as well as matters connected with the Railways Act, Railway Protection Force Act and the Railway Property (Unlawful Possession Act). The responsibility of security of Railway tracks, tunnels and bridges lies with the State Governments.

Touts arrested for ticket black marketing

1972. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that touts have once again become very active during the festive seasons of Deepawali, Chhath Pooja, Durga Puja, Eid and other festivals and the common man does not have access to train tickets;

(b) if so, the details of number of touts arrested and chargesheeted, separately, since March, 2013 to April, 2014, division-wise;

(c) the details of the number of touts arrested from Delhi; and

(d) the details of concrete steps Government would take to ensure availability of train tickets to common man and to check touts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) (a) and (b) Indian Railways takes measures to ensure that common man's access to the ticketing system is not affected. Some cases of touting activities come to notice

during checks conducted by Railways, particularly during peak rush period/festival seasons. The details of number of touts arrested and charge-sheeted, separately, during the period from March 2013 to April 2014, zone-wise, are given in the Statement (*See below*). However, Division-wise figures are not segregated.

(c) 69 touts have been apprehended/arrested from Delhi area during the period April 2013 to March 2014.

(d) To facilitate travel for the passengers during peak rush period and to ensure availability of train tickets to 'Common Man', regular and preventive checks against toutting activities are conducted. This is an ongoing continuous process. Some of the steps taken by Railways in this regard are as follows:

- Joint as well as independent checks are conducted by Commercial, Vigilance and Security Departments to curb the activities of touts. Touts so apprehended are taken up as per provisions of Law.
- Checks conducted at Reservation Offices are supplemented by checks on the train to detect the cases of transferred reserved tickets *i.e.* persons found travelling fraudulently against accommodation actually reserved in the name of another passenger.
- To curb malpractices by Railway staff in connivance with touts, checks are conducted in booking offices, reservation offices, trains etc. Stringent action is taken against the railway staff under Disciplinary and Appeal Rules, if found indulging in malpractices.
- Additional computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters are opened during peak rush period/festival seasons at various locations.
- Toutting activities occur due to gap between demand and supply of reserved accommodations. To meet the additional demand of passengers, especially during festivals and peak rush periods, including Deepawali, Chhath Pooja, Durga Puja, and Eid, special trains are run, carrying capacity of existing trains is augmented, keeping in view the pattern of traffic, operational feasibility and availability of resources.
- Surveillance at reservation offices has also been stepped up by installing Close Circuit Television at important PRS locations to keep watch on any possible toutting activities. Booking pattern at reservation offices are also monitored for detecting unusual pattern and fraudulent working of touts.

- Carrying of prescribed original Identity Proof has been made compulsory for one of the passengers while undertaking journey in reserved class. Ticket checking staff have also been asked to be more vigilant and conduct proper/ thorough checks of prescribed ID proofs of passengers undertaking journey in reserved coaches.
- General public are also educated through Public Address System and media, not to buy tickets from touts/ unscrupulous elements and consequences of buying tickets from these sources.

Statement

*The zone-wise number of touts arrested and charge sheeted during
March 2013 to April 2014 are as under:*

Railway	Number of touts	
	Arrested	Charge sheeted
1	2	3
Central	436	433
Eastern	171	87
East Central	207	158
East Coast	41	40
Northern	178	178
North Central	42	42
North Eastern	70	54
Northeast Frontier	07	07
North Western	60	54
Southern	139	139
South Central	239	203
South Eastern	167	160
South East Central	47	45
South Western	224	224

1	2	3
Western	284	284
West Central	95	95
TOTAL	2407	2203

Trial run of semi-bullet train

1973. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the outcome of the trial run of Semi-Bullet train from Delhi to Agra in 90 minutes recently;
- (b) whether all safety aspects, technical aspects and rolling stocks were examined for suitability, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government would propose running such trial runs between Mumbai-Ahmedabad, Delhi-Jaipur, Delhi-Kanpur, Chennai-Bangalore, etc., if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, how Government considers commuting through rail-route to business places at a rapid speed and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Confirmatory Oscillograph Car Run (COCR) trial of Shatabdi Express and similar trains up to a maximum speed of 160 kmph between New Delhi-Agra and back was conducted on 3rd July, 2014 for assessing the condition of fitness of track at a particular speed and was found to be successful at 160 kmph. The trial train took 102 minutes and 105 minutes from New Delhi-Agra Cantt. and Agra Cantt. - New Delhi respectively.

(b) The rolling stock *i.e.* Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches and electric loco have already been tested earlier successfully at speed of 180 kmph. During the trial, all issues related with safety, technical aspects related with rolling stock and with other technical subsystems like track, bridges, signalling, overhead equipments etc. have been checked and found to be in order.

(c) In the Rail Budget 2014-15, the following sections have been identified for taking action to raise speeds to 160-200 kmph: (i) Delhi-Agra (ii) Delhi-Chandigarh (iii) Delhi-Kanpur (iv) Nagpur-Bilaspur (v) Mysore-Bengaluru-Chennai (vi) Mumbai-Goa (vii) Mumbai-Ahmedabad (viii) Chennai-Hyderabad and (ix) Nagpur-Secunderabad.

- (d) Does not arise.

Doubling of Madurai-Kanyakumari railway line

1974. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sanction has not been accorded for doubling of railway line between Madurai-Kanyakumari section of Chennai-Kanyakumari trunk route so far; and

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 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%.

Condition of coaches in trains towards Guwahati

1975. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that old coaches with poor condition are used in all trains including Rajdhani Express bound towards Guwahati, Assam the hub of North-east tourism;

- (b) if so, the details of passenger coaches used in such trains; and

(c) the steps Railways have taken for improvement of quality of food/meals supplied in all trains including Rajdhani Express?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) The steps taken to improve the quality of catering services are as follows:

- Regular, surprise and periodical inspections of quality and hygiene of food/meals supplied on trains.

- Setting up a Catering Services Monitoring Cell with a toll free number 1800-111-321 at national level.
- Pilot project for Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) feedback of passengers regarding catering services.
- Introduction of pre-cooked (ready to eat) meal in phased manner.
- Third party audit of quality and mandatory ISO (Indian Standards Organization) certification of Base Kitchens has been prescribed.

Bogibeel rail cum road bridge

1976. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of present status of construction of Bogibeel rail cum road bridge over Brahmaputra;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Bogibeel rail project is unduly delayed and the cost of the project has escalated several fold;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Bogibeel rail-cum-road bridge over river Brahmaputra was sanctioned in 1997-98. Latest anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 4996 crore and an expenditure of ₹ 3041 crore has been incurred upto March, 2014. An outlay of ₹ 600 crore has been provided for the year 2014-15.

Physical works of both North and South guide bunds, 44 km long rail link from Chaulkhowa-Moranhat, 14 km long north bank rail link and 8 km long south bank rail link have been completed. In main bridge, 36 out of 42 well foundations and 28 out of 40 piers have been completed. 2 out of 41 girders have been launched.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The project has been delayed due to paucity of funds and is now targeted for completion by March, 2017.

Railway projects in Karnataka under PPP

1977. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the modalities of the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model, under which railway projects would be taken up in Karnataka, as announced in the Railway Budget 2010;

(b) whether the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has cleared the proposed railway link between Talaguppa and Honnavar in Uttara Kannada that passes through dense forests; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) With a view to attract private investment in railway sector, Ministry of Railways announced its policy in December 2012, which provides following five participative models:

- (i) Non Government Railway (NGR) model
- (ii) Joint Venture (JV) model
- (iii) Built Operate Transfer (BOT) model
- (iv) Capacity augmentation with funding provided by customers model
- (v) Capacity augmentation through annuity model

No project of Karnataka as announced in Rail Budget 2010 is being implemented through Public Private Partnership (PPP) route. However, the following projects of Karnataka as announced in Rail Budget 2010 are being implemented with cost-sharing of 50% with State Government:

- (1) Shimoga - Harihar
- (2) Whitefield - Kolar
- (3) Tumkur - Davangere.

(b) New line between Talaguppa and Honnavar is not a sanctioned railway project. Therefore, no proposal has been sent by Ministry of Railways to Ministry of Environment and Forest in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Bullet train project

1978. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would clarify its stand for selecting Ahmedabad as a terminal station on setting-up the new high expenditure Bullet train project, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government would provide cost benefit projection of the project and a detailed comparison of where and why the other metro cities got denied in economic purview; and

(c) whether Government would provide with the profit-projection of the aforesaid project for first year after completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Terminal location on High Speed Train project between Mumbai - Ahmedabad has been selected on the basis of multiple criterias including: Potential for traffic, paying capacity of traveller, potential of leveraging land resources, availability of land for terminal, linkage with Central Business Districts (CBD) etc.

(b) and (c) RITES report of 2010 has estimated Internal Rate of Returns (IRR) for Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed project as 9%, Operation & Maintenance (O&M) expenses as ₹ 412 crores and total revenue of ₹ 2,499 crores in first year of operation *i.e.* 2021.

As regards other metros, pre-feasibility studies for Howrah - Haldia, Delhi - Patna and Chennai - Bangalore - Ernakulam - Thiruvananthapuram have been undertaken.

Removing of curtains from IInd AC coaches

†1979. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to remove curtains from IInd AC coaches;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this regard as yet; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Laying new railway line between Bhavnagar and Tarapur

†1980. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to lay new railway line between Bhavnagar to Tarapur in Gujarat:

(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) An updating survey for construction of new line from Bhavnagar-Tarapur was completed in July, 2012. The cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 737.01 crore with the rate of return of 0.73%. Project could not be taken forward due to its un-remunerative nature and huge throwforward of ongoing projects.

Earnings of South Central Railway

1981. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was an increase of ₹ 89.32 crore in freight earning by South Central Railway during the first quarter of 2013-14;

(b) the details of the freight revenue earning by South Central Railway during the first quarter of 2014-15;

(c) the reasons for increase/decrease, if any, in the freight earning; and

(d) whether Government would invest these earnings in the capacity building of Railways, *i.e.*, gauge conversion, doubling, laying of new rail routes, modernisation etc., in the same zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. There was an increase of ₹ 89.32 crore in freight earning during the first quarter of 2013-14 over the corresponding period of previous year (2012-13) on South Central Railway.

(b) and (c) South Central Railway has achieved ₹ 2530 crore of freight earning up to the end of June 2014, which is ₹ 338 crore more than the corresponding period of previous year. The increased earnings is attributable to higher loading during the current year.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The Railway earnings left after meeting the administrative, operating and maintenance charges, pension and dividend are used for modernisation and developmental expenditure on the Railways. Investment in zones are decided on the basis of organizational priorities, plan requirement and overall availability of resources and not merely on the basis of earnings generated by a zone.

Recognition of degrees from Open Universities

1982. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railway Board recognises the degrees obtained through Open Universities for the purpose of promotion;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for Southern Railway zone not recognising the same for promotion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir, subject to stipulations by Distance Education Bureau.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Southern Railway is recognizing Degrees if it satisfies the conditions stipulated by Distance Education Bureau.

Requirement of additional funds for TUF scheme

1983. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that for effective implementation of Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) in Textiles, it is necessary to release additional funds, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the status of implementation of TUF Scheme so far in the industry and funds allocated and utilized; and
- (c) the quantum of funds being allocated in view of the fresh requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The total allocation of ₹ 11952.80 crore

under TUFS for the Twelfth Five Year Plan is sufficient to meet the committed liabilities as well as to attract new investments under the Scheme.

(b) Since its inception, the Scheme has leveraged investments of more than ₹ 2,50,000 crore with subsidy outgo of ₹ 19,000 crore approx.

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

Safeguarding interests of Muga Silk farmers of Assam

1984. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the world famous and indigenous Golden Muga Silk production of Assam is on the verge of extinction and the fate of the Muga grower is at risk; and

(b) if so, the steps of Government of Assam and Central Government have taken to safeguard the livelihood of Muga silk farmers, promote and motivate the farmers and escalate both silk and the Muga silk production in Assam to develop national and international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Production of Muga Silk in Assam as well as in country during the last five years period is given below, which indicates Muga Silk production, has shown an increasing trend and therefore, it is not on the verge of extinction.

Year	Muga Silk production in India (MTs)	Muga Silk production in Assam (MTs)
2009-10	105	93
2010-11	124	117
2011-12	126	119
2012-13	119	109
2013-14	148	126

The following Statement indicates State-wise Muga Silk production in the country during the last five years (2009-10 to 2013-14). It could be seen from the Statement that the Assam produces substantial quantity of Muga Silk, when compared to other Muga Silk producing States.

Sl. No.	States	State-wise Muga Silk production during last 5 years				
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.50	1.20	1.60	2.00	1.00
2.	Assam	93.00	117.00	118.76	108.52	126.00
3.	Manipur	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.64	0.80
4.	Meghalaya	10.00	3.25	3.31	6.04	16.00
5.	Mizoram	0.30	0.40	1.17	0.32	1.00
6.	Nagaland	0.50	1.40	0.66	1.39	1.90
7.	West Bengal	0.20	0.25	0.23	0.26	0.18
TOTAL		105	124	126	119	147

(b) Steps taken by the Government to safeguard the livelihood of Muga Silk farmers and escalate silk and silk production in Assam:

In order to encourage sericulture industry and to boost the production targets, certain action plan have been prepared during the Twelfth Plan period *viz.* Paradigm shift in production strategies for transforming the Indian silk industry from the subsistence level of production to a vibrant competitive commercial production base chain, extending support to reelers for increasing the storage capacity by providing Revolving Capital Fund, and Interest subsidy, producing import substitute bivoltine silk of 3A Grade through exclusive bivoltine clusters and Seri-Business Enterprises in thrust areas of potential States strengthening R&D interventions to improve productivity and quality thereby contributes to vertical expansion, developing high yielding Cross Breed line of L14×CSR2 in Sub-tropical areas to increase the silk production developing Rain-fed mulberry areas as a special programme through moisture management, rain water harvesting, Welfare measures to primary stakeholders like- health insurance coverage and technologies to reduce drudgery, etc.

For the development of silk industry in Assam, the Government through Central Silk Board has established the following CSB Units in Assam, mainly for the development of Muga and Eri silk industry in the State. These units also extend support to the Stakeholders of silk industry in Assam and neighbouring areas:

- (1) Regional Office at Guwahati to coordinate sericulture development activities with State and other agencies in Assam and NE Region.
- (2) Regional Muga Research Station at Boko to provide R&D and extension support for Muga sericulture.
- (3) Muga Silkworm Seed Organization in Guwahati with a network of one Muga SSPC at Kaliabari and one P3 Unit at Hahim (both in Kamrup Districts) for production and supply of muga basic seed for further multiplication by Government of Assam and private graineurs to produce quality silkworm seed.
- (4) One Eri Silkworm Seed Production Center is also functioning at Azara in Kamrup Distt. to produce quality Eri silkworm seed.
- (5) Regional Silk Technological Research Station, Khanapara, Guwahati to provide required R&D support in post cocoon activities.
- (6) A Muga Raw Material Bank (MRMB) is functioning at Sibsagar in Assam with 3 Sub-Depots, at Dhakukhana, Sualkuchi (Assam) and Coochbehar (W.B) with the objective of ensuring economic and fair price to the actual muga cocoon producers.

In order to promote sericulture activities in Assam, the Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme *viz* "Catalytic Development Programme" (CDP) during the Twelfth Plan period, in collaboration with the State Sericulture Department. Under this scheme, financial assistance is given to the Government of Assam to assist stakeholders including muga silk farmers through the respective Department of Sericulture. As per the requirement of Assam State for sericulture activities and based on the proposals received by CSB, the Financial assistance under CDP is provided by CSB. During the last three years period (2011-12 to 2013-14), total funds released under CDP by the Government through Central Silk Board to Assam is given below:

(₹ in Lakhs)

Years	Total Financial Assistance provided to Assam (including BTC) under CDP
2011-12	3,168.00
2012-13	2,761.60
2013-14	4,484.07

The following components under CDP are also implemented exclusively to support muga silk farmers:

- Support for raising kissan nurseries
- Muga food plant development
- Strengthening of muga seed multiplication infrastructure
- Assistance to muga adopted seed rearers including construction of mounting hall
- Assistance for muga private grainuers

Rejuvenation of silk industry of Bhagalpur

†1985. SHRI MATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhagalpur of Bihar is world famous for its excellence in traditional silk industry;

(b) whether silk industry of Bhagalpur has turned into a worn-out situation and a number of silk artisans are migrating to other cities in search of employment;

(c) if so, whether Government is considering to rejuvenate the silk industry of Bhagalpur under any of its plans or new policy;

(d) whether Government is determined to check the exodus of silk artisans of Bhagalpur so that this traditional pride of Bhagalpur could be regained; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Bhagalpur of Bihar is famous worldwide for its distinctive type of tasar silk and coarse varieties of silk fabrics.

(b) The silk handloom weavers of Bhagalpur are facing stiff competition from power loom and mill sector due to high input cost, low productivity and availability of cheaper imported silk fabric etc. sluggish export market and capturing of export market by other major silk producing countries like China in the recent past has also affected Bhagalpur silk industry.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) to (e) To protect and promote the Sericulture industry/activities in Bhagalpur, the Government through Central Silk Board has taken following remedial measures mainly for development of tasar silk industry:

- (i) Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre (BSM&TC) for production and supply of superior quality basic tasar seeds to the State Government units, for further multiplication and supply of silkworm seeds to the tasar reares.
- (ii) Demonstration-Cum-Technical Service Centre (DCTSC) for demonstration of improved technologies to reelers and weavers and to provide required training to the beneficiaries.
- (iii) Sub-Unit of Tasar Raw Material Bank (TRMB) for providing local market support for the producers of tasar cocoons by providing a remunerative price for their produce.

The Government of India through Central Silk Board is also implementing Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) in coordination with the Government of Bihar, to provide support for development of host plantation, construction of Rearing houses/CRCs/Cocoon storage houses, assistance to Tasar Seed production, support for State Department for strengthening of Eri Farm-cum-Grainages, rearing appliances, establishment of improved cottage basin reeling units, support for hot air driers etc. Under Quality Certification System (QCS) scheme, the Silk Mark Organisation of India (SMOI) organises structured and well planned Silk Mark Expos in various cities across the country regularly and provides a platform to weavers, traders and exporters to showcase and sell their silk products including sarees. Weavers and Exporters from Bhagalpur region also participate in these expos in a big way and get benefited.

For holistic and sustainable development of handloom sector including weavers of Bhagalpur, the Ministry of Textiles, through various schemes and programmes, facilitates marketing of handloom products, infrastructure development, brand building, training and skill upgradation, infusion of new and contemporary designs through design intervention as well as product diversification, technology upgradation, easy access to raw material at subsidized prices and easy credit flow at low interest rate etc. besides providing better health care and life insurance under welfare schemes.

One big handloom cluster, covering 5000 looms and 5 small clusters, covering 300-500 looms, have been sanctioned for Bhagalpur weavers. One Mega Handloom Cluster has also been approved in the budget of 2014-15 for Bhagalpur. Further, Government has

setup one Weavers Service Centre at Bhagalpur for providing various services such as skill upgradation, design and product development etc.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Papers to be laid on the Table. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, हम लोगों ने एक मुद्दा उठाया है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me do this, first. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Outcome Budget (2014-15) of the Department of Rural Development and Department of Land Resources

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT;
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND THE
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI UPENDARA KUSHWAHA): 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 Rural Development.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 300/16/14]

- (ii) Outcome Budget, for the year 2014-15, in respect of the Department of Land Resources.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 301/16/14]

- I. Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**
- II. Annual Accounts (from 2003-04 to 2009-10) of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi and related papers**
- III. Report of the Law Commission of India and Report and Accounts (2012-13) of the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-Dot) and related papers**
- IV. Memorandum of Understanding between Government of India and various Ltd. companies**

संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी; तथा विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Posts), under sub-section (4) of Section 74 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898:—

- (1) G.S.R. 328 (E), dated the 9th May, 2014, publishing the Indian Post Office (Amendment) Rules, 2014.
- (2) G.S.R. 366 (E), dated the 28th May, 2014, publishing the Indian Post Office (Second Amendment) Rules, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 200/16/14]

- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications) Notification No. G.S.R. 83 (E), dated the 11th February, 2014, publishing the use of very low power Radio Frequency devices or equipments including the Radio Frequency Identification Devices, (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2014, under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and under sub-section (4) of Section 10 of the Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 64/16/14]

- (iii) 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) F.No.304-8/2014-QoS, dated the 25th June, 2014, publishing the Quality of Service of Broadband Service (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 500/16/14]

- (2) No. 324-2/2013-CA, dated the 26th June, 2014, publishing the Telecommunication Consumers Education and Protection Fund (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 201/16/14]

- (3) No.305-11/2014-QoS, dated the 1st July, 2014, publishing the Telecom Consumers Complaint Redressal (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 500/16/14]

II.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 18 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987:—

- (i) (a) Annual Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2003-04, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 483/16/14]

- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2004-05, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 484/16/14]

- (c) Annual Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2005-06, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 485/16/14]

- (d) Annual Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2006-07, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 486/16/14]

- (e) Annual Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 487/16/14]

- (f) Annual Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 488/16/14]

- (g) Annual Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2009-10, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 489/16/14]

- (ii) Statements by Government accepting the Reports mentioned at (i) above.

- (2) Statement each (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Two Hundred and Forty-Fourth Report of the Law Commission of India on Electoral Disqualifications.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 199/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Development of Telematics (CDOT), 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 Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 499/16/14]

- IV. (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 195/16/14]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 197/16/14]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 196/16/14]

- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Electronics and Information Technology) and the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI), for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 498/16/14]

- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 497/16/14]

- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunications) and the ITI Limited, for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 496/16/14]

Annual Report (2013-14) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:

- i. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 540/16/14]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture

II. Outcome Budget (2014-15) of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries), under sub-section (2) of Section 38 of the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009:—

- (1) S.O. 995 (E), dated the 1st April, 2014, specifying fish, mollusc, crustacean and amphibian as aquatic animals within the definition of animal.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 238/16/14]

- (2) S.O. 996 (E), dated the 1st April, 2014, amending Schedule to the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act, 2009, to substitute certain entries therein.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 238/16/14]

- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation), under sub-section (2) of Section 4D of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914:—

- (1) S.O. 1508 (E), dated the 13th June, 2014, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (First Amendment) Order, 2014.
- (2) S.O. 1632 (E), dated the 27th June, 2014, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Second Amendment) Order, 2014.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 566/16/14]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget, for the year 2014-15, in respect of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 565/16/14]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

II. MOU between Government of India and Food Corporation of India (FCI).

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रावसाहेब दादाराव दानवे) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) Notification No. S.O. 1685 (E), dated the 3rd July, 2014, publishing the Removal of (Licensing requirements, Stock limits and Movement Restrictions) on Specified Foodstuffs (Amendment) Order, 2014, under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 571/16/14]

- II. (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Department of Food and Public Distribution) and the Food Corporation of India (FCI), for the year 2014-15.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 239/16/14]

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO GOVERNING COUNCIL OF NORTH-EASTERN INDIRA GANDHI REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES, SHILLONG

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, I move the following Motion:—

“That in pursuance of sub-rule (b) 27 of rule 3, read with sub-rule (a) of rule 4 of the Rules of the North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical

Sciences, Shillong, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House, to be a member of the Governing Council of the North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong.”

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, the House was assured that
...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उपसभापति जी, यह नहीं होगा ...(व्यवधान)... हम लोगों ने यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन की परीक्षा में अंग्रेजी अनिवार्यता के विरोध में एक मैटर उठाया था ...(व्यवधान)... छात्र हड़ताल पर बैठे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... तमाम लोग गिरफ्तार कर लिए गए हैं ...(व्यवधान)... पिछली बार राज्य मंत्री जी ने छात्रों को आश्वासन दिया था कि वे अंग्रेजी की अनिवार्यता समाप्त करेंगे ...(व्यवधान)... इस मारे अनशन ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं हुआ ...(व्यवधान)... छात्रों पर लाठीचार्ज हुआ ...(व्यवधान)... वे गिरफ्तार हुए ...(व्यवधान)... राज्य मंत्री को कोई अधिकार ही नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... प्रधानमंत्री जी ने राज्य मंत्रियों को कोई अधिकार नहीं दिया है ...(व्यवधान)... ये बेरोजगार हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : वे नौजवान लोग हैं ...(व्यवधान)... उनको नौकरी चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)... ये क्या कर रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश) : मंत्री जी को 12 बजे बुलाया था?

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Sir, the House was assured that a Statement would come at 12 o' clock. ...(Interruptions)... We are waiting for the Statement. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will allow you. ...(Interruptions)... Regarding the subject raised by you, that is, the language problem in the UPSC exams, a Statement had already been laid on the Table of the House. ...(Interruptions)... Clarifications can be sought on that Statement. I think, the Minister is also available here and, after the Zero Hour, you can... (Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : नहीं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा : वे छात्र घरने पर बैठे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उपसभापति जी, प्रधानमंत्री जी ने स्टेट मिनिस्टर को बेरोजगार किया हुआ है...(व्यवधान)...उनके पास कोई रोजगार नहीं है...(व्यवधान)... हम राज्य मंत्री की बात नहीं मानेंगे ...(व्यवधान)... मैं बहुत साफ कहता हूँ कि ये बेरोजगार राज्य मंत्री हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : आप उनको बेरोजगार कैसे कह रहे हैं?...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, allow us to seek clarification on the Statement.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार) : माननीय उपसभापति जी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : मंत्री महोदय यहां बैठे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka): Sir, we have to transact the business. If the House wants to take up the clarifications on the Statement first, the Government has no problem. But if you want to take up the Zero Hour first, we have no objection to that too. आप थोड़ा बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान).... Sir, on the same issue, a *suo motu* Statement was made by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh, earlier. Now, subsequently, the agitation is still continuing outside. The Government is also aware of the fact that students are agitated. A Committee has been appointed for this purpose to examine these aspects and also how to allay the apprehensions of the students. So, the Minister will give all the clarifications.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is for the Chair to decide whether they want now or afterwards. You decide about that. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : शरद जी, आप मंत्री जी से क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : जो व्याख्या नरेश जी ने की है, ऐसी व्याख्या नहीं करनी चाहिए। आप भी मंत्री रहे हैं, कोई व्यक्ति मंत्री नहीं रहने के बाद बेरोजगार होता है क्या? इसलिए मेरी आपसे विनती है कि कृपया ऐसी शब्दावली का प्रयोग मत करिए। आप सीनियर मेम्बर हैं, आपको कहने की जरूरत भी नहीं है। He is still a Minister. Minister is a Minister and he is an hon. Minister. He is also well educated in every subject. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : वेंकैया जी, आपकी सरकार के तमाम राज्य मंत्रियों के बयान आए हैं कि हमको काम नहीं दिया गया, इसलिए मैंने यह बात उठाई है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no.(Interruptions).... I am allowing clarifications. Let us start.(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : खुद आपके मंत्रियों के बयान आए हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sharadji, why not we start clarifications? फिर इस पर क्लैरिफिकेशन शुरू हो जाएगा।

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA (Jharkhand): Sir, ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : उपसभापति जी, हम लोगों को क्लैरिफिकेशन पूछने के लिए मौका दिया जाए।

श्री उपसभापति : हां, आपको मौका दिया जाएगा। I will allow you on clarifications.

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु : सर, स्टेटमेंट हो चुका है, चर्चा हो चुकी है, इसलिए स्पष्टीकरण पूछना चाहिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sharadji, what I am saying is, you want to raise the same issue. The Minister is there. We can seek clarifications. I am calling Sharadji first for seeking clarifications.

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Then, me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, send me names. Send me names.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, मेरा नोटिस है।

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा (उत्तराखंड) : डिप्टी चेयरमैन, सर मेरा भी नोटिस है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes, yes. आप बैठिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा : सर, उत्तराखंड के साथ धार्मिक भेदभाव हो रहा है। इस पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए।

श्री उपसभापति : मैं आपको बुलाऊंगा, आप अपनी सीट पर वापस जाइए।...(व्यवधान)...आप अपनी सीट पर जाइए। शरद जी, आप बोलिए।

CLARIFICATION ON THE STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Re. Issue of civil services exams conducted by UPSC

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार) : डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं ज्यादा नहीं बोलना चाहता, मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि देश की जो बोली है, वह मां की बोली है, उस मां की जीभ कैसे काटी जा रही है। मैं आपको सिर्फ इसके आंकड़े देता हूं तमिल के विद्यार्थी - 2008 में 98, 2009 में 90, 2010 में 38 और 2011 में 14; कन्नड़ के विद्यार्थी हैं - 2008 में 14, 2009 में 11, 2010 में 11 और 2011 में 5; तेलुगू के विद्यार्थी हैं 2008 में 117, 2009 में 85, 2010 में 69 और 2011 में 29; हिन्दी के विद्यार्थी - 2008 में 5,082, 2009 में 4,839, 2010 में 4,156 और 2011 में 1,682 और इंग्लिश के विद्यार्थियों की हालत देखिए - 2008 में 5,817, 2009 में 6,244, 2010 में 7, 329 और 2011 में 9,203 यानी ये एप्रॉक्सिमेटली डबल हो गए। आजादी के बाद से अंग्रेजी को बनाए रखने के लिए, तमिलनाडु के मेम्बर्स यहां बैठे हैं, अंग्रेजी के चलते तमिलियंस की हालत यह हुई है। यानी कहां तो पहले वे 98 थे, लेकिन आज आपकी भाषा के केवल 14 विद्यार्थी ही आ रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

डा. वी. मैत्रेयन (तमिलनाडु) : हिन्दी होती, तो भी यही होता।

श्री शरद यादव : पहले आप मेरी बात सुनिए, बाद में आप अपनी बात कह लीजिएगा।

महोदय, मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि ये हिन्दुस्तान की धरती की बोलियाँ हैं। याद रखना, दुनिया में कोई भी देश ट्रांसलेशन से आगे नहीं बढ़ेगा। हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि मैं अपनी बोली और अपनी भाषा में बोलूंगा, यह सुनकर मुझे बहुत सुकून हुआ। गृह मंत्री जी ने भी यही बात कही, तो मुझे बहुत सुकून हुआ। लेकिन जिस तरह 15-20 दिन से ये विद्यार्थी तबाह और बरबाद किए जा रहे हैं और जिस तरह से छाया के लिए उनको छत तक नहीं दी जा रही है, इसके लिए मैंने कमिशनर को पत्र भी लिखा, तब भी वे उनसे नहीं मिले।

यहां जो सभी एम.पी.जी. बोल रहे हैं, इनमें से हरेक के घर 50 लड़के, 20 लड़के, 30 लड़के खड़े हैं। जो डी.ओ.पी.टी. के मिनिस्टर हैं, इसके लिए उनसे मैंने खुद बात की, फिर भी एडमिट कार्ड ऑनलाइन निकाल दिए गए। एडमिट कार्ड निकलने का मतलब यह है कि एग्जाम शुरू हो गया है। सबसे आप ऑनलाइन एडमिट कार्ड वाली चीज को खत्म करिए, तभी समझ में आ सकता है कि आप CSAT के बारे में पुनर्विचार कर रहे हैं। जब परीक्षा का, एग्जाम का सिलसिला भी शुरू हो चुका है, तो कमेटी कब अपनी रिपोर्ट तक देगी? इस ऐवान में जवाब देते समय आप हमें यह भी बताइए कि आपके जवाब से क्या इन लड़कों का भविष्य बन जाएगा?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Okay. Please.

श्री शरद यादव : महोदय, मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो ऑनलाइन एडमिट कार्ड दिए गए हैं, उनको तत्काल वापस लिया जाए। एडमिट कार्ड वापस लेने के बाद ही इस कमेटी का काम शुरू हो, तभी इस कमेटी का कोई मतलब होगा। मैं आपसे इतना निवेदन ही करना चाहता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, I have noted the names. My humble request is, seek clarifications only. Confine yourself only to two minutes. So, Shri Satish Chandra Misra. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am calling you. Your name is there. I have written all names.

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मान्यवर, यह जो मुद्दा चल रहा है, इसे पूरा देश देख रहा है कि किस तरीके से आज बच्चे आंदोलित हैं। उनके ऊपर किस तरीके से कल बर्बरतापूर्वक लाठीचार्ज किया गया और वह भी तब जब उनको मजबूरी में सड़कों पर आना पड़ा था। जब उन बच्चों को यह लगा कि उनके साथ वायदाखिलाफी हो रही है, उनके साथ धोखा हो रहा है, तभी मजबूरी में वे सड़कों पर आए थे।

[श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा]

अभी ऑनरेबल श्री वेंकैया नायडु जी ने कहा कि इसको रीकंसिडर करने के लिए एक कमेटी बैठा ली गई है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि अगर कमेटी बैठा ली गई, वह इस मामले को कंसिडर कर रही है, तब आपको यह बयान देने में क्या दिक्कत हो रही है? माननीय मंत्री जी, आज जो एडमिट कार्ड जारी हो रहे हैं, आप उनको रोकने का काम करिए, जैसा माननीय श्री शरद यादव जी ने अभी कहा। अगर एडमिट कार्ड दे करके आपने कमेटी बैठाई है, तो शीघ्र ही इस पर आप कोई निर्णय ले लीजिए। यह जरूरी नहीं है कि बहुत अधिक समय लेकर वह कमेटी अपना निर्णय दे। अधिकतर कमिशन और कमेटीज सिर्फ इसलिए बैठाए जाते हैं, ताकि मैटर को डिफ्यूज कर दिया जाए और डिफ्यूज करने के बाद उसको एक कोल्ड स्टोरेज में डाल दिया जाए। लेकिन यह ऐसा विषय नहीं है। हर घर और हर जगह से नौजवान लोग आपकी तरफ निगाह बढ़ाकर बड़ी उम्मीद से देख रहे थे कि आप उनका ख्याल रखेंगे। आज वे बच्चे बेरोजगार घूम रहे हैं, जो आज अपने इम्तिहान की तैयारी करते, अपने एग्जाम की तैयारी करते, आई.ए.एस. और आई.पी.एस. की तैयारी करते। इसकी जगह आप उनको मजबूर कर रहे हैं कि वे सड़क पर खड़े हो करके आंदोलन पर उतरें।

जिस तरह का सिस्टम आपने रखा हुआ है, आप स्वयं जानते हैं कि इन एग्जाम्स में किस तरह का डिस्क्रिमिनेशन होता है। एक जो कॉन्वेंट स्कूल का पढ़ा हुआ बच्चा होता है और दूसरा, जो हिन्दी स्कूल से पढ़कर आया होता है, उनमें किस तरीके से डिस्क्रिमिनेशन होता है, यह बात आपको अच्छे तरीके से मालूम है। आपने इस विषय को खत्म नहीं किया, बल्कि इसे डिफ्यूज करने की जगह और बढ़ाने के लिए एडमिट कार्ड को ऑनलाइन डाल दिया और इस तरह पूरे देश को आंदोलन में डाल दिया। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मेरा आपसे निवेदन यह है कि आप इसको तुरंत रोकें। इसके साथ ऑनलाइन एडमिट कार्ड्स को कैंसिल करवा करके इस कमेटी से कहिए कि वह तीन दिन में ही अपना निर्णय दे।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Okay. Please.

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा : इसके लिए आप उन बच्चों को भी बुलाइए, उनकी बात भी सुनिए। उनकी बात सुन करके आप एक ऐसा निर्णय लीजिए, जो सबको मान्य हो और जिससे उन बच्चों को सुकून प्राप्त हो और उन बच्चों का भविष्य उज्ज्वल हो सके।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैंने 'बेरोजगार' शब्द इस कारण कहा था, क्योंकि माननीय मंत्री ने पिछले बार लड़कों को बयान दिया था और यह कहा था कि हम एक हफ्ते में इस विवाद को समाप्त कर देंगे, क्योंकि इन्हें उम्मीद थी कि जो कमेटी बैठी है, उसकी रिपोर्ट आ जाएगी। कल जो घटना घटी, उसकी जिम्मेदारी सरकार की है, इन लड़कों की नहीं है। मुझे तो ऐसा लग रहा है कि जैसे सरकार कहीं मजबूर दिखाई दे रही है।

श्रीमन, देश के साथ यह बहुत बड़ा अन्याय हो रहा है। यह सिर्फ हिन्दी का ही सवाल नहीं

है, रीजनल लैंग्वेज का भी है। देश की जो सारी रीजनल भाषाएं हैं, चाहे वह बंगाल की हो, तमिलनाडु की हो या आन्ध्र प्रदेश की हो, सबके लड़कों की यू.पी.एस.सी. एग्जाम में क्या स्थिति आ रही है? शरद जी ने भी बताया, उन्होंने एक-एक आंकड़े दिए। आपके एम.पी. मनोज तिवारी जी उन लड़कों के बीच में गये। वे लोग सभा के सदस्य हैं। उन्होंने वहां जाकर खुलेआम आश्वासन दिया कि आप लोग हड़ताल तोड़ दीजिए, हम जिम्मेदारी लेते हैं, हमारी सरकार है और ये एग्जाम्स तब तक नहीं होंगे, जब तक रीजनल लैंग्विजेज एलाउ नहीं की जाएंगी। तब उन लड़कों ने हड़ताल तोड़ दी। अब क्या बात हो गई? वे आपके एम.पी. हैं। डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह जी आपके मंत्री हैं, इन्होंने खुद पिछली बार बयान दिया था। आज फिर ये मजबूरी का बयान देने जा रहे हैं। तभी मैं कह रहा हूं कि प्रधानमंत्री जी को बुलाइए या इस पर लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस बोलें।

श्रीमन्, यह मान लीजिए कि अगर आपने *status quo* नहीं किया और जो एडमिट कार्ड निकले हैं, अगर उन्हें आपने नहीं रोका, अगर आप मजबूरी दिखाते रहे तथा आपने अगर सरकार को कमजोर दिखाने की बात की, तो यह आन्दोलन पूरे देश में होगा। आप गलतफहमी निकाल दीजिएगा, क्योंकि यह पूरे देश का सवाल है। यह सिर्फ हिन्दी भाषियों का सवाल नहीं है। उस आन्दोलन की जिम्मेदारी आपकी होगी। आपके दल के सदस्य भी इस बात को जानते हैं कि अगर क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं का उपहास किया जाएगा, तो नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने ओथ लेने के बाद जो कहा था कि वे हिन्दी को प्राथमिकता देंगे और उन्होंने जो डायरेक्शन दी है कि हमारी सरकार हिन्दी में काम करेगी, तो वह डायरेक्शन बेकार हो गयी।

माननीय मंत्री जी, मेरी एक ही मांग है। हम लोगों के यहां मजिस्ट्रेटी जांच होती है। कोई मामला डायल्यूट करना हो तो मजिस्ट्रेटी जांच पर टाल दीजिए। लेकिन आप यह मामला कमेटी पर न टालिए या मजिस्ट्रेटी जांच की बात न बताइए। आप आज स्पष्ट ऑर्डर दे दीजिए कि इसे रोका जाता है, जब तक फाइनल डिस्मिशन नहीं होगा। कमेटी भी बैठी है। आप फौरन एडमिट कार्ड रिजेक्ट कीजिए और उनको इंस्ट्रक्शन दीजिए। आप सरकार हैं और वह यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमिशन है। हमसे लोग पूछ रहे हैं कि कैसे होगा? ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सरकार हमने भी चलाई है, जानते हैं कि कैसे होता है। सरकार तो सरकार होती है। क्या सरकार से कोई लड़ पाया है? मैं चाहूंगा कि स्पष्ट आंसर मिले, नहीं तो श्रीमन्, सदन नहीं चलेगा, यह मैं आपसे कह देता हूं। मैं तकलीफ के साथ इस बात को कह रहा हूं।

श्री उपसभापति : धन्यवाद। श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

शहरी विकास मंत्री; आवास और शहरी गरीबी उपशमन मंत्री, तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु) : सर, ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये कह रहे हैं कि सदन नहीं चलेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह आज का विषय नहीं है। मैं उसमें नहीं पड़ना चाहता हूं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह कब से शुरू है, यह आपको बाद में मालूम पड़ेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, don't intervene now, please. You may reply in the end. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, हम संवैधानिक रूप से 1947 में आजाद हो गए थे, लेकिन वह आजादी आज भी अधूरी है। किसी सम्प्रभु राष्ट्र को, किसी स्वाभिमानी राष्ट्र को, अपनी भाषा में काम करने का अवसर न हो, छूट न हो और हमने इतने वर्षों बाद आज भी एक विदेशी भाषा पर, उसकी बैसाखियों पर सवारी करते जाएं, हमारे लिए इससे ज्यादा शर्मनाक और दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात क्या होगी?

श्रीमान्, मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि ...(व्यवधान)... मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please listen. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, भारत के राजभाषा अधिनियम के अंतर्गत ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Javadekar, please don't talk like that. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Minister, please don't talk like that. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : श्रीमान्, भारत के राजभाषा अधिनियम के प्रावधानों के अनुसार इस देश की केन्द्र सरकार की सभी संस्थाओं में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल (राजस्थान) : तब आप क्या कर रहे थे? ...(व्यवधान)... आपकी ही सरकार ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Vijay Goel, Please. ...(Interruptions)... We don't have the time. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : एक मिनट, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)... आप मुझ पर भरोसा रखिए। मैं सक्षम हूँ। विजय भाई, अगर आप इस तरह से बीच-बीच में बात करेंगे, तो आपके यहां से भी बोलने वाले खड़े होने वाले हैं, आप इसे याद रखिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज। ...(व्यवधान)... आप बोलिए।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : महोदय, राजभाषा अधिनियम के अंतर्गत हमने यह प्रावधान किया है, हमने इसी संसद से कानून पारित किया है, और यह प्रावधान किया है कि भारत सरकार की सेवाओं में आने वाले किसी भी व्यक्ति के लिए हिन्दी में काम करना अनिवार्य होगा। हमने उसके लिए इस देश का अलग-अलग राज्यों में, अलग-अलग श्रेणियों के राज्यों में विभाजित करके लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए हैं। हिन्दी अकेली नहीं है। हिन्दी हमारी राजभाषा है। हमने कानून बनाया है, उसका सम्मान हो, यह अपनी जगह है, लेकिन इस देश की तमाम भारतीय भाषाएं और भी हैं। तमिल, तेलुगु, गुजराती, असमिया, बांग्ला, पंजाबी, मराठी आदि हैं, ये सभी हमारी भाषाएं हैं हमारे देश में विभिन्न प्रांतों में विभिन्न भाषा-भाषी लोग रहते हैं। क्या उनको अपनी भाषा में कामकाज करने का

अधिकार नहीं होना चाहिए? आज भी अदालतों में और सरकारी दफ्तरों में उसी भाषा में काम होगा, जो विदेशी भाषा है? इस बात के लिए हमारा राष्ट्र गौरव कहां चला गया? हम आज यही पूछना चाहते हैं कि वे बच्चे, जो भारत सरकार की सेवा में अपना चयन कराने के लिए परीक्षा दे रहे हैं, उनको हिन्दी में जवाब लिखने का अधिकार नहीं है? आज अंग्रेजी में जवाब लिखना अनिवार्य बना दिया गया है, इससे अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं की भी उपेक्षा हो रही है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने जाकर उन्हें आश्वस्त किया था कि जब तक इसका समाधान नहीं हो जाएगा, इसका सॉल्यूशन नहीं हो जाएगा, तब तक हम यू.पी.एस.सी. की परीक्षाएं घोषित नहीं होने देंगे।...**(समय की घंटी)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That's okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... Time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : उसके बाद अभी यू.पी.एस.सी. ने परीक्षा घोषित कर दी। माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताएं कि वह कब तक यानी किस तारीख तक इस समस्या का समाधान खोजेंगे और विद्यार्थियों को भारतीय भाषाओं सहित हिन्दी में अपनी परीक्षा देने का अधिकार कब मिलेगा?

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, on the Minister's statement, I have three quick points to make. This country is so great that even though English is my mother tongue, I first learnt to speak in Bengali by choice. Now, I have three quick points. First to the Minister, through you, Sir, please stop this television beatification of Parliament. If statements on serious issues have to be made, we urge the Minister to make those statements on the floor of Parliament. But the Minister has done this before on some other issue concerning three numbers — I will not get into that — but those statements should be made on the floor of Parliament, not to television studios. He can make it later. Secondly, my own leader, Mamata Banerjee, has shown the way where when it comes to Railway exams, people were given the opportunity to write those exams in a language they are comfortable in. Sir, this is not an issue of English versus Hindi, certainly not. This is an issue regarding all the languages. In the campaign of the BJP before the election, we heard a lot about connecting with the youth of India. If you really want to connect with the youth of India, reconnect and do it now, maintain status quo because young people around the country are watching you, are watching us. We need to act on their behalf; we need to act now.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Civil Services Examination is conducted by the Union Public Service Commission. It is conducted in three stages

[Shri S. Muthukaruppan]

— one is the preliminary examination, another one is main examination and the third is the interview. The preliminary examination is a written examination, either in Hindi or English. So far as the main examination is concerned, it is allowed to write in Hindi or English or other regional languages also. So far as the preliminary examination is concerned, only two languages, that is Hindi or English, are allowed. As a result, regional language students who want to write in Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu and so on, are reduced or filtered in preliminary examination. So far as my party is concerned, the preliminary examination of the Union Public Service Commission should be allowed to be written in regional languages, especially in Tamil, because this will attract more students all over the States, including Tamil Nadu. So, students will get more chances. Furthermore, Sir, the preliminary examination has two papers — one is General Studies and another one is the Civil Service Aptitude Test. These two tests should be conducted in regional languages. So far as AIADMK and Tamil Nadu is concerned, we have two-language policy — one is Tamil and another is English. Preliminary examination must be allowed to be written in regional languages including Tamil. Thank you.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यू.पी.एस.सी. की परीक्षाओं में भारतीय भाषाओं के इस्तेमाल के संबंध में छात्रों की जो मांग है, हम समझते हैं कि वह मांग जायज है। आज जिस तरह से इस मुद्दे को लेकर पूरे देश में हमारे नौजवानों में आक्रोश है, गुस्सा है, वह भी जायज और हमें इस बात की भी खुशी है कि सरकार ने उसको बहुत संवेदनशीलता के साथ, बहुत ईमानदारी के साथ लिया है। उपसभापति महोदय, कोई भी भाषा, चाहे वह हिन्दी हो, उर्दू हो, मराठी हो, गुजराती हो या बंगाली हो, जितनी भी क्षेत्रीय भाषाएं हैं, उनके आधार पर हम मेरिट-डिमेरिट का हिसाब-किताब नहीं कर सकते, लेकिन अफसोस की बात है कि आज हमारी मेरिट और डिमेरिट भाषा के आधार पर तय होती है। अगर हम अंग्रेजी बोल रहे हैं तो बहुत काबिल हैं और अगर हम क्षेत्रीय भाषाएं बोल रहे हैं तो हम जाहिल हैं। यह जो एक चलन और चोंचला है, इस पर कहीं न कहीं रोक लगनी चाहिए। अंग्रेजी से दुश्मनी नहीं है। अंग्रेजी जरूरी है और यह कम्युनिकेशन की एक भाषा है, लेकिन जो क्षेत्रीय भाषा है, वह हमारे दिल, दिमाग और शरीर में बसी हुई है, उसमें हमारी मिट्टी की सुगंध है, इसलिए हमें उसके साथ न्याय करना चाहिए। यह बात सही है कि इस सरकार का एक महीना हुआ है, करे कोई भरे कोई वाली स्थिति है। जो कुछ आप करके गए, उसको हमें भरना पड़ रहा है। सत्यव्रत जी ने जो कहा, उनकी बात से मैं सहमत हूं। अगर इतनी ही जोर से उस समय जब आप सरकार में थे यह कहते कि छात्र जो कह रहे हैं और यू.पी.एस.सी. में क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं की जो बात हो रही है, वह बिल्कुल सही है, उसे जायज हक मिलना चाहिए, न्याय मिलना चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)...

جناب مختار عباس نقوی (اثر پردیش) : مانتے آپ سبھا پتی مہودے، یو پی ایس سی کی پریکشاؤں میں بھارتی بھاشاؤں کے استعمال کے سمبندھ میں چھاتروں کی جو مانگ ہے، ہم سمجھتے ہیں کہ وہ مانگ جائز ہے۔ آج جس طرح سے اس مذعے کو لے کر پورے دیش میں ہمارے نوجوانوں میں اکروش ہے، غصہ ہے، وہ بھی جائز ہے اور ہمیں اس بات کی بھی خوشی ہے کہ سرکار نے اس کو بہت سنوینڈشیلٹا کے ساتھ، بہت ایمانداری کے ساتھ لیا ہے۔

آپ سبھا پتی مہودے، کوئی بھی بھاشا، چاہے وہ ہندی ہو، اردو ہو، مراٹھی ہو، گجراتی ہو یا بنگالی ہو، جتنی بھی علاقائی بھاشائیں ہیں، ان کے ادھار پر ہم میرٹ، ڈی۔ میرٹ کا حساب کتاب نہیں کر سکتے، لیکن افسوس کی بات ہے کہ آج ہماری میرٹ اور ڈی۔ میرٹ بھاشا کے ادھار پر طے ہوئی ہے۔ اگر ہم انگریزی بول رہے ہیں تو بہت قابل ہیں اور ہم ان علاقائی بھاشائیں بول رہے ہیں تو ہم جاہل ہیں۔ یہ جو ایک چلن اور چونچلا ہے، اس پر کہیں نہ کہیں روک لگنی چاہیے۔ انگریزی سے دشمنی نہیں۔ انگریزی ضروری ہے اور یہ کمیونی کیشن کی بھاشا ہے، لیکن جو علاقائی بھاشا ہے، وہ ہمارے دل، دماغ اور شریر میں بسی ہوئی ہے، اس میں ہماری مٹی کی سگندھ ہے، اس لئے ہمیں اس کے ساتھ نیائے کرنا چاہیے۔ یہ بات صحیح ہے کہ اس سرکار کا ایک مہینہ ہوا ہے، 'کرے کوئی بھرے کوئی' والی حالت ہے۔ جو کچھ آپ کر کے گئے، اس کو ہمیں بھرنا پڑ رہا ہے۔ ستیہ ورت جی نے جو کہا، ان کی بات سے میں سہمت ہوں۔ اگر اتنی ہی زور سے اس وقت جب آپ سرکار میں تھے یہ کہتے کہ چھاتر جو کہہ رہے ہیں اور یو پی ایس سی میں علاقائی بھاشاؤں کی جو بات ہو رہی ہے، وہ بالکل صحیح ہے، اسے جائز حق ملنا چاہیے، نیائے ملنا چاہیے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : हम हमेशा यह बात कहते रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : आप कहते हैं, लेकिन तब भी आप यही कहते हैं...(व्यवधान)...

† جناب مختار عباس نقوی : آپ کہتے ہیں، لیکن اب بھی آپ یہی کہتے ہیں... (مداخلت)۔

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : आप भी छः साल सरकार में रहे, ... (व्यवधान)... हमने नहीं किया तो आप कर देते। ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी जी, आप बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : आप कहते रहे, आपकी बात नहीं चली। कम से कम हम कह रहे हैं, देखते हैं चलती है या नहीं। ... (व्यवधान)... उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे पूरा विश्वास है और पूरी उम्मीद है कि जिस तरह से माननीय मंत्री जी ने क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं के बारे में, क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं को जायज हक दिलाए जाने के बारे में, यू.पी.एस.सी. इग्जामिनेशंस में उनकी प्राथमिकता के बारे में 18 जुलाई को बयान दिया था, उसी तरह से माननीय मंत्री जी और यह सरकार इस दिशा में प्रभावी कदम उठाएगी। यह केवल छात्रों की मांग नहीं है, बल्कि यह देश की चाहत है और देश की मांग है कि हमारी जो क्षेत्रीय भाषाएं हैं, उनको न्याय मिलना चाहिए।

† وشواس ہے اور پوری امید ہے کہ جس طرح سے مائٹے منٹری جی نے علاقائی بھاشاؤں کے بارے میں، علاقائی بھاشاؤں کو جائز حق دلانے جانے کے بارے میں، یو.پی.ایس.سی. ایگز امینیشن میں ان کی پرا تھمکتا کے بارے میں 18 جولائی کو بیان دیا تھا، اسی طرح سے مائٹے منٹری جی اور یہ سرکار اس دشا میں پربھاوی قدم اٹھانے گی۔ یہ صرف چھاتروں کی مانگ نہیں ہے، بلکہ یہ دیش کی چاہت ہے اور دیش کی مانگ ہے کہ ہماری جو علاقائی بھاشائیں ہیں، ان کو نیا ئے ملنا چاہیے۔

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, मेरा यही कहना है कि समस्या आज पैदा नहीं हुई है, बल्कि over a period of time यह accumulate होते-होते इस जगह तक पहुंची है। I rememembr that I have written to DoPT Minister, at least, four times. मैंने सारी डिटेल्स देते हुए उनको यह लिखा कि रीजनल लैंग्वेजेज का पार्टिसिपेशन कैसे घट रहा है and not only of regional languages, minority का पार्टिसिपेशन भी UPSC process में घट रहा है। And, latest letter's copy was also marked to the Minority Affairs Minister sitting over here. I checked up with her and found that it had been referred to th DoPT, लेकिन यह नहीं हुआ। आज इसमें यह blame game करने कोई फायदा नहीं कि आपने नहीं किया, आपने नहीं किया, बल्कि यह नहीं हुआ। It is because of the paculiar pro-corporate elitist paradigm, जो हमारी सारी पॉलिसी में चल रहा है तथा देश की आम गरीब जनता उसका शिकार है तथा इस ब्यूरोक्रेसी और ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को एक elitist monopoly बनाते हुए वह कॉर्पोरेट्स और पैसे वालों के फेवर में चलता है।

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

There must be a brake on this. I welcome that the people came on the street and agitated and it came to the notice of Government. The Government has decided to appoint a Committee. I must say that action must start now. Now, as you have appointed a Committee, please examine it, लेकिन उसके साथ-साथ इस पर एक्शन होना जरूरी है कि अभी इसके इग्जाम्स बंद कीजिए। यह मैसेज सबके पास जाना जरूरी है कि the Parliament and the Government are sensitive towards this most sensitive issue of the people. आप इग्जाम्स बंद कीजिए, एडमिट कार्ड्स इश्यू करना बंद कीजिए और जैसा कि शरद जी ने कहा यह ऑनलाइन वाला चक्कर भी बंद कीजिए। Let a decision be taken and then whole exam process be put in motion. Only by that way, it can be done. I think, again, the basic issue is that we need to liberate ourselves from this pro-corporate elitist paradigm. It will eat away the vitals of our nationality and the economy.

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता (झारखंड) : उपसभापति महोदय, यू.पी.एस.सी. के एक्जाम्स में हिन्दी भाषी छात्रों के साथ किया जा रहा भेदभाव बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है।

मान्यवर, दुनिया के हर देश में वहां की भाषा को प्राथमिकता दी जाती है। आप चीन में जाएंगे तो वहां साइन-बोर्ड्स पर ऊपर चाइनीज में लिखा होगा और नीचे अंग्रेजी में लिखा होगा क्योंकि अंग्रेजी पढ़ाया जाना भी जरूरी है। आप फ्रांस में जाएं, जर्मनी में जाएं, आप किसी भी मुल्क में चले जाएं, वहां वे अपनी मातृभाषा को/क्षेत्रीय भाषा को प्राथमिकता देते हैं। मान्यवर, केवल हमारे देश में ऐसी स्थिति है कि अंग्रेजी बोलने वालों को विद्वान समझा जाता है और, जैसे श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी साहब ने कहा कि हिन्दी बोलने वालों को जाहिल समझा जाता है।

मान्यवर, अभी देश के प्रधानमंत्री ब्राजील गए, उन्होंने हिन्दी में बात की। यह पूरे देश के लोगों को अच्छा लगा कि वहां प्रधान मंत्री भी हमारी मातृभाषा में बोले। यह भी पता चला है कि माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी युनाइटेड नेशंस में हिन्दी में बोलेंगे। यह जानकर भी बहुत अच्छा लगा, लेकिन अपने देश में हिन्दी के प्रति जो दुर्भावना है, उसके लिए क्या किया जाए? महोदय, यह एक मानसिकता है जिसे ठीक करने की आवश्यकता है। अभी नरेश अग्रवाल जी ने कहा कि यह एक चिंगारी है। मंत्री महोदय, अगर आप इसे ठीक से हैंडल नहीं करेंगे तो खाली यहां बात करने से काम नहीं चलने वाला है। यह चिंगारी और फैलेगी जो हम सब के लिए ठीक बात नहीं है।

मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि इस संबंध में कमेटी बिठाने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। जो लोग कमेटी में बैठे हैं, उनकी अपनी मानसिकता है। आप देश की मानसिकता को समझिए और इस चीज को इमीडिएटली करैक्ट कीजिए और जैसा हमारे नेता शरद यादव जी ने कहा इस चीज को तुरंत इम्प्लीमेंट करवाइए। धन्यवाद।

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this issue actually is a very serious issue. Sir, senior leader, Sharad Yadav ji, has also shared some data with the House. Sir, in 2010, 122 candidates from Tamil Nadu were successful in the CSAT exam but, in 2011, this number fell down to 68. It is not just the case of Tamil

[Shrimati Kanimozhi]

Nadu, it is the case of many other States where other regional languages are spoken. You cannot leave out such a large portion of the country thereby denying them the right to represent them to run the country as civil servants. The changes which have been brought about now actually help students belonging to creamy layers only, because it helps students who are fluent in English, and, of course, students who are fluent in Hindi. When it comes to States like Tamil Nadu, many of the students who come from rural areas find it difficult in these circumstances to write these exams because they are not that comfortable either in English or in Hindi. So, many of the students are left behind and their aspirations are all killed because of these language issues. It is a very sensitive issue, and, on 12th March, 2013, our leader, Dr. Kalaingar, also wrote to the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, that regional languages also have to be considered and taken into consideration when these exams are conducted. Translation, if not in all the languages, at least, should be done according to the language of the State. For example, if an exam is going to be conducted in Tamil Nadu, the question paper should also be in Tamil language and the students should be allowed to write the exam in Tamil. Same should be the case for Kerala or other States, which do not speak Hindi. We have to take this feeling into consideration.

Sir, in Tamil Nadu, we have a two-language system. We speak Tamil, we write Tamil, and, English is also taken into account. It is very difficult for students to be forced to write in other languages in which they are not comfortable. Sir, we are part of India, I think, we have a right to be the part of those who govern this country. So, students who come from rural areas in Tamil Nadu and students who come from not so well-off background, who have not been sent to English-medium schools cannot be left behind, and, their aspirations cannot be killed. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... So, changes have to be made ...*(Time-bell rings)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Please take your seat.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: and, I think, the Government cannot work on such language divide. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the notification issued by the Union Public Service Commission has, in fact, created uproar all over the country. This notification needs to be reconsidered and withdrawn. Government must be prepared. Sir, language is a very sensitive issue. Language can unite people; language can divide people also. So, Government should tread very cautiously. It should advise the Union Public Service

Commission to tread cautiously. As many Members have suggested, as far as Civil Services Exams are concerned, in the Preliminary, there must be an option for those students or it must be made mandatory that the mother tongue should be given the priority. All those who speak their languages must be given the opportunity to write the exams in their own languages. I suggest that the languages in the Eighth Schedule should be allowed for the Preliminary Exams. There must be a level-playing field for all the languages. It should not tilt towards English or it should not tilt towards Hindi also. We all should keep in mind the assurance given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on the language policy. Right now, to face the present situation, I think that UPSC notification needs to be reconsidered and withdrawn. All the regional languages should be given a level-playing field. I don't want to call them regional languages. They are all our languages, Indian languages, and every part should feel as part of the whole. Subramanya Bharathi is a part of our psyche. We hail from Tamil Nadu. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... He only said that in mother India 18 languages are spoken but our thinking is one. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay.

SHRI D. RAJA: If that is so, I think, the Government should ask the UPSC to withdraw the notification ...(*Time-bell rings*)... and Government should give due attention to this issue.

DR. K. KESHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I hope the Government understands the concern of the House which is nothing but a concern of the nation. They have been on agitation for the last two weeks. More so, yesterday you have witnessed the violent turn of the entire event. Sir, I don't want to confuse or add to the tension. All that we are seeking is to defuse the situation. Number one, since you want to study it, it is not a new thing that you are doing. Nigvekar Committee Report is right with you. It has suggested to you all the methods. I do not know why you are sleeping over it. This is a serious study. Anyhow, since you are studying, let us not continue with the process that we have already taken up. Let us stop issuing of the hall tickets which have been uploaded yesterday. That will certainly defuse the situation. I am just coming from them. They have met me and I have asked them to meet you in the afternoon. Sir, the question is not English versus Hindi. It is about a particular passage of English versus all the languages in the country. It is not that they are not allowed to write in our own examination, as far as UPSC is concerned. We are allowed to write in any regional language we like. But two papers have been introduced since 2012. In the name of CSAT, Civil Services Aptitude Test, in place of testing the aptitude of the candidate, you are giving English passage and trying to test the aptitude of the candidate. What all the regional language candidates or Hindi language

[Dr. K. Keshava Rao]

candidates are seeking is, give the passage in Hindi so that we understand that and give you our aptitude, our initiatives. That is all that they are asking. What they are asking is a level-playing ground for them. Actually speaking, Mr. Sharad Yadavji had given a list. We are asking for a level-playing field. The regional language boys, particularly from the tribal areas, have studied in their own language. Let them understand it in their own language. Once they assimilate what is written, then let them come and give their aptitude. What you are trying to ask is in English and again you are asking them to tell you their aptitude in English. This is what they are exactly doing. I don't want to add. Let the experts look into it. Nigvekar Report is with you. Please meet the boys. They are brilliant boys of this country. They are appearing for Civil Services. Let us not confuse the issue. It is about two subjects that have been introduced. What I request the Minister to do is this. One, please stop this uploading of hall ticket. And see that whatever Committee you have appointed to look into this gets into action. Thank you very much, Sir.

श्री बैष्णव परिडा (ओडिशा) : सर, भारत के लिए यह एक बहुत गंभीर समस्या है। हम लोगों ने भारत के स्वाधीनता संग्राम में देशवासियों के सामने वायदा किया था कि अंग्रेजों के जाने के बाद देश का शासन भारतीय भाषाओं में होगा, जनता की भाषा में जनता का शासन होगा, लेकिन 1947 से आज तक, हम लोगों ने देश में क्या हालत क्रिएट कर दी है? गांधी जी बोलते थे कि अंग्रेजियत को छोड़ो, लेकिन उस अंग्रेजियत को सहन करते-करते आज हम इस समय में आ गए हैं।

महोदय, यह सिर्फ यू.पी.एस.सी. की बात नहीं, सेंटर की बात नहीं है। मेरे राज्य ओडिशा में, ओडिशा ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विस का एकजाम ओडिया भाषा में नहीं होने दिया जा रहा है and Odisha perhaps is only State in India, जहां पर प्रशासनिक काम ओडिया में नहीं होता है, बल्कि अंग्रेजी में होता है। ओडिशा की लोक प्रशासनिक सेवा आदि की जानकारी जनता को ओडिया भाषा में नहीं मिलती है, अभी भी सब काम अंग्रेजी में होता है। 1954 में श्री नवकृष्ण चौधरी जब ओडिशा के चीफ मिनिस्टर थे, तब उन्होंने वहां Official Language Act पास किया था and at that time the same thing happened in other States also. English was replaced with local languages, किन्तु ओडिशा में जो ऐक्ट पास हुआ था, वह अभी तक कार्यान्वित नहीं हुआ। इसलिए ओडिशा में हमने एक आंदोलन शुरू कर दिया है। वह दो साल से चल रहा है कि ओडिया भाषा मर रही है, unless you use the language, it will die. If the language dies, your identity will also die. हम ओडिशा के हैं, because we speak Odiya. तो हमारी लैंग्वेज जब मर जाएगी ...(समय की घंटी)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You better take it up in Odisha. You better take it up in Odisha.

श्री बैष्णव परिडा : तो हमारी आइडेंटिटी नहीं रहेगी और ...(व्यवधान)... इसलिए सेंटर से लेकर स्टेट तक सब प्रशासनिक कामकाज ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Why don't you take it up in Odish? Please sit down. Your time is over.

श्री बैष्णव परिडा : सब कामकाज अपनी लैंग्वेज में होना चाहिए, यही मेरी कहना है, धन्यवाद।

श्री रामदास अठावले (महाराष्ट्र) : डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, 2011 में यू.पी.एस.सी. ने CSAT इंटरव्यू किया, तो कौन सी भाषा में पेपर लिखना है, यह उसका विषय नहीं है। विषय यह है कि जिन स्टूडेंट्स ने मराठी में, हिन्दी में, तमिल में या अपनी लोकल लैंग्वेज में ग्रेजुएशन किया है, जो एक्जाम में बैठने वाले हैं, ऐसे स्टूडेंट्स, 2011 में CSAT लगाने के बाद यू.पी.एस.सी. में फेल हो रहे हैं और उनकी संख्या कम होती जा रही है। जिन स्टूडेंट्स ने इंग्लिश में ज्यादा पढ़ाई की है, जो आई.आई.टी. से आए हैं या जिन्होंने ऊंची शिक्षा प्राप्त की है, ऐसे स्टूडेंट्स उसमें ज्यादा पास हो रहे हैं। इसके लिए सरकार ने तीन लोगों की कमेटी बनाई है। महोदय, प्रधान मंत्री जी हिन्दी भाषा को ज्यादा प्रोत्साहन देते हैं और सभी भाषाओं के प्रति हमारा आदर है, लेकिन जिन स्टूडेंट्स ने लोकल लैंग्वेज में पढ़ाई की है, वे ज्यादा फेल हो रहे हैं, इसलिए स्टूडेंट्स आंदोलन कर रहे हैं और कल उन पर लाठीचार्ज भी हुआ है, इसलिए सरकार से मेरा निवेदन यह है कि यह कमेटी का मामला बहुत खतरनाक होता है, खतरनाक मतलब उसमें बहुत ज्यादा टाइम लग जाता है - जो ये कमिशन या कमेटियां होते हैं। हमारी सरकार तो फटाफट निर्णय लेने वाली है। इन्होंने जो गलतियां की हैं, उनको सुधारने का काम हमारे ऊपर आ गया है। डा. मनमोहन सिंह के प्रति हमारा बहुत आदर है, यह निर्णय उनके कार्यकाल में हुआ, लेकिन अब यह हमारी सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है, इसलिए यह निर्णय कैंसिल करके, CSAT को कैंसिल कर दीजिए, ताकि लोकल लैंग्वेज में पढ़ाई करने वाले स्टूडेंट्स ज्यादा से ज्यादा आई.ए.एस., आई.पी.एस. बन सकें। मेरी मंत्री जी से इतनी ही मांग है कि इस निर्णय को आज, अभी अनाउंस कर दीजिए और कमेटी की बात मत कीजिए, क्योंकि यह कमेटी आपको बरबाद कर देगी।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next is Mr. Vijay Goel. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would call you. Before that I have three names. I would call you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... I know that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Vijay Goel.

श्री विजय गोयल : उपसभापति महोदय, संघ लोक सेवा आयोग, यू.पी.एस.सी. की प्रारंभिक प्रीलिमिनरी परीक्षा को लेकर हिन्दी और भारतीय भाषाओं की जो उपेक्षा हो रही है, उसके संबंध में जो लोग आन्दोलन चला रहे हैं, मैं उनकी तारीफ करना चाहता हूं। यह केवल इसी परीक्षा की बात नहीं है। आप इस पार्लियामेंट के अंदर, हाउस के अंदर देख लीजिए, हम सब लोग हिन्दी या प्रादेशिक भाषा में भाषण देकर चुनाव जीतकर आते हैं, लेकिन यहां पर सबसे ज्यादा स्पीचिज़ जो होती हैं, वे इंग्लिश भाषा में होती हैं। उन बच्चों ने सारे देश का ध्यान इस बात की ओर दिलाया है कि यू.पी.एस.सी. के अंदर जो भेदभाव हो रहा है, इसको समाप्त किया जाना चाहिए। सरकार ने

[श्री विजय गोयल]

Suo-motu स्टेटमेंट देकर इस बात को साबित किया है कि सरकार इस संबंध में बहुत संवेदनशील है। महोदय, 2010 तक केवल दो पेपर होते थे, जनरल स्टडीज़ और स्पेसिफिक सब्जेक्ट का, जिसमें 23 सब्जेक्ट्स में से कोई भी परीक्षार्थी अपना सब्जेक्ट चुन सकता था, लेकिन 2011 में जब CSAT सिविल सर्विसेज़ एप्टीट्यूड टैस्ट का एग्जाम आया, उसके बाद यह समस्या खड़ी हो गयी। मुझे नहीं मालूम कि पिछले तीन सालों के अंदर जो यह आंदोलन चला और उसके बाद जो विरोधी पार्टी है, उन्होंने इसका क्या संज्ञान लिया, लेकिन अब उनकी दो मांगें हैं। पहली मांग यह है कि CSAT के अंदर जिस तरीके से इंग्लिश के क्वेश्चंस आ रहे हैं, उनमें उन्हें बहुत ज्यादा परेशानी हो रही है। दूसरी इंग्लिश से हिन्दी में जो ट्रांसलेशन किया जा रहा है, वह बड़ा क्लिष्ट है। जैसे हमारी राज्य सभा और लोक सभा में भी जो ट्रांसलेशन हिन्दी में होकर आता है, वह बड़ा कठिन और क्लिष्ट होता है। इस तरफ भी उन्होंने ध्यान दिलाया है। मेरा यह कहना है कि इसके ऊपर सरकार को तुरंत संज्ञान लेना चाहिए। यह समस्या इसलिए ज्यादा खड़ी हुई क्योंकि लोगों के घरों में एडमिट कार्ड आ गए। अब यह भी नहीं मालूम कि वे एडमिट कार्ड इसी समय पर आते हैं या इस बार जल्दी भेज दिए गए हैं। इसकी वजह से उन लोगों का आंदोलन तीव्र हो गया। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मैं समझता हूँ कि मंत्री जी जब अपना स्टेटमेंट देंगे, तब उसके अंदर सब कुछ स्पष्ट हो जाएगा और सारा सदन चूंकि इस पर साथ है, इसलिए इन विद्यार्थियों को जरूर राहत मिलेगी, इस बात का मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Mr. Mahendra Singh Mahra.

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा (उत्तराखंड) : उपसभापति महोदय...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, उनका दूसरा विषय है।

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा : मेरा दूसरा नोटिस है।

श्री उपसभापति : इसके बारे में नहीं है तो आप बैठिए। Now, Dr. M.S. Gill.

DR. M.S. GILL (Punjab): Sir, this question of clarifications is essentially becoming a question of language. India is a Union of States. It is a union of many cultures, many languages and many ways of living life. In Nehru's time, we had put a happy balance on this question which is working so far. But, Sir, the reality is that there are 22 recognised Indian national languages. No language is prevalent over the whole country. Let us be clear. One language which is a big group which is Hindi. But, they are only a big group. If you go to Kerala, Assam or Tamil Nadu or Amritsar, you cannot talk to people in Hindi only. Yes, Hindi and Punjabi are close to each other. We can understand both. One thing should be clear. The point is, in each State, everybody is using his own language all over. There is no problem and that is the right way to do it. This is a union of many languages which we all want, we all worship and we all like. Let us not argue on that. Nobody worships it more here or more there. We are all equal in this. The question is: How do

you run the work of the Union? I am an IAS officer of the long past. How do you run the work of the Union or the Government of India? I cannot understand that. I sat for IAS examinations and I watched what was going on. I can't understand it if you have an exam in a vast number of languages. Then, you want the interview also in that language. Where are you going to find 500 UPSC Members to talk to, me in Punjabi. Sir, Punjabi will not be put on the back, nor will Tamil be, nor will Kannadiga be, nor will Assamese be, nor will Bengali be. They are as great as any other language. All are equally great. So, how are you going to do it? How do you moderate the selection? Is she better than me? Am I better than him? I do not know how they will do it. I am frankly mystified. Therefore, I have sympathy with the Minister. Please think hard and don't make any political points here. We can all make them.

Secondly, in running India we will all get our share. It is not that by some mechanism, as my friend, Mrs. Kanimozhi says, we will have predominance of people from one section ruling over us. If we don't have our English, Englishmen being Collectors, we don't want others also. We want a fair share. I look at Delhi share and Punjab share. I won't talk on it. But I know ...*(Interruptions)*... You can shout. I am not impressed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यह राजनैतिक मुद्दा नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा : सर, ये इसको पॉलिटिकल बना रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, यह राजनैतिक मुद्दा नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. M.S. GILL: They have to sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप जितना मर्जी शोर करो। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. M.S. GILL: Sir, He has no business to disturb me. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, he can't sit there and stop others from talking. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has to sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... They can go on shouting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : क्या कांग्रेस अंग्रेजी परस्त है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या कांग्रेस अंग्रेजी चाहती है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. एम.एस. गिल : ये शोर करेंगे, हम नहीं मानेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: When both of you are talking, I can't understand what you are saying. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप लोग बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उपसभापति महोदय, यह राजनैतिक मुद्दा शब्द कार्यवाही से निकाला जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

DR. M.S. GILL: Sir, this House does not belong to the people who are sitting in front of you. ...**(Interruptions)**... I can assure you. ...**(Interruptions)**... नरेश जी, आप मुझे लेक्चर नहीं कर सकते हैं। मैं आपको कभी नहीं करता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. Please sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**...

DR. M.S. GILL: Let him sit down.

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उन छात्रों के साथ खिलवाड़ हो रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्या कांग्रेस इसका विरोध कर रही है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You please sit down. The LoP wants to speak. ...**(Interruptions)**...

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं एक बात स्पष्ट कर देना चाहता हूँ कि यहां पर जब ऑनरेबल मेम्बर्स बोलते हैं, तो अपने-अपने व्यूज़ बोलते हैं, यह कोई पार्टी का व्यूज़ नहीं है। Let it be clear. ...**(Interruptions)**...

† قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : آپ سبھاپتی مہودے، مکی ایک بات واضح کر دینا چاہتا ہوں کہ یہاں پر جب آنریبل ممبرس بولتے ہیں، تو اپنے اپنے ویوز بولتے ہیں، یہ کوئی پارٹی کا ویوز نہیں ہے۔ لیٹ اٹ ہی کلنیر۔۔۔**(مداخلت)**۔۔۔

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : क्या आपने पार्टी का व्यू क्लियर कर दिया? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. एम.एस. गिल : पार्टी का व्यू बाद में पूछना। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Sir, let me finish. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद : चीफ व्हिप ने जो बात अभी कही थी, वह पार्टी का व्यू है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

† قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : چیف ویب نے جو بات ابھی کہی تھی، وہ پارٹی کا ویوز ہے۔۔۔**(مداخلت)**۔۔۔

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

DR. M.S. GILL: Sir, I will just finish. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has no business to stop me.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Everybody spoke for two minutes. Why do you want more time?

DR. M.S. GILL: I will speak. The point is ...*(Interruptions)*... If he is disturbing me, I will not sit. I am going to stand. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उपसभापति महोदय, आज शुक्रवार है और तमाम सदस्य नमाज़ पढ़ने जायेंगे। आप मंत्री जी से जवाब दिलवा दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. एम.एस. गिल : नरेश जी, राज्य सभा के ऊपर आपका हक नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हक मिश्रा जी का भी है, हक मेरा भी है। नरेश जी, आपको मेरी बात भी सुननी पड़ेगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please keep quiet. This subject is very important. I have a number of names. With me now there are half-a-dozen names; and other friends are raising their hands. There are only ten minutes. I think, we will stop now here. I will call the Minister to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have half-a-dozen names. No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister is to reply.

श्री शरद यादव : उपसभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री जी को बोलने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा : माननीय मंत्री जी को बोलने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर (राजस्थान) : वे बोल चुके हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमें बोलने दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री किरनमय नन्दा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मंत्री जी को बोलने दीजिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. That means we will sit 15 minutes extra. ...*(Interruptions)*... वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर जी बैठिए ...*(व्यवधान)*... Why do you say it? Everybody knows you? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर : उपसभापति जी, सदन का जो भाव रहा है कि रीज़नल लैंग्वेज को इम्पोर्टेन्स मिले ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have not called you. I have asked you to sit down. Mr. Minister, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): No, Sir. We have to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: We have to make our points. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have one dozen names. That is the problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री किरनमय नन्दा : मंत्री जी को बुलवाइए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. What can I do? I cannot accommodate all. ...*(Interruptions)*... I cannot accommodate all. ...*(Interruptions)*... मंत्री जी बोलिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री; परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री; अंतरिक्ष विभाग में राज्य मंत्री; तथा कर्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, ...*(व्यवधान)*... इतनी उत्तेजना मत दिखाइए ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम उसी विषय पर बोल रहे हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... Respected Deputy Chairman, Sir, I had the privilege of making a statement in this august House on the 18th of July and I stand before you today for the clarification following this discussion. मैंने ये सारी बातें बहुत ध्यान से सुनीं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शरद यादव : हिंदी में बोलिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : मैं हिन्दी में बोलूंगा, अंग्रेजी में भी बोलूंगा, आप आदेश करेंगे तो तमिल में भी बोलूंगा ...*(व्यवधान)*...

एक माननीय सदस्य : डोगरी में बोलिए।

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : मैं डोगरी में भी बोलूंगा। मैं पंजाबी में, उर्दू में और कानीमोझी जी की तमिल में भी बोलूंगा। कहने का अर्थ यह है कि This is the House of Elders. I am here to learn from you and to obey you. मुझे अच्छा लगा, क्योंकि बहुत सी बातें ध्यान में आ गईं। आपने याद दिलाया तो याद आया कि मैं बेरोजगार हो गया हूं, क्योंकि पहले डॉक्टरी किया करता था, पर यहां से बेरोजगार करेंगे तो कहीं का नहीं रहूंगा, इसलिए कृपा करके, थोड़ा समय देकर इतनी उदारता दिखाइएगा। अगर यह काम भी छूट गया तो कहां जाएंगे? फिर हमें भी उन्हीं बच्चों की तरह बैठना पड़ेगा ...*(व्यवधान)*... Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I just have to say that the Government is absolutely aware of what is happening. ऐसा नहीं है कि सरकार को चिंता नहीं है, सरकार को संवेदनशीलता और सहानुभूति है, We are looking at it with all the sympathy, all the seriousness and all the sensitivity at our command. यहां पर जो कुछ बातें आई हैं, मेरे ख्याल से उनमें बहुत अधिक विवाद नहीं है, लगभग सहमति है। क्योंकि मुझे यहां खड़े होकर आपको संबोधित करने का दायित्व दिया गया है और मेरा पिछले

1.00 P.M.

चार सप्ताह से, जब से यह आंदोलन चल रहा है, इन बच्चों के साथ दिन-रात बैठना है, इनसे संपर्क भी है, इसलिए मुझे इस पर थोड़ा शोध भी करना पड़ा, अध्ययन भी करना पड़ा कि आखिर यह विषय क्या है। इनमें कुछेक बातें हैं, जो बीच में छूट रही हैं। हुआ यह था कि सन् 2010 तक एक अलग पैटर्न चला करता था - मैं आपका थोड़ा समय लूंगा, इसमें कोई विवाद वाली बात नहीं है, एक preliminary exam होता था और दूसरा मेन। In the preliminary exams, we had two papers; one of 150 and the other one of 350. जो दूसरा था, उसमें लगभग 2250 अंकों का इम्तिहान होता था, जिसे आप मेन परीक्षा कहते थे। कहीं यह सोचा-समझा गया कि यह जो preliminary exam है, इसको थोड़ा-सा सरल बनाया जाए, It could be made a little more simplified in other words. इसके जो दो पेपर्स थे, दोनों परीक्षा पत्र 200-200 अंकों के कर दिए गए। जो मेन परीक्षा थी उसके नौ पेपर्स थे। कुल मिलाकर इसके अंकों की संख्या 2050 है। अभी निग्वेकर कमेटी का उल्लेख किया जा रहा था। अनेकों समितियां हैं, मैंने सारी समितियों का अध्ययन किया है। मैंने कोठारी समिति से लेकर निग्वेकर कमेटी तक सारी समितियों का उल्लेख किया है। उसके आधार पर क्या हुआ, मैं वह भी आपके सामने रखूंगा। अब यह जो मेन परीक्षा है, उसमें जो पहले पेपर्स होते हैं, वे क्वालिफाइंग पेपर्स कहे जाते हैं। उसमें 30-35-40 प्रतिशत क्वालिफाइंग होता है। उसमें अंग्रेजी का भी एक पेपर जरूर होता है और दूसरा जो पेपर होता है, कैंडिडेट को उसे हिन्दी या किसी ऑप्शनल भाषा में करने की स्वतंत्रता रहती है। यह जो प्रिलिमनरी परीक्षा, है इसके दो पेपर्स में से जो 200 अंक का दूसरा पेपर है, उसमें 2010 तक तो वैसे ही चल रहा था। 2010 के लगभग एक सुझाव आया, एक अलग कमेटी बनी और उसके सुझावों के आधार पर उस समय यह समझा गया - मैं नहीं था समझने वाला, न हममें से कोई था-- और यह निष्कर्ष निकाला गया कि उसमें 22 अंको का एक प्रश्न होना चाहिए, एक प्रेसी टाइप, जिसके बारे में कहा गया कि यह दसवीं कक्षा के स्टैंडर्ड का होता है। And in order to make it 'language neutral', as they thought at that time, इसमें कैंडिडेट को कुछ नहीं लिखना है। यह ऑब्जेक्टिव टाइप है, प्रेसी दे दी गई। "Chairman Sir is sitting here. He is now ordering this." और फिर नीचे, some objective questions like, "Which of the following is true?" You just have to mark it so that you do not even have to write. It is more of English comprehension rather than English expression or English essay. And the reason given then, by those who thought it was so, - I am not subscribing to any of these views, I am just mentioning it here. I am only a medical practitioner and, hence, I am taking into cognizance what all the elder Members have said. They thought that it was essential to have certain basic working knowledge of English. Rightly or wrongly, that was their understanding of the issue. अब यह हो गया। इसके बाद 2011 से यह पद्धति आरम्भ हो गई। 2011 भी बीता। अब क्यों नहीं किसी ने उस समय इसका विरोध किया या हुआ, तो प्रभावी विरोध नहीं हुआ या आन्दोलन नहीं हुआ, जिस प्रकार का आन्दोलन आज हो रहा है।

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: We did oppose it.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I am not accusing anybody. I said, I am here to learn. As I am only researching on the subject, I am going back with very worthy inputs, both about the subject as well as about myself, about the three digits and all those things. I am glad that I am not one of those whose bytes go into three digits.

Coming back to the subject, I am just putting the record straight that we will take absolute cognizance of the wishes of the House. कोई विरोध नहीं हुआ, कोई आन्दोलन नहीं हुआ, कोई उपद्रव नहीं हुआ, फिर यह विषय ध्यान में कैसे आया? यह विषय ध्यान में इसलिए आया कि 2012 में एक पी.आई.एल. दायर की गई - दीनानाथ बत्रा एंड अदर्स। यदि यह पी.आई.एल. दायर न होती, तो शायद तब भी तत्कालीन सरकार इसका संज्ञान न लेती। I am not saying anything between the lines. It is for all worthy Members to draw their conclusions. In 2011, a cognizance of this issue was taken only after there was a High Court judgement following a PIL by Batra and Others. उस उच्च न्यायालय के निर्देश के अन्तर्गत एक तीन सदस्यीय समिति का गठन किया गया, क्योंकि उस न्यायालय के निर्देश में इस पी.आई.एल. ने यही बिन्दु उठाए थे, जो आज आदरणीय सदस्य उठा रहे हैं। उस निर्देश के अन्तर्गत सरकार ने एक तीन सदस्यीय समिति गठित की। उसके तीन सदस्यों के नाम थे - श्री अरविन्द वर्मा, श्री आर.के. गुप्ता और श्री पी.के. दास। यह उस सरकार ने किया। वह तिथि 12 मार्च, 2014 थी। उच्च न्यायालय की भावना का संज्ञान लेते हुए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव : डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, यह समझ लीजिए कि आंकड़ों से यह पता चलता है कि भारतीय भाषाओं के बच्चों का यहां तक हाल हो गया और अंग्रेजी वाले बच्चे दुगुने हो गए। यह इनके जमाने में शुरू हुआ और आपके जमाने में भी कंटिन्यू हो रहा है। मैं आपसे यह निवेदन कर रहा हूं कि इन सब बातों की हमें विस्तार से जानकारी है। इसलिए इसके इतने विस्तार में न जा करके जो ऑनलाइन एडमिट कार्ड्स इश्यू हुए हैं, उस विषय पर आप जल्दी आ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : मैं उसी विषय पर आ रहा हूं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री विजय गोयल : उपसभापति जी, यह विस्तार जरूरी है ताकि सदन को पूरी बात का पता चल सके, इसलिए दो मिनट आप इनको और सुन लीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Vijay Goel, please sit down. The Minister is replying. You don't reply.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I accept your advice. I am coming to that, कहने का तात्पर्य केवल यह था कि इस कमेटी को एक मास का अंतराल दिया गया था। The Committee was expected and was asked by the then Government to submit its Report within one month, which he did not give and then the Committee was given an extension of three months by which time, incidentally, there was a change of Government. जब हम सत्ता में

आए, तो हमारे हिस्से में यह विषय भी आ गया, बेरोजगारी भी आ गई...(व्यवधान)... और सरकार भी आ गई। ...(व्यवधान)... अब इसे छुड़वाइएगा नहीं, आपकी कृपा से यह मिल गया है। यह आन्दोलन भी हमारे हिस्से में आ गया। अब हुआ यह, I am putting it very straight. There was no option now left to us. So, what to do now? All that we could do is, हमने इस समिति से कहा कि अपनी रिपोर्ट दीजिए, तो यह समिति कहने लगी कि हमारे जो तीन महीने थे, वे समाप्त हो चुके हैं, इसलिए आप या तो हमें एक्सटेंशन दीजिए, नहीं तो हम अपनी रिपोर्ट नहीं दे सकते। You see the kind of fix in which we were caught, which we were totally unaware of and were not actually prepared for it. अब हुआ यह कि हमने इस समिति से कहा कि हम आपको एक्सटेंशन देते हैं, परन्तु आप इसकी रिपोर्ट तुरन्त हमें दीजिए, because we could not have straightaway demolished that committee.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : क्या यह एक्सटेंशन टाइम बाउंड है?

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : आप मेरी बात सुनिए, मैं आपको यही बता रहा हूँ। यह टाइम बाउंड है।

एक्सटेंशन के लिए उस समिति को हमने समय तो दे दिया, परन्तु उसके बाद जब यह आन्दोलन तीव्र गति पकड़ने लगा, तो लिखित रूप में एक पत्र उनको लिखा गया, जिसमें उन्हें कहा गया कि आप at the earliest and on urgent basis हमें इसकी रिपोर्ट भेजिए।

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL : Earliest is a vague *shabd*. इसका कोई अर्थ नहीं है।

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : देखिए, आज हमने फिर से उस समिति को कहा है कि एक सप्ताह के अन्दर आप इसकी रिपोर्ट हमारे सुपुर्द कर दीजिए। अब यह रिपोर्ट किस प्रकार की होगी, उसी के आधार पर अगली रूपरेखा तय हो सकती है।

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा : यह ठीक नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... इस चीज़ को आप रोकिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आप न्यायालय भी जा सकते हैं, एजिटेशन चल रहा है ...(व्यवधान)... इसलिए आप इसे रोकिए।

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : माननीय महोदय, आप मुझे बोलने के लिए दो मिनट दीजिए, उसके बाद यह सारी बात क्लीयर हो जाएगी। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him reply. Please listen to this reply.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I am coming to what the hon. Member is saying. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री जेसुदासु सीलम : आप उनको बार-बार बोलने का मौका ही मत दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen to this reply.

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : हमने उस कमेटी से कहा है कि सप्ताह भर में आप अपनी रिपोर्ट हमें दे दीजिए। अब वह रिपोर्ट कैसी होगी, उसी के आधार पर हम उसका संज्ञान लेंगे। यदि हमें ऐसा लगा कि फिर भी उसमें कुछ ऐसी क्लैरिफिकेशंस की आवश्यकता है, we can even then deliberate on that Report.

अब एडमिट कार्ड का विषय आ गया। हमें इसकी चिन्ता है। हुआ यह कि आज से कोई चार दिन पहले कुछ विद्यार्थी अनशन पर बैठे थे, बड़े कठोर प्रयास के साथ उनसे वह अनशन तुड़वाया गया। मेरी सभी सदस्यों से ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : महोदय, इसमें मुझे एक बात कहने दी जाए।

संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री; तथा विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद) : सर, पहले मंत्री जी को बोलने दिया जाए।

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I have not yielded.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has not yielded. What can I do?

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I have not yielded. Let me finish. ...(Interruptions)... मैंने उन्हें बहलाया नहीं है, हमने जज़्बात निभाए हैं, उसूलों की जगह। तीन रात हम वहां बैठे और जब उन्होंने अनशन नहीं तोड़ा तो मैंने उन बच्चों से कहा, बेटा! आप अनशन तोड़ें या न तोड़ें अब हमारा तो अनशन हो गया है। We have taken it very sincerely because I myself have been a teacher for almost 25-30 years. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यही सब करके तो आपने इस देश की जनता को ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him reply, please. Please allow him to reply. Don't interfere and intervene.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, then what happened is, yesterday's instigation came from this admit card. हम आपके माध्यम से उन विद्यार्थियों को भी यह समझाने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। हमने उन्हें समझाया है, that the two issues need not be co-related. अगर एडमिट कार्ड इश्यू हुआ है, तो वह यू.पी.एस.सी. का एक कैलेंडर है, उसी के अंतर्गत हुआ है, जिस प्रकार से कोई एडवर्टाइजमेंट इश्यू किया जाता है, परीक्षा की तिथि निश्चित की जाती है, वैसे ही एडमिट कार्ड की तिथि भी निश्चित की जाती है। This issuing of admit card which happened yesterday is not in any way going to influence the decision that was to be taken by the Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is very clear.

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा : आपने एडमिट कार्ड इश्यू कर दिया। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him complete, Misraji.

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैंने इश्यू नहीं किया।
...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा : प्रोसेस स्टार्ट कर दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : यह गलत हो रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... I want to put the record straight
...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति : मिश्रा जी, ...**(व्यवधान)**... मंत्री जी को आपनी बात समाप्त करने दीजिए।
...**(व्यवधान)**...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I want to put the record straight ...**(Interruptions)**... Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Admit Cards have not been issued by us. They are being issued by the UPSC which is a separate body. It follows a calendar. The date of '24th August' has been carrying on for years together. That was not decided by the present Government.

Anyway, coming back to the point, the issue of Admit Card, all that I can assure you is not going to influence the further course of action. अब जैसे कमेटी की बात आई और जैसे स्टूडेंट्स की बात है, तो ऐसा भी नहीं है कि we are not personally in touch with them. हम उनके साथ हैं। हम तो सभी वर्गों के, सभी पार्टिज़ के सदस्यों को लेकर भी उनके साथ सम्पर्क बनाए हुए हैं। I would rather, now, appeal to you कि मैंने 2013-14 की बात इसलिए की थी कि इसमें कुछेक ऐसे विषय हैं, ऐसा भी न लगे कि यह जो विषय है, यह जो समस्या है, यह हमारी क्रिएशन है। परन्तु जिसकी भी है, समाधान करना तो हमारी जिम्मेवारी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अब मैं उपसभापति जी के माध्यम से, आपसे यह प्रार्थना करूंगा कि हम इन बच्चों से यह अपील करें कि वे अनावश्यक अपने आपको किसी शारीरिक या मानसिक क्लेश में न डालें। हमें उनसे सहानुभूति है, we are looking at their problems with all seriousness ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, यह स्पष्ट जवाब नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why are you interrupting? He is very clear
...**(Interruptions)**...

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : सर, परीक्षा की तिथि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : आप इनकी बात सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोग सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं एक बात कह कर अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : आप लोग इनकी बात सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोग सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... No. You listen. आप पहले सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप सुनते नहीं हैं, मैं क्या करूँ? ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोग बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप इनकी बात सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोग सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... I will be forced to adjourn the House. That is the only way ...**(Interruptions)**... I will be forced to adjourn the House. मंत्री जी, आप अपनी बात खत्म कीजिए।

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : उपसभापति जी, मैं दो वाक्य कह कर अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा, because there is no point of being repetitive.

मैंने यह कहा कि यह जो परीक्षा की तिथि है, यह 24 अगस्त है। अब किसे पोस्टपोन करना है? मैंने आपको आश्वासन दिया कि एक सप्ताह के भीतर हम इसका संज्ञान लेकर एक निर्णय करेंगे और उसके आधार पर आगे की रूपरेखा होगी। दूसरी बात, let me assure you, Sir, I myself not in favour nor is the Government in favour of any injustice done to any group of students on the basis of language. भाषा के आधार पर किसी भी विद्यार्थी वर्ग से कोई पक्षपात हो या अन्याय हो, सरकार कभी कदापि इस मत का समर्थन नहीं करती, and we don't wish to link language with skill. धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: 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 minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, हम लोगों ने सवेरे एक मुद्दा उठाया था, लेकिन सरकार ने उस पर कोई गंभीरता नहीं दिखाई। हमने सुबह भी कहा था कि प्रधानमंत्री जी इसका जवाब दें।...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is now Private Member's Business. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, छात्रों पर इस तरीके से अत्याचार हो रहा है, जो नौजवान इस सरकार को यहां लाए हैं, उन नौजवानों पर लाठी पड़ रही है, उनको जेल भेजा जा रहा है और अंग्रेजी को प्राथमिकता दी जा रही है। श्रीमन्, हमारा आरोप है कि यह सरकार जान-बूझकर नौजवानों के साथ अत्याचार कर रही है। CAST को ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : नरेश जी, this is Private Members' time.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, इसके विरोध में समाजवादी पार्टी सदन का बहिष्कार करती है।

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing you. I am not permitting you. It is now Private Members' time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, देश के प्रधानमंत्री, देश के गृह मंत्री, दोनों ऑन रिकॉर्ड हैं कि हिन्दी और भारतीय भाषाओं का सम्मान किया जाएगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : वह तो ठीक है, लेकिन अभी प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स का टाइम है।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : महोदय, पिछले एक महीने से आंदोलन चल रहा है, इस विषय पर पूरा सदन, इस तरफ भी और उस तरफ भी, एक था, लेकिन माननीय मंत्री जी का जो बयान है, वह unsatisfactory है, उससे उनको कोई राहत नहीं मिलती है। इसलिए हम अपने नेता के नेतृत्व में सदन से वाक आउट करते हैं।

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber)

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Message from Lok Sabha.

The Finance (No. 2) Bill, 2014

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:—

“In accordance with provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Finance (No.2) Bill, 2014, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th July, 2014.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India.”

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Incidents occurring, New Maharashtra Sadan, New Delhi, on 17th July, 2014

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, we had requested the Government to make a statement on the incident in Maharashtra Sadan. The Chair also had directed; the hon. Home Minister is here to make the statement. I am allowing him to make the statement. What time we spend for that, we will extend it after 5 p.m., after the Private Members' Bill. I hope, the House agrees.

गृह मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, महाराष्ट्र सरकार से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार महाराष्ट्र के कुछ माननीय संसद सदस्यों ने दिनांक 17 जुलाई, 2014 को पूर्वाह्न लगभग 11.30 बजे न्यू महाराष्ट्र सदन में आई.आर.सी.टी.सी. द्वारा प्रदान किए जा रहे भोजन की गुणवत्ता को लेकर अपनी आपत्ति जताई। तत्क्रम में उन्होंने आई.आर.सी.टी.सी. की सेवाएं तत्काल समाप्त किए जाने की मांग की। यह भी बताया गया है कि उन्होंने न्यू महाराष्ट्र सदन में स्थानिक आयुक्त के कैम्प कार्यालय और रसोईघर में भी जाकर आपत्ति जताई। तत्पश्चात् उन्होंने आई.आर.सी.टी.सी. के स्थानीय प्रबंधक श्री अर्शद जुबैर को भोजन की गुणवत्ता के विषय में आपत्ति जताते हुए कथित रूप से एक चपाती खिलाने की कोशिश की। बाद में आई.आर.सी.टी.सी. ने अपने दिनांक 18 जुलाई, 2014 के पत्र के माध्यम से महाराष्ट्र सदन के साथ खान-पान एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी सेवाएं प्रदान किए जाने का अपना करार समाप्त कर दिया। आई.आर.सी.टी.सी. के द्वारा यह सूचित किया गया है कि आई.आर.सी.टी.सी. का यह निर्णय अंतिम है और उसे बदला नहीं जाएगा। श्री अर्शद जुबैर द्वारा स्थानीय पुलिस के पास कोई शिकायत दर्ज नहीं करवाई गई है। इस विषय में महाराष्ट्र सदन के स्थानीय आयुक्त ने मुख्य सचिव, महाराष्ट्र के कार्यालय को सूचित कर दिया है। तथापि, उनके द्वारा भी कोई शिकायत दर्ज नहीं करवाई गई है।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से इस सदन को यह अवगत कराना चाहता हूं कि यह घटना जो घटित हुई, बहुत ही अफसोसजनक है और दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस सदन को यह भी अवगत कराना चाहता हूं कि हमारी सरकार सभी नागरिकों को संविधान द्वारा प्रदत्त धार्मिक स्वतंत्रता को अक्षुण्ण रखने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों का आह्वान करना चाहता हूं कि हम सभी देश में सर्वधर्म सम-भाव को बनाए रखने के लिए सतत प्रयत्नशील रहेंगे।

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No clarifications now. It is actually a statement on demand. Therefore, according to the rules, there need not be any clarifications. When the Home Minister is available here, you can seek clarifications later. But, as per rules, there are no clarifications because it is a statement on demand. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, in the morning, it was agreed that we can seek clarifications on the Statement.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; we have demanded the Statement and the rules say...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, it is a *suo motu* Statement. ...(Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, your honour had directed the Government, therefore, this Statement has been made.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. The entire House demanded that a statement should be there. So, it is the Statement on demand. यह तो ऑन डिमांड है। It is all right.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Medical Consultancy and Other Services (Rationalization of Fees) Bill, 2013, Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury; not present. Shri Shantaram Naik, please.

The Representation of Peoples (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Amendment of Sections 29A and 30)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Amendment of Article 324)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (amendment of article 151), Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy; not present. Then, the Central Vigilance Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2014, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy; not present.

Then, the Accident Affected Persons (Equal) Compensation Bill, 2014, Shri Prabhat Jha; not present. The National Himalayan Region Environment Protection and

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

Development Bill, 2014, Shri Prabhat Jha; not present. Then, the Compulsory Gender Sensitization Curriculum in Educational Institutions Bill, 2014, Dr. Kanwar Deep Singh; not present.

Now, the next is the Destitute and Neglected Women (Welfare) Bill, 2010.

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, my Private Member's Bill should have been here in today's Agenda. But, now, it has been removed. Last night, when I saw the revised list of business, my Bill was not listed there. How my Bill has been removed, when it was listed on 22nd July. Sir, last time only you gave a ruling, that once a subject is listed in the list of Business, it can not be removed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think you have written a letter.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, मेरा एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बिल है। पैथोलॉजिकल लेबोरेट्रीज़ एंड द क्लीनिकल रेगुलेशन कंट्रोल बिल, 2010 इस हाउस में चार सालों से पेंडिंग है। सर, 22 तारीख को जो रिवाइज्ड बिजनेस लिस्ट आई, उसमें मेरा नाम था। कल रात को उसमें मेरा नाम होने के बाद ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; I have got the point.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : लेकिन मुझे यह समझ में नहीं आ रहा कि इस हाउस की कुछ कर्टसी है या नहीं। अगर वह गलती से भी आया होगा ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सुनिए।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, एक मिनट आप मेरी बात तो सुनिए। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि कुछ कर्टसी है या नहीं? हम लोग यहां के सम्मानित सदस्य हैं, लेकिन स्कूल के बच्चों की तरह हमारे नाम निकाल दिए जाते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, ऐसा नहीं है।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, इसके लिए कोई प्रोसीजर होगा, कोई डायरेक्शन होगा, कोई रूल होगा या आपका कोई प्रिसिडेंट्स होगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, you listen to me. You have made your point.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, यह जो बिल है, यह देश के लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। हम लोगों पर लगातार आरोप लग रहे हैं कि किसी न किसी ढंग से इसको रोकने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है और किस सस्पिशियस ढंग से नाम को विद्वद्धा किया जा रहा है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now, Mr. Darda, please. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, आप मेरी बात सुनिए।

श्री उपसभापति : मैंने आपकी बात सुन ली।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, आप इसके ऊपर रूलिंग दीजिए, मैं यह चाहता हूँ। देखिए, अगर 22 तारीख को मेरा नाम आया था, अगर गलती से वो List of Business में छपा है तो कम से कम मुझसे कहा तो जा सकता था कि ऐसा गलती से हो गया।

श्री उपसभापति : मैं समझ गया।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, अगर आप इसे किसी भी कारण से आज नहीं ले सकते तो आने वाले शुक्रवार को ही ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मेरा आपको यह सुझाव है। ...(व्यवधान)... आखिर इसके पीछे क्या राजनीति हो सकती है? यहां जो इतनी पावरफुल लॉबी है, जो इस देश के अंदर काम कर रही है, क्या हम लोग ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए। Now, you take your seat. I will reply to you.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, मुझे आप यह बताइए कि अगली बार यह किसी कारण से नहीं आया, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : मैं आपको बताऊंगा ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठिए। See, I have understood the problem. You have written a letter also. This will be examined and according to the rules, action will be taken and you will be intimated of the action. As per rule, we will do it.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, मुझे इतना प्रॉमिस करिए कि नेक्स्ट फ्राईडे को मेरा नाम नंबर एक पर होगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We will examine all aspects and come back to you.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, यह तो बताइए कि नेक्स्ट फ्राईडे ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : वह भी कंसीडर करेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)... That will also be looked into.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, यह एंगल भी देखिए कि इसे निकालने के पीछे क्या भावना थी?

श्री उपसभापति : वह भी देखेंगे।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, उसके लिए मैंने इतना ह्यूमन रिसोर्स खर्च किया है। डॉक्टर्स को कंसल्ट किया है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That also we will look into.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, हमारे यहां के बर्ताव से देश के अंदर लोग शंका कर रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will look into that also. We will examine why it happened, what happened and we will also try to rectify it according to the rules. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri. He is not present.

The Acts of Parliament (Application to Nagaland) Bill, 2010

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI (Nagaland): Sir, I move:

That the Bill to provide for procedure for effectuating article 371 A (1) (a) of the Constitution of India in relation to the State of Nagaland, be taken into consideration.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to present a few of my viewpoints on the Representation of People (Amendment) Bill, 2010. Let me at the outset draw the Government's attention to the special position enjoyed under the Constitution of India. That special position is founded upon the existence and recognition of customary practices unique to the Nagas. Nagas are governed only by their age old customs as regards providing leadership in the villages and towns in Nagaland. A local self-governance of Nagas is not political party based. It is devoid of political competition and rancour. As the leaders are chosen by consensus according to customary practices, there are no incoherent voices and perceptions within the society. That is why Nagas have lived under one roof since time immemorial. While the Britishers were successful in their 'divide and rule policy' in other parts of this great country, they experienced a terrible failure wherever Nagas lived under their customary political institutions. For instance, at the height of the British Empire where 'never the sun set in the British Empire' was the order of the day, there existed free Nagas which is a unique recognition to any nation, out of acceptance of reality, which prevailed at that point of time. In the same way, Naga women enjoy no inferior status to men. Therefore, there is absolutely no ground for any gender inequality in the Naga society. This especially pertains to 33 per cent reservation to women, which is pending before the Parliament. It will be very unfortunate to apply it in the State of Nagaland because, under Article 371, it is clearly mentioned that no Act of Parliament shall be applicable to the State of Nagaland, unless the State Assembly passes the same with a majority. There is, thus, no relevance for women reservation in political institutions in the Naga society because pride, position and status are accorded to them as per customary law and practices. This is one reason why Nagaland has been exempted from Panchayati Raj, which is a provision in the Constitution of India. Somehow, maybe without proper application of mind, the part relating to municipality is being applied to Nagaland that

appears to be a patent Constitutional contradiction. When at the grassroots level, that is, at the village level, local self-governance is allowed in Nagaland, according to customary practices, it is not known why, at the level of Municipalities and towns, the Constitution of India is being applied to Nagaland at grave peril to Naga customary practices and law. Through you, I urge upon the Government of India to have a quick fresh look into this and exempt Nagaland from the application of Twelfth Schedule, as it has given exemption to Nagaland from Eleventh Schedule. The question of women reservation shall also not apply to Nagaland in view of the proud position of Naga women in Naga society under our own customs and traditions.

Sir, another point, I wish to make, is that the Government of India is insensitive, for a long time, the demand of the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland for an Upper House in Nagaland. A Resolution, in this regard, had already been passed by the State Assembly way back in 2005. On the other hand, some States passed resolutions, quite late, for the creation of an Upper House, but they have been provided an opportunity to have their own Upper Houses.

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

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to immediately bring forward a Bill for creating an Upper House in Nagaland to meet the democratic aspirations of the people of Nagaland, because, in Nagaland, we have sixteen full-fledged recognized tribes, plus we have more than equal number of unrecognized tribes. In order to fulfil the aspirations of various tribes and also to have their close participation in the new system of the Government, this accommodation is very, very essential. This would only strengthen the climate of confidence in the context of ongoing peace talks. Sir, there is a ceasefire between the Government of India and the Naga national workers who are struggling and fighting for the independence of Nagas. The last ceasefire between the NSCN (IM) and the Government of India was concluded way back in 1997. Now, almost 16 years have passed, but, till now, no conclusive result has come out. Apart from that, even in the past, many ceasefire agreements have been entered into by various groups, but nothing has been materialized till now. So, having the ceasefire is not an end to itself. But ceasefire by any party is a means for the solution. So, the very objective shall have to be fulfilled and only then will there be a confidence in the minds of the Naga people.

Sir, these things need not wait for the consumption of peace talks. When different arrangements come by after the peace talks and if any modification needs to be made in the existing Constitutional and political arrangement, it can be made without constraints. Since the political talks are going on, it does not mean that the constitutional right for

[Shri Khekiho Zhimomi]

providing Upper House to the State of Nagaland should be ignored or should be kept waiting till the political settlement is over. They are two different chapters.

Sir, during my last tenure, I introduced a Bill for constituting a joint Committee of the Union and the State Governments to constantly filter Parliamentary laws from application to Nagaland in line with the letter and spirit of Article 371 A(1)(a) which is coming today. I would request the Chair and the Government that this Bill may be given a special consideration because it will pave the way for smooth relations of the youths of the two States; otherwise, there are a lot of contradictory constitutional issues that make the people of Nagaland feel that they are alienated. Sir, this time, an attempt has been made by the Government of India in response thereto, thereby giving an impression that the special position of Nagaland under Article 371 A(1)(a) is now coming up in the right direction. Sir, Nagaland has been demanding for increasing the number of seats in the Lok Sabha and in its State Legislative Assembly for quite some time.

Sir, to some of the Members it may look strange to mention about the enhancement of their seats in Parliament and in State Assembly. But in the context of Nagaland and also if one goes into the genesis of Nagaland, it is a desirable thing.

Sir, when the State of Nagaland was created, it was the only State which had come out as an offer. It was not at all a demand. When Pandit Jawahar Lal, in his wisdom, gave the statehood to Naga people in 1960, it preempted the Chinese influence on the Eastern sector of the North-East Region. Sir, in 1956, the Liberation War between two identities, the Federal Government of Nagaland and the Government of India, broke out, the revolution started. So, the then Prime Minister, Jawahar Lal Nehru, sent the then Gen. Thimayya to Nagaland on the battle front to have a negotiation with the Federal Government of Nagaland. On the warfront, the then General Thimayya offered the statehood to the Nagas but the Federal Government of Nagaland, the Prime Minister, Late Shri Sukai, refused it. General Thimayya took 50 *paise* coin and offered it to Mr. Sukai as a sign of offering the statehood instead of sovereignty. But Mr. Sukai, the then Prime Minister of Federal Government of Nagaland, instead offered him one rupee coin which indicates that 'we are for the sovereignty.' Then, General Thimayya went back to Delhi and had a serious discussion with the then Prime Minister of India and the then Prime Minister of India, Late Jawahar Lal Nehru, in his wisdom, started the process of giving statehood to Nagas because the Chinese influence after this debate started hovering on the North-East. The insurgency in the then Naga hills had become uncontrollable. So, under the given situation, if Nagas were not kept in control with certain measures, the Eastern front could have faced a serious problem by apprehending the Chinese aggression of 1962.

3.00 P.M.

Keeping that point of view in mind, the great Prime Minister of India, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, initiated the Naga Peoples' Convention, a group of Naga intellectuals. After that the process of acquiring statehood began and later, statehood was given to the Nagas, but the Nagas were not at all happy with the State. It had been hurriedly arranged. It was because the Chinese aggression was hovering over the North-East that, in his wisdom, the then Prime Minister thought that the best option would be to take the natives into confidence, so that any such aggression could be prevented. In the North-East, gaining the natives' confidence helped get them victory during World War-II. Their last great battle was fought in the North-East, in Kohima and Imphal. The Japanese 15th Army, commanded by the great General, Lt. General Sato, was defeated in the North-East because of the help contributed by the natives. So, it was during the Chinese aggression of 1962 that the Nagas were given statehood. It was only then that a majority of the Naga people were satisfied, gave their cooperation and started having confidence in the leader, the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's forward policy. I should say it was very, very successful. So, it was because of that that the Chinese aggression was contained. They had come inside the country to some extent, but they could not occupy the territory, because of the revolution and rebellion by the native people. So, these are the issues involved.

Now, it is in this connection that there is a demand for more Parliamentary seats and for increasing the number of Assembly seats. In the North-East and everywhere else in the country, whichever State has 60 seats has two Parliamentary seats or above, except in Nagaland, the 16th State of the Indian Union. If you take a look at other States that have 60 seats and above, no State has less than two Parliamentary seats except for the State of Nagaland. That is because, at that point of time, the Naga delegates refused to send their Naga representatives to the Indian Parliament, as the State of Nagaland had been placed under the Ministry of External Affairs; it was not placed under the Ministry of Home Affairs. So, when it was placed under the Ministry of External Affairs, they didn't think it was necessary to send their representatives to the Parliament. That was their thinking; that was the mindset of the Nagas. But after many considerations, the Constitutional and legal implications, and for the betterment of two nations, the Nagas were convinced to send, at least, one representative from their State to the Lok Sabha and one to the Rajya Sabha, and thus, to the Indian Parliament. So, accordingly, we were requested to send one Member each and they were sent. After that, when Election Commission started the process of delimitation, we couldn't become an exception and in the same year we also fell with other States under the delimitation process. Since ours is a different issue, still we are demanding passing the Resolution that our seat percentage in the Assembly and

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Parliament may be increased. In the north-east we have eight States apart from Assam. Sikkim has 30-Member Assembly and one MP; Mizoram has 40-Member Assembly and one MP; Arunachal Pradesh has two MPs; Manipur has two MPs; Meghalaya has two MPs, but we have only one MP with 60-Member Assembly. So, this is the consistent demand of our people. I would like to enlighten the House through you, Sir, that keeping in mind the above, it should be considered. The peculiarity and uniqueness of Nagas should be considered in all working systems. Sir, we also know that the Government of India is having a lot of problems in all fronts — political front, social front, economic front—yet the unique problem of the Nagas should be given the top priority. Time to time when any legislation or any Bill is passed in the Parliament, the Union Government tries to apply it uniformly to the State of Nagaland, and then, time to time, constitutional conflict occurs between the State of Nagaland and the Union Government. So, Sir, the State Assembly of Nagaland and the people came to the conclusion that there should be devices to avoid the constitutional conflict between the Government of India and the State of Nagaland. So, I would like to read out these devices to enlighten this House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Would you take some more time? Your time is about to over.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: It is a very important and valid point.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): It is better not to give a gap between the speeches.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, under Article 371A, no Act of Parliament can be applied to the State of Nagaland unless a Resolution to that effect is passed by the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland. So, that is the bone of contention. Article 371A stipulates that no Act or law passed by the Union Parliament affecting the following provisions shall have legal force in the State of Nagaland unless it is specifically passed by a majority vote in the Nagaland Legislative Assembly: (i) religious or social practices of the Nagas, (ii) Naga customary law and procedure, (iii) administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law —the existing law relating to Naga administration of civil and criminal as provided in the rules of the administration of justice and police in Naga Hills District shall continue to be in force — and (iv) ownership and transfer of land and its resources.

These have been the most controversial and contentious issues all the time. So, any Bill, that is passed in the Parliament, shall have to be examined by constituting a Joint Committee, and any law that affects these four points, can only be implemented by

a resolution passed in the State Assembly. Otherwise, it cannot be applied to the State of Nagaland. So, to examine this one, a Joint Committee will have to be formed having representatives from the Government of India and the Nagaland Government. If a Bill relating to these issues comes, the Joint Committee will examine whether the law passed by the Parliament is outside the purview of Article 371A or not. If this is within the purview of Article 371A, then it will have to come through the State Assembly, and if it is outside the purview of Article 371A, it cannot be applicable to Nagaland State.

With this, I appeal to the Government, the Minister concerned and hon. Members to support the Bill by way of adopting it and then bringing it before the House for consideration and passing. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, there are no names forwarded for speaking on this particular Bill. Therefore, I am calling the hon. Minister to make his observations.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I would like to state that I share the sentiments and the concerns expressed by the hon. Member. Sir, the Government of India is always sympathetic towards all the matters raised by any community or any State in the country. If you see the provision of the Constitution, Nagaland is already, in a way, a special State.

If you see the provisions under Article 371 A, you will find that it has already given certain freedom to the State of Nagaland. Article 371 A specifically mentions about religious or social practices of the Nagas, which means that they can have their own way of governing the local people. Further, it speaks about Naga customary law and procedure, and, administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law. It also deals with the ownership and transfer of land and its resources, and, it requires a Resolution of the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland for its application to the State of Nagaland.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in a way, it has been given ample power with regard to their age-old practices and usages, and the hon. Member has rightly stated that the Panchayati Raj system does not have any effect in Nagaland because Nagaland is governed by their own local customary laws. They have Village Council system, they don't have elected Members under Panchayati Raj system.

We are open to any kind of suggestions and discussions at the political level. Some of the points, which the hon. Member has mentioned about very important political

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issues, are being discussed from time to time. But some of the issues are not part of the provisions of the amendment which he envisages to move here in this Bill. So, I would not like to go into detail in those matters. But, I would just like to say that we understand the unique character of the Naga people and we acknowledge the contributions made by various leaders and personalities from Naga community.

On the issue of bicameral legislative system having the Upper House, I would say that it is also not part of the amendment which he has moved. Sir, there are some other issues, which he has brought out like more authority in the political sphere as also talks with some of the militant groups, which is going on, and, which I need not refer here because the Government of India is already dealing with it at various stages.

Sir, our Government, since we are not even two months old, is understanding the whole issue so that we can deal with the subject very effectively while understanding the emotions and sentiments of the people. Other than 16 recognized tribes in Nagaland, they have many unrecognized smaller groups. We will ensure that the concerns of those smaller communities are also taken care of.

Sir, the hon. Member has brought a Bill, which is, if I may say so, sweeping and drastic in nature, and, it is not possible for the Government to really bring that kind of an amendment. But, I want to make it clear that it is not in any way undermining the sentiments and the issues brought out by the hon. Member. Sir, as a Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, I and my Government are open to discussions for various purposes. But, if I may quote some of the lines, if we adopt this kind of amendment which will mean that upon passing of this Resolution, the Act shall deemed to have been applied to the State of Nagaland from the date of its enactment. Upon failure to pass a Resolution or failure of Resolution to be carried, when moved in the Legislative Assembly within six days, the Act shall be deemed to have applied to the State of Nagaland at the expiration of sixty days from the date of receipt of the report by the Government of Nagaland. Sir, according to the hon. Member's proposed Amendment Bill, all Acts enacted by the Parliament of India hereinafter, the declaration is that such Act shall apply to the State of Nagaland subject to Article 371A, sub-clause (1)(a) of the Constitution read with this Act. Sir, these are some of the very drastic amendment provisions which the hon. Member has moved. I am not denying the importance of it, but we have to go by the Constitutional provision of the country and the sanctity of the Constitution must be protected. On a personal note also, I would like to request the hon. Member that since our Government is very sensitive towards the Naga issues and things are going on at the various levels, we can discuss, we can look into the issues raised by him on many, many other platforms

which are available to us. So, without going much into the detail, I would like to request the hon. Member to re-consider withdrawing of this Bill. Further, the procedure envisaged in the Bill gives ultimate authority to the legislature of the State of Nagaland to decide whether or not an Act of the Parliament of India would apply to the State of Nagaland. Such a procedure will not be according to the spirit of the Constitution. So, I would like to humbly request the hon. Member to withdraw the Bill. At the same time, I share his sentiments also. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Mr. Khekiho Zhimomi, would you like to make any reply?

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, Article 371A (1)(a) is the only backbone and foundation of Nagaland statehood. Had this clause not been enshrined, had it not been included in the Constitution, there would not have been the State of Nagaland. Because of the peculiarity, the uniqueness, for all that, we cannot be exceptional to other States. But unless this is preserved and protected, their nationhood cannot exist. So having understanding the necessity, the sentiment, at that point of time, at the time of making their Agreement, the then Prime Minister and the Naga leader felt that this is the only answer to have an understanding between the Nagas and the Government of India. And, accordingly, after accepting this Article 371A (1)(a), the Naga People's Convention leaders have agreed and it is executed. So, if the Government of India would like to back out, well, in a democracy, majority right doesn't mean that it satisfies all sections of the people. This is indispensable for the Nagas. On this depends the very foundation of the statehood of Nagaland. As this is a Private Member's Bill, there is no other option but to withdraw it. But before I withdraw it, I would rather make an appeal to the Government. You can polish this Bill and then bring it back to the House as a Government Bill so that it can be adopted. Every time there is a controversy on this issue. It is given in Article 371(1)(a)(iv). It is relating to ownership and transfer of land and its resources. This is the biggest bone of contention at the moment between the Union Government and the State of Nagaland.

Another thing, which I have already mentioned, is the Women's Reservation Bill giving them 33 per cent reservation. It was passed in the Rajya Sabha. But it is pending in the Lok Sabha. This is another contentious issue. I have already highlighted it in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. These are the things.

Instead of bringing it and then making it an issue between the Parliament and the State Assembly or between the Government of India and the Government of Nagaland, they should have formed a Joint Committee comprising members of the Government of

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India and the Government of Nagaland. Before the controversy starts, the Committee should be given an opportunity to examine any Bill and give its recommendations. Then misunderstanding between two parties can be easily avoided. This is a very important thing.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Try to conclude.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Many commitments have been made to the Nagas. But till now, no commitment is fulfilled. This is not a verbal commitment. It is a conditional commitment. If it is also going to be withdrawn, then how will the Nagas have confidence in the Government of India? There was a ceasefire agreement between the Government of India and the Naga Federal Government on 6th September 1964. Today, it is neither dead nor alive. It happened fifty years ago. Another agreement took place in 1975. It is also known as the Shillong Accord. It is neither dead nor alive. After that, there was another ceasefire agreement between the Government of India and the NSCN-IM. Seventeen years have passed since then. Another agreement took place in 2000 between the Government of India and the NSCN-K faction. It is still going on. Again, another ceasefire agreement with NSCN-Unification. How many ceasefires? This is because they have no confidence in each other. So, if this is also taken away, then, what will they have? They expect that from the Government of India. It is only a concessionary method. It is already provided. You just regulate, regulate as to how best it can work. Sir, the confidence of the people, who are living very close to the mainland, can also be boosted. But, if this is done away with, I think, it will just be a negative signal to the Nagas. I have clearly said that the forward policy of the then Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, was very, very successful. This has pre-empted the Chinese aggression. Otherwise, at that point of time, the mighty Federal Army may have reigned; then, the history would have been different.

Sir, through you, I appeal to the hon. Minister that it may kindly be adopted because if a Government Bill is brought forward, it will be a lengthy and peculiar process. The Government of India will nominate the officers from its side and the State Government will also nominate. They will work together and harmonise their relations. So, if at all there is no other option than to withdraw it, I would withdraw it because not several Private Members' Bills have been passed till date. But, simply withdrawing the Bill will only show a negative attitude. It would only bring the Naga people into a bad shape. So, I appeal that it may be adopted and they may work it out as to how best they can bring forward a Bill in the House. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Mr. Zhimomi, are you withdrawing the Bill or shall I put the motion to vote?

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: So, it is better to withdraw than to vote it out. I still insist upon the hon. Minister that it can be adopted. He can work it out. If at all the Government is stubborn, then I would withdraw it.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, may I request the hon. Member that there is a tradition of this House that whenever the Private Members' Bills raise some issues, the concerns are conveyed to the House and the Minister gives a reply? Normally, the tradition is of withdrawal. Normally, there is no tradition of voting. All the friends know that. All of us have a great concern for the cause that you have espoused. I have myself been to Nagaland, working in the North-East. Along with the hon. Minister, I appeal to the hon. Member to withdraw it. You have flagged the concerns and the Government of India have taken the concerns on board. I appeal to you to withdraw the Bill.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: I again appeal to the hon. Minister of State to initiate it.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: As hon. Law Minister has made a fervent appeal, I already stated earlier that we are open to discussion in future. Our Government is very sensitive to Naga cause. But in respect of this particular case, if the hon. Member withdraws, that will go with the tradition as well as harmonisation in the House and we will work together in future. So, I appeal to the hon. Member to kindly withdraw the Bill.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, having received good gestures from the Government, I withdraw the Bill.

The Bill was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Endosulfan Pesticide (Prohibition) Bill, 2011

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): I move:

That the Bill to prohibit the use of endosulfan pesticide in agricultural activities with a view to preventing its harmful effects on human beings, environment and to provide relief to persons affected by the harmful effects of endosulfan and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.

Actually, I have been waiting for the last three years for moving this Bill. It had been introduced on 5th August, 2011. Thereafter several things have happened. The Supreme

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Court has intervened. Several initiatives by the Government were there. Even now it is a very serious situation.

Our learned Law Minister has already mentioned the tradition of the House is to withdraw the Private Members' Bills and Resolutions. We are still practising the Westminster System, just move the Bill, then, take the consensus of the Member who moved the Bill, thereafter the normal fate, withdraw the Bill. This is the normal procedure. But this is the normal procedure after 1970. I think the Parliament of India had passed 14 Private Members' Bills. Up to 1970 the Governments were more responsive and took the spirit of the House and passed 14 Bills.

In 1954 Lok Sabha had passed the Wakf Board Bill. Thereafter the other House had passed nine Bills. But the Upper House got the opportunity to pass only five Bills. Now, I think, we can utilise this opportunity to pass another Bill and reduce the gap between the Upper House and the Lower House. In 1956, Rajya Sabha, had passed the first private Bill called the Archaeological Bill. In 1969, that was the last incident in this House, the Law Minister is well aware of that this House had passed the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill. In 1970 the Lower House had passed a Private Member Bill — The Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1970. That was the tradition up to 1970. After that the normal procedure was the Member moves the Bill, then some discussion takes place, then, the normal fate is withdrawal.

At the outset, I would like to urge the Government and submit before the Minister that you should revisit the approach to the Private Members' Bills. Sometimes these Bills are moved by the Members from the Opposition and Members from the ruling party. The Government should take the spirit of the Bill. If the intent of the Bill is for the benefit of the country and for the benefit of the countrymen, then, the Government should support that Bill. The Government should utilise the opportunity to make a legislation to protect the interests of the citizens and the interests of the country. This is my humble submission before the Government with regard to the Private Members' Bills.

Now, I come to the Endosulfan Pesticide (Prohibition) Bill, 2011. The hon. Railway Minister, Shri Sadananda Gowda is sitting here. He is very close to Kasargod district, the northern part of Kerala. But this effect of pesticide can't be controlled by the borders of the two States. I think the citizens of his own constituency are still suffering from the side-effects of the endosulfan pesticide.

In Kasargod district, more than 500 people died by the use of Endosulfan. We cannot look at the pictures of children. I think, Shri Sadananda Gowda, has seen the pictures in newspapers and also the visuals in television. That is very disturbing. There are children

with deep cuts; there are children with autism; there are children with cerebral palsy. More than 10,000 people are suffering from the side effect of Endosulfan in Kerala. Five hundred people have already died. The State of Kerala had banned the use of Endosulfan one decade ago. After that, the new born children are having several neuro diseases. The number of autistic children in Kasargod district is very high as compared to other districts. The number of cerebral palsy (CP) children in Kasargod district is very high as compared to other districts, not only in Kerala, all over the country. Sir, Endosulfan is a highly toxic organo chloride pesticide. After my chemical engineering studies, I got an opportunity to get a training from the Hindustan Insecticide Ltd., which is a producer of Endosulfan, a highly toxic organo chloride pesticide. It is a brown or cream colour powder which is sprayed on crops by aeroplanes. That is one basic issue for intensifying the problem. In several countries, this is a very good pesticide. It is used for cotton, cocoa, cashews, potatoes, cabbage, coffee and soyabean, particularly in the developing countries. This substance kills most types of insects. It is a very powerful insecticide, and the farmers like it because it is cheap. It is cheaper as compared to other pesticides. But, this stuff has killed hundreds of agriculture workers, primarily in developing countries. The exposure of Endosulfan in humans can impact the central nervous system. There are several scientific studies conducted by the Government of Kerala and by other NGO groups. But our Agriculture Ministry has always taken a stand in favour of the MNCs, who produce this Endosulfan. In Delhi, two-three years back, a big seminar was organized to discuss the side effects of Endosulfan, which was sponsored by MNCs. That was the practice of the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. Kerala has become the epicenter of this tragedy. This Endosulfan issue is known as the second- Bhopal. The Plantation Corporation of Kerala aerielly sprayed Endosulfan in an area of nearly 4,700 acres in Kasargod district of Kerala. Twelve villages in Kasargod district and Hosdurg Taluk are much affected. Hundreds of deaths and disorders have been reported. Alarmingly, high levels of Endosulfan residues have been detected in the blood samples of the people. After imposing the ban before one decade, still several residues of Endosulfan have been found in the blood samples of the people. Before, 2006, the Government had conducted a survey and according to that, the total number of death cases reported was 133 and after 2006, it was 353. This is the official figure. Thereafter several deaths have taken place. Just before two months, one man died because of the side effects of Endosulfan, even after banning this. Every year, three-four people die now itself. The total number of affected people who are seriously ill is around 3,000 and the total number of affected people is around 10,000. It has affected not just human beings, but it is observed that birds and butterflies also have disappeared. In these 12 villages in the Kasaragod District,

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we cannot find out a single butterfly or a bird. They have disappeared. Fishes and frogs in ponds and streams are found dead. Widespread ailments and serious health problems were reported since 1996, and popular agitations took place. Thereafter, the Government of Kerala banned this in 2002. As per the Act, the Insecticides Act, 1968, the Central Government can impose the ban. The State Government can impose the ban temporarily but the Central Government has the power to ban this permanently. Sir, the Stockholm Convention decided to ban endosulfan, and 81 countries have already banned the use of endosulfan. Sir, Article 21 of the Constitution, which talks about 'Right to Life' is a very important fundamental right in our country. The duty of the Government is to protect the life of the people. 'Right to Life' guaranteed under the Constitution of India is the most fundamental of all human rights. As per a verdict of the Supreme Court, any decision, affecting human life or which may put an individual's life at risk, must call for the most 'anxious scrutiny'. Considering the Public Interest Litigation filed by the Democratic Youth Federation of India, the Apex Court banned, through an interim order, the use of endosulfan. But the position taken by the Agriculture Ministry is still in favour of endosulfan. They are not ready to impose the ban.

Coming to its use in other places, I read in a newspaper a comment from an M.P. from Karnataka. In Karnataka also, more than 2,500 people have been affected. Ravi Shankarji, one M.P., belonging to the Ruling Party, from Karnataka, also has demanded the ban of endosulfan. I think, Shri Sadananda Gowda also supported this request.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) I believe the affinity between Kerala and Karnataka is working out.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, this is the truth not only in Kerala and Karnataka, but in Tamil Nadu also. We do not know what pesticides are being used in all the vegetables. Farmers are still using this pesticide, endosulfan. When 81 countries have already banned it, why are we not doing it? That is the main question which I want to put while moving this Bill.

Sir, I would not like to take more time as several Members want to participate in the discussion. I would list out my demands. Clause 4 of this Bill relates to prohibition on the use of endosulfan pesticide and its alternatives. Sometimes, they use the same chemical under another name. My major demand, through this Bill, is that the use of this chemical should be banned. Then, the import of endosulfan and its alternatives from other countries should also be prohibited. And this major demand, that I have, is incorporated in clause 4 of this Bill. Then, what about the victims? Clause 5 deals with that. It talks

about relief measures for persons affected by endosulfan pesticide. The National Human Rights Commission ordered to give ₹ 5 lakhs, as compensation, to the families of the deceased and to those who have been bedridden because of the use of this pesticide. My request, through this Bill, is that the family of any person, suffering from the adverse effects of endosulfan, shall be considered as a BPL family, and a financial assistance of ₹ 4,000 per month be given to the family of any person affected by ill-effects of endosulfan pesticide. And the family shall continue to receive financial assistance of ₹ 2,000 per month for a period of another five years after the death of the affected person. This affected person needs assistance. This Bill gave a provision for giving some financial assistance of ₹ 2000 per month to the person who assists and takes care of the person affected by Endosulfan pesticide. One important demand is, constitute a tribunal. The tribunal shall consist of three members who shall decide on matters referred to it by the appropriate Government relating to Endosulfan pesticide and one member of that tribunal shall be a retired judge of a High Court of the State, either Kerala or Karnataka or Tamil Nadu, and two members shall be experts in public health and agricultural activities and practices respectively. Sir, the tribunal shall appoint a person as it deems fit, processing some technician and other qualifications for the appointment of inspectors. They should have the right to inspect, to enter, search, seize, inspect documents necessary to carry out the objectives of this Act, at all reasonable times and with such assistance, if any, as he considers necessary, in premises in which he has reason to believe that it is an offence under this Act. Sir, the Central Government should provide funds to give compensation and other financial liabilities while implementing the provisions of this Bill, constituting the Tribunal and giving other facilities to implement the provisions of this Bill. Then, Sir, this is the most important Bill. I request the Government to take it as a humanitarian consideration, not as a technical viewpoint, but as a humanitarian issue. If the Government still believes in Article 21, you should take necessary steps to ban legally — ban is there, but legally, as per the law — the use of pesticides. The demand is for eleven years, stage by stage. Eighty-one countries have already banned the usage of Endosulfan pesticide. I request the Government to consider it as a humanitarian Bill and give maximum compensation. For this, I request the Government to support this Bill, and I request the House also to support this Bill for providing more benefits to the victims of Endosulfan and protecting the environment, and ensure human rights for the coming generation, not only this generation but also the coming generation. I again request the House to support it. Thank you, Sir.

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा (महाराष्ट्र) : धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सर्वप्रथम मैं श्री पी. राजीव को हृदय से बधाई देता हूँ कि उन्होंने “The Endosulfan Pesticide (Prohibition) Bill,

[श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा]

2011" को लाकर एक महान कार्य किया है। सर, मैं उस प्रदेश से आता हूँ जहाँ पर देश में किसानों ने सबसे ज्यादा आत्महत्या की है। जिन किसानों ने आत्महत्या की है, उन्होंने इंडोसल्फान का सबसे ज्यादा सेवन किया है - विदर्भ, मराठवाड़ा आन्ध्र प्रदेश और पंजाब में भी दुनिया में करीब 63 कंट्रीज के अंदर इंडोसल्फान को banned किया है। Hazardous effect on human beings and environment और एनवायरन्मेंट के लिए खतरनाक मानते हुए बैन किया गया है। उसके बावजूद हिन्दुस्तान में आज भी हम लोग इसका सबसे ज्यादा उपयोग कर रहे हैं और केवल उपयोग ही नहीं कर रहे, इसको प्रोड्यूस भी कर रहे हैं। इसका इतना ऐडवर्स इम्पैक्ट हो रहा है और इसकी वजह से सैकड़ों लोग मर रहे हैं। इसका एनवायरन्मेंट पर भी इफेक्ट हो रहा है। इस बात को आप नज़रअंदाज़ नहीं कर सकते। जैसा कि मुझसे पहले राजीव जी ने कहा कि अगर सचमुच हम लोग आर्टिकल 21 में विश्वास करते हैं तो हमें इसको ह्यूमेनिटी के ग्राउंड्स के आधार पर देखना चाहिए। सबसे दुखद घटना यह है कि स्टाकहोम कन्वेंशन के लगातार प्रतिबंध के बावजूद भी हम लोग, हमारी सरकार इसका समर्थन कर रहे हैं कि इसको बैन नहीं करना चाहिए। हम लोग इसको बैन न करने की पैरवी कर रहे हैं, जबकि आप देख रहे हैं कि इस देश के अंदर विदर्भ मराठवाड़ा, जो कि महाराष्ट्र में है, आन्ध्र प्रदेश, पंजाब जैसे अनेक राज्यों में इसके कारण किसानों की मृत्यु हुई है।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : पंजाब में किसान आत्महत्या नहीं कर रहे हैं।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : आत्महत्या हुई है।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : एक आत्महत्या हुई है।

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : इंडोसल्फान के सेवन से सिर्फ लोग मरे ही नहीं हैं, इसके गंभीर परिणाम हो रहे हैं। इसके कारण से नर्वस सिस्टम, किडनी फेल्योर होना, इम्यून सिस्टम, cerebral palsy, फिजिकल ग्रोथ, मेंटल ग्रोथ, बच्चों में epilepsy और कैंसर जैसी बीमारियाँ भी हो रही हैं। हजारों लोग मर रहे हैं इसके बावजूद भी सरकार इस पर मानवता की दृष्टि से विचार नहीं कर रही है। इससे हमारे किसान भी मर रहे हैं और environment भी मर रहा है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा था कि इसको बैन किया जाना चाहिए। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के सामने submission देते हुए केन्द्र सरकार ने कहा कि हम phases में इसको हटायेंगे। दुनिया की इंटरनेशनल कम्युनिटी इसको pursue कर रही थी कि इसको बैन किया जाना चाहिए, उसके खिलाफ हमारी सरकार लॉबीइंग कर रही थी, यह और भी दुखद बात है। न जाने आज तक कितने जान-माल की हानि हुई होगी। इसके ज़हर की वजह से ज़मीन भी बंजर हो रही है। इंडोसल्फान के कारण से नई और पुरानी पीढ़ी पर बहुत असर हो रहा है और आगे इससे भी ज्यादा असर होगा। जो लोग सब्जियाँ खाते हैं, फल खाते हैं, अनाज खाते हैं, इनके माध्यम से हम लोग उनको ज़हर परोस रहे हैं। जिन बीमारियों का मैंने उल्लेख किया था, वे न जाने किन-किन जगहों पर हो रही हैं। इसका असर भारत सरकार और राज्य सरकारों के हैल्थ डिपार्टमेंट पर हो रहा है। क्या कभी हमने इसके इम्पैक्ट को assess करने का प्रयास किया है कि इन बीमारियों के कारण हमारे बजट पर उसका कितना इम्पैक्ट हो रहा है? क्या हमने कभी इस बात का प्रयास किया है कि इस पेस्टिसाइड की

4.00 P.M.

वजह से आज तक कितने लोग मरे हैं, क्या कभी हमने यह जानने का प्रयास किया है कि इसकी वजह से कितने बच्चों और गर्भवती माताओं पर क्या इम्पैक्ट हुआ है और आने वाली पीढ़ी पर इसका क्या इम्पैक्ट होगा? मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि शायद ही कोई इसकी ओर सीरियसली देख रहा है। हमें इस बात की खुशी है कि कल तक हमारा देश अनाज के मामले में दूसरों पर निर्भर था, लेकिन आज हमारा देश दुनिया के अंदर राइस के मामले में सबसे बड़ा एक्सपोर्टर है। हम लोग एक्सपोर्ट के माध्यम से करीब तीन-सवा तीन लाख करोड़ से ऊपर धन अर्जित कर रहे हैं। मगर इसके बावजूद भी मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा कि इसको मानवता की दृष्टि से देखा जाना चाहिए। इसका ऑल्टरनेटिव क्या है, उस ऑल्टरनेटिव पर विचार करना चाहिए। जो आर्गेनिक खेती हो रही है, हमें उसको बढ़ावा देना चाहिए। दुनिया भर में लोग आर्गेनिक खेती का उपयोग कर रहे हैं। हम न जाने क्यों इसका उपयोग नहीं कर रहे हैं। इसलिए मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि वह इस बिल का समर्थन करे। इसके साथ ही देश में इन्डोसल्फान को बैन करे। जिस प्रकार से विश्व के करीब साठ-सत्तर देशों ने उसका समर्थन किया है कि जो लोग इस कारण से सफर कर रहे हैं, उन्हें कम्पेनसेशन दें, किसान और मजदूर, जिनके जीव और जीवन की इस कारण से हानि हुई है, सरकार उसका असेसमेंट करके एक डाटा बनाए और उन लोगों को मुआवजा दे, उसी प्रकार से जो लोग सफर कर रहे हैं, जिनकी मृत्यु हो चुकी है, मगर उनके परिवार में गरीब और मार्जिनल किसान हैं, उनको सरकारी नौकरी तथा एक मोटी राशि देने की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए। उनके जो बच्चे हैं, उनकी शिक्षा की व्यवस्था तथा फाइनेंशियल मदद भी होनी चाहिए। इसके खाने से बच्चों पर क्या असर हो रहा है, इसकी इंडिपेंडेंटली जांच होनी चाहिए तथा जो जांच हो, उसका भी एक डाटा बनना चाहिए।

मैं आखिर में एक और बात फिर से रिपीट करना चाहूंगा कि आर्टिकल 21, जिसके अंदर ह्यूमन राइट्स पर विचार किया गया है, आप कृपा करके उस पर ध्यान दें। पी. राजीव जी यहां जो बिल लाए हैं, मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूं और चाहता हूं कि सरकार भी उसको समर्थन दे। आपने बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए धन्यवाद देता हूं।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you. I rise to support the Private Member's Bill moved by my colleague, Mr. Rajeeve, with a social concern. Endosulfan, which has been banned in 63 countries considering the hazardous effects on human beings and environment, is to be banned in India also.

Sir, while introducing the Bill, Mr. Rajeeve narrated very elaborately the impact it has made on the State of Kerala, the number of people died and the number of people still under treatment. What happened in Bhopal and in some other places due to atomic leakage, the same thing is happening by way of this pesticide. Of course, pesticide is a necessity; we can't dispense with it in the present situation. But, at the same time, what are the consequences? We use pesticides to kill worms, germs or pests on the crops, which we grow, only to make the people live happily, peacefully and healthily. When the pesticides which we use create a hazardous situation and kill the livestock and people, then it has to be considered very, very seriously.

[Shri Tiruchi Siva]

Sir, I would like to cite only one example. Many of us know about a bird called robin which we have seen in some advertisements also. It is a very nice bird like our sparrow which is fast becoming an extinct species in our country now. We know the small, little sparrow, which comes and flies very fast. Now-a-days, it is hard to see. What happened to the sparrows? Nobody is worried about it. We are worried about the bigger animals like lion and tiger, which we think would be extinct, but not about these small sparrows which are so cute and which are nice to see. Sir, the robin bird is also very nice to see and it was abundantly present in the U.S. Once, there was a new worm which affected all the trees and leaves. What the Government did was, in order to kill all worms, they sprayed some pesticide from helicopters across the country. Of course, the worms died. But, the worms which used to live upon eating those leaves, ate those leaves and died and fell. The robin birds which used to prey upon these worms ate the prey and the robin birds totally became extinct species. If that applies to the robin bird, why would it not apply to the human beings?

If you want to save the crops, find some alternatives. You are going to suffer in future because the coal is depleting. We are going to suffer a lot in future. How many years are you going to sustain with the available petroleum products under the earth? You have to find some alternatives. Whatever we are using, a time will come when it will be out of use and the man has to resort to something else. Necessity is the mother of invention. Likewise, when you are using a pesticide in order to save the crops from the pests, you have to consider the human lives to be more precious. So, I think, the Government of India has appealed in the court of law that this ban should be only after 11. But within those 11 years, how many lives we are going to lose? So, it is something to be considered very seriously. Mr. Rajeev has taken this issue, which the Government should have taken.

See, ours is a very thickly populated country, and in 2030, we are going to surpass even China. India is having three times more than Chinese population in one square kilometre. China is nine lakh and odd square kilometres, whereas we are only three lakh and odd square kilometres. Only 131 people live there; here, 460 people live in one square kilometre. So, when the population starts increasing, we should not find any other way to bring it down. Sir, the foremost necessity of the Government is to protect the people not only by giving them medical assistance and all and, at the same time, to avoid such a thing which happens by way of such hazardous things which could be prevented by enacting a law.

Sir, the Kerala Government has already banned that, and across the world, 63

countries have banned it. Sir, we have to set a precedent. In 40 countries, the death penalty has been abolished, whereas India has not. See, we say, we are an advanced country; we are a developed country. But when our activities come into action, when we consider them, in many of the things, we are in backward condition. Likewise, the Government of India has to consider very seriously, and they have to ban this endosulfan by giving priority to the human lives which is very, very precious. See, it is very hot. Now-a-days, so many diseases are spreading. Sir, I got a mail today. It says, 'what all the food materials which we eat are causing cancer'. Everyone is saying that the source of the disease coming is not known, so also the curing is also not known. The Government is spending crores of rupees for buildings. They don't spend even ₹ 50 crores or ₹ 100 crores for R&D. If they spend it on R&D, I think, they can invent so many medicines.

Sir, likewise, there are these non-organic foods. Sir, there was an agricultural scientist in our place, who is no more, Mr. Nammalvar, who said that if the pesticides kill the pests, imagine what happens to the man who eats that same pesticide-applied crop. He gave a substitute. Of course, he said, like even my colleague said, yes, endosulfan is very dangerous, but, at the same time, what to do with the pests? But, he gave some substitute. He gave so many ideas. What to do with that? It won't harm the human at all, but, at the same time, it will suppress the pests from spreading. But, those people have not been recognized by this country because our country boasts much by itself, and it never recognizes people who have knowledge, views and some innovative ideas. Sir, still, the views which he expressed are on books. They could be implemented, and across the country, there are so many people who are giving some alternate to such things. So, taking them into consideration, if endosulfan is a must, which cannot be avoided in killing pests, while we have to nurture agriculture, find some alternate or substitute which are abundantly available. If the hon. Minister so wishes, we can present to him what Mr. Nammalvar has given as this organic, and how to avoid such hazardous things. With these words, Sir, I support the Bill introduced by Mr. Rajeev, and the Government has to consider very seriously and take steps to ban endosulfan as like other countries. Thank you very much, Sir.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री पी. राजीव जी जो “इंडोसल्फान नाशकजीवमार (प्रतिषेध) विधेयक, 2011” लेकर आए हैं, मैं उसके ऊपर अपने विचार रखने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तिरुची शिवा) पीठासीन हुए]

सर, यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि केमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स का यूज करते हुए हमारी जमीनी सम्पदा को बहुत नुकसान हो रहा है। इससे हमारे वायुमंडल को नुकसान हो रहा है, इन सब

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

कारणों से आज उसके विकल्प के बारे में बात हो रही है और सोचा जा रहा है, साथ ही वैज्ञानिक दृष्टि से इसके उपायों के बारे में भी बहुत प्रयास चल रहे हैं।

महोदय, केवल इंडोसल्फान ही नहीं साइपरमैथ्रिन और दूसरे जो पेस्टिसाइड्स हैं, ये सभी कुल मिलाकर हमारी भूसम्पदा को बहुत नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं, हमारी जमीन को बहुत नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं। इनका असर फूट्स, वेजिटेबल्स इत्यादि सब चीजों पर पड़ता है, जिसके कारण आज हमारे व्यक्तिगत जीवन के लिए खतरा पैदा हो गया है, यह बिल्कुल सच बात है।

सालों पहले जब मैं प्राइमरी स्कूल में पढ़ता था, उस समय गांव में सरकारी मशीन आती थी, जिस पर पिक्चर दिखाई जाती थी कि आप लोग कैमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स का उपयोग करो और कृषि पैदावार बढ़ाओ। उस वक्त वह सब कुछ किया गया, लेकिन आज समय यहां तक पहुंच गया है कि अब यह कहा जाता है कि जो कैमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स हैं, उनका उपयोग बन्द करो, बायो पेस्टिसाइड्स की तरफ आगे बढ़ो।

एक समय था, जब मैं वेटेरिनरी की पढ़ाई करता था। उस वक्त हमारे प्रोफेसर हमें पढ़ाया करते थे कि क्रॉस-ब्रीड का उपयोग करो और मिल्क प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाओ लेकिन आज समय वह है, जब यह कहा जा रहा है कि ओरिजिन एनिमल को डेवलप करो, ओरिजनल ब्रीड को बचाए रखो और मिल्क प्रोडक्शन सस्टेन करो। ऐसा ही कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर के सम्बन्ध में था।

20-25 साल पहले गांव-गांव में जाकर यह कहा जाता था कि अगर आपको अपनी फसल बढ़ानी है, कृषि की पैदावार बढ़ानी है, तो कैमिकल फर्टिलाइजर्स का उपयोग करो। आज कहा जा रहा है कि ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर का उपयोग करो और कृषि की पैदावार बढ़ाओ। कुल मिलाकर सालों पहले जो हमने अपनी जमीनी सम्पदा को नुकसान पहुंचाया था, अपने वायुमंडल को जो नुकसान पहुंचाया था, उसी का परिणाम आज हम सभी लोग भुगत रहे हैं।

ये जो इंडोसल्फान जैसे पेस्टिसाइड्स हैं, वे जन-जीवन को नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं, खाद को नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं, जमीन को नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं। हमारे पास इसके अनेक विकल्प थे। हमारे पास पहले भी पारम्परिक साइंस उपलब्ध थी। हमारा जो ट्रेडिशनल लाइफ सिस्टम था, अगर उसके आधार पर ही हमने अपनी साइंस को आगे बढ़ाया होता, तो स्थिति आज यहां तक न पहुंचती।

अभी यहां कहा गया कि इतने किसानों को आत्महत्या करनी पड़ी। यह बात बिल्कुल सही है कि हमारे देश में किसानों को आत्महत्या करनी पड़ रही है। हमारे जैसे कृषि प्रधान देश के लिए यह कोई अच्छी बात नहीं है। हमारे देश की 70% आबादी कृषि पर निर्भर रहती है। आखिर हमारे किसान आज इस दयनीय स्थिति तक कैसे पहुंचे? इसके लिए कौन जिम्मेवार है? हमारी सरकारी नीतियां किस प्रकार की बनीं, जिनके कारण आज हमारे किसान इस स्थिति तक पहुंचने के लिए मजबूर हो गए? अगर आज से 35-40 वर्ष पहले हमारी साइंस और टेक्नोलॉजी को सही तरीके से आगे बढ़ाया होता, तो मुझे लगता है कि हमारे वायुमंडल और पर्यावरण को कभी नुकसान न पहुंचा होता और हमारी खेती की आमदनी भी वैसी ही रहती।

आज की खेती हमारे किसानों को नुकसान पहुंचाने लगी है। क्या हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में सिर्फ पिछले 40-50 साल से ही खेती हो रही है? नहीं, सालों-साल से खेती ही हमारे देश का व्यवसाय रही है और हम सभी लोग उसी के ऊपर निर्भर करते आए हैं। उसी से हमारा जीवन निर्वाह होता था, हमारे परिवार का पालन-पोषण होता था, हमारे परिवार में आने वाले सभी प्रसंग भी उसी से पार होते थे। इससे पहले किसानों को खेती के कारण कभी भी सुसाइड नहीं करनी पड़ी थी।

आज यहां तक स्थिति इसलिए पहुंच गई है, क्योंकि हमारी खेती में संशोधन किए गए और पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए हमने शॉर्टकट्स ले लिए। इन्हीं शॉर्टकट्स ने आज की तारीख में हमें यहां लाकर छोड़ दिया। इन शॉर्टकट्स का असर हमारे खुशहाल जीवन पर पड़ा और हमारे अच्छे स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ा।

यह जो घटनाक्रम चला, इसकी वैकल्पिक व्यवस्थाएं भी थीं। हमारे यहां केमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स आए और हमारी कृषि में इनका इस्तेमाल किया गया। इन्होंने हमारी कृषि को बहुत नुकसान पहुंचाया। इनके कारण चिड़ियां मर गईं, तितली मर गई, वर्म्स मर गए, इन सब जीवों के कारण ही हमारी कृषि में कीटाणु नाश करने का एक पारम्परिक सिस्टम बना हुआ था। पहले तितली होती थी, चिड़ियां होती थीं, जो ईल को खा जाती थीं, उसको मार देती थीं। इस तरह प्राकृतिक तौर पर इसकी एक साइकिल बनी रहती थी, लेकिन जल्दबाजी में हम पेस्टिसाइड्स को ले आए। शायद सही हुआ कि उससे ईल तो तुरंत ही तुरंत मर गये, लेकिन उसका हमारे जीवन पर असर हुआ। कुल मिलाकर उसका भूमि पर जो असर हुआ और हमारी कृषि पर जो असर हुआ, उससे आज हम इस स्थिति में हैं कि केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर जमीन में डालते-डालते हमारी जमीन किसान को उत्पादन नहीं दे रही है। वहीं पौधे और वही कृषि हमें इतनी फसल नहीं दे रही है। कुल मिलाकर हमारी कृषि में जो रि सर्च हुई, उससे कृषि आगे बढ़ी। मेरा स्पष्ट मानना है कि यदि यह ट्रेडिशनल साइंस को ध्यान में रखते हुए, ट्रेडिशनल साइंस को उजागर करते हुए आगे बढ़ी होती, तो अभी जो समय आया है, वह समय नहीं आया होता। देश में अभी बायो फर्टिलाइजर और बायो-पेस्टिसाइड का उपयोग बढ़ रहा है। हमारे केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर डिपार्टमेंट ने भी 10 परसेंट आर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर का उपयोग करने का प्रावधान रखा है। मैं जब बजट पढ़ रहा था, तो देखा कि बजट में भी, मैं सरकार का भी अभिनंदन करना चाहता हूं कि सरकार ने तय किया कि हमारे देश में कुल मिलाकर आर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर का ज्यादातर उपयोग हो, हमारे देश में आर्गेनिक फसल बढ़े, उनकी मार्केटिंग के लिए कुछ विचार किया जाए, देश में आर्गेनिक वस्तुएं, आर्गेनिक खेती की पैदावार बढ़े और उस खेती की पैदावार से हमारा निर्वाह चले, हमारे आर्गेनिक फूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स मार्केट में आए तथा हमारे किसानों को उसके लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जाए। उनको इस तरह प्रोत्साहित करके ही हम ऐसी स्थिति से बाहर आ सकते हैं। हमारे माननीय सदस्य जो बिल लेकर आए हैं, वह बिल कुल मिलाकर हमारे जीवन के लिए, भू-वायुमंडल के शुद्धिकरण के लिए और भविष्य की कृषि को बचाने के लिए बहुत अच्छा है। ऐसे जो केमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स हैं, उनके विकल्प के रूप में आर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर, आर्गेनिक पेस्टिसाइड, बायो-फर्टिलाइजर और बायो-पेस्टिसाइड का ज्यादातर उपयोग करने की व्यवस्था सरकार करे। वह इस नीति के आधार पर भविष्य में हमारी कृषि की राह सुनिश्चित करे तथा देश को कृषि में आत्मनिर्भर करे और आगे बढ़ाए, ऐसा विचार रख कर मैं अपनी बात खत्म करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं श्री पी. राजीव जी के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ और जो इन्होंने सुझाव दिए हैं, वे अच्छे हैं।

सर, आज देश के लगभग सभी समाचारपत्रों की सुर्खी है कि UNSC की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर ह्यूमन रिसोर्सज़ में भारत 135वें स्थान पर है। यानी बंगला देश और नेपाल भी इससे बेहतर स्थिति में हैं। हिन्दुस्तान के बारे में युगांडा, नाइजीरिया और निकारागुआ से थोड़ा बेहतर बताया गया है। अभी मेरे साथी इस पर चिन्ता व्यक्त कर रहे थे।

सर, पिछले साल की एक घटना है। राम विलास जी भी यहां बैठे हैं। बिहार के सारण जिले में कुछ बच्चे मिड-डे-मील में विषाक्त दवाई या पेस्टिसाइड की मिलावट की वजह से मर गये थे। इसी सदन में मैंने पिछले साल ही यह सवाल उठाया था और उस बारे में जानकारी चाही थी। बाद में जो मेडिकल रिपोर्ट आई, उसमें पाया गया कि जो पेस्टिसाइड खाने में मिला था, उस पर भारत में बैन था। भारत में प्रतिबंधित होने के बावजूद भी वह पटना के पास स्थित सारण जिले में पहुंच गया, जिससे कई बच्चों को अपनी जान से हाथ धोना पड़ा। सर, पिछले सत्र में मैंने एक सवाल किया था कि देश के अन्दर कितनी दवाइयां ऐसी हैं, जो विदेश में बैन्ड हैं, लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान में इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं। माननीय रसायन मंत्री के विभाग से जुड़ा हुआ प्रश्न है, जिसका जवाब मुझे पिछले सप्ताह मिला था, लगभग 130 दवाइयां इंटरनेशनली banned हैं और उनमें से 70 दवाइयां आज की तारीख में भी हिन्दुस्तान में इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं, जिसका जिक्र अभी हमारे साथी, मिस्टर राजीव ने किया है। भारत ऐसी बहुत सारी चीजों की प्रयोगशाला बन गया है। यहां पर पशुओं पर भी प्रयोग हो रहे हैं। अमुक दवाइयां जो यूरोप में या अमेरिका में इस्तेमाल होती हैं, वे यहां के पशुओं पर भी इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं और इतना ही नहीं, आदमियों पर भी इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं, फसल पर भी इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं, सब्जियों पर इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं, पक्षियों पर हो रही हैं, खेती में भी इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं। इस प्रकार एक तरह से भारत पूरी दुनिया के ऐसे प्रयोगों की प्रयोगशाला बन गया है।

ऐसे ही इंडोसल्फान, जिसका जिक्र अभी हमारे साथी मिस्टर राजीव ने किया। इससे कितने ही लोगों की मृत्यु हो चुकी है, इससे environmental pollution हो चुका है और कृषि मंत्री महोदय जानते हैं कि जो insecticides, pesticides expire हो गए हैं, जिनकी उम्र गुजर गई है, वे भी हमारे यहां इस्तेमाल हो रहे हैं, जिसकी वजह से जान, माल, फसल आदि की बरबादी हो रही है। अगर ये 81 मुल्को में banned हैं, तो मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि ये यहां क्यों इस्तेमाल हो रहे हैं? मैंने पिछले सप्ताह के एक समाचारपत्र में पढ़ा कि भिंडी खाने से 51 आदमी बीमार पड़ गए। मैं किसान परिवार से हूँ, इसलिए मुझे इस बात की जानकारी है कि जब भिंडी को उपजाया जाता है तो उसमें कितना insecticide, pesticide इस्तेमाल होता है। माननीय मंत्री महोदय मेरे पड़ोसी हैं, वे भी जानते हैं कि insecticide का इस्तेमाल भिंडी में सबसे ज्यादा होता है। वह भिंडी के अंदर तक चला जाता है। इसके कारण से 51 आदमी भिंडी खाने से बीमार हो गए।

मान्यवर, हम पहले सुना करते थे कि कोई जहरीली शराब पीने से मर गया या कोई जहरीली चीज खाने से मर गया, लेकिन अब यहां जो फसल है, वह भी ऐसी पैदा हो रही है कि

उसके खाने से भी लोग बीमार पड़ रहे हैं। जब यह इतने मुल्कों में bannad है, तब यहां क्यों इस्तेमाल हो रहा है? केरल, पंजाब, कर्णाटक, आन्ध्र प्रदेश और असम में इसका बड़े पैमाने पर इस्तेमाल हो रहा है, इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि बगैर समय खराब किए इसको तुरंत बैन किया जाए। हमारे आदरणीय मंत्री, कलराज जी यहां बैठे हैं। जहां से ये जीत कर आते हैं, वहां हर साल बच्चों को दिमागी बुखार की बीमारी होती है, यह हर साल होती है। आप चांद पर चले गए, लेकिन दुनिया की कोई भी infectious disease ऐसी नहीं है, जो यहां पर नहीं है। यहां पर चेचक हर साल निकलती है, हैजा हर साल होता है, मलेरिया हर साल होता है, आंखों की बीमारियां हर साल होती हैं और हम अपनी शेखियां बघारने में लगे रहते हैं कि we are the most civilized nation. मैं राम विलास जी का वक्तव्य पढ़ रहा था, जिसमें यह कहा गया था कि मुजफ्फरपुर में इतने बच्चे दिमागी बुखार से मर गए। इस तरह की जो बीमारियां हैं, ये man-made बीमारियां हैं, भगवान की या प्रकृति की बनाई हुई बीमारियां हैं। हमने ऐसा अपने आस-पास बना लिया है। मुझे प्रसन्नता है, मुझे तारीफ करने में दिक्कत नहीं है कि प्रधानमंत्री जी ने कहा है कि पूर्वांचल के राज्य, जो ईस्टर्न इंडिया है, वहां आर्गेनिक खेती होनी चाहिए। वे कभी वहां गए होंगे। इस तरह की चीजों से आप बचने का प्रयास करें, क्योंकि यह केवल केरल की बीमारी नहीं है, जिसका जिक्र श्री पी. राजीव ने किया। आत्महत्या करने के मामले में और हमारे पश्चिम में भी इसी का इस्तेमाल होता है। सुनने में आता है कि अमुक बच्चे-बच्चियां सल्फर खा कर मर गए। यह वहीं इंडोसल्फान है। आज़ादी के 66-67 साल हो गए, अब इस पर नए तरीके से रिव्यू करने का वक्त आ गया है। प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स बिल का जो समय है, मैं तो उसको रिव्यू करना चाहता हूं, क्योंकि यह भी बहुत गलत है। इस हाउस के जो माननीय सदस्य हैं, उनके पास एक ही औजार है और वह है प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स बिल और यही बिल कई बार कानून बन चुका है इस हाउस में भी और उस हाउस में भी। आपने इसके लिए शुक्रवार का दिन रखा है। आज तो इत्तफाक से मुसलमान भाइयों का जुमा-तुल-विदा भी है। आज कितनी उपस्थिति है? इसलिए इस सदन के जो जागरूक सदस्य हैं, उनसे भी मेरा निवेदन है। सर, मैं रूल कमिटी का मेम्बर हूं और इस बारे में मैंने लिखकर भी दिया हुआ है कि फ्राइडे को दो, तीन या चार बजे के बाद प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स बिल को न रखा जाए, क्योंकि इसमें उपस्थिति कम होती है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... माननीय सदस्यों के पास यह एक महत्वपूर्ण चीज है, इसलिए इसके समय को बदला जाए।

सर, मेरा जो पूरा वक्तव्य है, वह श्री पी. राजीव, माननीय सदस्य के प्रस्ताव के साथ है। यहां पर रसायन मंत्रालय और उद्योग मंत्रालय, दोनों के मंत्री बैठे हुए हैं और इनके सामने भी मैंने उन घटनाओं का जिक्र किया है। मैं चाहूंगा कि कृषि मंत्री जी इन सारे सवालों पर नये तरीके से सोचें। मिश्र जी, इस जहरीले वातावरण के कारण आजकल चील भी दिखाई नहीं देती है। हम लोगों को चील और बाज को देखे पता नहीं कितने साल हो गए, क्योंकि सारे वातावरण को ऐसा बना दिया गया कि पक्षी मरने लगे। ये प्रजातियां धीरे-धीरे समाप्त हो जाएंगी। इसके कारण इंसान के जिस्म में भी हजार तरीके की बीमारियां पैदा होती हैं। मैंने पिछले दिनों पढ़ा कि किसी जगह पूरे गांव को खुजली हो रही है। अब आप कल्पना कीजिए कि उस गांव के लोग जहां भी जा रहे हों, वहां अपने-अपने शरीर खुजा रहे हों, तो आपको कैसा लगेगा? यह पता चला कि वहां एक ही तालाब था जिसमें पूरा गांव नहाता था और जब एक आदमी को खुजली हुई होगी तो वह

[श्री के.सी. त्यागी]

सबको हो गई। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... इस तरह के प्रयोग भारत जैसे विकासशील देश में न हों। इस पर कृषि मंत्रालय और रसायन मंत्रालय को नये तरीके से विस्तारपूर्वक विचार करना चाहिए। मैं श्री पी. राजीव के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, I support the Bill introduced by my brother, Mr. Rajeeve. The endosulfan killer pesticide must be banned. There cannot be any second opinion because what had happened in Kasaragod is available in the Internet. Now the Kerala Government has banned the endosulfan because the Plantation Corporation Limited, which is owned by the Kerala Government, had sprayed the endosulfan on the cashew plantations and thereby caused heavy damage to the people living in and around that area. They are still suffering from the ill-effects of endosulfan.

After going through the clauses of this Bill, I am of the humble opinion that manufacturing, storing, selling, or, in whatever form it is kept anywhere, of endosulfan must be made punishable. In clause 4, it is mentioned and I quote, "On and from such day as the Central Government may appoint in this behalf,— (i) the use of endosulfan pesticide and its alternatives in agricultural and related activities and (ii) the import of endosulfan and its alternatives from other countries, shall be prohibited." It must be amended subject to correction and approval by this body. The manufacturing, selling, storing, or, in whatever manner the endosulfan is dealt with, must be prohibited.

Then, the punishment proposed is very, very meagre. In clause 9(3), it has been said, "Whoever manufactures, sells or exhibits for sale, the prohibited endosulfan pesticide under this Act, shall be liable to be punished with imprisonment of six months which may extend to two years or to pay a fine of not less than rupees twenty five thousand which may extend to two lakh rupees or with both." This is very, very meagre and a lesser punishment has been contemplated. Sir, death penalty is opposed everywhere. I am myself opposing the death penalty personally. But this kind of activity causes serious damage or injury to the body and the mind of the innocent persons who are living in and around that area, and those who are doing the agricultural operations or agricultural works are also the sufferers of this. They are, in no way, responsible for this kind of activity, because it is the multinational corporations, and even our own Indian companies, that have, without any sense of social responsibility, manufactured and sold the killer- pesticide, thereby causing the death of innocent people. So, the manufacturing, selling and storage of the drug must be punished with life imprisonment with a heavy fine. Further, because of the use of this prohibited Endosulfan, if any death, injury or damage occurs, then surely, the death penalty must be imposed with a heavy fine. Also, if the fine is imposed, it must be recovered and paid to the victims. It is in this manner that these two provisions or clauses must be corrected and amended.

Sir, my good friend, Mr. Rajeeve, had mentioned in the beginning of his speech that a case was pending in the Supreme Court. Initially, a temporary ban had been imposed by the hon. Supreme Court. I do not know what the present status of the case is. We need to look into that Supreme Court judgement, whether that case was over, what the impact of the judgement was or if still the judgement is pending, etc. So, it is a very, very important piece of legislation that my friend, Mr. Rajeeve, has moved as a Private Member's Bill.

Another brother of mine here has rightly mentioned the name of Dr. Nammalwar, who was a pioneer in organic farming and agricultural activities in Tamil Nadu. Even in Maharashtra there was a gentleman — I am unable to recollect his name — who introduced Zero Budget Farming. Such agricultural processes could be employed, instead of resorting to chemicals that are killing innocent agricultural workers and agriculturists. Dr. Nammalwar had introduced a very good system of agriculture and the gentleman from Maharashtra had introduced Zero Budget Farming. Such processes must be encouraged by the Government, and the manufacture and sale of Endosulfan must be banned. Also, if the illegal use of Endosulfan causes any death or injury, the persons responsible must be imposed with the death penalty, with a heavy fine. We all remember the Bhopal gas tragedy where even the Supreme Court, at one point of time, had agreed to withdraw the criminal case after the compensation amount was received, but fortunately, the case was reopened and that portion of the judgement of the Supreme Court itself was set aside that related to the compromise on the criminal case. It cannot be compromised; it cannot be compounded. Sir, subject to correction, I am of the view that the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy are still suffering, work on their rehabilitation is not making any progress, the victims are not getting any real benefits and they are still suffering. So, the illegal use of killer pesticide, Endosulfan, must be banned and also, as I have submitted earlier, the case pending before the Supreme Court must be looked into. This august body must accept this Bill moved by my brother, Mr. Rajeeve, and the innocent farmers, agricultural workers and residents of the locality may be saved.

Sir, I would take just one more minute. Tribunal can be constituted.... (*Interruptions*)... Delay in court is a well-known fact; everybody knows it. Once the award is passed by the Tribunal, it must be executed. Execution of any decree or award is not an easy thing. So, we must have a separate provision for execution on the lines of Consumer Forum under the provisions of the Consumers Protection Act. I thank the Chair and also Rajeevji.

SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, while tabling this Bill, hon. Member, Shri P. Rajeeve, elaborately explained various aspects of this. So, in order

[Shri D.P. Tripathi]

to save time, I will try to avoid repetition by not referring to all those aspects. However, there are three points which are extremely important as far as this Bill is concerned. Endosulfan, as it is proved beyond an iota of doubt, brings death, disease, disability and permanent damage to not merely human beings, but animals and birds also. This has been proved beyond an iota of doubt. If you go by certain studies made by scientists, I was reading and I was amazed to find out that they have made certain observations that excessive use of chemicals and pesticides is going to create a situation where fragrance and beauty of flowers will disappear very soon. So, the situation has reached these levels. If you study the damages caused by these killer pesticides and chemicals done by various departments of Social Medicine and Community Health, millions of citizens are affected. The number is not in hundreds and thousands, millions are adversely affected because of the side effects. Therefore, it is not merely in the light of the Fundamental Rights and the constitutional duty of the Government to save the citizens' lives. To save life and liberty is the primary responsibility of the State and Government, which has been pointed out by many hon. Members. Therefore, I think, to solve this problem and to fight against all these health hazards, it is essential to ban endosulfan immediately throughout the country. We have raised this issue not today but also in various seminars. In my discussion with agricultural scientists, they have offered me various alternatives to all these killer pesticides. Those alternatives can be utilized for agricultural growth and production. However, there is an urgent need of the hour to ban endosulfan and its use in any way. As the hon. Member pointed out, manufacturing, sale, use, all that should be banned and anyone propagating these pesticides should be severely punished. Thank you.

SHRI V. P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): Sir, first and foremost, I must appreciate and commend Mr. P. Rajeev for bringing this Private Member's Bill, the Endosulfan Pesticide (Prohibition) Bill, 2011. Sir, the scientists come out with researches and innovations where we would get a better yield in farming. This is a long on-going process; it's nothing new. Then we find out from scientists that the yield might be there but it has its side effects and then the ban come. Now, we all know what Mr. P. Rajeev has come out with is not just the information from the media, but it is the first-hand information that he has gathered from the area that he comes from. He has seen the effect of endosulfan on the farmers, and that is why, Kerala Government had banned it. Now, what happened then? An NGO filed a PIL in the Supreme Court. In the PIL, it was proved beyond any doubt that it has its effects which are harmful and the Supreme Court gave directions that it needs to be banned. Now, I am surprised that the time lag given was 11 years. For 11 years, you can go on saying that it is a killer pesticide; it has its bad effects. There are reports in the U.N. about it. The very Government, that is talking for

11 years, our Government, supported its ban in the Geneva Convention and 81 countries have banned it. India was a signatory to it. India was a signatory there, but here, we say that we want 11 years! I can't really understand it.

Sir, in U.S., in 2008, there was a report - the National Park Service Report of 2008. That also talked about the effect of endosulfan, and it was such an indicting Report that U.S. has banned it. I don't want to recount all the bad and harmful effects it has on the environment. It has its bad effects on sea also because it carries its effect to the sea where it is sprayed from air and the helicopter sprays it. It has affected the sea life around that area. The fisheries are affected. Then, you have an effect on the birds, bees and the pollination, which is very important.

Now, I am really surprised that the MNCs in developed countries come out with such chemicals and pesticides which have been banned in their countries and just to sell their product, the MNCs put it into the developing countries and this hazardous pesticide has been in use in India for such a long time. Now in U.S. and Europe, all these countries have got rid of these pesticides and chemicals. They have gone back to the organic farming. India has been known for organic farming. We have done it for many centuries. We have taught other countries also. They have taken up our issues. They have started using it. But this organic farming is still a long way away and it has still to come to India. I don't know as to when that day will come when we will have organic farming. We may have a good yield, but what are the effects? There are so many cancer patients today. There are trains coming from Punjab all the way to Rajasthan where we have a Cancer Institute. They are called, "ये मौत की ट्रेनें हैं।" Those are the cancer trains which are coming to Rajasthan because we have a cancer institute there, which is in the Minister's area. It is just because of overuse of pesticides. Now, the Agriculture Minister may say that farmers may have used it not in the quantity that it should be used, and that is the basic argument that is always put forth. Now, overuse is one thing. Can you stop them from using it? The farmer today feels the more the pesticides, the more the chemicals that he uses, the better the yield he will have. Even in the irrigation, he feels the more water he gives to the farm, the better yield he will have. It does not really happen. When are we going to teach them, and, when are we going to ban it?

In the end, Sir, I really appreciate it and I feel that this must come immediately, and, I am really surprised, I cannot say very much for the hon. Supreme Court but eleven years' time, which has been given to ban it, is too long a time. It must be banned immediately. I support this Bill very strongly. Thank you very much.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, first of all, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to share my concerns regarding the effects of endosulfan not only in the Kasaragod District in Kerala but all over the country. Here, I would like to quote our hon. Chief Minister. She said, "See God in the smile of the poor". Sir, we, the Legislators, sitting here must see our God in the smile of the poor.

I know that 80 per cent of the farmers are not greedy but they want to earn for their living, they want to earn to support their families. Sir, the pesticides like endosulfan, or, any other with any name or composition, could give them good returns but it affects their health very badly, and, it also brings continuous hazards to the health of these people.

Sir, I was interested to speak on the Bill brought forward by my colleague, Mr. P. Rajeeve and I wanted to support this Bill. While I was studying this, I found that not only it brought disorders and bad impacts on the people of Kerala but also on the people in some parts of Tamil Nadu as well as all over India. This had a very peculiar and rare influence everywhere. Most of the victims have now to earn also for their treatment, their rehabilitation, and, their protection for further exposure to these contaminated and dreadful pesticide. It is now marked as 'persistent organic pollutant'. It was rightly referred to as 'persistent organic pollutant' because it is totally against our aim of saving the earth — saving the earth for our children, for our grand children — as also for making this earth viable for others to live. Not only the chemist, who supplies or manufactures these dreadful substances should be blamed, but also the people who use it and the Government. The Kerala Government itself has used this pesticide for several years. Sir, children were born with neurobehavioural disorders, congenital malformations and also other abnormalities. And they continue to occur in eleven Panchayats in the Kasaragod district. There are still people who are affected by this pesticide. While more than thousand live under utter misery, around 9,000 people were impaired by the use of pesticide by the State-owned Plantation Corporation of Kerala. We had a detailed study of this because we wanted to support the Bill. The Corporation began aerial spraying of the pesticides in its plantations, but it continued till 2001. We hear that in 2011 this Bill was introduced in the Parliament, but it has been four years that it has come for discussion. He waited for four years to bring it. I do hope that all of us here will definitely support it. The senior Advocate General of Tamil Nadu, Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, rightly pointed out that the supply, the stocking, the storage and the selling of this persistent organic pollutant should be banned in whole India. The usage of endosulfan and also the endosulfan deo, which is also toxic, should be banned. The sediments accumulate themselves. They root into the soil completely and make the soil contaminated. According to the environmental protection agency of the

United States, and rightly pointed out by my predecessor, it ranged from nine months to six years and toxic residues are still there in the soil. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Daily intake of even 0.006 miligram of endosulfan per kilo of body weight by the human beings is harmful for their lives. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... The accumulative quantity of toxins in the environment, as in 2001, would have come down to even 30 per cent now, but I could find that more influence is still there in the people of Kerala. Not only that but also the incidence of mental retardation is now being visible in the people of the South. Now, I would also like to put forth the major idea of compulsory organic farming or the natural farming which has more vital minerals which we want in our life. We have to completely avoid usage of these hazardous pesticides as well as hazardous fertilizers where we can include the natural farming which comprises of the vermicompost system as well as the cow dung varieties. So, I would also like you to take note of it that the Government of Tamil Nadu, under the dynamic leadership of our hon. Chief Minister Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, took a major step in completely eradicating the Parthenium plants all over Tamil Nadu and all over India. Now, I do want to propose to completely destroy the Parthenium plants all over India and also to save the environment because we are the future. We, the people, have to make our nation a better place to live in for you and I, and for the entire human race. India should be free from pollutants as they are environmental hazards.

I support the Endosulfan Pesticide (Prohibition) Bill, 2011. It should be passed by the august House to completely ban endosulfan from our beautiful nation India. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): It is generally up to 5 o'clock. Mr. Deputy Chairman has directed that since we have lost fifteen minutes at the commencement of Private Members' Legislative Business, it could be extended for fifteen minutes. ...(*Interruptions*)... Special Mentions are there. There are four more speakers on this Bill. Every Member will get three minutes each.

श्री रामदास अठावले (महाराष्ट्र) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, श्री पी. राजीव जी इंडोसल्फ़ान पर पाबंदी लगाने का बिल लेकर आए हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि यह बिल चर्चा के लिए आवश्यक आया है, पर इस बिल पर चर्चा करने का कोई फायदा नहीं है, क्योंकि इस बिल को सरकार की तरफ से लाने की आवश्यकता है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि वे इस बिल को सरकार की तरफ से लाएं। इंडोसल्फ़ाइन एक कीटनाशक दवा है, केमिकल है और इसने कई सालों से किसानों की फसल को बचाने का काम भी किया है। यहां पर श्री पी. राजीव जी यह बिल लाए हैं। इस केमिकल का प्रयोग करने के बाद फसल तो बच गई है, किसानों का फायदा भी हुआ है, लेकिन हमारे महाराष्ट्र में, विदर्भ में बहुत सारे लोगों ने इंडोसल्फ़ान खाकर आत्महत्याएं

5.00 P.M.

[श्री रामदास अठावले]

की है, स्युसाइड किए हैं। इसकी वजह से पंछी भी मर गए हैं, इसलिए मुझे लगता है कि इंडोसल्फ़ान की जगह इसी तरह का कोई और केमिकल, जो इतना खतरनाक या डेंजरस न हो, होना चाहिए। श्री पी. राजीव जी इसी उद्देश्य से यह इंडोसल्फ़ान वाला बिल लेकर आए हैं और मैं यहां पर इसका समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। एक बात और है कि यदि इस पर पाबंदी लगाई गई और कोई दूसरा केमिकल भी प्रयुक्त नहीं हुआ, तो पूरी फसल खत्म हो जाएगी, इसलिए फसल को बचाने की भी आवश्यकता है। अगर फसल नहीं बचेगी, तो हमें खाने को नहीं मिलेगा, खाने को नहीं मिलेगा, तो हम सभी मर जाएंगे, यदि सभी मर जाएंगे, तो अनुचित होगा। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि आपका जो बिल है, वह बहुत अच्छा बिल है, किन्तु इस बिल को सरकार द्वारा लाने की आवश्यकता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम नहीं मरेंगे। हमारी फसल को भी बचाने और इंडोसल्फ़ान की जगह दूसरा केमिकल ढूंढने की आवश्यकता है। जो कृषि मंत्रालय और कृषि साइंटिस्ट हैं, उन्होंने भी कहा है कि फसल को बचाने के लिए एक अच्छा केमिकल लाने की आवश्यकता है। मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं, परंतु यह भी कहता हूं कि यहां पर सिर्फ चर्चा होगी और कुछ भी नहीं होगा, इसलिए मंत्री महोदय को सरकार की तरफ से यह बिल लाने पर विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। जय हिंद।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे श्री पी. राजीव द्वारा “इंडोसल्फ़ान नाशकजीवमार (प्रतिषेध) विधेयक, 2011” पर बोलने का मौका दिया है, मैं इसके लिए आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं। यह इंडोसल्फ़ान एक ऐसी कीटनाशक दवा है, जिसका असर न केवल मनुष्य पर पड़ता है, बल्कि जीव जंतुओं और बागवानी पर भी इसके दूरगामी प्रभाव पड़े हैं। हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने अभी जो सुझाव रखे हैं, वे बहुत अच्छे सुझाव रखे हैं। उन्होंने इस बात पर बल दिया है कि इसको बैन करके, इसके उत्पादन और भंडारण को प्रतिबंधित किया जाए और इसमें सजा का प्रावधान भी रखा जाए। देखने में यह आया कि पहले इस दवा के प्रयोग से पक्षी, चिड़ियां, सब खत्म होती जा रही हैं। हमारे दुर्लभ पक्षी खत्म होते जा रहे हैं। हमारे देश में एक गिद्ध पक्षी था। अगर कहीं कोई पशु खत्म हो जाता था, तो वह कई किलोमीटर दूर से उसे देख लेता था और गन्दगी को खत्म करने का काम करता था। आज हिन्दुस्तान में कहीं गिद्ध नज़र नहीं आ रहा है। इस तरह से ऐसे पक्षियों की प्रजातियां खत्म हो रही हैं, क्योंकि इन कीटनाशक दवाओं के खाने से हमारे वे पक्षी खत्म हो रहे हैं।

देखने में यह आया कि जानवर से दूध निकालने के लिए इंजेक्शन का प्रयोग किया गया। इससे दूध तो तुरंत निकल आता है, लेकिन उसी इंजेक्शन का प्रयोग सब्जियों में होने लगा। शाम को बैंगन में उसे लगा दीजिए, तो बैंगन बड़ा हो जाएगा, छोटी सी लौकी में लगा दीजिए, जो रात भर में वह लौकी बड़ी हो जाएगी। फिर सारा का सारा कीटनाशक मनुष्य के शरीर में आ जाएगा और इससे तरह-तरह की बीमारियां पैदा होंगी। पहले मनुष्य की उम्र 100 साल से ज्यादा हुआ करती थी, लेकिन आज उम्र घट गई है। आदमी 40-50 साल में बूढ़ा हो रहा है। वह तरह-तरह की बीमारियों का शिकार हो रहा है। यह कीटनाशक दवाओं के प्रयोग से हो रहा है। आज इसमें सुधार की आवश्यकता है।

महोदय, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की सरकार ने नदियों की सफाई, नदियों के शुद्धिकरण पर चर्चा कर उसके लिए बजट का प्रावधान किया है। नदियों में मछलियां विलुप्त होती जा रही हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि पहले नदियों में मछलियां रहती थीं, तो वे सारी गन्दगी खा जाती थीं और वाटर को फ्रेस कर देती थीं। मछली मारने में भी इतनी ज्यादा दवाओं का प्रयोग हो रहा है कि पता चला कि दवा का प्रयोग हो गया और तालाब की, झील की पूरी मछलियां खत्म हो गईं और सारा का सारा पानी प्रदूषित हो गया। अभी हमारे माननीय सदस्य कह रहे थे कि एक तालाब के पानी में नहाने से पूरे गांव में खुजली पैदा हो गई। इस तरह से इन तमाम चीजों को देखते हुए इसमें सुधार की आवश्यकता है।

मैं बुंदेलखंड से हूँ। वहां बिना खाद, बिना सिंचाई के पानी, प्राकृतिक पानी से, बरसात के पानी से फसलें उगाई जाती हैं। वहां मोटे अनाज पैदा होते हैं। आज हम उन मोटे अनाजों की तरफ जा रहे हैं। हमारे डाक्टर्स कह रहे हैं कि मोटे अनाज खाइए, क्योंकि वे हमारी आंतों को चिकनाई से बचाते हैं। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): There is one more speaker.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मान्यवर, यह जो बिल आया है, बहुत अच्छा है। हम लोग प्रकृति के साथ खिलवाड़ कर रहे हैं। जब हम प्रकृति के साथ खिलवाड़ करेंगे और ज्यादा उत्पादन करने के चक्कर में रहेंगे, तो हमें दिक्कत होगी। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सर, मुझे दो मिनट दे दीजिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): No two more minutes. Please conclude. We have one more speaker. I can give three minutes to him. Kindly understand.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : मान्यवर, पहले नीम का प्रयोग होता था। नीम एंटीबायोटिक दवा का काम करती है। आज नीम का प्रयोग बंद हो रहा है। और दवाओं का प्रयोग हो रहा है।

मान्यवर, आपने मुझे समय दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ और इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you. Now, Mr. Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the move by our beloved P. Rajeeveji, one of the investigating and innovative Members of the House and the visionary Marxist, is attracting the attention of the nation, if not the attention of the Union Government, through this proposal to ban the hazardous pollutant of the ecology of India.

[Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu]

Sir, the farming community of India has walked fast forward towards nowhere. Those were days of seed sovereignty. Now, we are almost dependent on seeds. Those were days of safe soil. Now, there is no soil preparation; there is not even land preparation for proper farming. The usage of neem or other neem-based pesticides or neem seed utilisation towards rescue operation should be aken up within the farming. We have not only forgotten the usage of neem pesticide in the regular farming practice but also we have moved much forward to endanger the coming generations. This is attracting the attention of various organisations in particular to save the health of the children, women and rural milieu. But it is not yielding proper results.

Across the globe about 70 nations, in particular advanced nations, have absolutely banned the Endosulfan. Seeing the seasons thus...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Mr. Bhaskar, thank you. The discussion on this Bill will continue next.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: I will take half-a-minute to conclude.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You can resume on the day when the Private Members' Bill is taken up.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Okay, I will resume my speech on the next slated day. So, kind of you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): The discussion on this Bill remains inconclusive. The discussion will be resumed on the next available date.

Now we will take up Special Mentions. Mr. Arvind Kumar Singh. Just lay it on the Table.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, पढ़ने दीजिए, आज आखिरी दिन है, इसके बाद चार दिन तक हाउस बन्द रहेगा, उसके बाद तो हम लोग आराम ही करेंगे।

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand to give licences to opium poppy farmers of Ghazipur, U.P.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, शासकीय अफ़ीम एवं क्षारोद कारखाना, गाज़ीपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) को वर्ष 1820 की बनी हुई अंग्रेज़ी हुकूमत द्वारा विरासत में दिया गया जीविकोपार्जन के लिए अफ़ीम कारखाना है, जिसके उत्पादन से जीवन रक्षक दवाओं का निर्माण

होता है। जीवन रक्षक दवाओं का निर्माण पोस्ता से निकली हुई कच्ची अफ़ीम से तैयार किया जाता है, जिसको किसानों द्वारा कड़ी मेहनत से खेती करके पैदा किया जाता है और जो अन्य प्रदेशों से मंगाया जाता है। विडम्बना यह है कि यह प्रतिष्ठान उत्तर प्रदेश के गाजीपुर जिले में होने के बावजूद भी, गाजीपुर में पोस्ता की खेती नहीं की जाती है, जिसकी अति आवश्यकता है, क्योंकि शासकीय अफ़ीम एवं क्षारोद कारखाना गाजीपुर में ही है एवं उसकी खेती के लिए गाजीपुर में पर्याप्त जमीन एवं पानी उपलब्ध होने के कारण पोस्ता की अच्छी खेती हो सकती है।

दूसरा, गाजीपुर में पैदा की गई अफ़ीम/पोस्ता में लगभग 16 प्रतिशत मॉर्फ़ीन पाया जाता है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप अच्छी आमदनी भारत सरकार को हो सकती है।

तीसरा, गाजीपुर विश्वस्तरीय तस्करी सीमाओं से दूर होने के कारण तस्करी की समस्याओं से छुटकारा मिल सकता है।

चौथा, भारत में अन्य जगहों की तुलना में शासकीय अफ़ीम एवं क्षारोद कारखाना, गाजीपुर सुरक्षित स्थान पर होने के साथ-साथ यहां पर आवागमन के साधन भी आवश्यकतानुसार उपलब्ध रहते हैं।

पांचवां, अफ़ीम कारखाना, गाजीपुर की अफ़ीम/पोस्ता उत्पाद में लगभग 16 प्रतिशत मॉर्फ़ीन होने के कारण भारतीय अफ़ीम उत्पाद का विश्व बाजार में दबदबा होगा, जबकि अन्य जगहों पर केवल 11 प्रतिशत मॉर्फ़ीन की प्राप्त होती है।

अतः इस सदन के माध्यम से मैं केन्द्र सरकार से यह मांग करता हूँ कि गाजीपुर के किसानों को अफ़ीम/पोस्ता की खेती के लिए लाइसेंस दिए जाएं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you, there are 24 Special Mentions. So, if you kindly lay it on the Table, it will help all the Members. Next is Mr. Basawaraj Patil. Absent. Next is Chaudhary Munavver Saleem.

Demand for opening High Court Bench at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, सस्ता, सुलभ और जल्दी न्याय किसी भी सरकार की कामयाबी का महत्वपूर्ण अध्याय होता है। देश की न्याय व्यवस्था में उच्च न्यायालय तक बहुत बड़ी संख्या में मध्यम वर्गीय परिवार न्याय की तलाश में पहुंचते हैं, जबकि देखने में यह आता है कि सर्वोच्च न्यायालय तक मध्यम वर्गीय परिवारों का पहुंचना बहुत कम होता है। मैं इस समय हिन्दुस्तान के क्षेत्रफल की दृष्टि से एक बड़े सूबे मध्य प्रदेश भौगोलिक स्थिति को सामने रखते हुए कहना चाहता हूँ कि भोपाल अंचल के लाखों लोगों को उच्च न्यायालय तक जाने के लिए करीब 400 किलोमीटर दूर जाना होता है।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि भोपाल में उच्च न्यायालय की हाई कोर्ट बेंच खोलने सम्बन्धी कार्यवाही आरम्भ करें। सम्भवतः भोपाल अकेली ऐसी प्रादेशिक राजधानी होगी, जो हाई कोर्ट की सुविधा से वंचित है। भोपाल की अवाम इस सन्दर्भ में वर्षों से अपनी मांग सरकारों तक पहुंचाती रही है। मुझे उम्मीद है कि भारत सरकार इस संदर्भ में एक मजबूत फैसला लेगी और भोपाल को हाई कोर्ट बेंच देगी। धन्यवाद।

†] چودھری منور سلیم (اترپردیش) : مہودے، سستا، سلبہ اور جلدی نیائے کسی بھی سرکار کی کامیابی کا مہتوپورن ادھیائے ہے۔ دیش کی نیائے ویوستھا میں اچ-نیایالے تک بہت بڑی تعداد میں مذہیم ورگنے پریوار نیائے کی تلاش میں پہنچتے ہیں، جبکہ دیکھنے میں یہ آتا ہے کہ سرووچنے نیایالے تک مذہیم ورگنے پریواروں کا پہنچتا بہت کم ہوتا ہے۔ میں اس وقت ہندوستان کی چھیترپہل کی درشتی سے ایک بڑے صوبے مذہیم پردیش کی بھوگولک استتھی کو سامنے رکھتے ہوئے کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ بھوپال انچن کے لاکھوں لوگوں اچ نیایالے تک جانے کے لئے قریب 400 کلو میٹر دور جانا ہوتا ہے۔

مہودے، میں آپ کے مادھیم سے سرکار سے مانگ کرتا ہوں کہ بھوپال میں اچ نیایالے کی ہائی کورٹ بینچ کھولنے سمبندھی کاروباری آرمبہ کریں۔ سمبھوتا بھوپال اکیلی ایسی پراڈیشک راجدھانی ہوگی، جو ہائی کورٹ کی سویدھا سے ونچت ہے۔ بھوپال کی عوام اس سندربھہ میں سالوں سے اپنی مانگ سرکاروں تک پہنچاتی رہی ہے۔ مجھے امید ہے کہ بھارت سرکار اس سندربھہ میں ایک مضبوط فیصلہ لے گی اور بھوپال کو ہائی کورٹ بینچ دے گی۔ دھنیواد۔

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

Demand for compulsory insurance of life and property of people in areas frequently affected by communal violence

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब) : महोदय, सरकार का काम है लोगों की जानमाल की सुरक्षा करना, जिसकी जिम्मेदारी केन्द्र और प्रदेशों की सरकारों की होती है। ऐसा देखने में आया है कि देश के कुछ हिस्सों में अक्सर साम्प्रदायिक हिंसा होती रही है, जिससे लोगों की जान-माल का नुकसान लगातार होता रहता है। उदाहरण का तौर पर किश्तवाड़ (जम्मू कश्मीर) में हर पांच वर्ष बाद वहां के एक विशेष सम्प्रदाय के लोगों की जायदाद को पूरा नष्ट कर दिया जाता है। यह एक तरह का आर्थिक आतंकवाद है। इसी तरह देश कई स्थान ऐसे हैं, जहां पर इस प्रकार की घटनाएं निरंतर होती रहती हैं और समय-समय पर सरकार इसके लिए मुआवजे आदि की घोषणा भी करती है। यदि ऐसे स्थानों को अंकित करके वहां के लोगों की जान और माल का बीमा अनिवार्य रूप से कर दिया जाये, जिसका प्रिमियम केन्द्र व राज्य सरकारें वहां के लोगों के साथ मिल कर दें, ताकि ऐसी स्थिति आने पर उन लोगों की आर्थिक मदद हो सके, इस पर सरकार विचार करे।

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra) : Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

**Demand for action on report of Director Generals of Police recommending
increase in representation of minorities in police force**

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, the Delhi Edition of the Indian Express of 17th July, 2014, in its news item appearing on the front page, mentioned about a report titled 'Strategy for making police forces more sensitive towards minority section' prepared by three Director Generals of Police, one each from Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. As per this Report, there is a trust deficit among Muslims who see them communal, biased and insensitive. This impression, as per the Report, comes from poor representation of minorities in the forces and the conduct of some policemen during riots. This Report was presented at the Conference of DGs in New Delhi last year and awaiting action.

There is a need to increase representation of Muslims in the police force. I urge upon the Government to take action on various recommendations and suggestions contained in the Report. It would be appropriate if the Home Minister enlightens the Members of this House on this issue. Thank you.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा (उत्तराखण्ड) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri S. Thangavelu; not there.
Shri Vishambhar Prasad.

**Demand to bring constitutional amendment to include 17 backward castes
of Uttar Pradesh under Scheduled Caste category**

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश की 17 पिछड़ी जातियों कहार, कश्यप, केवट, मल्लाह, निषाद, कुम्हार, प्रजापति, धीवर, बिन्दभर, राजभर, धीमर,

[श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद]

बाथम, तुरहा, गोडिया, मांझी, मछुवा को उत्तर प्रदेश की अखिलेश यादव सरकार ने 15 फरवरी, 2013 को सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार को अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति शोध एवं प्रशिक्षण संस्थान के माध्यम से अध्ययन कराकर इथोनोग्राफिक सर्वे कराकर भारत सरकार को अनुसूचित जाति में सम्मिलित करने हेतु प्रस्ताव भेजा है। भारत सरकार द्वारा 11.4.2008 को मांगे गए निर्धारित 18 बिन्दुओं के प्रपत्र पर उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की ओर से सूचनाएं भेजी गई हैं। इसलिए भारतीय संविधान में संशोधन कर उत्तर प्रदेश की 17 पिछड़ी जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति से सम्मिलित किया जाना आवश्यक है, जबकि पूर्व में ही उत्तर प्रदेश की अनुसूचित जाति की सूची में गोंड, खरवार, बेलदार, मझवार, तुरेहा जातियां, जो मछुवा समुदाय की पर्यायवाची जातियां हैं, जिनका आपस में रोटी-बेटी का रिश्ता है, अनुसूचित जाति में सम्मिलित करने योग्य हैं।

महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश में इनकी 8% से अधिक आबादी है। गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जीवनयापन करने वाली सामाजिक, आर्थिक और राजनीतिक आधार पर पिछड़ी जातियों को अनुसूचित जातियों में सम्मिलित किया जाना आवश्यक है। मैं मांग करता हूं कि भारत सरकार संविधान में संशोधन विधेयक लाकर उत्तर प्रदेश की कतिपय जातियों को अनुसूचित जातियों में सम्मिलित करने हेतु काम करे।

अतः मैं आपसे यह अनुरोध करता हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश की 17 पिछड़ी जातियों को संविधान के अनुच्छेद 341 में संशोधन कर अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने हेतु आवश्यक कदम उठाए जाएं। धन्यवाद।

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

†چودھری منور سلیم: مہودے، میں خود کو اس ویشیش الہیکہ سے سمبڈھہ کرتا

ہوں۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri K.N. Balagopal. Not present. Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya. Not present. Shri Ali Anwar Ansari. Not present. Shri Narendra Kumar Kashyap. Not present. Shri Vivek Gupta.

Demand to take steps to remove problems being faced by jute industry in West Bengal

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, my special mention is with reference to problems faced by jute mills in West Bengal. Our jute industry employs labour workforce

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

of 2.5 lakh belonging to the economically lower strata of the society. The discontent of workers of such nature is alarming. The industry faces difficult situations over the past 3 years, primarily, due to competition from synthetic packaging, cheap jute imports from Nepal and Bangladesh and inconsistent supply of raw jute.

The Jute Packaging Materials Act (JPMA), 1987 supports the survival of the Jute Industry by providing for provisions of compulsory packaging of grains and 20 percent of the sugar production of our country, procured by FCI, in Jute Bags. However, it is not being followed in true spirit.

The large orders from the Government to jute mills two years ago, forced by the synthetic industry, was a target difficult to achieve. This is being used as an excuse to dilute packaging orders. Dilution of Jute packaging has hit the industry hard. They have no orders and are forced to shut the units causing severe social unrest and hardship to mill workers.

To prevent such a scenario from deteriorating any further, it is the urgent need of the hour that the Central Government must include potato in the list of items under JPMA to resuscitate the jute sector. I urge upon the Government to provide training and focus on skill development in this sector along with technology modernization.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri Vijay Goel. Not present. Shri Y.S. Chowdary. Not present. Shrimati Gundu Sudharani. Not present. Dr. Kanwar Deep Singh. Not present. Shri Motilal Vora. Not present. Shri P. Rajeeve.

***Demand to bring a new legislation to control increasing
Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of banks in country**

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, Non-Performing Assets, NPA, has become a serious threat to the banking system in India. Gross NPA of 40 listed banks shot up by 35.2 per cent or ₹ 63,386 crores for the last nine months. The gross NPAs in banks are more than ₹ 2.5 lakh crores. Ten out of the 40 listed banks accounted for nearly 70 per cent of the total gross NPAs. State Bank of India at 28 per cent and ₹ 67,779 crores, has the largest share in total gross NPAs of the 40 listed banks. Next is Punjab National Bank, followed by Bank of Baroda and Central Bank.

Defaulters of repayment of loans number 1129 corporates and industries, amounting to more than ₹ 54,000 crores since 1991, in the absence of a stringent law as the defaulters moved to court and obtain stay. Some bank managements are trying to write off or restructure the existing loans in favour of the corporate.

So, I urge upon the Government to bring a new legislation or make necessary amendments to the existing Acts so as to control the NPAs in banks.

*Laid on the Table.

**Demand to follow reservation policy of Government of India
under the New Railway Catering Policy 2010**

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the Government of India prescribes clear-cut policy regarding reservation. The reservation policy of the Government is equally applicable to Railways, which is one of the biggest employer in India. But it is very unfortunate that under New Railway Catering Policy, the reservation Policy is not followed in true letter and spirit.

The New Railway Catering Policy aims at giving enhanced and quality services to the end users, that is, passengers. Under this, stations have been categorized as 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E' and 'F' and there are also major and minor units in all the category of Railway Stations which will provide various services to passengers. Reservation for the SCs and the STs in these stations is not in accordance with the reservation policy of the Government of India. The catering policy has excluded the major units from the ambit of reservation. The reservation in minor units for A, B and C category station is only 25%. Besides, reservation for other categories policy provides reservations for SCs 6% and STs 4%. Due to this, catering service is monopolized by few individuals and their enterprises.

Sir, the Constitution of India *vide* Article 46 casts duty upon the Government to promote the educational and economic interests of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe communities are victims of centuries of suppression and social discrimination.

Therefore, I kindly request the Government, through this august House, to follow the reservation policy of the Government of India in the New Railway Catering Policy for the benefit and upliftment of the SCs and the STs.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention.

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढनिया (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Mr. Ramdas Athawale. He is absent. Dr. E. M. Sudarasana Natchiappan.

*** Demand for strict enforcement of Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 for welfare of migrant workers**

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979

*Laid on the Table.

and Rules made thereunder are regulating the migrant workers. But the States are not following or implementing the provisions which leads to suffering of the workers in the event of mishap such as Moulivakkam Multistorey collapse in Chennai resulting in death of more than 75 persons.

The Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Minister from Odisha visited the location. The States requested for proper protection and compensation to these workers.

I request the Government to strictly enforce the Labour Laws such as the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979 and the Workmen Compensation Act in letter and spirit.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri Tarun Vijay. He is absent. Shri Derek O'Brien.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): I will just read two lines. I am not reading everything.

**Demand to declare the practice of offering commissions
illegal in the health care**

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, my Special Mention is regarding the rampant corruption in private healthcare. The medical profession is a very noble profession and there are lots of honest and very good doctors. But, unfortunately, ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Kindly don't give a speech. You read it out.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I am reading only three lines.

It was an open Secret that laboratories, radiology clinics and other institutions offer doctors commissions and kickbacks for the act of referring a patient. This is happening and 30-50 per cent kickbacks have been given. The rest I will lay, Sir. * This deplorable practice encourages doctors to send patients for unnecessary tests, increases the cost of health care and reduces the quality of outcomes. The Code of Ethics Regulations laid down by the Medical Council of India forbids fee splitting or accepting of commissions by doctors. The code in recent years has been amended to make stricter rules against doctors receiving benefits in any form from drug and implant makers. However, rarely is action taken against offending doctors and institutions. While there is a regulation that prohibits doctors from receiving commissions from other doctors or diagnostic laboratories, this regulation does not cover private hospitals. It is a common practice for institutions running

*Laid on the Table.

[Shri Derek O'Brien]

high-tech and high cost investigations and treatments to offer incentives to doctors who refer patients to them. They are free to pay doctors openly and even treat such payments as business expenses for income tax purposes. The rampant corruption in Indian private health care has recently sparked a debate in the British Medical journal as well. However, MCI and the Ministry of Health have been slow in taking up the issue. I strongly urge the Government to take urgent steps to declare all commissions in health care illegal and create a strong deterrent against such practices.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Derek O'Brien.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA) : Thank you. Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda.

**Demand to make a Comprehensive National Road Safety Law to
address issues pertaining to road accidents in country**

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): Sir, I want to raise an urgent matter relating to road accidents in the country. Accidents impose a huge loss on people in terms of deaths, injuries and money. Unfortunately, the frequency of accidents in India is amongst the highest in the world. India accounts about ten per cent of fatalities in road accidents worldwide. According to statistics, in the past ten years, over eleven lakh people have died in road accidents in the country and more than 55 lakhs have been seriously injured or permanently disabled. This represents every hour. Fifty-six accidents were reported and 16 persons dead in India. Every year, lakhs of families are pushed into poverty when their bread-winner is either killed or disabled in a road accident. According to the Planning Commission of India, road accidents cause an annual economic loss amounting to three per cent of the country's GDP. Yet, a very little has been done to control this epidemic.

The causes for India's, exceptionally high number of crashes include a fractured licensing system, insufficient drivers' training, flawed road design and engineering, weak enforcement of traffic laws and the lack of road trauma care. The sole statute governing Road Safety in India, the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (MVA) is obsolete and has proved ineffective in addressing any of the aforementioned issues decisively.

I demand to enact a comprehensive National Road Safety Law for creating an inclusive legal framework to address the issue in its entirety and establishment of a dedicated National and State Level Enforcement Agencies to bring cohesiveness and

co-ordination into the efforts of the various agencies involved in addressing different aspects of road safety.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda.

श्री नरेन्द्र बुढानिया (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you. The House stands adjourned to meet on Wednesday, the 30th July, 2014, at 1100 hours.

*The House then adjourned at twenty-three minutes past
five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday,
the 30th July, 2014.*