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Friday

5 December, 2014

14 Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT
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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 5th December, 2014/14th Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MEMBER SWORN

SHRI PRABHU SURESH PRABHAKAR (Haryana)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table ...*(Interruptions)*...

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*)

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, please give me a chance to explain.
...*(Interruptions)*...

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

- I. Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**
- II. Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of the Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Layout Design Registry (SICLDR), New Delhi and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, I lay
on the Table:—

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications), under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997:—
 - (1) F. No. 305-01/2014-QoS, dated the 21st August, 2014, publishing the Standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2014.
 - (2) F. No. 409-21/2013-NSL-I, dated the 20th August, 2014, publishing the International Calling Card Services (Access Charges) Regulations, 2014.

- (3) No. 6-33/2014-B and CS, dated the 18th July, 2014, publishing the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Digital Addressable Cable Television Systems) (Fourth Amendment) Regulation, 2014.
- (4) No. 6-32/2014-B and CS, dated the 18th July, 2014, publishing the Telecommunication. Broadcasting and Cable Services) Interconnection (Eighth Amendment) Regulation, 2014.
- (5) F. No 305-3/2014-QoS, dated the 24th July, 2014, publishing the Standards of Quality of Service for Wireless Data Services (Amendments) Regulations, 2014.

[Placed in Library. for (1) to (5) See No. L.T. 1071/16/14]

- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Electronics and Information Technology) Notification No. S.O. 2905 (E), dated the 13th November, 2014, regarding Expansion of schedule to the Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012 to include 15 more products, under Section 39 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 926/16/14]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Semiconductor Integrated Circuit Layout Design Registry (SICLDR), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Registry.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 925/16/14]

...(Interruptions)...

Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of various Corporations, Society, Councils, Board and Institute and related papers

वस्त्र मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- A. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI), Kolkata, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 944/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Thirty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the National Handloom Development Corporation Limited (NHDC), Lucknow, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1170/16/14]

B. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Fifty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society Limited, NOIDA, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 864/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 945/16/14]

- (iii) (a) Twenty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 946/16/14]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the South India Textile Research

Association (SITRA), Coimbatore, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 949/16/14]

- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Ahmedabad Textile Industry Research Association (ATIRA), Ahmedabad, Gujarat, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Association.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 950/16/14]

- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bombay Textile Research Association (BTRA), Mumbai, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Association.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 948/16/14]

- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA), Ghaziabad, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Association.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 947/16/14]

- (viii) (a) Forty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Wool Research Association (WRA), Thane, Maharashtra, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Association.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 953/16/14]

- (ix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Wool Development Board (CWDB), Jodhpur, Rajasthan for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 952/16/14]

- (x) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Wool Industry Export Promotion Council (WOOLTEXPRO), Mumbai, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 951/16/14]

- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Carpet Technology (IICT), Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1169/16/14]

...(Interruptions)...

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Railways

II. Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of the Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR), New Delhi and Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. (IRFC), New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Railways, under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989:—
 - (1) S.O. 1219 (E), dated the 7th May, 2014, publishing the Authorisation of Rail Travellers' Services Agents Rules, 2014, along with delay Statement.
 - (2) G.S.R. 775 (E), dated the 7th November, 2014, publishing the Indian Railways (Open Lines) General Amendment Rules, 2014.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 900/16/14]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
 - (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 898/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited (IRFC), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 899/16/14]

...(Interruptions)...

I. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture

II. Reports and Accounts (2011-12 and 2012-13) of various Corporations and related papers

III. Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM) and related papers

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation) Notification No. S.O. 2879 (E), dated the 11th November, 2014, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Fifth Amendment) Order, 2014, under sub-section (2) of Section 4D of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 919/16/14]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Madhya Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Bhopal, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1061/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Forty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Panchkula, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1060/16/14]

- (iii) (a) Forty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1063/16/14]

- (iv) (a) Forty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Maharashtra, Mumbai, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1062/16/14]

- (2) Statements (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 :—

- (a) Annual Report of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad, for the year 2013-14.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Hyderabad, for the year 2013-14, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1064/16/14]

...(Interruptions)...

- I. Notification of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**
- II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited and related papers**

अल्पसंख्यककार्यमंत्रालयमेंराज्यमंत्रीतथासंसदीयकार्यमंत्रालयमेंराज्यमंत्री(श्रीमुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी) : महोदय, मैं श्री राव साहेब दादाराव दानवे की ओर से निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) Notification No. G.S.R. 743 (E), dated the 27th October, 2014, publishing the Provisioning of Funds to State Governments for Short Supply of Foodgrains Rules, 2014, under sub-section (3) of Section 39 of the National Food Security Act, 2013.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1065/16/14]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (i) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (a) Thirtieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Limited (HVOC), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 921/16/14]

...(Interruptions)...

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the Members that the Business Advisory Committee, in its meeting held on the 4th of December, 2014, has allotted time for Government legislative business as follows:—

Business	Time Allotted
1. Consideration and passing of the Anti Hijacking (Amendment) Bill, 2010.	Two hours
2. Consideration and passing of the School of Planning and Architecture Bill, 2014, as passed by Lok Sabha.	One hour

	Business	Time Allotted
3.	Consideration and return of the Appropriation Bill relating to Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2014-15, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.	Four hours
4.	Consideration and passing of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Bill, 2014, after it is passed by Lok Sabha - <i>to replace an Ordinance</i> .	Three hours

...(Interruptions)...

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Re. Status of Implementation of Recommendations contained in due Twenty-third Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मनोज सिन्हा) : महोदय, मैं “महिला यात्रियों की सुरक्षा पर विशेष बल देते हुए भारतीय रेल की उपनगरीय रेल सेवाएं” के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित रेल संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के तेईसवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

...(Interruptions)...

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी) : महोदय, आपकी अनुमति से मैं यह सूचित करता हूँ कि सोमवार, 8 दिसंबर, 2014 से आरंभ होने वाले सप्ताह के दौरान निम्नलिखित सरकारी कार्य लिए जाएंगे:—

1. आज की कार्यसूची से बकाया सरकारी कार्य की किसी मद पर विचार।
2. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और पारित करना:—
 - (क) केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014
 - (ख) कपड़ा उपक्रम (राष्ट्रीयकरण) विधि (संशोधन और विधिमान्यकरण) विधेयक, 2014- अध्यादेश को प्रतिस्थापित करने के लिए।
 - (ग) योजना और वास्तुकला विद्यालय विधेयक, 2014

3. यान-हरण निवारण (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2010 पर विचार और पारित करना।
4. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात् निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और पारित करना :—
 - (क) निरसन और संशोधन (दूसरा) विधेयक, 2014
 - (ख) संदाय और परिनिर्धारण प्रणाली (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014
 - (ग) विनियोग अधिनियम (निरसन) विधेयक, 2014
5. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात् वर्ष 2014-15 के लिए अनुपूरक मांगों (सामान्य) से संबंधित विनियोग विधेयक पर विचार और लौटाना।

...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Zero Hour submissions.
...(Interruptions)... Shri Bhupinder Singh. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Sir, the House is not in order.
...(Interruptions)... What can I do, Sir? ...(Interruptions)... Sir, the House is not in order.
...(Interruptions)... Sir, the House is not in order. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (राजस्थान): उपसभापति महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have no problem. ...(Interruptions)... Anybody can speak. ...(Interruptions)... We have taken up Zero Hour submissions. ...(Interruptions)... I have called the name of Shri Bhupinder Singh. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, the House is not in order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have called the name of Shri Bhupinder Singh.
...(Interruptions)... After Shri Bhupinder Singh finishes his submission, I can call him.
...(Interruptions)... I have called the name of Shri Bhupinder Singh. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, first restore order in the House.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सर, हमने पहले भी कहा था ...(व्यवधान)... हमने यह निवेदन किया था कि सदन में जो गतिरोध बना है ...(व्यवधान)... जो कि सरकार की जिम्मेवारी है ...(व्यवधान)... हमने बड़े सम्मान से प्रधान मंत्री जी की बात सुनी। ...(व्यवधान)... यह परम्परा बनती जा रही है कि एक के बाद एक ...(व्यवधान)... हमने सरकार से ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is for you and the Government to sit together and come to a decision. ...(Interruptions)... What can the Chair do in this? ...(Interruptions)...

I can only request all of you ...(Interruptions)... I cannot do anything more. ...(Interruptions)... If hon. Members do not want to run the House, the Chair cannot do anything. ...(Interruptions)...

अल्पसंख्यककार्यमंत्रालयमेंराज्यमंत्रीतथासंसदीयकार्यमंत्रालयमेंराज्यमंत्री(श्रीमुख्तार अब्बास नकवी) : उपसभापति महोदय, सदन में कोई गतिरोध नहीं हैं, यह केवल हार की हताशा है। ...(व्यवधान)... जिस तरह से कांग्रेस पार्टी को लोगों ने सिखाया है ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What can I do? ...(Interruptions)... Anand Sharmaji, what can I do? ...(Interruptions)... It is for the Government. What can I do? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : इसलिए वे इस तरह के मुद्दे उठा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... एक दलित महिला ने आकर खेद व्यक्त किया, क्षमा माँगी, उसके बाद भी जिस तरह का अहंकार और जिस तरह की अराजकता दिखाई पड़ रही है, उससे एक बात साफ है कि * ने इनका यह हश्र किया है। ...(व्यवधान)... जो ये गड़बड़झाला कर रहे हैं, उसमें इनका * होगा, यह बात भी इन्हें समझनी होगी। उपसभापति महोदय, ये सदन की कार्यवाही को बाधित कर रहे हैं। जो इस देश के सरोकार से जुड़े हुए मुद्दे हैं, इस देश की समस्याओं से जुड़े हुए मुद्दे हैं और इस देश के विकास से जुड़े हुए मुद्दे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned up to 1200 hours.

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

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*.

RE. DEMAND TO BRING A RESOLUTION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 181. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I have a point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

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

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I have one point of order, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the point of order? There is no point of order in Question Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I request you to take a copy of the Rajya Sabha at Work, page no. 398. It is on Resolutions/Motions from the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am aware of that.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I am just reading out from that. It says very clearly here. It gives the narration of the day's incident and then says, "exhorting people to preserve and promote amity and harmony and to uphold secular character and traditions of India, in the context of Babri Masjid-Ram Janam Bhoomi Dispute..."

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the point you are making?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: A Resolution was passed by this House, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is history. What do you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: That is history. My point is that there is a precedent. Allow us to move a Resolution in the House condemning the remarks that were made, which lead to the same disharmony ...*(Interruptions)*... and communal disharmony in the House and let that be considered by the House. There is a precedent, and you cannot deny us, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; you have ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Earlier generations have done that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Every Member has the right to move a document for consideration by appropriate procedures, but that does not mean ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, that is the way to break the impasse in this House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let that Resolution be considered. Therefore, I am beseeching you as the Chair, we will move such a Resolution. Let that be considered, and on that basis, the House can function. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the House agree or disagree. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I want to say ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yechuryji ...*(Interruptions)*... Yechuryji ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is with a positive intention. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Chair cannot be a part of the political process. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: No, you are not. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are asking for the Chair's permission. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are asking for the Chair's permission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not preventing you from doing what you propose to pursue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, please understand. We are only asking for the Chair's permission on the basis of earlier precedents in this very House, on the basis of the fact that in this very House, on the same issue of communal harmony and maintaining peace amongst different communities ...*(Interruptions)*... a Resolution was moved and adopted. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Alright; I have heard you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, let's hear the Treasury Benches. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I want the right to move that, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): It is not political. It is upholding ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this issue has been going on for the last so many days ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I have a point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let's hear the hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, give us a ruling on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Look, there is a process and a procedure for moving a Resolution. It requires a notice to be given. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: That is a Private Member's Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is a Private Member's Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, 154 of the Rules deals with a Private Member's Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Can I make my point? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: We are not asking for a Private Member's Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can you move a Resolution without having the general approval of the House? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: That is the descretion of the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are asking for that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, सिर्फ एक बात कहनी है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me hear the hon. Minister. You had your say. Please sit down.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, मुझे सिर्फ एक बात कहनी है। जो भी मैंने तीन दिन से सुना है और आज जो ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : आज जो माननीय येचुरी साहब ने कहा है, उन्होंने कहा है कि यह रिजोल्यूशन आना चाहिए to foster amity. जब प्रधान मंत्री जी ने स्टेटमेंट दिया कि उनको क्रिटिसाइज करता हूं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: He has not done that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : जब उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने माफी मांग ली तो इससे भी बड़ी amity की क्या बात होगी? तो यह amity बढ़ाने के लिए है या अपनी बात के लिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: He has not done that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are back to noise-making. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I am sorry to say that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I want to express. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am prepared. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am prepared. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let them put the Prime Minister's comments to vote in the House. Let the House decide whether it agrees or not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Yechury ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, let the House decide whether we agree to the Prime Minister's comments or not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let's hear the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. ...*(Interruptions)*...

अल्पसंख्यककार्यमंत्रालयमेंराज्यमंत्रीतथासंसदीयकार्यमंत्रालयमेंराज्यमंत्री(श्रीमुख्तार अब्बास नकवी) : सर, येचुरी जी ने जो रूल-154 के बारे में कहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I am being reasonable to the extent. I am saying I will not move a Resolution. Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fine. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: One minute, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let what the hon. Prime Minister said be put to vote, and let us see if this House ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no requirement for that. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: That is not acceptable. ...*(Interruptions)*... Absolutely, not. ...*(Interruptions)*... Where is the precedent for that? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no requirement for that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : चेयरमैन साहब, येचुरी जी ने जो रूल-154 के बारे में कहा है, मैं उसके बारे में एक स्पष्टीकरण देता हूँ। A member other than the Minister who wishes to move a resolution on a day allotted for private members' resolution, shall give a notice to this effect at least two days before the date of draw of lot. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : आपने इसपर किसी तरह का नोटिस नहीं दिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप रूल 154 में अपना प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर रख रहे हैं। आपने किसी तरह का नोटिस नहीं दिया है, नंबर वन। नंबर टू, आपने कहा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी आए। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने यहां पर आकर अपना बयान दिया।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: That is for Private Members' legislation. That is Rule 154 for Private Members. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let's not get into it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, one minute. Please give me a minute.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : उसके बाद भी अगर आप लगातार इस मुद्दे को उठा रहे हैं, तो यह एक राजनैतिक बात है, राजनैतिक भाषा है। इससे ज्यादा कुछ नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, one minute. Please give me a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I am sorry, but that is a wrong rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is a wrong rule. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give me a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please give me a

minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down and give me a minute. This is the Question Hour. That is the only listed business before the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, either we go ahead with the Question Hour ...*(Interruptions)*... Any other ...*(Interruptions)*... Any other ...*(Interruptions)*... Just one minute. Let me finish. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आंध्र प्रदेश) : जब तक यह मसला हल नहीं हो जाता, हम हाउस नहीं चलने देंगे। बिल्कुल नहीं ...*(व्यवधान)*... इससे बड़ी बात क्या हो सकती है कि इस देश का मंत्री देश की आईन की तौहीन करे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

† [جناب محمد علی خان : جب تک یہ مسئلہ حل نہیں ہو جاتا، ہم ہاؤس نہیں چلنے دیں گے۔ بالکل نہیں۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ اس سے بڑی بات کیا ہو سکتی ہے کہ اس دیش کا منتری دیش کی آئین کی تہین کرے؟]

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, with full respect to what you have said, we want the Question Hour to move on. For that we are seeking your permission and ruling. You allow us to move this Resolution. There will be peace in House. There will be no problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. That is not for me to decide. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: You please permit us to move. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the House reject ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the House reject, if they want to reject ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I, once again ...*(Interruptions)*... If this continues, I will have to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Is that what you want? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I want your permission to move a Resolution. You grant that permission and the rest of the business will go on. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: During the Question Hour? Certainly not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: The rest of the business will move on. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Certainly not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, let me move the Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can you move it during Question Hour? ...*(Interruptions)*...

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, you allow me to move it. You permit me to move it. ...*(Interruptions)*... You allow me to move it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If there is a procedure, ...*(Interruptions)*... you have to follow the procedure. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: That is all we are asking. ...*(Interruptions)*...

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत): इस प्रकार का रेज़ोलूशन कभी हुआ नहीं और न होना चाहिए। यह संसदीय परंपराओं के खिलाफ होगा। संसदीय मर्यादा को कमजोर करने का ...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या इस प्रकार का रेज़ोलूशन करेंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं। बैठ जाइए। Please don't indulge in point-scoring at the expense of individual Members. Yechuriji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Rajasthan): The House is not working. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are trying to make it work. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, you please permit me to move. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... My point of order is that any resolution, if there is a request made in terms of the procedure, is examined by the Secretariat about its admissibility and everything.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Correct. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD :Without filing that, how can he say that you give him permission? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, I cannot. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: This is completely unfair. ...*(Interruptions)*... It should not be encouraged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot, and I have not given that permission. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question 181. ...*(Interruptions)*... May I suggest one thing? ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: You cannot deny me that right. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, please allow me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय गोयल: सभापति जी, इधर भी देखें। मेरा क्वेश्चन लगा हुआ है। प्रश्नकाल इसलिए रखा हुआ है, ताकि उसमें प्रश्न किया जाए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I agree with you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I agree with you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down and let the Question Hour proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Shri Sitaram Yechury has made a suggestion...*(Interruptions)*... The combined Opposition ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is part of your political process. Please discuss it outside; not here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Please, Sir. This is an important thing. ...*(Interruptions)*... If we do not say what we have to say ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow us. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Business of the House as listed. I can't hear anything. ...*(Interruptions)*... The House is adjourned for fifteen minutes.

The House then adjourned at nine minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House re-assembled at twenty-four minutes past twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*:

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 181. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : माननीय सभापति जी ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow the Question Hour to proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... Any supplementaries. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sharmaji, this is not on our agenda at the moment. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : माननीय सभापति जी, जो विषय सदन के सामने है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... पॉलीटिकल प्रोसेस की बात है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह हाउस है ही पॉलीटिक्स का ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House functions on listed Business. ...*(Interruptions)*...

...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन के सामने एक विषय है,

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : माननीय सभापति जी, देश के सामने एक विषय है ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम सारे राजनीतिक दलों के लोग इस सदन के अंदर हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : माननीय सभापति जी, सदन के सामने कोई विषय उठा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... उस गतिरोध को दूर करने के लिए एक प्रस्ताव ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं। सुनिए, I cannot take it up during Question Hour. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please appreciate the point. This is your Rules of Procedure. This is the Question Hour. Only questions will be taken up at this time. ...**(Interruptions)**... There is no sense of the House on this. So, please ...**(Interruptions)**... That is a viewpoint. you are authorised to add your views. ...**(Interruptions)**... भाई सुनिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... I am not prepared ...**(Interruptions)**... Sharmaji, please. Let us get on with the Question Hour. please. ...**(Interruptions)**... It does not matter. This is not going on record.

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : *

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. ...**(Interruptions)**... I am sorry.**(Interruptions)**... These are all view points, please. Can we have Q. No.181, please?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member has a question ...**(Interruptions)**... The House is adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Misleading advertisements

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

(a) whether Government has received any reports/complaints regarding misleading/surrogate advertisements appearing in the electronic and print media making false and exaggerated claims about the products;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of cases reported/identified, companies held responsible along with the action taken against the persons/companies involved therein, during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) whether Government proposes to bring in a comprehensive legislation

*Not recorded.

incorporating various rules and regulations presently in vogue to put an effective check on such cases and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A large number of complaints of misleading advertisements appearing in the electronic and print media making false and exaggerated claims about products, are received by various agencies and regulators from time to time. There is no single centralised agency to deal with all such complaints. The sector regulator concerned/or the Ministry/department concerned takes cognizance of the complaints and takes action on matters relating to their own subjects under the relevant legislations. The details reported by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Press Council of India, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India and Office of Drugs Controller General (India) are given in the Statement-I, II, III and IV respectively (*See below*).

(c) The following legislations provide for dealing with the problem of misleading advertisements:—

- (i) The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 (Department of Health and Family Welfare).
- (ii) The Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1955 (Department of Health and Family Welfare).
- (iii) The Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 (Department of Health and Family Welfare).
- (iv) The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (Department of Health and Family Welfare).
- (v) The advertisements aired on private satellite TV channels are regulated under the Advertising Code prescribed in rules framed under Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act 1995.
- (vi) The misleading advertisements in print media, which are violative of norms of journalistic conduct are adjudicated by the Press Council of India under Section 14 of the Press Council Act, 1978.

In so far as the electronic media is concerned, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting encourages self-regulation. While the self-regulation is aimed at facilitating better content regulation at broadcasters' level, it does not preclude the Government from taking *suo-moto* action as per Law.

Under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act 1995 and Rules framed thereunder, specific programme and advertising codes have been prescribed. Every broadcaster has been mandated to follow these codes.

For regulation of content on **satellite TV channels**, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with representatives from Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Defence.

Another Inter-Ministerial Monitoring Committee (IMMC) has been constituted in the Department of Consumer Affairs to monitor misleading advertisements and unfair trade practices appearing in print and other outdoor media.

Efforts are made to ensure coordinated action among various Ministries, Regulators and Agencies.

Statement-I

Year-wise details of action taken in respect of misleading advertisements

Sl. No.	Advertisements	Action Taken
2011		
1.	Petition was received from Shri Saurabh Joshi complaining against telecast of alleged misleading advertisements of the products like 'Badha Mukti Yantra', 'Dhan Laxmi Yantra', etc. on TV channels claiming to release oneself from bad spell or give success in life, etc.	The complaint was referred to Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) which upheld the complaint. Hence Ministry issued an advisory to Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF) and News Broadcasters Association (NBA)
2.	Telecast of alleged misleading advertisements of (i) Gymnedine as remedy for diabetes and (ii) Power Prash as remedy for sexual impotency on TV channels	ASCI upheld the complaint. The Ministry issued an advisory to Indian Broadcasting Foundation and News Broadcasters Association on 12.3.2012.

Sl. No.	Advertisements	Action Taken
3.	Telecast of an alleged misleading advertisement of 'Shri Dhan Laxmi Yantra' on 'Filmy' TV channel.	ASCI upheld the complaint..
4.	Complaint from Pratibha Naithani against telecast of following alleged misleading advertisements on TV channels: i) Ratan Rahashya ii) Lal Kitab Amrit iii) Power Prash iv) Madhu Muktam v) Deemark Shakti Prash	ASCI upheld the complaint and has informed that the advertisements have stopped appearing on the channels. An Advisory has been issued to all TV channels on 7.6.2013.
2012		
1.	Telecast of Advertorial 'Third Eye of Nirmal Baba' on TV channels	The matter was referred to IBF and NBA. They advised their member channels to stop the programmes relating to Nirmal Baba.
2.	Petition from Shri V Lal against an alleged misleading advertisement of Garnier Fructis Shampoo.	The complaint was referred to Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) but was not upheld.
3.	Complaint from Pradeep Kumar Roy against an alleged misleading advertisement of Bhavishya Jeevan Amrit telecast on CNEB News channel.	The advertisement stopped appearing on the channel. An Advisory has been issued to the channel on 7.6.2013
2013		
1.	The advertisement of Madhunashni asserted that the product advertised has special miraculous qualities to cure ailments and improve one's life and give results in specified time.	ASCI upheld the complaint.

Sl. No.	Advertisements	Action Taken
2.	The advertisement of 'Easy Slim Tea' claims that "Have Easy Slim Tea and lose weight - don't need to exercise, don't need to eat healthy", "Lose weight become healthy", "Prevent extra marital affairs" The ad promotes bad health advice which can be dangerous.	ASCI upheld the complaint.
3.	The advertisement of Musli Power Xtra asserts that the product advertised has special miraculous qualities to cure ailments and improve one's life and give results in specified time.	ASCI upheld the complaint.
4.	The advertisement of Madhur Milap asserts that the product advertised has special miraculous qualities to cure ailments and improve one's life and give results in specified time.	ASCI upheld the complaint.
2014		
1.	The complaint against advertisement of Zaitoon Tara Edible Oil was deliberated by Consumer Complaints Council (CCC) of ASCI who concluded that the claim, "Edible oil prevents cancer, diabetes, acidity, cholesterol, etc." was not substantiated and was misleading, thus in breach of the law, particularly the Drug and Magic Remedies Act. The complaint was Upheld but advertiser did not comply with orders of CCC	The Ministry directed on 26.06.2014 all TV channels advising them not to carry the said advertisement.
2.	The Ministry received complaints against advertisement of 48 products in different categories which were deliberated upon by Consumer Complaints Council (CCC) of ASCI concluding that the claim made by the advertisers were misleading and contravened the prescribed Codes, but advertisers did not comply with orders of CCC.	The Ministry directed on 21.08.2014 all TV channels advising them not to carry the said advertisements.

*Details of action taken against TV channels for telecast of advertisement
in violation of Rule 7(2) (viii) (A) of the Advertising Code
(Surrogate Advertisements).*

Sl. No.	Advertisements	Action Taken
1.	Advertisement of a liquor product by "NDTV Good Times" channel through telecast of the advertisement of Blenders Pride Music CDs'.	A Warning was issued to the channel on 06.04.2010.
2.	Advertisement of a liquor product by "Star Anando" channel through telecast of the advertisement of Blenders Pride Music CDs'.	A Warning was issued to the channel on 06.04.2010.
3.	Advertisement of products of Haywards-5000 Soda' and 'Kingfisher Packaged Drinking Water'	A directive was issued on 7.06.2010 to all TV channels to stop carrying any advertisements of a product that uses a brand or logo which is also used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.
4.	Advertisement of a product of 'McDowell's Soda'.	A directive was issued on 17.06.2010 to all TV channels to stop carrying any advertisements of a product that uses a brand or logo which is also used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.
5.	Advertisements of products using brand or logo used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.	A directive was issued on 17.06.2010 to all TV channels to stop carrying any

Sl. No.	Advertisements	Action Taken
		advertisements of a product that uses a brand or logo which is also used for cigarettes, tobacco products, wine, alcohol, liquor or other intoxicants.
6.	Advertisement of “McDowell’s No.1 Platinum Soda” - The No.1 Spirit of Leadership.	The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) was requested on 22.07.2011 to take up the matter with advertisers to take these advertisements off air. ASCI informed that the complaint has been upheld. It was also informed that the said advertisement has been withdrawn from all channels from 25th July, 2011.
7.	Advertisement of Kingfisher Beer on ET NOW channel	A Warning was issued to the channel on 12.9.2012.
8.	Advertisement of VB Best Cold Beer on Star Cricket channel	A Warning was issued to the channel on 12.9.2012.
9.	Advertisement of FTV Vodka.	An Advisory has been issued to FTV channel on 17.1.2013.

Statement-II*Complaint cases relating to allegedly Misleading Advertisements (excluding cases disposed for not being perused by the complainant)*

Sl. No.	File No.	Complainant	Respondent	Subject	Action Taken/Status
2011-2012					
1.	14/712/11-12	Shri Deepak Chhabria, Chairman, Employment Promotion Council of India Personnel, Mumbai	Assignments Abroad Times	Publication of misleading advertisements regarding overseas job.	Closed on 9.08.2012 on the basis of Model guidelines issued by the Council
2012-2013					
1.	14/135/1-132	Shri Madhuuranthakam Prabhaka Rao, Kukatpally, Hyderabad-72	The Hindu	Misleading Advertisement and editorial regarding Mortien Nature Guard	Closed on 4/6/12 matter referred to the Ombudsman of The Hindu
2.	14/408/12-13	Sh. Prabhask Kumar Jha, Ex. Chief, Singhwada, District Darbhanga (Bihar)	Times of India	Objectionable advertisement regarding vaginal rejuvenation and lightening gel.	Closed on 27/08/2012 in terms of Council's resolution passed in the meeting.
3.	14/417/12-13	Sh. Deepak Chhabria, Chairman, Employment Promotion Council of India Personnel, Mumbai	Times of India	Publication of advertisement regarding overseas jobs.	Closed on 29.10.2012, Guidelines on overseas job has already been framed by the Council.

4.-9.	14/665-670/12-13	Shri Ramanan Nair, P.G., Kottayan, Kerala	(1) The Hindu (2) The New Indian Express (3) Deepika Daily (4) Malayala Manorama (5) Mathru Bhoomi (6) Mangalam Daily	Regarding Publication of false advertisement reacting to advertisement in praise of person died 43 years ago.	Closed on 8/7/13 for not taking cognizance.
10.	14/748/12-13	Sh. Edara Gopichand, Vice-President, Media Watch India, Narasaraopet, Andhra Pradesh.	Eenadu	Regarding Publication of surrogate advertisement <i>i.e.</i> liquor 'Royal Stag' and pan masala 'RMD'	Closed on 22.03.2013 for non-pursuance.
11.	14/749/12-13	Ms. HemaSachinSommotra <obema23sam@gmail.com>	News 24 Channel	Regading fraudulent content in the advertisement shown by the channel regarding Nirmal Baba.	Under process
2013-2014					
1.	14/139/13-14	Sh. Deepak Chhabria, Chairman, Employment Promotion Council of Indian Personnel, 105, Sai Prasad Commercial Complex, Khar, Mumbai - 400052	Employment NRI Times	Publication of unauthorized overseas recruitment publication. reiteration of the previous adjudication/guidelines of the respondent.	Closed on 12/7/13 with

S. No.	File No.	Complainant	Respondent	Subject	Action Taken/Status
2.	14/268/13-14	Shri Arvind Kumar, Under Secretary, M/o Overseas Indian Affairs Emigration Section, Akbar Bhavan, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi	Rashtra Deepika	Issuing advts. for overseas employment by unregistered recruiting agent in violation of the Emigration Act, 1983	Letter to complainant Ministry regarding following action taken by them on earlier decision
3.	14/733/13-14	Shri Shacheendra Prasad, E-18, P.C. Colony, Kankad Bagh, Patna, Bihar	Various Newspapers	Regarding advertisement related to astrology and make friends	Under Consideration
4.	14/824/13-14	Shri Rishi Kant Singh, Advocate, Chamber No. 3, High Court of Allahabad	Print Media	Advertisement regarding Babas, Astrologers and Tantrik	Under Consideration

Complaint received regarding publication of advertisement of Tobacco, Alcohol etc. during

Financial Years 2011-12 to 2013-14

1.	14/1/11-12	Sh. Suresh Chand Thukral (through MIB)	Economic Times	Regarding Publication of Advertisement of wine	Closed on 07.02.2012 for Non-pursuance
2.	14/747/12-13	Shri Navkiran Singh Sodhi, President Legal Awareness Group, Patiala, Punjab (through MIB)	Media, Newspapers and Channels	Regarding publication/ telecast of advertisement of drugs and magic remedies	Closed on 11.10.2013 due to non-pursuance

3.	14/748/12-13	Sh. Edara Gopichand, Vice-President, Media Watch India, Narasaraopet, Andhra Pradesh.	Eenadu	Regarding publication of surrogate advertisement <i>i.e.</i> liquor 'Royal Stag' and Pan Masala 'RMD'	Closed on 22.03.2013 Matter under consideration of Government of India
4.	14/96/13-14	Secretary, Consumer's Guidance Society, Flat No. 1, Door No. 58-1-26, Veerapaneni Plaza, Paramata, Vijayawada-520010	Andhra Jyothi	Publication of objectionable advt. of drug and magic remedy	Closed on 07.03.2014 for non-pursuance
5.	14/527/13-14	Shri Prashant Kumar Dubey, Malti Kunj, Purjageer, Mirzapur, U.P.	Amar Ujala	Regarding Publication of surrogate advertisement of drugs and magic remedies	Closed on 07.03.2014 for non-pursuance.

Statement-III

*Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
(Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)
Summary of notices issued on violation of section 24 of FSS Act, 2006 and FSS
(packaging and Labelling) Regulation- 2011*

Sl. No.	Name of the product	Name and Address of the producer	Details of violations for which prosecution cases are filed under Section 53 of FSS Act, 2006	Present status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Complan	Heinz India Pvt. Ltd. 7th Floor, D Shiv Sagar, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai-400018	The claim on the advertisement of the product that one can grow two times after taking Complan is misleading and violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006.	Case was dismissed under Rule 3.1.2.2. of FSS Rules, 2011
2.	Complan Memory	Heinz India Pvt. Ltd. 7th Floor, D Shiv Sagar, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai-400018	The declaration, viz; (i) Complan with Memory chargers, (ii) 5 Brain chargers, (iii) helps to improve memory are misleading and violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006. The product label shows the pictures of students with books which will mislead the public that after taking this health drink they will become good in studies.	Case was dismissed under Rule 3.1.2.2. of FSS Rules, 2011

3.	Boost	Glaxo Smithkline Consumer Healthcare Ltd. DLF Plaza Tower, DLF Phase I, Gurgaon, Haryana	The claim that 'Boost provides 3 times more stamina than sadharan chocolate drink' is misleading and violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006. The producer has not submitted any specific study on this product to substantiate their claims.	Case was filed on 13.07.2012 before ADC, Gurgaon. Hearing yet to start.
4.	Horlicks	Glaxo Smithkline Consumer Healthcare Ltd. DLF Plaza Tower, DLF Phase I, Gurgaon, Haryana	The claim on the advertisement of that after taking Horlicks, children become 'taller, stronger, sharper' which is misleading and deceptive in nature. It violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006.	Case was filed on 13.07.2012 before ADC, Gurgaon. Hearing yet to start.
5.	Emami-Healthy and Tasty Soyabean Oil:	Emami Biotech Limited, Emami Tower, 687, Anandapur, E.M Bypass, Kolkata - 700 107.	The label contains a logo/picture in which it is written '7 stage european refining technology, 'Suraksha Shakti' which are violating Clause 2.3.1.5. of FSS (Packing and Labeling) Regulations, 2011	Hearing completed. Affidavit filed. Decision not yet received.
6.	Saffola:	Marico Ltd. 'Rang Sharda', Krishnachandra Marg, Bandra Reclamation, Bandra (W), Mumbai- 400050 India.	The use of heart symbol and the claim 'the heart of a healthy family'; Saffola encourages you and your family to take care of your heart by using less oil and low saturated fat diet, and 'use of word losorbtechnology' etc on the advertisement are misleading in nature.	Case was dismissed under Rule 3.1.2.2. of FSS Rules, 2011

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Engine Mustard Oil	M/s Hari Vegetable Products Ltd, Bharatpur, Rajasthan.	Claims like 'health and vigour' and 'cholesterol 0g' on the advertisement are misleading in nature.	Case filed on 09.07.2012 Hearing yet to start
8.	Nutri-Charge Men	Trophic Wellness Pvt Ltd, 142-AB, Kandivli Industrial Estate, Kandivali West, Mumbai-400067	<p>The claims like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance your energy, stamina and immunity with smart nutrition. • Smart nutrition means nutrification • Powered by 10 vitamins, 11 minerals, 11 antioxidants and 3 amino acid • Heart and brain health-are misleading and deceptive in nature. 	<p>Party has been penalised under Rule 3.1.2.1 of FSS Rules, 2011 and a penalty of ₹ 1 lakh/- has been imposed</p>
9.	Kellogs Special	Kellogs India, 2 and 3-L, MIDC District, Raigad, Talaja, Mumbai Maharashtra,	The claim that 'research shows that people, who eat low fat breakfast like Kellogg's Special K, tend to be slimmer than those who don't' is misleading and deceptive in nature.	Case was filed on 06.07.2012 and was referred to the State Authority.
10.	Britannia Nutrichoice Biscuits	Britannia Industries Ltd., 5/1/A Hungerford Street, Kolkata-700 017 West Bengal	<p>The claims on advertisements like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No added sugar • Complex carbohydrates • Diabetic friendly <p>are misleading ad violates Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006.</p>	<p>Case sent to the joint Municipal Commissioner and AO on 27.12.2012. Hearing yet to start.</p>

11.	Kellogs Extra Musel	Kellogs India, 2 and 3-L, MIDC District, Raigad, Talaja, Mumbai, Maharashtra	The label of the said product appeared as if it contains a number of fruits. This type of labels is misleading, which gives an idea that the said product contains so many fruits.	Case was filed on 06.07.2012 and was referred to the State Authority.
12.	Bournvita Little Champs	Cadbury India Limited, 19, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Mumbai-400026	The Producer has claimed presence of DHA in their product and its benefits which are not proved. This is deceptive in nature.	Case was dismissed
13.	Today Premium Tea	Today Tea Limited 409-12, 4th Floor Roots Tower, District Centre Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092	The claims by the Producer in newspaper ad shows the following which are misleading as per Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% natural • Rich in antioxidants • Thakawathatayechustilaye 	Case filed on 09.07.2012. Last hearing was on 24.07.2013 Decision pending with AO.
14.	Pedasure	Abbott India Limited 3-4, Corporate Park, Sion-Trombay Road Mumbai	The claim on the product label and advertisement is 'Helps in child's growth and development', which is misleading as per Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006 and FSS (Packaging and labeling) Regulation, 2011.	Case was dismissed
15.	Real Active Fibre+	Dabur India Ltd, 8/3, Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi	Advertisements of the said product shows the following which are misleading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snack healthy • Manages weight and keeps you fit • Keeps digestive system healthy • Maintains heart health 	Case filed on 09.07.2012; Hearing on 23.11.2012. • Case dismissed by Court

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Nutrilite	Amway India Enterprises Pvt. Ltd, 9th Floor, Tower A and B, Express Trade Towers 1, Plot No. 15-16, Sector-16A, Noida, U.P., - 201301	Claims like: (i) "If you are not taking a truly adequate and well balanced diet the Nutrilite daily may be convenient once a day choice for supplemental nutrients you have been looking for" and (ii) "Each tablet supplies 13 vitamins, 11 minerals and phytofactors plant compound from Nutrilite's exclusive plant concentrate. Nutrilite exclusive Nutria lock makes tablet easier to swallow" - are misleading and deceptive in nature.	Next hearing on 18th December, 2014.
17.	Kissan Cream Spread	Hindustan Unilever Limited, Unilever House, B. D. Sawant Marg, Chakala, Andheri (E), Mumbai-400 009.	Advertisement shows the claim that 'Kissan creamy spread contains 3 times more essential nutrients than sadharan butter'. This statement is misleading.	Case was dismissed
18.	Rajdhani Besan	Rajdhani Flour Mills Ltd. (Delhi) Rajdhani Besan 5596, Lahori Gate Delhi-110006	Newspaper advertisement has a heart logo and slogan 'karlodil se dosti' which are misleading as per Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006	Judgment delivered. Fined seven lakh rupees.
19.	Britannia Vita Marie	Britannia Industries Ltd., 5/1/A Hungerford Street, Kolkata-700 017 West Bengal	Claims like: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart friendly, • Helps reduce cholesterol-are misleading as per section 24 of FSS Act, 2006. 	Case sent to the joint Municipal Commissioner and AO on 27.12.2012

20.	Maggi Multi Grainz Noodles	Nestle India Ltd. M-5A, Connaught Circus, New Delhi 110001	'No added MSG' 'taste bhi health bhi' 'Vegetarian logo'	Last hearing held on 16.09.2014, next hearing was scheduled on 09.12.2014
21.	Foodies from Horlicks	Glaxo Smithkline Consumer Healthcare Ltd, Patiala Road, Nabha, Punjab	Declaration of veg non-veg logo 'Health maker with "power" vitamins' 'More' nourishing Noodles: Curry, Curry in a hurry The contents on the label shall be clear, prominent and readily legible by the consumer,	Case sent for Adjudication in the Court of Adjudication Officer, Gurgaon on 19.12.12. Hearing yet to start.
22.	Tasty Treat Noodles	Pantaloon Retail Pvt. Ltd. Knowledge House, Shyam Nagar East, Jogeshwari Vikhroli Link Road, Jogeshwari (E), Mumbai-400060	'Cholesterol free', 'No added MSG' and 'rich in minerals and carbohydrates'.	Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed (Verbal instruction from Adjudicating Officer, Copy of judgement is not yet received.
23.	Top Ramen Noodles	Indo Nissin Foods Limited, 28, Centenary Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560001	Top ramen Super noodles + Vitamin Energy" - this declaration and the claims like zero trans fat and no added MSG are misleading. [2.3.1(5)] The Label should not contain reference to Act or rules or regulations Comments of Saina Nehwal- 'I call these Super noodles!	Case filed on 23.01.2013. next date is 28.11.2014.

1	2	3	4	5
			Delicious and full of vitamins and Energy-just what a champion needs!' are misleading and do not conform to Section 24 of FSS Act, 2006.	
24.	Agnesi Imported Pasta	Suresh Kumar and (Impex) Pvt. Ltd, A-17, Mukherjee Nagar, Commercial Complex, New Delhi-110009	<p>The parameters of declaration on the label under these Regulations to be specified in English or Hindi/ Devnagiri without which the consumers in India will not be able to understand the details of the product</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country of origin is not declared. • Best before date not mentioned on the Label • Nutritional facts shall be depicted on the product • Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the regulation 	Case was transferred to ADM (North West to ADM (North) on 23.01.2013, Hearing yet to start
25.	Koka Instant Imported Noodles	Chip Valley Foods Pvt. Ltd, 12, Central Facility Building No. 1, Near JanLaxmi Bank Apme Market, Sector 19 C, Vashi Navi, Mumbai-400703 Maharashtra	<p>a. MSG is added in the product. It should be accompanied by declaration. [2.4.5.18]</p> <p>b. The parameters of declaration on the label under these Regulations to be specified in English or Hindi clearly in proper colour contrast [2.2.1.(2)]</p> <p>c. Best before date not mentioned on the Label. [2.2.2.10]</p> <p>d. Nutritional facts shall be depicted on the product [2.2.2(3)]</p> <p>e. Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the regulation [2.2.2.4.iv.(i)(ii)]</p>	Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed, (Verbal instruction from Adjudicating Officer, Copy of judgement is not yet received.

26.	Me and Meri Thrillin Curry Maggi	Nestle India Ltd. M-5A, Connaught Circus, New Delhi 110001	No added MSG and "Taste bhi, health bhi" are misleading claims Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the regulation Declaration regarding addition of colours and/ or Flavours is not as per Regulation Curry:- it is misleading as the product is noodle	Last hearing held on 16.09.2014, next hearing was scheduled on 09.12.2014
27.	Guess the Taste Maggi	Nestle India Ltd. M-5A, Connaught Circus, New Delhi 110001	No added MSG and "Taste bhi, health bhi" are misleading claims Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the regulation Declaration regarding addition of colours and/ or Flavours is not as per Regulation	Last hearing held on 16.09.2014, next hearing was scheduled on 09.12.2014
28.	Sugar Free Digestive Cookies	Diat Foods (India), B/7, 1 and 2, Mankholi Anjupatha Road, Val Village, Bhiwandi, Thane 421302	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cholesterol free and trans fat free: Loaded with 10 Vitamins and minerals – These statements are misleading	Judgement Delivered, Fine of -1,00,000/- (One Lakh)
29.	Nutrichoice 5 Grain Biscuits	Britannia Industries Ltd. 5/1A, Hungerford Street, Kolkata, West Bengal- 700017	Cholesterol free and trans fat free: Label should not contain reference to Act or rules or regulations "Satisfy hunger without guilt" Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the regulation	Filed on 27.12.2012. hearing yet to start.
30.	Oatmeal Digestive Cookies	Unibic Biscuits India Pvt. Ltd. 51/1A, Heggadadevanapura Village, Huskur Road, Bangalore-562123	Cholesterol 0% and trans fat free:	Filed on 03.12.2012. Hearing yet to start.

1	2	3	4	5
31.	Doria Biscuits	United Distributors Inc, 409, Norman Kendra, Mahalaxmi (West) Mumbai 400011	(i) The Parameters of declaration on the label under these regulations to be specified in English or Hindi in devnagiri script without which the consumers in India will not be able to understand the details of the products [2.2.1.(2)] (ii) Country of origin not declared [2.2.2.11] (iii) Best before date not declared as per Regulation [2.2.2.10] (iv) Nutritional facts not declared as per Regulation [2.2.2.3] (v) Declaration of Veg-non veg logo not as per Regulation [2.2.2.4.iv.i.ii]	Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed, Verbal instruction from Adjudicating Officer, Copy of judgement is not yet received.
32.	Protein V X Junior	Workhard Limited, Wockhardt Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051	The contents of the label shall be clear, prominent, inedible and readily legible by the consumer The font size or height of most of the declarations is less than 1mm The claim "for all round growth and immunity" is misleading	Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed, Verbal instruction from Adjudicating Officer, Copy of judgement is not yet received.
33.	Complan-Nutri-GO	Heinz India Ltd, 7th Floor, D Shivsagar, Dr Annie Besant Road, Worli Mumbai-400018	The claims like 'Immunity builders- helps build internal resistance power', '100% key growth nutrients'	Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed as filed under PFA Act

34.	Complan for Growth	Heinz India Ltd, 7th Floor, D Shivsagar, Dr Annie Besant Road, Worli Mumbai-400018	Claims “Extra growing power”, “Complete Planned Food drink” are misleading.	Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed as filed under PFA Act
35.	Pediasure	Abbott Healthcare Pvt Ltd, 4, Corporate Park, Sion Trombay Road, Mumbai-400071	Extraneous addition of flavouring agents to be mentioned at specified place. Contents of the label are not legible (Ingredients) and not in proper colour contrast There are deceptive and misleading declarations “Clinically Proven” and “helps to increase height and weight”, “ helps strengthen natural immunity”, “supports brain development”	Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed, Verbal instruction from Adjudicating Officer, Copy of judgement is not yet received.
36.	Actilife	Zydus Wellness Ltd, Zydus Tower, Satellite Cross Roads, Ahmedabad-380015 Gujarat State	Label contains reference to Act or Rules or Regulations, which is violation of provision Declarations “stress reliever”, “with prebiotic actives” are deceptive and misleading”. Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the Regulations. The following claims which are given under the heading ‘benefits’ are also misleading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A source of constant energy that helps you to grow and maintain body strength to stay ahead in life • This prebiotic Actifibre improves digestion, helps reduce 	Information not available

1	2	3	4	5
			<p>cholesterol, improves calcium absorption for bone strength and provides overall immunity. Now enjoy a more healthy and active life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To keep stress away, provide energy and keep nervous system healthy so as to help you work with greater concentration • Helps you maintain a good vision, beautiful skin and a strong immune system to make you feel better and raring to go • Helps to keep bones strong and teeth healthy for years to come • To keep you mentally alert so as to face any situation with confidence. <p>In nutritional facts the label shows 'FOS' without any details</p>	
37.	Bournvita, Lil-Champs	Cadbury India Limited, 19, Bhulabhai Desai Road, Mumbai-400026	<p>a. Name/Category of food is not declared.[2.12.2.(i)]</p> <p>b. Declaration of enriched is nutrients not declared.[2.2.1 (3) (v)]</p> <p>c. The contents of the label shall be clear, prominent, indelible and readily legible by the consumer. [2.3.1.2]</p>	<p>Judgement Delivered, Case Dismissed, (Verbal instruction from Adjudicating Officer, Copy of judgement is not</p>

			<p>d. The font size or height of most of the declarations is less than 1 mm [2.3.3 Table I and II] yet received.</p> <p>e. Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the regulation [2.2.2.4.iv.(i)(ii)]</p>	
38.	Horlicks Junior	Glaxo Smithkline Consumer Healthcare Ltd, Patiala Road, Nabha, Punjab	<p>The pictorial representation "Horlicks Nutrition Academy" in the form of a logo and declarations/claims like "The Horlicks assurance", "A to Z" nutrition, "100% RDA of nutrients" and "DHA for brain development" are deceptive and misleading." Declaration of veg-non veg logo not as per the regulation</p> <p>Case sent for Adjudication in the Court of Adjudication Officer, Gurgaon on 19.12.2012. Hearing yet to start</p>	

Statement-IV*The details about cases violating the provision of Drug and Magic Remedies Act 1954*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of cases violating the provision of Drugs and Magic Remedies Act 1954	2011	2012	2013	2014	Action Taken by States
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	61	Nil	11	35	15	Action taken/charge sheet filed in the Hon'ble courts of respective jurisdiction
2.	Goa	4	1	2	1	Nil	<p>Doctors has stopped issuing advertisement on newspaper and has stopped such camps in Goa</p> <p>Doctor is refrained from publishing such objectionable advertisements on newspaper</p> <p>Matter was taken up with Drug Controller Maharashtra to take suitable action as the ashram where the treatment is stated is carried out in Jalgaon</p> <p>Matter is taken up with Drug Controller, Solan (HP) to take suitable action in the matter against the concerned manufacturers</p>
3.	Haryana	31	21			10	21 show cause were issued to ASU Manufacturers for such exaggerated and misleading advertisements during the last three years.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
							<p>The Corrections were being made by concerned manufacturers as cancellation of products, change of advertisement or any other subject matter concerned.</p> <p>And 10 show Cause Notices were issued to ASU manufacturers for such exaggerated and misleading advertisements during the current year and the answers are awaited</p>
4.	Jharkhand	2	Nil	02	Nil	Nil	<p>Many investigations for misleading advertisements are in process. Suitable action will be taken</p>
5.	Kerala	87	36	35	13	3	<p>Yes the department has registered prosecution cases in different courts in the State for violation of Drugs and Magic remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act</p>
6.	Rajasthan	1	01	Nil	Nil	Nil	<p>Details not yet been received</p>
7.	Tamil Nadu	54	6	24	23	1	<p>Legal action are being initiated for the violations under the said Act</p>
8.	Bihar	87	Nil	21	66	Nil	<p>In 2012 FIR lodged against 21 firms and 83 persons were arrested</p> <p>In 2013 FIR lodged against 66 firms and 5 persons were arrested</p>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Odisha	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
10.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
11.	Assam	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
12.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
14.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
15.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
16.	Puducherry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
17.	Punjab	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
18.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	--
20.	Delhi	05		5			The department has filed 05 cases during the period 01.04.2011 to till date for the violation observed under the provisions of Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954
21.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
22.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
23.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
24.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
25.	Karnataka	01			01		Case is pending in the honourabel Metroploition Magistrate, Mayo Hall Unity (Traffic Court-I)

Note : Left out States Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Daman, Lakshadweep, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Uttarakhand, Telangana

Training on Precision Farming Technology

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

(a) the details of measures taken by Government to promote the use of precision farming technologies in the country; and

(b) whether Government has imparted training to farmers regarding different precision farming technologies, especially in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Government is promoting precision farming technologies in the country to increase crop productivity by providing financial assistance to farmers for micro irrigation and protected cultivation under various schemes viz., Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), On-Farm Water Management (OFWM) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY). Assistance for micro irrigation is being provided under OFWM @35% for small and marginal farmers and 25% for other farmers for an area upto 5 ha per farmer. This assistance is 50% and 35% respectively in the areas covered under Drought Prone Areas Programme, Desert Development Programme and North Eastern and Himalayan regions. For protected cultivation, assistance is being provided under MIDH @ 50% for setting up green houses, etc. for an area upto 4000 square meters per farmer. State Governments are also promoting these technologies under RKVY.

22 Precision Farming Development Centres (PFDCs) have been set up in various Agricultural Universities/institutions to develop and disseminate technologies in the field of micro-irrigation and protected cultivation. Details of the training imparted by various PFDCs, including PFDC, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu during 2013-14 and 2014-15 (upto 31st October, 2014) are given in the Statement.

Statement*Number of training programmes conducted and persons trained*

Sl. No.	PFDC Location	Training Programmes (No.)		Persons trained	
		2013-14	2014-15*	2013-14	2014-15*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Hyderabad	3	2	90	58
2.	Guwahati	18	4	450	100
3.	Samastipur	13	3	280	80

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Raipur	14	18	392	450
5.	New Delhi	32	20	1760	1400
6.	Navsari	8	8	240	255
7.	Hisar	12	5	300	170
8.	Solan	15	11	375	319
9.	Leh	11	12	286	360
10.	Ranchi	5	3	140	85
11.	Bangalore	11	4	265	135
12.	Tavanur	38	10	1102	300
13.	Bhopal	16	3	480	100
14.	Rahuri	18	8	630	256
15.	Imphal	8	4	264	152
16.	Bhubaneswar	5	3	150	111
17.	Ludhiana	10	4	280	152
18.	Bikaner	12	8	432	240
19.	Coimbatore	6	4	144	120
20.	Lucknow	62	30	1984	1260
21.	Pantnagar	14	17	462	714
22.	Kharagpur	14	11	350	330
TOTAL		345	192	10856	7147

Note: *Upto 31.10.2014

Barring criminals from contesting elections

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

(a) whether there is any provision in the extant laws whereby the Election Commission can bar citizens involved in grave crimes from contesting elections, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if not, whether Government is considering formulating a law in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 16-12-2013 in the W.P. No. 536 of 2011 in the matter of Public Interest Foundation & Ors Vs Union of India and Anr. pending disposal before it, the Law Commission has submitted its 244th Report containing the following recommendations:-

(i) **Disqualification on framing of charges :** Suggesting insertion of a new section 8B in the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Law Commission has recommended that:-

- (a) Only offences which have a maximum punishment of five years or above ought to be included within the remit of this provision;
- (b) Charges filed upto one year before the date of scrutiny of noninations for an election will not lead to disqualification.
- (c) The disqualicication will operate till an acquittal by the trial court, or for a period of six years, whichever is earlier.
- (d) For charges framed against sitting M.Ps, the trials must be expedited so that they are conducted on a day to day basis and concluded within a 1-year period. If trial is not concluded within one year period then one of the following consequences ought to ensue:

- The MP/MLA may be disqualified at the expiry of one year period;

“OR”

- The MP/MLA's right to vote in the House as a member, remuneration and other perquisites attached to their office shall be suspended at the expiry of one-year period.

(ii) **Filing of false affidavits:** The Law Commission has recommended the following changes in the Representation of the People Act, 1951:-

- (a) Introduce enhanced sentence of a minimum of two years under section 125A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 on the filing of false affidavits;
- (b) Include conviction under section 125A as a ground of disqualification under section 8(1) of the Representaion of the People Act, 1951.

- (c) Include the offence of filing false affidavit as a corrupt practice under section 123 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

The above recommendations of the law Commission are under examination of the Government.

IT investment region in Hyderabad

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had recently approved IT investment region in Hyderabad, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of investment going to be attracted through the above region; and
- (c) the direct and indirect employment, going to be generated in the above region?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Madam. The Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) in Hyderabad was notified on 13th November, 2013. The ITIR will be set-up covering an area of 202 sq kms. in three clusters/agglomerations viz,

- (i) Cyberabad Development Area.
- (ii) Hyderabad Airport Development area and Maheshwaram in the South of Hyderabad.
- (iii) Uppal and Pocharam areas in Eastern Hyderabad.

These clusters/agglomerations are linked by two connecting roads along the outer ring road.

In addition, ITIR has also been approved near Bengaluru. Proposal for ITIR near Chennai, Bhubaneswar and Visakhapatnam are under consideration.

(b) and (c) According to the Detailed Project Report submitted by Government of Andhra Pradesh, the ITIR in Hyderabad shall attract total investment of about ₹ 2,19,400 crores and generate direct employment of 14.8 lakhs and indirect employment of 55.9 lakhs respectively over a period 2013 to 2038.

Revival of sick drugs manufacturing companies

*185. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State-owned drugs manufacturing companies are running under losses;
- (b) if so, the number of such companies in the country;
- (c) whether Government proposes to revive them, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (d) Out of five Pharma CPSEs under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, three companies *viz.* Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL) and Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) are sick units under Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and are running under losses for several years. Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (RDPL) has for the first time registered losses in 2013-14. The Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited (KAPL) is running profitably. The revival status of the three sick and BIFR referred pharmaceuticals CPSEs is given as under:-

Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune

Government approved the Rehabilitation Scheme of HAL on 9th March, 2006 which *inter alia* involves Cash Infusion of ₹ 137.59 crore and waiver of past loans and interests thereupon to the extent of ₹ 259.43 crore (as on 31.3.2005). However, due to various reasons, the first Rehabilitation Plan of HAL was not successful. As the HAL is still incurring losses, a 2nd Rehabilitation Plan of HAL is under consideration of this Department. Accordingly a Draft Revival Scheme (MDRS) was made in February, 2014 which was filed by IDBI (the operating agency - appointed by BIFR) before the BIFR on 18-2-2014. However, BIFR on 7.07.14 rejected the DRS pointing out certain deficiencies. The draft modified proposal for the 2nd Rehabilitation is being prepared by the IDBI in consultation with HAL, as per direction of BIFR.

Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), Kolkata

Government approved Rehabilitation Scheme for revival of BCPL on 21.12.2006. The rehabilitation scheme, *inter alia*, involved the following:

- (i) Cash infusion of ₹ 207.19 crore (Out of ₹ 207.19 crore, ₹ 145.00 crore was meant for upgradation and modernization of manufacturing facilities conforming to WHO-GMP standards)
- (ii) Write off of loans and waiver of interest thereon of ₹ 233.41 crores by Government of India,

Government has approved writing off of GOI loans and interest of ₹ 233.41 crores, and an amount of ₹ 207.19 crore approved by the Government has been released. BCPL is implementing the Rehabilitation Scheme.

Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL)

A Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) was considered by Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) at its meeting held on 9.3.2007 and recommended for approval. The scheme was placed before the Cabinet for approval. Cabinet considered the proposal at its meeting held on 17.5.2007 and referred it to Group of Ministers (GoM) for consideration at the first instance. The first meeting of the GoM was held on 11.10.2007. Based on the recommendation of GoM and Draft scheme prepared earlier, a Pre-feasibility Report was prepared by an expert agency, Ernst and Young. The revival scheme of the company is under the consideration of Government of India. Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has raised certain observations in March, 2014 on the DRS submitted by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the Operating Agency, appointed by BIFR. Necessary action is being taken to revise the DRS.

Digital India Programme

*186. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the Digital India Programme announced by the Prime Minister on 15th August, 2014;
- (b) whether Government has chalked out the modalities to implement the programme, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether a Committee has been set up or will be set up to monitor the programme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Digital India is a programme

to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. It is an Umbrella Programme that covers multiple Government Ministries and Departments. It weaves together a large number of ideas and thoughts into a single, comprehensive vision so that each of them is seen as part of a larger goal. Each individual element stands on its own, but is also part of the larger picture. The programme aims to provide the much needed thrust to certain growth areas, namely broadband highways, access to mobile connectivity, access to public internet, e-Governance, electronic delivery of services and electronic manufacturing. The programme envisions: Digital Infrastructure as a Utility to Every Citizen, Governance and Services on Demand and Digital Empowerment of Citizens.

(b) Yes, Sir. Considering the multiplicity of agencies involved and the need for overall aggregation and integration at the national level; it has been considered appropriate to implement Digital India as a programme, with well defined roles and responsibilities of each agency involved and to create an appropriate programme management structure. Line Ministries/Departments are responsible for the implementation of the relevant components under the Digital India Programme.

Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) is the overall coordinating Department for the implementation of Digital India by various Line Ministries/Departments and State/UT Governments.

(c) Yes, Sir. Three committees will monitor the Digital India programme namely:

- (i) Monitoring Committee on Digital India under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Prime Minister
- (ii) Digital India Advisory Group under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister of Communications and Information Technology (MOC and IT)
- (iii) Apex Committee on Digital India under the Chairpersonship of Cabinet Secretary

Revamping of BSNL

*187. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL would be revamped, rejuvenated and strengthened to avoid the state of being sick;

(b) whether Government would provide the revival fund which was proposed earlier;

- (c) whether to improve less income generating rural areas, compensation for rural services would be met by Government, if so, by when;
- (d) the reasons for not providing waiver to BSNL for spectrum; and
- (e) the manner in which BSNL would meet enormous establishment cost without healthy income, the steps taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government is conscious of the financial distress in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). Government has taken various measures for the revival of BSNL. These measures include:

- (i) Waiver of Government loan to BSNL involving an amount of ₹ 1411 crores.
- (ii) Financial support of ₹ 6724.51 crores to BSNL on surrender of Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum in 6 service areas.

BSNL is preparing a revival plan for increasing revenue potential, identifying business opportunities, organizational restructuring and training to enable it to grow into customer-centric company with expertise in marketing and customer services delivery and developing human resources strategy in line with restructured organizational vision.

(c) Based on recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), financial assistance of ₹ 1500 crore was released in financial year 2013-14 as support for rural wireline connections installed before 1.4.2002.

(d) On a request for reimbursement of amount paid as one time spectrum charges in 2010 for 3G and Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum, Government decided that the condition of payment of one-time spectrum fee at a price equal to the highest bid, as determined through auction of 3G and BWA spectrum was incorporated in the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) for the auction in 2010. Thereby, the request for reimbursement of the amount paid by BSNL was contrary to the agreed terms and conditions and could not be accepted in 2010. However in 2014, the proposal for financial support of ₹ 6724.51 crores to BSNL on surrender of BWA spectrum in 6 service areas was approved by Government.

(e) As on 30.09.2014, BSNL has workforce strength of 2,32,144 employees of which over 67% are over the age of 50 years. Due to the large anticipated retirements in the next 10 years, the employee expenses are likely to reduce over time. In the interim, to provide support for reduction in employee expenses in BSNL, a proposal for annual financial support is under consideration of Government.

BSNL is also taking several steps to enhance its revenues through investments to strengthen its network and focus on customer care and service delivery to improve quality of service. The investment projects being undertaken by BSNL include:

- Augmentation of its mobile network as part of its Phase-VII Project to create additional capacity of 15 million lines at an estimated cost of ₹ 4804.77 crores. This will result in addition of 14421 2G sites and 10605 3G sites across
- Replacement of the entire network of wireline local exchanges by Internet Protocol (IP) enabled exchanges and deployment of Next Generation Network (NGN) equipment based on the latest architecture gradually to replace entire legacy telephone exchanges at an estimated cost of ₹ 600 crores.
- Migration of entire C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics) legacy telephone exchanges with technology solutions being developed by C-DOT at an estimated cost of ₹ 350 crores for which MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) has been signed between C-DOT and BSNL.
- Government has assigned the work of providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas through BSNL at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores.
- Government has assigned the work of providing mobile connectivity to uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam to BSNL on nomination basis at an estimated cost of ₹ 1975.38 crores.

Revival of public sector fertilizer production plants

†*188. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to raise the prices of urea fertilizer, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the special measures taken/being taken by Government to decrease the import of urea and increase its domestic production;
- (c) whether several fertilizer plants coming under public sector enterprises are lying closed since years; and
- (d) if so, the efforts being made by Government to revive these fertilizer plants?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

(b) The Department of Fertilizers had issued New Investment Policy (NIP)- 2012 on 2nd January, 2013 to facilitate fresh investments in Urea sector and to reduce import dependency. Subsequently, amendment to NIP-2012 has been notified by this department on 7th October, 2014. A proposal regarding formulation of unified policy for incentivising production beyond reassessed capacity by amending provisions of New Investment Policy (NIP)-2008 and provisions of Modified New Pricing Scheme-III for existing urea units is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) Yes, Sir. Closed units/plants of the PSUs are listed in the following table along with the reason for closure:

Name of the closed PSUs	Closed Unit/State	Reasons for closure
Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL)	Sindri/Jharkhand	In view of the continuing losses of FCIL and HFCL stemming from technical and financial non viability of operations, Government decided to close down all units of FCIL and HFCL in 2002.
	Gorakhpur/	
	Uttar Pradesh	
	Talcher/Odisha	
	Ramagundam/	
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL)	Andhra Pradesh	
	Korba/Chhattisgarh	
	Barauni/Bihar	
	Haldia/West Bengal	
	Durgapur/West Bengal	

(d) Government has proposed to revive the closed units of FCIL and HFCL. The revival of FCIL units is in progress. Revival of HFCL units would be taken up once revival of FCIL is on track. The status of the revival of closed units is given in the Statement.

Statement

Status of the revival of closed units of fertilizer PSUs/ revival of HFCL and FCIL/revival of closed units of HFCL and FCIL

In 2008, Cabinet approved revival of FCIL and HFCL units subject to non-recourse to Government funding and to consider write off of GOI loan and interest to the extent required. The revival of these closed units would be through nomination route by PSUs and through bidding route by private sector. Sindri, Talcher and Ramagundam Units

of FCIL to be revived on nomination basis. Gorakhpur and Korba units of FCIL and Durgapur, Haldia, Barauni of HFCL to be revived through bidding route.

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

In its meeting held on 9.5.2013. CCEA, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest to facilitate FCIL to arrive at positive net worth. This enabled FCIL to get de-registered from the purview of Board for Industrial and Financial reconstruction (BIFR). Proposal/action plan on revival of HFCL units to be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track. The progress of revival of FCIL units is as under:

Revival of Talcher:

Talcher unit of FCIL to be revived by consortium of PSUs namely RCF, GAIL, CIL and FCIL by forming two joint venture companies, namely JV 1 and JV 2. Status of project is as under:

- (a) MoU has been signed on 5.9.2013 amongst RCF-GAIL-CIL-FCIL for the establishment of coal based Ammonia, Urea and Ammonium Nitrate Plants at Talcher Unit of FCIL.
- (b) RCF, GAIL and FCIL have finalized the Draft Agreements of JV1 and JV2 and have taken their respective Board's approval.
- (c) In principle, the coal gasification technology has been selected by GAIL/RCF in consultation with PDIL for Talcher project.

Revival of Ramagundam:

Ramagundam unit of FCIL to be revived by consortium of PSUs namely NFL, EIL and FCIL by forming a JV company. Status of project is as under:

- (a) MoU has been signed amongst EIL, NFL and FCIL on 10.07.2012 for the setting up a gas based Ammonia, Urea complex at Ramagundam Unit of FCIL.
- (b) Financial due diligence of the project has been completed by M/s Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC).

Revival of Sindri:

For Sindri unit, SAIL-Sindri Projects Ltd. (SSPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of SAIL, has been incorporated in November 2011 for the purpose of revival of Sindri Unit of FCIL. Out of total land of 6652 acres with FCIL at Sindri, only 498 acres (the area of existing fertilizer plant) is encroachment free contiguous land as against the requirement of 3247 acres of encroachment free contiguous land required by SAIL for setting up the proposed facilities. However, no much progress has been made due to non-availability of around 3000 Acres of contiguous piece of land for the Steel Plant.

In the context of the recent announcement of the proposed Jagdishpur-Haldia Pipeline of GAIL, DoF is exploring the feasibility of fast tracking the revival, of Gorakhpur unit of FCIL. Government has held discussions with KRIBHCO and IFFCO. Revival of Korba unit is pending.

Demand and supply of fertilizers

*189. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total demand and supply position of various types of fertilizers in the country during the last three years State-wise and fertilizers-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that production of different fertilizers has reduced leading to more import, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a shortage of supply of fertilizers to different States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to meet the overall demand?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Statements showing State/UT-wise and fertilizer-wise Demand, Supply Plan, Supply (Availability) and Sales of all the major fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK) in the country for the last three years are given in the Statement-I, II and III (See below). A summary of production and import of major fertilizers [Urea, and Potassic and Phosphorous (P and K) fertilizers (DAP, MOP and NPK)] is as below:-

(Figures in LMT)

Type of fertilizers	Year	Requirement	Production	Import
Urea	2011-12	305.16	220.20	78.34
	2012-13	315.43	225.79	80.44
	2013-14	316.90	227.09	70.81
P and K Fertilizers	2011-12	281.80	120.09	139.21
	2012-13	282.79	98.24	81.39
	2013-14	252.35	105.17	57.31

It can be seen from the above that the production of Urea has increased while production of P and K fertilizer has slightly reduced. On the other hand, import of all the fertilizers has not increased.

(c) It can be seen from the above that availability has been more or less adequate *vis-a-vis* the projected requirement. Distribution within a State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, requests from certain States for expediting the supply are received now and then and appropriate and prompt action are accordingly taken.

(d) In this regard, following steps are being taken by the Government to meet the overall demand in all the States/UTs:-

1. A 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.

State-wise Cumulative Demand, Supply Plan, Supply (Availability) and Sales of Fertilizers during the year 2013-14

State	(Figures in LMT)																			
	Urea						DAP						MOP						NPK	
	Demand	Supply	Supply	Sales	Demand	Supply	Supply	Sales	Demand	Supply	Supply	Sales	Demand	Supply	Supply	Sales	Supply	Sales		
	Plan	(Availability)				Plan	(Availability)			Plan	(Availability)			Plan	(Availability)		Plan	(Availability)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.09	0.00				
Andhra Pradesh	32.50	40.60	35.12	34.87	11.00	11.86	6.30	6.15	5.00	5.89	3.45	3.26	22.00	27.00	20.76	19.75				
Arunachal Pradesh	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Assam	3.45	4.02	2.68	2.67	0.60	0.73	0.31	0.29	1.25	1.96	0.84	0.80	0.28	0.29	0.06	0.05				
Bihar	21.50	24.94	18.77	18.71	5.25	6.71	3.79	3.60	1.54	2.72	1.46	1.40	3.75	3.22	1.80	1.72				
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	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Chhattisgarh	7.00	9.37	6.43	6.34	3.10	6.09	2.52	2.43	1.06	1.95	0.67	0.56	1.90	1.94	0.80	0.75				
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00				
Daman and Diu	0.00	0.02	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	0.07	0.12	0.08	0.08	0.04	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.05	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.09	0.03	0.03
Gujarat	22.25	24.03	20.82	20.78	5.40	7.02	4.00	3.82	1.30	2.19	1.25	1.11	4.73	5.31	4.77	4.60
Harayana	19.50	22.78	18.55	18.45	3.50	5.64	3.14	3.08	0.35	0.92	0.24	0.24	0.55	0.28	0.11	0.10
Himachal Pradesh	0.63	0.87	0.64	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.29	0.09	0.09	0.30	0.42	0.23	0.22
Jammu and Kashmir	1.46	2.41	1.35	1.26	0.75	1.51	0.60	0.54	0.20	0.56	0.19	0.18	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02
Jharkhand	2.60	3.29	1.68	1.63	0.90	0.95	0.29	0.29	0.21	0.19	0.03	0.03	0.75	0.46	0.16	0.16
Karnataka	15.50	20.34	15.01	14.79	7.00	9.30	4.86	4.56	4.90	5.18	2.63	2.54	14.50	18.52	11.70	10.71
Kerala	2.00	2.41	1.44	1.44	0.28	0.85	0.31	0.27	1.87	1.84	0.96	0.96	2.43	2.81	1.58	1.38
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	19.25	23.39	23.01	22.84	11.50	17.63	8.93	8.44	1.00	2.89	0.60	0.51	4.20	3.90	2.20	1.99
Maharashtra	27.00	29.36	26.54	26.42	14.00	13.94	5.85	5.83	4.92	7.27	3.57	3.26	17.50	23.04	15.92	15.43
Manipur	0.40	0.42	0.18	0.18	0.10	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.11	0.14	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.09	0.11	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Odisha	6.80	8.05	5.33	5.21	2.45	3.09	1.50	1.40	1.60	1.76	0.94	0.89	3.80	3.83	1.85	1.75
Puducherry	0.27	0.32	0.22	0.22	0.05	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.15	0.02	0.02	0.19	0.41	0.09	0.09

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Punjab	26.40	31.65	26.21	26.18	9.15	9.51	4.87	4.68	0.70	1.18	0.42	0.35	1.20	0.50	0.29	0.28
Rajasthan	18.00	20.78	18.50	18.45	6.04	7.84	4.87	4.70	0.23	0.53	0.04	0.03	1.21	0.74	0.33	0.32
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	10.50	13.08	9.12	9.11	4.00	4.82	2.21	2.18	3.91	4.29	2.56	2.46	6.93	9.14	5.05	4.71
Telangana	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
Tripura	0.53	0.61	0.22	0.20	0.06	0.09	0.01	0.01	0.11	0.15	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.01
Uttar Pradesh	62.00	71.62	59.38	58.76	18.65	23.74	15.69	14.04	1.80	2.65	1.13	1.10	11.00	8.89	4.23	3.93
Uttaranchal	2.50	3.39	2.80	2.76	0.35	0.61	0.22	0.22	0.05	0.22	0.01	0.01	0.54	0.59	0.40	0.34
West Bengal	14.50	16.61	12.50	12.39	5.50	5.80	2.56	2.44	2.87	4.87	2.15	2.08	9.50	11.73	7.26	6.82
TOTAL	316.90	374.92	306.75	304.54	109.86	138.25	72.90	69.03	35.13	49.75	23.32	21.92	107.36	123.26	79.63	75.16

Statement-II

State-wise Cumulative Demand, Supply Plan, Supply (Availability) and Sales of Fertilizers during the year 2012-13

State	Urea				DAP				MOP				NPK			
	Demand		Supply		Demand		Supply		Demand		Supply		Demand		Supply	
	Plan	(Availability)	Plan	(Availability)	Plan	(Availability)	Plan	(Availability)	Plan	(Availability)	Plan	(Availability)	Plan	(Availability)	Plan	(Availability)
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Andhra Pradesh	32.50	20.17	29.39	28.51	12.30	11.97	6.80	6.48	6.60	6.47	3.35	3.14	22.50	23.56	18.16	17.59

(Figures in LMT)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Maharashtra	28.00	22.90	23.42	22.94	15.60	13.70	7.01	6.63	6.25	6.29	3.24	3.14	19.00	17.60	13.28	12.80
Manipur	0.48	0.40	0.21	0.21	0.12	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.08	0.12	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.11	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Odisha	6.50	5.01	5.41	5.26	2.75	2.88	1.50	1.44	2.00	1.59	0.75	0.75	3.97	3.42	2.39	2.31
Puducherry	0.31	0.37	0.19	0.19	0.09	0.07	0.02	0.02	0.09	0.10	0.02	0.02	0.30	0.37	0.13	0.13
Punjab	26.40	23.33	29.05	28.43	8.80	13.19	9.10	8.71	1.06	1.17	0.35	0.35	1.48	0.39	0.44	0.42
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	11.50	9.10	9.36	9.28	4.55	4.97	2.43	2.33	5.55	5.10	2.18	2.17	6.82	9.23	5.89	5.71
Telangana	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
Tripura	0.51	0.56	0.19	0.17	0.06	0.05	0.02	0.02	0.17	0.07	0.06	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	60.00	55.74	63.31	62.56	18.15	33.10	21.67	20.86	3.50	3.54	1.47	1.31	11.48	8.65	6.73	6.62
Uttaranchal	2.45	2.79	2.51	2.45	0.35	0.58	0.28	0.27	0.10	0.21	0.04	0.04	0.57	0.69	0.33	0.32
West Bengal	13.50	13.41	14.02	13.87	5.25	7.67	4.34	4.25	4.25	3.77	2.18	2.16	8.28	10.15	8.04	7.92
TOTAL	315.43		307.11	301.61	123.59	161.75	96.81	92.30	47.82	47.45	22.07	21.34	111.52	108.09	79.70	77.33

State-wise Cumulative Demand, Supply Plan, Supply (Availability) and Sales of Fertilizers during the year 2011-12

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Delhi	0.07	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.05
Gujarat	22.75	14.60	21.26	21.18	8.80	9.08	6.96	6.80	2.30	2.64	1.75	1.72	5.10	7.28	7.32	7.09
Harayana	19.75	15.43	19.46	19.15	7.20	10.32	8.44	8.33	0.75	0.75	0.48	0.46	0.85	1.29	0.79	0.72
Himachal Pradesh	0.65	0.84	0.61	0.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.11	0.07	0.07	0.53	0.53	0.33	0.33
Jammu and Kashmir	1.46	2.24	1.20	1.19	0.85	1.06	0.67	0.65	0.35	0.26	0.09	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	2.60	2.31	2.19	2.16	1.25	0.97	0.71	0.68	0.34	0.24	0.06	0.06	1.08	0.88	0.52	0.47
Karnataka	14.60	11.47	14.53	14.45	8.75	10.65	9.39	9.07	5.65	5.45	3.82	3.64	13.10	19.68	17.33	16.40
Kerala	1.90	1.18	1.50	1.49	0.47	0.60	0.44	0.41	1.80	1.81	1.51	1.42	2.55	2.76	2.20	2.00
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	17.50	18.68	18.17	17.86	10.95	12.81	11.00	10.57	1.65	1.66	0.93	0.75	4.05	6.41	5.32	4.67
Maharashtra	27.50	22.24	25.67	25.43	17.25	15.00	12.50	12.22	6.40	6.90	4.25	3.99	18.30	24.36	20.85	19.74
Manipur	0.50	0.52	0.13	0.13	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.09	0.10	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Odisha	6.40	4.61	5.28	5.10	2.60	2.42	1.90	1.73	2.05	1.48	0.91	0.84	3.14	4.11	3.46	3.12

Puducherry	0.34	0.40	0.25	0.25	0.11	0.10	0.03	0.03	0.13	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.35	0.28	0.14	0.13
Rajasthan	16.25	15.22	17.58	16.91	7.30	8.29	7.16	7.07	0.50	0.58	0.25	0.23	1.76	234	1.54	1.40
Punjab	26.00	24.74	28.50	28.26	10.15	11.53	10.08	9.66	1.06	0.94	0.73	0.69	1.00	1.72	1.30	1.19
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	11.50	8.34	10.48	10.45	4.30	5.28	3.84	3.71	5.31	5.62	4.26	4.16	6.61	10.53	8.75	7.57
Telangana	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
Tripura	0.52	0.62	0.26	0.26	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	58.00	47.59	59.12	58.05	19.65	20.48	18.67	18.15	4.00	3.65	1.82	1.80	11.25	16.44	12.85	11.28
Uttaranchal	2.40	2.51	2.51	2.50	0.33	0.54	0.39	0.38	0.10	0.23	0.04	0.04	0.71	0.70	0.53	0.50
West Bengal	13.25	11.31	12.76	12.74	5.10	5.56	5.03	4.77	4.00	4.02	3.04	3.02	9.00	10.02	8.96	8.14
TOTAL	305.16		298.65	294.77	126.16	135.85	115.96	111.96	48.28	47.92	31.64	29.92	107.36	145.78	124.30	113.98

Digital India

†*190. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decisive steps or action is being taken to make the country digital India;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to provide internet facility through Wi-Fi to the people of all major cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Pune, Chennai and other cities of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India has launched the “Digital India” programme with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge economy. The programme aims to provide the much needed thrust to certain growth areas, namely broadband highways, access to mobile connectivity, access to public internet, e-Governance, electronic delivery of services and electronics manufacturing.

(b) All the Internet Service Providers and access service providers are authorized to provide Internet Services within their service area including Wi-Fi internet services under the delicensed frequency bands

(c) Does not arise.

Decline in sale of retail traders due to e-commerce business

†*191. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the increasing e-commerce business, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is an apprehension that the increasing e-commerce business will bring down the sales of shopkeepers and retail traders; and

(c) if so, whether Government is making any policy regarding investment in the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

increasing e-commerce business in order to safeguard the interests of consumers and the retail traders?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) The subject of e-commerce is relatively new but has become extremely crucial given its growing popularity and potential growth due to global digital integration, significant increase in domestic internet and mobile connectivity and also consumer convenience. Being a new sector, there is at present no official data or estimates available on the size and growth prospects of this industry. But independent surveys conducted by agencies such as IMAI-IMRB (2013), e-commerce industry in India has grown from US\$ 3.8 billion in the year 2009 to US\$ 9.5 billion in 2012. As per the study, the sector/industry was expected to touch US\$ 12.6 billion by 2013, showing a cumulative average growth rate of 34 %. As per NASSCOM report, the IT-BPO industry itself (which is one component of e-commerce industry) is expected to account for 10% of GDP by 2020.

A major segment of India's domestic retail sector (*i.e.* trading in goods and services) is represented by the unorganized sector consisting of small traders, shopkeepers/retailers. To make an impact assessment of organized retail (*i.e.* retail chains of big business houses, multinational companies etc.) on the unorganized segment, the department in 2005 had sponsored a study through the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) on FDI in Retail Sector. ICRIER had also done a separate study in 2008. Both of these study reports confirmed that there was a decline in sales of shops in the vicinity of organized retailers but over time the impact showed weakening with improvement in the business operations of smaller players. No such specific findings for impact of e-commerce on traditional retail sector in the country is presently available.

As part of examination of the proposal for opening up the domestic retail sector for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), the former Government had set up a High Level Group in 2013 to consider all issues linked to the retail sector including e-commerce in goods and services. With the announcement of the General Election, the High Level Group was wound up. Department of Consumer Affairs is consulting with other departments on the need for regulation of e-commerce industry and on administrative responsibility for the subject. Meanwhile to protect consumer interests, the Department is including necessary safeguards for protection of rights of consumers of technology based marketing like e-commerce, telemarketing etc. in the proposed amendments to the Consumer Protection Act-1986.

Investment for setting up of cold chains

*192. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and value of investment proposals received and approved by Government for setting up of cold chains in the country after the revised guidelines for the Eleventh Five Year Plan came into effect, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number and value of foreign direct investment proposals received in this regard; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to attract greater investment in setting up of cold chains, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL): (a) Government has approved 130 cold chain projects since the issue of revised operational guidelines of the Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure on 18.03.2010. Out of these 130 projects, 28 cold chain projects have been cancelled/withdrawn. Thus at present Ministry is assisting 102 cold chain projects. Year-wise and State-wise number of proposals approved along with value of investment/project cost since the revised operational guidelines of cold chain scheme came into being is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Ministry has not received any investment proposal of foreign direct investment in cold chain sector. 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is allowed in this sector through automatic route.

(c) To attract investment in cold chain projects, the Ministry is implementing the scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure. Under the scheme, assistance is provided as grant-in-aid @ 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, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of ₹ 10 crore per project. Under National Mission on Food Processing also, cold chain projects for non-horticulture products are given grant-in-aid. The Ministry also organizes seminars/conferences for creating awareness amongst prospective entrepreneurs for setting up cold chain projects.

Statement

Year-wise and State-wise details of Cold Chain Projects sanctioned by Ministry after issue of revised guidelines for Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure during Eleventh Five Year Plan.

State	2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15			Total
	Nos.	Value of Investment/Project Cost	Nos.	Value of Investment/Project Cost	Nos.	Value of Investment/Project Cost	Nos.	Value of Investment/Project Cost	Nos.	Value of Investment/Project Cost	Nos.	Value of Investment/Project Cost	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
Andhra Pradesh	1	2943.1	0	0	1	2538.73	0	0.00	2	5481.83			
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1508.01	0	0.00	1	1508.01			
Assam	0	0.00	1	1595.9	1	1399.51	0	0.00	2	2995.41			
Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	2	3933.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	3933.33			
Gujarat	2	3630.00	1	1515.16	4	20501.79	0	0.00	7	25646.95			
Haryana	0	0.00	2	4340.25	1	1591.91	0	0.00	3	5932.16			
Himachal Pradesh	4	6448.68	0	0.00	4	7101.25	0	0.00	8	13549.93			
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	6533.96	0	0.00	8	6533.96			

(₹ in lakh)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Karnataka	1	1400.00	1	3200.00	2	2775.00	0	0.00	4	7375.00
Kerala	3	7194.91	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	7194.91
Madhya Pradesh	0	0	1	1722.44	2	4756.09	0	0.00	3	6478.53
Maharashtra	4	13,537.22	5	12,626.00	17	43,710.64	0	0.00	26	69873.86
Manipur	1	1849.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1849.00
Mizoram	1	519.77	1	1726.22	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	2245.99
Odisha	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1345.00	0	0.00	1	1345.00
Punjab	2	6334.91	1	2880.72	4	11762.52	0	0.00	7	20978.15
Rajasthan	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	6147.00	0	0.00	2	6147.00
Sikkim	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1438	0	0.00	1	1438.00
Telangana	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	3082.00	0	0.00	1	3082.00
Uttar Pradesh	2	3735.97	1	2706.00	3	8767.95	0	0.00	6	15221.92
Uttarakhand	1	1480.00	1	1740.39	8	13318.7	0	0.00	10	16539.09
West Bengal	4	9984.3	1	1627.84	1	1767.36	0	0.00	6	13379.5
TOTAL No. OF PROJECTS APPROVED	27	59057.96	18	39614.25	57	140045.42	0	0.00	102	238717.53

Representation of SC/ST category judges in courts

*193. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total strength of judges of the Supreme Court and all the High Courts of the country;

(b) whether there is an adequate representation of judges belonging to SC/ST category in the total strength of judges in the Supreme Court and all High Courts of the country; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) The details showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 01.12.2014 is given in the Statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively. These Articles do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, no caste or class-wise data of Judges is maintained. However, the Government has requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and from amongst women.

Statement

The details showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Court as on 01.12.2014

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies as per Approved Strength
1	2	3	4	5
A	Supreme Court of India	31	28	03
B	High Court			
1	Allahabad	160	81	79
2	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	49	30	19

1	2	3	4	5
3	Bombay	75	65	10
4	Calcutta	58	39	19
5	Chhattisgarh	18	10	08
6	Delhi	60	36	24
7	Gauhati	24	12	12
8	Gujarat	42	30	12
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	07	06
10	Jammu and Kashmir	17	09	08
11	Jharkhand	25	13	12
12	Karnataka	62	32	30
13	Kerala	38	31	07
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	34	19
15	Madras	60	43	17
16	Manipur	04	03	01
17	Meghalaya	03	03	0
18	Odisha	27	21	06
19	Patna	43	33	10
20	Punjab and Haryana	85	57	28
21	Rajasthan	50	28	22
22	Sikkim	03	02	01
23	Tripura	04	04	0
24	Uttarakhand	11	06	05
TOTAL		984	629	355

MSP of different foodgrain crops

*194. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of different foodgrain crops after each of the revisions in the last three years;

(b) the increase effected during this year; and

(c) whether Government proposes to change the formula for determining MSP, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of different foodgrain crops fixed by the Government for 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and the increase effected in 2014-15 season is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of various crops after taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, CACP considers a number of important factors which include, *inter-alia*, cost of production, changes in input prices, trends in market prices, demand and supply situation, effect on general price level, effect on cost of living, etc. The cost of production, *inter-alia*, includes all paid out costs and imputed value of family labour.

Methodology for estimating the cost of production is reviewed from time to time. With effect from 2009, premium paid by farmers for crop insurance, marketing and transport charges have been included as additional items in the cost of production on recommendations of an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Y.K. Alagh that was constituted to Examine Methodological Issues in Fixing Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Government has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Director, National Centre for Agricultural Economics and Policy Research in 2013, to examine the methodological issues in fixing Minimum Support Prices.

Statement

Minimum Support Prices

Commodity	Variety	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	(₹ per quintal) Increase in 2014-15 over 2013-14
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kharif Crops						
Paddy	Common	1080	1250	1310	1360	50
	Grade A	1110	1280	1345	1400	55

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jowar	Hybrid	980	1500	1500	1530	30
	Maldandi	1000	1520	1520	1550	30
Bajra		980	1175	1250	1250	-
Maize		980	1175	1310	1310	-
Ragi		1050	1500	1500	1550	50
Arhar(Tur)		3200 &	3850	4300	4350	100
Moong		3500 &	4400	4500	4600	50
Urad		3300 &	4300	4300	4350	50
Rabi Crops						
Wheat		1285	1350	1400	1450	50
Barley		980	980	1100	1150	50
Gram		2800	3000	3100	3175	75
Masur (Lentil)		2800	2900	2950	3075	125

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

Filling up of vacancies of judges of various High Courts

*195. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the vacancies of judges in various High Courts as on the 30th June, 2014;
- (b) the impact of it on disposal of cases pending before the High Courts; and
- (c) the plan of action for filling up these vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) The details showing the vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 30.06.2014 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Disposal of cases in courts falls within the domain of the judiciary. However, a large number of vacant posts of Judges is one of the several reasons in slowing down the process of expeditious disposal of cases.

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 of a High Court rests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. As per the

Memorandum of Procedure, the process for filling up of vacancies of Judges in High Courts should be initiated six months before the occurrence of vacancies by the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. The appointment of Judges is a continuous consultative and time consuming process among Constitutional authorities to select suitable candidates for the higher judiciary. In this arrangement, number of posts have remained vacant for want of proposals to fill the positions. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirements, elevation, resignation, etc. With the recent increase in Judge Strength of the High Courts from 906 to 984, the vacancies have also increased which stand at 355 as on 1.12.2014.

The Government has been periodically reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts to initiate proposals well in time for filling the existing vacancies as well as the vacancies anticipated in next six months in the High Courts.

Statement

The vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts as on 30.6.2014

S1. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 30.06.2014	S1. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 30.06.2014
1	2	3	1	2	3
A	Supreme Court of India	03	12.	Karnataka	17
B	High Court		13.	Kerala	03
1.	Allahabad	72	14.	Madhya Pradesh	11
2.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	18	15.	Madras	16
3.	Bombay	11	16.	Manipur	02
4.	Calcutta	19	17.	Meghalaya	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	05	18.	Odisha	03
6.	Delhi	10	19.	Patna	08
7.	Gauhati	11	20.	Punjab and Haryana	20
8.	Gujarat	11	21.	Rajasthan	12
9.	Himachal Pradesh	03	22.	Sikkim	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	04	23.	Tripura	0
11.	Jharkhand	10	24.	Uttarakhand	04
				TOTAL	270

Supply of fertilizers to Gujarat

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

(a) the quantum of demand of Ammonium Sulphate, Urea, DAP in 2013-14 and the quantum of fertilizers supplied;

(b) the quantum of fertilizers demanded by Gujarat for 2014-15 along with the quantum of fertilizers supplied, so far; and

(c) whether it is a fact that farmers are not getting adequate quantity of fertilizers in the State, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The month-wise demand for major fertilizers like Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture and Co-operation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments and other stake holders before commencement of each cropping season. The demand of Ammonium Sulphate is not assessed separately in Zonal Conferences conducted by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, as it is included in the category of complex fertilizer. A Statement showing Demand (Requirement), Supply Plan, Supply (Availability) and Sales of Urea, DAP and NPK (including Ammonium Sulphate) for the year 2013-14 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Demand (Requirement), Supply (Availability) and Sales for Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers for State of Gujarat for the current year 2014-15 (upto October, 2014) is as under:—

(Figures in LMTS)

Product	Demand 2014-15	Supply (Availability) (upto Oct., 2014)	Sales (upto Oct., 2014)
Urea	22.00	12.20	12.13
DAP	5.40	2.78	2.59
MOP	1.40	0.90	0.83
NPK	5.20	3.55	3.38

(c) Department of Fertilizers monitors availability of all the Major fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP and Complex fertilizers) against the requirement projected by Department of Agriculture upto State/UTs level and distribution within the State/UTs is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. It can be seen from the above Statement that availability has been more or less adequate *vis-a-vis* the projected requirement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Cumulative Requirement, Supply Plan, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers during the year 2013-14

(Figures in LMT)

State	Urea					DAP			NPK				
	Demand (Requirement)	Supply Plan	Supply (Availability)	Sales		Demand (Requirement)	Supply Plan	Supply (Availability)	Sales	Demand (Requirement)	Supply Plan	Supply (Availability)	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
	32.50	40.60	35.12	34.87	11.00	11.86	6.30	6.15	22.00	27.00	20.76	19.75	
Andhra Pradesh													
Arunachal Pradesh	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	3.45	4.02	2.68	2.67	0.60	0.73	0.31	0.29	0.28	0.29	0.06	0.05	
Assam													
Bihar	21.50	24.94	18.77	18.71	5.25	6.71	3.79	3.60	3.75	3.22	1.80	1.72	
	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
Chandigarh													
Chhattisgarh	7.00	9.37	6.43	6.34	3.10	6.09	2.52	2.43	1.90	1.94	0.80	0.75	
	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dadra and Nagar Haveli													
Daman and Diu	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Delhi	0.07	0.12	0.08	0.08	0.04	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	0.05	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.09	0.03	0.03
Gujarat	22.25	24.03	20.82	20.78	5.40	7.02	4.00	3.82	4.73	5.31	4.77	4.60
Harayana	19.50	22.78	18.55	18.45	3.50	5.64	3.14	3.08	0.55	0.28	0.11	0.10
Himachal Pradesh	0.63	0.87	0.64	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.42	0.23	0.22
Jammu and Kashmir	1.46	2.41	1.35	1.26	0.75	1.51	0.60	0.54	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02
Jharkhand	2.60	3.29	1.68	1.63	0.90	0.95	0.29	0.29	0.75	0.46	0.16	0.16
Karnataka	15.50	20.34	15.01	14.79	7.00	9.30	4.86	4.56	14.50	18.52	11.70	10.71
Kerala	2.00	2.41	1.44	1.44	0.28	0.85	0.31	0.27	2.43	2.81	1.58	1.38
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
Madhya Pradesh	19.25	23.39	23.01	22.84	11.50	17.63	8.93	8.44	4.20	3.90	2.20	1.99
Maharashtra	27.00	29.36	26.54	26.42	14.00	13.94	5.85	5.83	17.50	23.04	15.92	15.43
Manipur	0.40	0.42	0.18	0.18	0.10	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.11	0.14	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.09	0.11	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Nagaland	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	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
Odisha	6.80	8.05	5.33	5.21	2.45	3.09	1.50	1.40	3.80	3.83	1.85	1.75							
Puducherry	0.27	0.32	0.22	0.22	0.05	0.14	0.01	0.01	0.19	0.41	0.09	0.09							
Punjab	26.40	31.65	26.21	26.18	9.15	9.51	4.87	4.68	1.20	0.50	0.29	0.28							
Rajasthan	18.00	20.78	18.50	18.45	6.04	7.84	4.87	4.70	1.21	0.74	0.33	0.32							
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	13.08	9.12	9.11	4.00	4.82	2.21	2.18	6.93	9.14	5.05	4.71							
Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00							
Tripura	0.53	0.61	0.22	0.20	0.06	0.09	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.01							
Uttar Pradesh	62.00	71.62	59.38	58.76	18.65	23.74	15.69	14.04	11.00	8.89	4.23	3.93							
Uttaranchal	2.50	3.39	2.80	2.76	0.35	0.61	0.22	0.22	0.54	0.59	0.40	0.34							
West Bengal	14.50	16.61	12.50	12.39	5.50	5.80	2.56	2.44	9.50	11.73	7.26	6.82							
TOTAL	316.90	374.92	306.75	304.54	109.86	138.25	72.90	69.03	107.36	123.26	79.63	75.16							

Antibiotics in chicken

*197. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre for Science and Environment has done a laboratory study on antibiotics in chicken which was released on 30th July, 2014;

(b) whether a letter dated 4th August, 2014 from Director General of Centre for Science and Environment has been forwarded to the Ministry; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Centre for Science and Environment, a non-governmental organisation, had done a laboratory study on antibiotics in chicken samples from Delhi and NCR.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An advisory had been issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries on 03.06.2014 on judicious use of antibiotics in treatment of food producing animals and also on stopping the use of antibiotics in animal feed. The advisory has since been reiterated to all States and UTs.

Demand to extend and start new trains

*198. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a continuous demand to extend Visakhapatnam-Hazrat Nizamuddin Samata Express to Amritsar as daily train;

(b) whether Government would consider the long pending demand to start a new train from Junagarh to Varanasi; and

(c) whether Government would consider to start intercity train from Junagarh to Visakhapatnam, Junagarh to Durg and Junagarh to Bhubaneswar *via* Kesinga, Titlagarh and Sambalpur in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Requests have been received for extension of 12807/12808 Visakhapatnam-Nizamuddin Samata Express upto Amritsar and increase in its frequency from five days a week to daily. However, 18507/18508 Visakhapatnam-Amritsar Hirakud Express (tri-weekly) is presently available between Visakhapatnam and Amritsar.

(b) and (c) Junagarh Road station is presently connected to Bhubaneswar by 18437/18438 Bhubaneswar-Junagarh Road Link Express (daily) while connectivity to Durg and Visakhapatnam stations are available from Lanjigarh Road station (situated on mainline) which is about 54 Km from Junagarh Road station. For travelling to Varanasi, passenger of Junagarh Road station may avail change over at Raipur/Bhubaneswar which are presently well connected to Varanasi. However, at present, there is no proposal to introduce trains from Junagarh to Varanasi/Durg/Bhubaneswar/Visakhapatnam due to operational and resource constraints including non-availability of terminal maintenance facilities at Junagarh Road station. However, introduction of trains is an ongoing process over Indian Railways and is done keeping in view the traffic justification, operational feasibility, resource availability, competing demand etc.

National policy on electronics

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

(a) whether to market brand India in electronics, Government has decided to set up a mission for creating a mechanism to implement various programmes laid down in the National Policy on Electronics, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the proposed mission will make the domestic electronic hardware manufacturing segment into a \$400 billion industry by 2020, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Electronics manufacturing is an important part of “Make in India” effort of Government of India and is also the one of the pillars of Digital India programme. The Government earlier notified the National Policy on Electronics (NPE) on 23-11-2012 to promote the country as an electronics hardware manufacturing hub. NPE 2012, *inter-alia*, provides for setting up of a National Electronics Mission (NEM) with industry participation to evolve programmes in pursuit of the laid down policies and also to create Institutional mechanism to advance the implementation of various programmes aimed at achieving the objective enumerated in this policy and to promote India as an Electronics Hardware Manufacturing Hub and suitably market “Brand India” in Electronics.’ A draft Cabinet Note was circulated on 01.07.2011 for setting up of NEM. However, the proposal was not agreed by the Planning Commission and the Department of Expenditure.

(b) Does not arise.

New rail line project in Uttar Pradesh

†*200. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the share of Uttar Pradesh in new rail line projects announced during the last five years;

(b) the number of projects where work has commenced and the details of work completed so far, zone-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that last year, the Planning Commission had imposed a condition that State Government and Central Government will have to contribute equally in some projects; and

(d) whether due to this condition there is more likelihood of projects getting stalled?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Since 2009, 55 New Line projects have been sanctioned on Indian Railways out of which 5 New Line projects fall either fully or partly in the State of Uttar Pradesh, details of which are as under:

Sl.No.	Zonal Rly	Project Name	Cost (In crore Rupees)	Details of works completed
1.	Northern	Unchhar-Amethi (66.17 km)	380	Final location survey has been completed and land acquisition papers submitted.
2.	North Eastern	Anandnagar-Ghughali <i>via</i> Maharajganj (50 km)	307	These projects were included in the Budget 2013-14 subject to clearance from Planning Commission and approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. However, the projects could not be taken forward due to non-receipt of requisite approval.
3.	North Eastern	Kapilvastu-Basti <i>via</i> Bansi(91 km)	643	
4.	Northern	Chola-Bulandshahar (16 km)	159	
5.	Northern	Faizabad-Lalganj <i>via</i> Akbarganj, Maharajganj and Raibareilly (116 km)	654	

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Planning Commission, as a matter of policy, has decided in the year 2012 that the project proposals which are to be taken up on socio-economic considerations by the Ministry of Railways are to be supported by the concerned State Government by providing land free of cost and also bearing 50% of the cost of construction.

(d) This condition will help in mobilisation of more resources and expeditious completion of projects.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Damage of cotton crops due to 'MAR' disease

†1396. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of damage to cotton crops from 'MAR' disease in Amalner, Parola and Chopra tehsils of Dhule and Jalgaon districts of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the disease 'MAR' has ruined the entire cotton crop of farmers and they have incurred heavy losses;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide special economic package to the farmers to save them from financial loss;

(d) whether Government of Maharashtra has sent a proposal to seek financial assistance from the Centre in this regard; and

(e) whether Central Government would have an assessment or survey on losses to the farmers, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Cotton wilt is caused by *Fusarium oxysporum fungus* locally known as MAR disease of cotton. As per information provided by the Commissionerate of Agriculture, Pune, Government of Maharashtra, about 18000 hectares in Amalner, Parola and Chopra tehsils of Jalgaon district is affected by Cotton wilt ('MAR'). In Dhule, 8560 hectares area is affected by this disease, which is 3.74% of the total area under cotton in that district.

Government of Maharashtra is keeping a vigil through the Crop Pest Surveillance and Advisory Project (CROPSAP) on the disease in Cotton in the State.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) No, Sir. The incidence of this disease was found to be at trace level, *i.e.* below the Economic Threshold Level (ETL).

(c) to (e) Since the intensity of the disease was found to be below ETL, therefore no significant losses are likely to accrue to farmers. Government of Maharashtra is maintaining vigil on this disease through CROPSAP. No proposal for financial assistance on account of Cotton wilt has been received from the State Government in the Ministry of Agriculture.

Soil testing institute in Uttarakhand

†1397. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had made efforts to explore the possibilities to open Soil Testing Institute in Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, the names of the places;

(c) whether Government consider it justifiable to open Soil Testing Institute in the State; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in the opening of Soil Testing Institute in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research under All India Coordinated Research Project on Soil Test Crop Response (STCR) is addressing soil testing related research issues in the country including the State of Uttarakhand having its centre at Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology (GBPUA and T), Pantnagar since 1970.

(c) In addition, the State already has 13 static and 3 mobile Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs). Besides, 6 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are providing soil and water testing facilities. Considering all these, there is no proposal of opening soil testing institute in the State presently.

(d) Does not arise.

Organic farming becoming popular

1398. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government is aware that organic farming is gaining ground in the country and becoming popular slowly;
- (b) if so, the facilities being provided to farmers engaged in organic farming in the country including Maharashtra and particularly in Vidarbha region;
- (c) the incentives given to small farmers engaged in organic farming; and
- (d) the market facilities being offered to farmers to sell the organic produces in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. Organic farming is gaining ground in our country.

(b) and (c) Government is providing financial assistance to farmers through State Governments including Maharashtra and Vidarbha region for adopting organic farming under various central sector schemes like National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY):

- (i) Under 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. 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 @ ₹ 10 lakh per village is provided for organic village adoption (maximum 10 villages per annum/ State). 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 biofertiliser production units, is provided under Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme through NABARD.
- (ii) Under MIDH, Government is providing financial assistance for adoption of organic farming @ ₹ 10,000 (maximum) for 4 ha (50% of total cost) while ₹ 300 per ha upto 4 ha (limited to 50% of cost) is provided for promotion of use of liquid bio-fertilizers. For adopting organic farming for perennial and non perennial fruit crops, vegetables, aromatic plants, spices etc., additional

assistance is given @ 50% of cost over and above the area expansion programme for a maximum area of 4 ha per beneficiary, spread over a period of three years. For organic cultivation of vegetables, assistance is limited to ₹ 10,000/- per ha spread over a period of three years. Financial assistance is provided for establishing vermi-compost units and HDPE Vermi-beds @ 50% of cost subject to a maximum of ₹ 50,000/- per beneficiary for a unit having size of 30' x 8' x 2.5'. For smaller units, assistance will be on prorate basis. For HDPE Vermi-bed of 96 c ft size (12'x4'x2'), the cost will be ₹ 16,000/- per bed and assistance will be limited to 50% of cost.

- (iii) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) is a State Plan scheme giving flexibility and autonomy to the States in planning, selecting and executing projects in agriculture including organic farming, organic and bio-fertilizers and allied sectors as per their priorities and agro-climatic situation.
- (iv) Under NFSM, assistance is provided to the farmer for bio-fertilizers @ ₹ 300 per ha.
- (v) ICAR under Network Project on Organic Farming with lead centre at Project Directorate for Farming Systems Research, Modipuram is developing package of practices of different crops and cropping system under organic farming in different agro-ecological regions of the country. Presently, the project is running at 20 co-operating centers including State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) spread over 16 States. Organic farming packages and practices for 18 crop/cropping systems have been developed.

In order to promote organic farming in the country, the ICAR in association with SAUs has developed technologies to prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphocompost, vermi compost, municipal solid waste compost, bio-enriched compost etc. from various organic wastes. Improved and efficient strains of bio-fertilizers specific to different crops and soil types are being developed under Network project on bio-fertilizers. These are being popularized among the farmers through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs), farmers trainings, publishing extension materials in local languages.

- (d) The Government is providing financial assistance through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification financial support is provided @ ₹ 20,000/- per ha subject to maximum of ₹ 40,000/- per beneficiary to enable the farmers

to certify organic product in minimal cost to get premium price for their organic product at domestic market. State Government is also providing market facilities for organic product by establishing “Organic Mandi” under their various schemes.

Issuance of soil health cards to farmers

1399. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the time-line within which Government proposes to issue Soil Health Cards to farmers across the country;
- (b) how much funds have been allocated for implementation of the Soil Health Card Programme, State-wise;
- (c) how many Soil Health Care Laboratories exist currently across the country, State-wise; and
- (d) how many States have made considerable strides in the issue of Soil Health Cards, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government proposes to launch ‘Soil Health Card’ scheme, to provide farmers with information on soil analysis and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for cultivation of various crops. Distribution of soil health cards is a continuous and dynamic exercise, therefore, it is targeted to issue soil health card for all 14 crore farm holdings in the country every 3 years.

(c) There are 1206 Soil Testing Laboratories across the country. State-wise number of soil testing laboratories is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(d) State-wise Soil Health Cards issued is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). States like Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Erstwhile Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan have been active in issuing Soil Health Cards to farmers. Up to March 2013, States in North Zone issued 191.1 lakh cards, South Zone States 179.63 lakh cards, West Zone States 144.58 lakh cards, East Zone States 39.34 lakh cards and North East Zone States 14.69 lakh cards, totaling 569.34 lakh soil health cards issued in country.

Statement-I*State-wise number of Soil Testing Laboratories (STLs) in the country*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of STLs	Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of STLs
I.	South Zone		17.	Himachal Pradesh	15
1.	Andhra Pradesh	90	18.	Jammu and Kashmir	13
2.	Karnataka	64	19.	Delhi	1
3.	Kerala	24		TOTAL	436
4.	Tamil Nadu	48	IV.	East Zone	
5.	Puducherry	2	20.	Bihar	39
6.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	21.	Jharkhand	8
	TOTAL	230	22.	Odisha	22
II.	West Zone		23.	West Bengal	20
7.	Gujarat	139		TOTAL	89
8.	Madhya Pradesh	31	V.	NE Zone	
9.	Maharashtra	158	24.	Assam	11
10.	Rajasthan	59	25.	Tripura	6
11.	Chhattisgarh	13	26.	Manipur	5
12.	Goa	2	27.	Meghalaya	6
	TOTAL	402	28.	Nagaland	3
III.	North Zone		29.	Arunachal Pradesh	6
13.	Haryana	38	30.	Sikkim	6
14.	Punjab	71	31.	Mizoram	6
15.	Uttarakhand	16		TOTAL	49
16.	Uttar Pradesh	282		GRAND TOTAL	1206

Statement-II*State-wise distribution of Soil Health Cards to the farmers*

State/UTs	Soil Health Cards issued (Till March, 2013) (in lakhs)	State/UTs	Soil Health Cards issued (Till March, 2013) (in lakhs)
South Zone		Uttar Pradesh	150.18
Andhra Pradesh	47.36	Himachal Pradesh	9.61
Karnataka	60.81	Jammu and Kashmir	1.80
Kerala	20.37	Delhi	0.07
Tamil Nadu	51.00	N. ZONE TOTAL	191.10
Puducherry	0.06	East Zone	
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.03	Bihar	10.70
S ZONE TOTAL	179.63	Jharkhand	1.73
West Zone		Odisha	23.41
Gujarat	48.86	West Bengal	3.50
Madhya Pradesh	24.27	E. ZONE TOTAL	39.34
Maharashtra	37.05	North East Zone	
Rajasthan	27.90	Assam	6.33
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.05	Tripura	1.28
Chhattisgarh	5.67	Manipur	1.51
Goa	0.78	Meghalaya	0.92
W ZONE TOTAL	144.58	Nagaland	1.89
North Zone		Arunachal Pradesh	1.09
Haryana	16.17	Sikkim	0.75
Punjab	10.35	Mizoram	0.92
Uttarakhand	2.74	NE ZONE TOTAL	14.69
		GRAND TOTAL	569.34

Decline in production due to pollution

†1400. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that agricultural production is declining due to pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to prevent it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) As a result of various Crop Development Schemes being implemented by Government of India through State Governments, production of agricultural crops has been generally increasing except in the years of bad monsoon, adverse weather/temperature conditions etc. However, the experiments conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have shown that ozone pollution can potentially reduce the crop yields. Further, long term use of waste water for irrigation can also reduce crop yields due to higher pest incidence and disturbance in plant metabolism due to heavy metal contents.

(c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF and CC) is administering various measures to prevent air pollution and environmental degradation across the country. The MOEF and CC is also undertaking large scale afforestation and forest development activities, enhancing carbon sequestration for reducing air pollution and addressing the issues of climate change.

Further, in order to curb crop residue burning which causes air pollution, the Government of India has finalized National Policy for Management of Crop Residues (NPMCR)-2014. The Policy envisages adoption of technical measures including diversified uses of crop residue, capacity building and training along with formulation of suitable law/legislation. The above Policy also envisages extending central financial assistance for various interventions proposed by States under the ongoing Schemes/ Programmes/Missions of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

Educating farmers about use of pesticides

1401. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country is bearing a loss of crores of rupees every year due to lack of proper information about use of pesticides by farmers;
- (b) if so, whether Government has conducted any survey, etc. in this regard;
- (c) whether Government is formulating any scheme to increase the yield and educate farmers about use of pesticides;
- (d) whether Government is also contemplating to take help from private companies in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Proper information among farmers about use of pesticides is necessary for efficacious elimination of pests and diseases. Every manufacturer of pesticides is mandated by law to display labels and leaflets containing all vital and relevant information pertaining to the pesticide on the container for the benefit of farmers. These label and leaflets are also printed in regional languages. No survey has been conducted on the quantum of loss on account of lack of information about pesticides.

(c) The Government is implementing “Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India” since 1991-92 through 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) in 28 States and one UT (Andaman and Nicobar), which conduct Farmers Field Schools to educate farmers on safe and judicious use of pesticides.

(d) and (e) Advisories have been sent to pesticides dealers through State Governments to stock and distribute/self approved pesticides, and to advise farmers to follow instructions on label and leaflets of pesticides. Private sector companies are also being exhorted to promote safe and effective use of pesticides through a ‘Grow Safe Food’ campaign.

Livestock development in backward rural areas

†1402. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to formulate a scheme for livestock development in the backward rural area of the country; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government of India, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries does not propose to formulate a specific scheme for livestock development exclusively for the backward rural areas of the country. However, the Department is implementing several schemes for livestock development viz. National Livestock Mission (NLM), National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD), National Dairy Plan Phase I (NDP-I) across the country, including backward rural areas of the country.

Promotion of the use of bio-fertilizers

1403. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 17.3 million hectare land has been brought under use of bio-fertilizers in the country;

(b) whether Government has taken any initiative to promote the use of bio-fertilizers across the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) Yes Sir, 17.3 million hectare land has been brought under use of bio-fertilizer in the country, up till now.

(b) and (c) Government is promoting bio-fertilizers through various programmes under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and Network Project on Organic Farming under ICAR.

Government is providing financial assistance @25% of total financial outlay, subject to a ceiling of ₹ 40 lakhs to individuals/private agencies for bio-fertilizer production units. 100% assistance is provided to State Govt. /Govt. agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹160 lakh per unit as Capital Investment Subsidy for setting up bio-fertilizer units of up to 200 Tons Per Annum (TPA) production capacity. As on March 2014, 50 bio-fertilizer production units have been established under the scheme with production capacity of 12563 Tons per Annum.

Under NFSM, assistance is provided to the farmers for bio-fertilizers @₹300 per ha.

Details of funds released for establishment of bio-fertilizer production units under Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) through NABARD is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of funds released for establishment of bio-fertilizer production units under CISS through NABARD

Sl. No.	Name of States	Bio-fertilizer Number	Capacity (in MT)	Subsidy released (₹ Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	750	70.66
2.	Assam	2	50	30.00
3.	Bihar	0	0	0.00
4.	Delhi	0	0	0.00
5.	Goa	1	1000	20.00
6.	Gujarat	6	1490	123.98
7.	Haryana	1	150	17.07
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	700	20.00
9.	Karnataka	3	450	71.65
10.	Kerala	2	500	30.64
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1	100	40.00
12.	Maharashtra	10	2565	149.89
13.	Meghalaya	1	358	5.66
14.	Punjab	4	1110	27.48
15.	Rajasthan	1	150	8.25
16.	Tamil Nadu	3	590	61.67

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Telangana	5	1400	87.51
18.	Tripura	1	150	20.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0.00
20.	Uttarakhand	2	300	27.00
21.	West Bengal	2	750	13
TOTAL		50	12563	825.40

Intensive dairy development programme in Andhra Pradesh

1404. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) initiated by Government was able to achieve its objective, particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, details of the projects undertaken under this scheme in Andhra Pradesh and total outlay for these projects; and

(c) the details of projects that are proposed to be undertaken in due course?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI BHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) was implemented in hilly and backward areas including the districts which received grants of less than ₹ 50 lakh, for dairy development activities during Operation Flood Programme. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India has approved four dairy development projects under IDDP in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The major components funded under these projects are :

- (i) Milk processing and marketing facilities, including chilling, processing, product manufacturing and marketing.
- (ii) Milk Procurement activities including DCS milk transportation, procurement etc.
- (iii) Technical inputs services including breeding development, animal health care, feed and fodder.

- (iv) Cattle induction.
- (v) Manpower Development.
- (vi) Working capital.
- (vii) Bench mark survey and project preparation.

The financial and physical achievements under these projects are as under:-

Financial achievements:-

(₹ in lakh)					
Sl. No	Project phase/ Districts covered	Approved outlay	Total amount released	Total fund utilised	Status
1.	Andhra Pradesh- I	447.32	447.32	447.32	Completed
2.	Andhra Pradesh- II	934.28	934.28	934.28	Completed
3.	Andhra Pradesh- III	557.96	557.96	557.96	Completed
4.	Andhra Pradesh- IV	988.64	568.45	481.65	On-going
TOTAL		2928.20	2508.01	2421.21	

As regards the physical achievements, altogether 2739 dairy cooperatives societies with farmer-membership of 1,61,960 has been benefited under above four projects in Andhra Pradesh as on 30.06.2014. Balance project activities under on-going IDDP project (Andhra Pradesh IV) are under implementation during Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)” has been discontinued from the financial year 2014-15. The erstwhile IDDP scheme along with its objectives and targets has been subsumed under the restructured scheme “National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)” from 2014-15 in the Twelfth Five Year Plan. No project proposal has been received so far for Dairy Development under the Scheme from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Suicide by farmers

1405. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of suicide by farmers occurred in the country and specifically in Odisha during the last three years and the current year, so far;

- (b) the methodology adopted by Government for tracking the number of farmer suicides in the country and if there is no fixed method, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the reasons/factors responsible for these suicides; and
- (d) the steps Government is taking for mitigating these factors so as to end this trend of farmer suicides, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) documents data on suicides committed by person in the country in its reports “Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India” annually based on data received from the States about profile of suicide victims classified according to professions.

As per the reports of NCRB, the number of suicides by persons self employed in farming/agriculture during the last three years *i.e.* 2011, 2012 and 2013 were 14027, 13754 and 11772 respectively. Out of this, the number of suicides in Odisha in 2011, 2012 and 2013 were 144, 146 and 150 respectively. The data relating to suicide by farmers during the current year *i.e.* 2014 will be published by NCRB in 2015.

(c) and (d) Reasons of suicide by farmers, as recorded by (NCRB), are family problems, illness, drug abuse/addiction, unemployment, property dispute, bankruptcy or sudden change in economic status, poverty, professional/career problem, love affair, barrenness/impotency, cancellation/non-settlement of marriage, dowry dispute, fall in social reputation, etc.

Agriculture is a State subject under the Constitution. Therefore, the State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector including welfare of farmers. Government of India supplements the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support. To revitalize the agriculture sector and improve upon the condition of farming community on sustainable basis, Central Government has taken several steps such as, increasing public investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure, extension, marketing, etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are also being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. Focus is primarily on increasing 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 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, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, etc.

Study on impact of Green Revolution measures

1406. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government undertook any assessment study on the impact of Green Revolution measures in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such studies covered the impacts of extensive use of pesticides and fertilizers on the soil, and on the agriculture as a whole; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has assessed the soil health and crop productivity in different soil types under dominant cropping systems on the basis of 'Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments'. The study indicated that continuous use of nitrogenous fertilizer alone resulted in the highest decline in crop yields and also observed deficiencies of other nutrients in soil. Even in NPK fertilized system, the deficiency of micro and secondary nutrients surfaced after few years affecting crop productivity. Only integrated use of optimal dose of NPK and organic manure maintained soil health/quality with higher crop productivity.

There is no report that the fertility of soil has declined owing to judicious use of pesticides. The ICAR is recommending Integrated Pest Management (through a combination of agronomic, chemical and biological methods) to reduce the use of pesticides in the country.

Development of fisheries in Gujarat

1407. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken steps to promote fisheries along the 405 kilometre coastal belt of Kutch region in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the results achieved therefrom so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) The Department is implementing the

following Schemes to promote fisheries in the country including the 405 kilometre coastal belt of Kutch region in Gujarat:

- (i) Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture.
- (ii) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations.
- (iii) Strengthening of Database and Geographical Information System (GIS) of the Fisheries Sector.
- (iv) National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen.
- (v) National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB).

In addition, State Government Gujarat is also implementing various need based programmes like; Assistance to the fishing vessels for purchasing electrical equipments, life saving equipments, Distress Alert Transmission (DAT), fishing nets, insulated boxes, solar lights, assistance for fish marketing to women, assistance to artisanal fishermen, training to the fishermen and extension services. Fish landing centers are also upgraded by the State Government. The marine fish production during 2007-12 in Kutchh region is as under which shows an increasing trend.

Sl. No.	Year	Marine Fish Production (in MT)
1.	2007-2008	58724
2.	2008-2009	53292
3.	2009-2010	60405
4.	2010-2011	72977
5.	2011-2012	72897

Fishing in coastal area

1408. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that fishing in coastal areas is slowly reducing every year;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that fishing is banned for some months by the Government; and

(d) if so, the reasons and the duration of time for which fishing is banned in East and West coast, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Sir. The reasons for imposing a uniform ban on fishing by the Central Government beyond territorial waters in the East and West coast is for conservation and effective management of fishery resources and also for sea safety reasons. The duration of ban is from 15th, April to 31st, May 2014 (both days inclusive) (47 days) in the East Coast and from 15th, June to 31st, July 2014 (both days inclusive) (47 days) in the West Coast.

Dairy development programme in Rajasthan

†1409. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government is running dairy development programme;

(b) if so, the number of districts identified for intense dairy development programme in 2011-12 and the amount sanctioned therefor;

(c) the details of the amount sanctioned, spent and remain outstanding, phase-wise;

(d) whether Government is proposing to release the remaining outstanding amount of ₹ 409.77 lakh; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The scheme “Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP)” was implemented in the country from 1993-94 to 2013-14. IDDP scheme has been subsumed under the new Scheme National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD) for implementation from the year 2014-15 for the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c) No new project under IDDP scheme was sanctioned for Rajasthan during 2011-12. However ongoing projects under IDDP in districts of Rajasthan along with approved outlays and amount sanctioned, phase-wise, are as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(₹ In lakh)

Sl. No.	Project phase/ Districts covered	Approved outlay	Total amount released	Total fund utilised	Unspent balance till date	Balance amount to be released
1	Rajasthan - I/ Jhalawar and Chittorgarh	590.50	590.50	580.17	10.33	0.00
2	Rajasthan - II/ Baran	290.00	112.02	112.02	0.00	177.98
3	Rajasthan - III/ Rajsamand, Churu and Sri Ganganagar	864.10	794.41	779.94	14.47	69.69
4	Rajasthan - IV/ Dholpur, Sirohi and Tonk	862.74	700.64	500.64	200.00	1162.10
TOTAL		2607.34	2197.57	1972.77	224.80	409.77

(d) and (e) Guidelines of NPBBDD provides for release of funds for ongoing projects of IDDP of the balance amount of ₹ 409.77 lakh during Twelfth Five Year Plan, based on receipt of Quarterly Progress Report (QPR), Audited statement of expenditure and fund utilization certificate as per prescribed format duly countersigned by the State Government, by this department for the respective projects.

Production of oilseeds and pulses in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1410. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government during the last three years and current year to promote production of oil seeds and pulses in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) how far the cultivated area has been grown in the States during the last five years; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to further promote the production of oil-seeds and pulses in these two States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Integrated Scheme of Oil-seeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) was implemented in the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh from 2004-05 to 2013-14. Under ISOPOM, support was provided for oil-seeds programme. During 2014-15, support for oilseeds programme is being provided under National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) which is being implemented in 23 States including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

For promotion of pulses, National Food Security Mission (NFSM) is being implemented in the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh since 2007-08. The programme is being implemented in 13 districts in Andhra Pradesh and 9 districts in Telangana during 2014-15.

(b) The area under oilseeds and pulses during last five years in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh is given below:-

State	Year	Area (in lakh ha.)	
		Oilseeds	Pulses
Andhra Pradesh	2009-10	20.72	19.32
	2010-11	23.19	21.32
	2011-12	19.45	19.31
	2012-13	19.45	19.49
	2013-14*	19.66	16.70

* 4th Advance estimates

(c) To promote production of oilseeds, the steps being taken under NMOOP include increasing availability of quality seeds through promotion of production and distribution of foundation and certified seeds of oilseed crops, supply of minikits, block demonstrations, farmers field school, supply of improved farm machinery and implements, assistance for sprinkler sets and pipes, bio-agents and bio-fertilizers etc.

To promote production of pulses, steps being taken under NFSM include block demonstrations, distribution of quality seeds, integrated nutrient management, integrated pest management, assistance for sprinkler sets and pipes, farm machinery and implements, etc.

Subsidy/economic assistance for organic farming

†1411. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state : whether there is any provision for subsidy or economic assistance for following organic agriculture as given to the farmers for using chemical fertilizers and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): Government have provision of financial assistance to farmers individual through State Governments for adopting organic farming in the country under various central sector schemes like National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY).

- (i) Under 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. 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 as well as through adoption of organic village under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification. Financial assistance of ₹ 10 lakh per village is provided for organic village adoption (maximum 10 villages per annum/State). Also, financial assistance upto 33% of financial outlay, subject to a maximum ceiling of ₹ 63 lakh to individuals/ private agencies as back-ended subsidy through NABARD and 100% assistance to State Govt./ Govt. agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹190 lakh per unit as Capital Investment for setting up Agro/vegetable waste compost production unit upto capacity of 3000 Tons Per Annum (TPA) production capacity is provided. Financial assistance @ 25% of total financial outlay subject to a ceiling of ₹ 40.00 lakh to individuals/private agencies as back-ended subsidy through NABARD and 100% assistance to State Govt./Govt. agencies upto a maximum limit of 160 lakh per unit as Capital Investment for setting up bio-fertilizer units of upto 200 TPA production capacity is provided.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (ii) Under MIDH, Government is providing financial assistance for adoption of organic farming @ ₹ 10,000 (maximum) for 4 ha. (50% of total cost) while ₹ 300/- per ha. upto 4 ha. (limited to 50% of cost) is provided for promotion of use of liquid bio-fertilizers. For adopting organic farming for perennial and non perennial fruit crops, vegetables, aromatic plants, spices etc., additional assistance is given @ 50% of cost over and above the area expansion programme for a maximum area of 4 ha. per beneficiary, spread over a period of three years. For organic cultivation of vegetables, assistance is limited to ₹ 10,000/- per ha. spread over a period of three years. Financial assistance is provided for establishing vermi-compost units and HDPE Vermi- beds @ 50% of cost subject to a maximum of ₹ 50,000/- per beneficiary for a unit having size of 30' x 8' x 2.5'. For smaller units, assistance will be on prorata basis. For HDPE Vermi-bed of 96 c ft size (12'x4'x2'), the cost will be ₹ 16,000/- per bed and assistance will be limited to 50% of cost.
- (iii) Under NFSM, assistance is provided to the farmer for bio-fertilizers @ ₹ 300/- per ha.
- (iv) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) is a State Plan scheme giving flexibility and autonomy to the States in planning, selecting and executing projects in agriculture including organic farming, organic and bio-fertilizers and allied sectors as per their priorities and agro-climatic situation.

Bungling in Prime Minister's package for Vidarbha

1412. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the recent past Government had ordered a probe into the bungling of Prime Minister's package for farmers of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the outcome of the probe; and
- (c) the action Government has taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) The Government of Maharashtra, in September, 2008, had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Gopal Reddy, the then Director General Vasant Rao Naik Shetkari Swavalamban Mission, Amravati to enquire into reports of irregularities in selection of beneficiaries under the programme of distribution of milch animals under the rehabilitation package for farmers in the identified districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. The Committee submitted its report to the Government of Maharashtra in April, 2009. The Committee

recommended that clear and detailed guidelines regarding the norms adopted for selection of beneficiaries under the rehabilitation package should be issued before implementing the scheme. Accordingly, *vide* GR dated 07.12.2009, Government of Maharashtra issued detailed guidelines for selection of beneficiaries.

Implementation of centrally sponsored schemes in Odisha

1413. SHRI KALPATARU DAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Programmes under implementation in the Ministry along with their scope/guidelines; and

(b) the funds sanctioned for the State of Odisha in those schemes for the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is implementing the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely (i) National Food Security Mission (NFSM), (ii) National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), (iii) National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), (iv) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), (v) Mission of Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for development of agriculture in the country. In addition, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) is also being implemented as State Plan Scheme. The scope/guidelines of these schemes are available on the DAC's website "www.agricoop.nic.in".

(b) The details indicating the scheme-wise funds sanctioned in respect of State of Odisha during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 is given in the Statement.

Statement

*The details indicating the State-wise funds sanctioned in respect of
State of Odisha during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15*

(₹ in crore)			
Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2012-13 Sanctioned	2013-14 Sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	63.52	68.74
2.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	468.28	529.42
3.	National Mission on Micro Irrigation	20.00	25.86

1	2	3	4
4.	Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM)	10.68	14.50
5.	Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms	42.50	35.27
6.	National Horticulture Mission	65.80	84.10
7.	Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) *	0.85	0.60
8.	National Bamboo Mission	4.64	5.47
9.	National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility		5.77
10.	Macro Management Scheme #	10.81	
TOTAL		687.08	769.72

*The scheme merged into NFSM from 2014-15.

**No State-wise allocation are made under the scheme.

Scheme has been discontinued w.e.f 2013-14.

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2014-15 (As on 10.11.2014) Sanctioned
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	53.91
2.	National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)	5.48
3.	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)	
	(i) Rainfed Area Development (RAD)	7.50
	(ii) Soil Health Management (SHM)	0.00
	(iii) On Farm Water Management (OFWM)	3.75
4.	National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (NMAET)	
	(i) Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension	18.12
5.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)	
	(i) National Horticulture Mission (NHM)	46.75
	(ii) National Bamboo Mission (NBM)	1.88
6.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	252.07

* No State-wise allocation are made under the scheme.

Intensive Dairy Development Programme in Rajasthan

†1414. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount provided by Central Government to Rajasthan for Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) during last five years; .

(b) the names of districts in Rajasthan where the said programme is under implementation;

(c) whether it is a fact that Central Government did not release funds to Rajasthan in time for the said development programme; and

(d) whether Government proposes to release rest of the fund to Rajasthan under the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) A statement indicating fund released to Rajasthan for ongoing projects approved under Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) during last five years *i.e* from 2009-10 to 2013-14 along with districts where the said programme is under implementation is given at Statement-I. IDDP scheme has been subsumed under the new scheme National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD) for implementation from the year 2014-15 for the Twelfth Five Year Plan.

(c) Funds for on-going projects are released on receipt of Quarterly Progress Report (QPR), Audited statement of expenditure and complete fund utilization certificate as per the prescribed format duly countersigned by the competent authority of the State Government. In case of Rajasthan I, III and IV, there are unspent balances as given in the Statement (*See* below). As regards Rajasthan II, State Government has to furnish audit compliance report sought by Indian Audit and Accounts Department, Jaipur.

(d) As per guidelines of NPBBDD, there is provision for release of ₹ 409.77 lakh during Twelfth Five Year Plan for taking up the ongoing activities under approved projects in Rajasthan, based on receipt of Quarterly Progress Report (QPR), audited statement of expenditure and complete fund utilization certificate countersigned by competent authority of the State Government for the respective projects.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Statement indicating approved project outlays, districts covered, fund released during last five years, fund utilised and balance amount to be released under Intensive Dairy Development Programme Scheme in Rajasthan during last five years i.e. from 2009-10 to 2013-14

Sl. No.	Project phase/ District Covered	Approved outlay	Fund released					Total amount released	Total fund utilised	Unspent balance	Balance amount to be released
			2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14				
1.	Rajasthan-I/ Jhalawar and Chittorgarh	590.50	162.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	590.50	580.17	10.33	0.00
2.	Rajasthan-II/ Baran	290.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	112.02	112.02	0.00	177.98
3.	Rajasthan-III/ Rajsamand, Churu and Sri Ganganagar	864.10	400.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	794.41	779.94	14.47	69.69
4.	Rajasthan-IV/ Dholpur, Sirahi and Tonk	862.74	200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	700.64	500.64	200.00	162.10
TOTAL		2607.34	762.40	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	2197.57	1972.77	224.80	409.77

(₹ in lakh)

Comprehensive assessment for crops

1415. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to have comprehensive assessment for crops and traits required in different agro-ecological zones and agricultural problems faced by small farmers that should be made a pre-requisite for framing the research agenda;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) undertakes comprehensive assessment of crops and traits required in different agro-ecological zones on a regular basis as part of the ongoing programmes of the Crop Institutes and All India Coordinated Research Projects on different crops. The important traits for undertaking research include blast, blight resistance and drought tolerance in rice, rusts resistance and heat tolerance in wheat, stem borer resistance and drought tolerance in maize, wilt and pod borer resistance in pulses, yellow mosaic virus, pod shattering and drought tolerance in oilseeds.

(b) The agricultural problems faced by the small farmers in cultivation of crops are always given priority by ICAR. The issues are addressed through development of new crop varieties, production and protection technologies for solving them. The scientists of ICAR working in different parts of the country interact with the farmers to have a feedback and prioritize their research agenda based on emerging needs. The list of crop varieties/hybrids suitable for different agro ecological zones and possessing specific traits like insect pest/disease tolerance, abiotic stress tolerance, quality attributes etc., is provided in the Statement.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Crop Varieties/Hybrids with specific traits suitable for different zones of the country

Food Crops

Varieties	Traits	Zone/State
Rice		
Hybrid 6129	Resistant to Blast, brown spot and brown plant hopper	Irrigated areas of Punjab and Tamil Nadu

Varieties	Traits	Zone/State
Improved Samba Mahsuri	Resistant to bacterial blight	Irrigated/shallow lowlands of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odissa, Bihar, Gujarat, Maharashtra
Improved Pusa Basmati 1	Resistant to blast	Basmati-growing areas of Delhi, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand
Sahabhazi Dhan	Drought tolerance	Upland rice areas
Swarna Sub-1	Submergence tolerance	Flood prone shallow lands
CSR 27, CSR 30, CSR 36, Narendar Ushar, Shankar Dhan 3, Lunishri	Salinity stress tolerance	Inland Saline areas
CR Dhan 402, CR Dhan 403	Salinity stress tolerance	Coastal areas
CR Dhan 201	Moderately resistant to leaf blast, sheath rot, stem borer, leaf folder, whorl maggot and rice thrips	Chhattisgarh and Bihar under aerobic condition
CR Dhan 202	Moderately resistant to stem borer, leaf folder, whorl maggot and rice thrips	Jharkhand and Odisha under aerobic condition
CR Dhan 407	Moderate resistance to BLB, Leaf Blast	Odisha and West Bengal under rainfed shallow lowlands
CR Dhan 505	Moderately resistant to leaf blast, sheath rot, sheath blight and rice tungro virus.	Odisha and Assam under deep water condition
Pusa Basmati 1509	Improved short duration basmati	Western Uttar Pradesh and Delhi under irrigated transplanted condition
Wheat		
PBW550	Resistant to yellow rust	Punjab, Haryana, West Uttar Pradesh (except Jhansi division)

Varieties	Traits	Zone/State
VL 892	Medium fertility and restricted irrigation condition	Hills of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand
HI 1544	High fertility and irrigated conditions	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan (Kota and Udaipur divisions) and Gujarat
PBW 527	Drought tolerance	North West Plains
HI 1531, HI 1500, HI 8627	Drought tolerance	Central Zone
HD 2888	Drought tolerance	Eastern India
NIAW 34	High temperature stress tolerance	Peninsular zone late sown conditions
Raj 3765	High temperature stress tolerance	North western plain for late sown conditions
Raj 4037	High temperature stress tolerance	Peninsular India for normal sown conditions
KRL 14, KRL 19, KRL 210, KRL 213	Salinity stress tolerance	Inland saline areas
HD 2967	Rusts resistance	North Western Plain Zone and North Eastern Plain Zone
Narendra Wheat 4018	Resistant to brown rust and leaf blight	Uttar Pradesh
Maize		
QPM Hybrid HQPM7	Quality protein single-cross hybrids	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra
QPM Vivek 9	Early maturing and quality protein	Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh
Buland	High temperature stress tolerance	Northern parts of India
PHM 1	High temperature stress tolerance	Irrigated areas of Punjab
PHM 3	High temperature stress tolerance	Northern parts of India
HM 9	High temperature stress tolerance	Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha

Varieties	Traits	Zone/State
Pusa hybrid Makka 1	Drought tolerance	Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh
HM 4	Drought tolerance	Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Goa
Pusa hybrid Makka 5	Drought tolerance	Whole of India
DHM 121 (BH 41009)	Medium maturity, yellow, semi-dent and tolerant to moisture stress conditions	Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh in kharif season
Sorghum		
CSH 25	Dual purpose and tolerant to grain mold diseases	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat
CSH 19 R, CSV 18	Drought tolerance	All rabi sorghum area
CSH 15 R	Drought tolerance	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu
Pearl Millet		
HHB 67 improved, GHB 757, GHB 538	Drought tolerance	All dry areas of Western Rajasthan and Gujarat
Barley		
RD 2660, K603	Drought tolerance	North West plains region
Pulses		
Variety	Trait	Zone
Chickpea		
Karnal Chana	Tolerance to salinity	North West Plain Zone
CO1, ICCV 10	Drought tolerance	Southern Zone
Vijay, Vikas	Drought tolerance	Central Zone

Variety	Trait	Zone
RSG 14, RSG 888	Drought tolerance	North West Plain Zone
PKV Kabuli 4, IPCK 2004-29, Phule G 0517	Extra large seeded Kabuli	Central Zone
MNK 1	Extra large seeded Kabuli	South Zone
JG 6, JG 14	Resistance to wilt	Central Zone
DCP 92-3	Lodging tolerance	Central Zone
GNG 16	Lodging tolerance	North West Plain Zone
Pigeonpea		
BSMR 736, BSMR 175, Asha	Wilt/Sterility mosaic disease tolerance	Central Zone
NDA 1, MAL 13	Wilt/Sterility mosaic disease tolerance	North East Plain Zone
Pusa 992, PA 291, PAU 881	Short duration suitable for multiple cropping	North West Plain Zone
Mungbean		
HUM 1	Yellow mosaic virus tolerance	Central and Southern Zone
CO6	Yellow mosaic virus tolerance	South Zone
IPM 02-3	Yellow mosaic virus tolerance	North East Plain Zone
Samrat, IPM 2-3, Meha, SML 668	Early maturing suitable for spring/summer	North West Plain Zone and North East Plain Zone
IPM2-14, TM96-2, LGG 460, LGG 410	Resistant to powdery mildew suitable for rabi/spring	South Zone
Urdbean		
WBU 109, PantU31, Azad Urd 1	Short duration suitable for multiple cropping	North East Plain Zone
IPU-02-43, LBG 625, Vamban 4 WBG 26	Resistant to powdery mildew suitable for rabi/spring	South Zone

Variety	Trait	Zone
Lentil		
HUL57, KLS218, PL8	Resistance to rust	North East Plain Zone
DPL 62, PL 6, PL7, IPL 406, IPL 315, IPL316	Large seeded	Central Zone and North Western Plain Zone
Oilseeds		
Variety	Trait	Zone
Castor		
DCH 519	Resistance to wilt and leaf hoppers	All castor growing zones
GC 3	Resistant to wilt	Gujarat
Jwala	Tolerance to salinity and resistance to wilt	All castor growing zones
Rapeseed Mustard		
NRCDR2	High temperature tolerance	North West Plain Zone
LET-18, Pusa Mustard 21, Pusa Mustard 24, RLC1	Low erucic acid	North West Plain Zone
NRCDR 601	High temperature and salinity tolerance	North West Plain Zone
VL toria 3	Tolerance to cold	North Hill Zone
Soybean		
JS97-52	Resistance to yellow mosaic virus and collar rot	Central Zone and North Eastern Zone
NRC7	Pod shattering resistance	All soybean growing zones
SL668, JS 97-52	Yellow mosaic resistance	All soybean growing zones
NRC-7, JS 71-05	Pod shattering and drought tolerance	All soybean growing zones
NARI 38, SSF 658	Resistant to wilt	All castor growing zones

Variety	Trait	Zone
Groundnut		
Ajiya, Girnar1, TAG-24, GG20	Drought Tolerance	Central and South Zone
Girnar2, Kadiri9, Kadiri Haritandhra, rabi/spring Greeshma	Short duration suitable for	South Zone
Commercial Crops		
Variety/Hybrid	Traits	Zone
Cotton		
HD 324	Tolerant to Fusarium Wilt and Leaf curl virus	North Zone
Hybrid Kalyan	Tolerant to Cotton Leaf curl virus	North Zone
G.Cot.Hy 12	Tolerant to aphids and jassids	Central Zone
LRA 5166	Tolerance to drought	Central Zone
KC 3	Tolerance to drought	South Zone
Kanchana, L-604	Resistance to whitefly	South Zone
MCU 5 VT, Surabhi	Resistance to verticillium wilt	South Zone
Suraj	Long staple with jassid tolerance	South and Central Zone irrigated conditions
Sugarcane		
Co 94008 (Shyama)	Tolerant to drought and salinity	Peninsular Zone
Co 2001-3 (Sulabh)	Moderately resistant to red rot, smut and wilt	Peninsular Zone
Co 98014 (Karan-1)	Tolerant to drought, water-logging	North West Zone
CoS 96268 (Mithas)	Moderately resistant to red rot and good ratooner	North West Zone
CoSe 6436 (Jalpari)	Tolerant to water-logging and good ratooner	North Cenral Zone

Variety/Hybrid	Traits	Zone
Co 0233 (Kosi)	Moderately resistant to red rot and smut	North Central Zone
CoC 01061	Moderately resistant to red rot	East Cost Zone
CoLk 94184 (Birendra)	Tolerant to drought and waterlogging with good rationing	North Central Zone
Co 0118	High sucrose content and resistant to red rot wilt and smut	Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Central and Western Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand
Jute		
JRO 204 (Suren), JBO-2003-H (IRA)	Early sowing suitability with fine fibre quality	Tossa jute belt
JRC-532 (Sashi)	Very fine fibre fineness white jute	White jute belt
JRC 80 (Mitali)	Premature flowering resistance	White jute belt
JBO 1 (Sudhangsu)	Drought tolerance	Tossa jute belt of West Bengal, Assam, Bihar and Odisha

Providing latest technology and quality seeds to farmers

1416. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether Government has any plan to provide the latest technology and high quality seeds and fertilizers to farmers and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI BHAI KUNDARIA) : Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing various Missions, Schemes and Projects under which latest technologies are provided to farmers for different on/off farm operations. There are quite a few programmes which facilitate production, availability and distribution of quality seeds and fertilizers to farmers.

Details of these initiatives are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of Missions, Schemes and Projects which provide latest technologies and quality seeds and fertilizers to farmers

1. Providing Latest Technologies:-

- (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme **Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms** popularly known as ATMA Scheme, financial assistance is provided to the States with an objective to support State Governments' efforts of revitalization of the extension system and making available the latest agricultural technologies to farmers in different thematic areas to increase production through various extension activities viz. Farmers Training, Demonstrations, Exposure Visits, Kisan Mela, Mobilization of Farmers Groups and Setting up of Farm Schools.
- (b) Under the Scheme **Mass Media Support to Agriculture Extension** information and knowledge to the farming community in local language/ dialect for strengthening the agricultural extension system is disseminated through a network of 180 Narrow Casting Centres, 18 Regional Kendras and 1 National Centre of Doordarshan and 96 FM Radio Stations of All India Radio.
- (c) Under the Central Sector Scheme '**Establishment of Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (ACABC)**', unemployed candidates possessing Degree/ Diploma/PG in Agriculture and allied subjects are trained in establishing agri-ventures mandated for providing extension and other services to farmers with reference to new technologies. So far 40474 Candidates have been trained and 16318 agri-ventures have been established by them under the scheme since its inception on 2002 till October 31st 2014. Some of these ventures pertain to supply of agricultural inputs.
- (d) **Exhibitions and Fairs:** Regional Agricultural Fairs and exhibitions being organized by State Agricultural Universities/ICAR Institutes are supported by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) in the five zones including North-East.
- (e) The **Kisan Call Centre (KCC)** initiative aims to provide information to the farming community through a toll-free telephone number 1800-180-1551 through Kisan Call Centres operating at 14 different locations covering almost all the States and UTs, from 6.00 AM to 10.00 PM on all 7 days in a week. Replies to farmers queries on latest technologies is given in 22 local

languages by highly qualified Farm Tele Advisors (FTAs) working at the KCCs. Queries which cannot be answered by FTAs are transferred to experts in a Cal Conferencing Mode.

- (f) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme “**National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGP-A)**” in the entire country with a total project cost of ₹ 885.79 crore. The project envisages deployment of hardware and roll out of services down to the Block level. Under the National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology, Tablets PCs and Pico Projectors are also being provided to the extension workers to reach out to the village level. Twelve clusters of services (containing nearly 80 components) under NeGP-A are intended to be implemented for providing latest technology/information to farmers through multiple delivery channels.
- (g) **mKisan Portal** subsumes all mobile based initiatives in the field of Agriculture and allied sectors. It brings together SMS (both Push and Pull), Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), Unstructured Supplementary Services of Data or USSD (which is essentially Interactive SMS and can facilitate data entry and query on Web Portals without internet), Mobile Apps and Services. Officers, Scientists and Experts from all over the country are using this Portal for disseminating technologies/information (giving topical and seasonal advisories and providing services through SMSs to farmers in their local languages) on various agricultural activities to registered farmers. Till date, more than 315 crore SMSs have been sent to farmers by all agencies/organisation/ departments in agriculture and allied sectors down to Block level throughout the country since its inception in July, 2013.
- (h) Different components of the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization under National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET), have provisions for disseminating latest information/technologies to the farmers on Farm Mechanization.
- (i) Under the National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), support is provided for transfer of technology through Block Demonstrations/Front Line Demonstrations and training of farmers on crop production technology for oilseeds/oilpalm including Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- (j) Under the ‘**National Food Security Mission (NFSM)**’ on rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals and commercial crops (cotton, jute and sugarcane); ‘**Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI)**, and ‘**Crop Diversification Programme (CDP)**’, scientific crop production technologies

are being propagated at the farmers' fields through organisation of technology demonstration in cluster and training of farmers.

- (k) **Under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)** approved for implementation from 2014-15 latest technologies aimed improvements in Horticultural Production are disseminated to farmers through training and demonstrations which are organised at strategic locations by the State Horticulture Missions.

- (l) In order to provide latest information/technologies to the farmers on agriculture and allied areas, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 641 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country. The KVKs aims to assess and demonstrate the production potential of agricultural technologies and farm practices on farmer's fields.

2. **Providing High Quality Seeds and Fertilisers to Farmers:-**

- (a) **Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)** envisages to promote seed production for vegetables and spices. Assistance is provided @ 100% of total cost to public sector. In case of Private Sector, assistance is 50% of the cost as credit linked back ended subsidy for a maximum area of 5 ha. per beneficiary.
- (b) **Under the Sub-mission on Seeds and Planting Material (SMSP) under National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)**, number of programmes and activities are organized to develop/strengthen seed sector and to enhance production and multiplication of high yielding certified/quality seeds of all agricultural crops and making it available to the farmers at affordable prices and also place an effective system for protection of plant varieties, rights of farmers and plant breeders to encourage development of new varieties of plants. Financial assistance/grants-in-aid is also provided to private/ public entities under the component 'Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seeds'.
- (c) The Krishi Vigyan Kendras(KVKs) also organise quality seed production and distribution to farmers. During the last one year 1.57 lakh quintal seeds of improved varieties and hybrids of cereals. Oilseeds, pulses, commercial crops, vegetables, flowers, fruits, spices, fodder, forest species, medicinal plants and fibre crops were produced and provided to 2.61 lakh farmers by KVKs.
- (d) **Under the National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)** support is provided for purchase of breeder seeds, production/distribution of certified seeds, distribution of seek Minikits (Varietal Diversification) for

demonstration of new technologies, seed infrastructure Development, Variety Specific Targeted Seed Production (VSTSP), planting material for oil palm and Tree Borne Oilseeds (TBOs), establishment of seed gardens of oil palm, maintenance cost for oil palm and TBOs. NMOOP also provides support for production of bio-fertilizers / bio-agents, gypsum/pyrite/ liming /dolomite and construction of vermi- compost.

- (e) **Under the National Food Security Mission (NFSM)** certified seeds of high yielding varieties/hybrids which have been released during last 10 years are distributed on subsidy to the farmers under NFSM. Micronutrients, soil ameliorants are provided to the farmers on subsidy under NFSM on rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals. Bio-fertilizer (Rhizobium/PSB culture) is given to the farmers under NFSM-pulses on subsidy.
- (f) **Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985** has been promulgated for regulation of quality of fertilisers. No person shall manufacture/import for sale, sell, offer for sale, stock or exhibit for sale or distribute any fertiliser which is not notified in the said Order or not of standard prescribed in the said Order. Samples of fertilizers are drawn periodically by notified fertiliser inspectors of State Governments to check their quality whereas in case of imported fertilisers, the fertiliser inspectors of the Central Government draw samples from ships/containers for checking their quality.
- (g) **The Department of Fertilizers under Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers** provides Quality Urea and 22 grades of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers to the farmers on subsidized rates strictly as per the stipulation under the Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1985.

Measures to mitigate hardships faced by farmers

1417. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the number and living condition of farmers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of farmers both male and female in the country, State-wise and category-wise:
- (c) whether Government proposes to launch any pension/welfare scheme for farmers, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures Government would take to mitigate the hardships faced by farmers and to improve their living condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted the Situation Assessment Survey of Farmers during 2003 in the rural areas, in which it, *inter-alia*, collected information on receipts and expenses relating to cultivation, farming of animals, non-farm business and wages. The survey provides a comprehensive socio-economic study of the Indian farmers covering education, level of living, farming practices, possession of productive assets, awareness and resource availability, indebtedness etc.

According to the survey, estimated number of farmer households in the country was 89.4 million and corresponding population was 492.2 million, with male population of 253.4 million and female population of 238.8 million. At all India level, the average monthly income (excluding income from non-economic activities) of a farmer household during July 2002-June 2003 was estimated as ₹ 2115.00.

State/UT-wise number of households, average monthly income per farmer household, total consumption expenditure and net investment in productive assets during 2002-03 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Government is implementing National Social Assistance Programme comprising: (i) Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, (ii) Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme, (iii) Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme, (iv) National Family Benefit Scheme, and (v) Annapurna Scheme. Farmers can also take benefit of these schemes after fulfilling the conditions associated with each of the Schemes.

Agriculture being 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. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various schemes and by providing financial assistance to States for the benefit of farmers for better planning, cultivation and marketing of their agricultural produce. Better extension support, timely agricultural and market information, best agricultural practices, etc. are provided to farmers through State Govts./Agencies.

Further, in order to encourage farmers to increase agricultural production by ensuring remunerative prices for their produce, the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of agricultural commodities have also been increased over the years.

Statement

Average monthly income, consumption expenditure and net investment in productive assets (₹) per farmer household during the agricultural year (July, 02 - June, 03)*

State/UT	Total Income* (₹)	Total consumption expenditure (₹)	Net investment in productive assets (₹)	Estimated number of households (00)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1634	2386	42	60354
Arunachal Pradesh	7455	2940	224	1229
Assam	3161	2714	20	25040
Bihar	1810	2459	49	70804
Chhattisgarh	1618	2045	170	27598
Gujarat	2684	3127	182	37845
Haryana	2882	4414	456	19445
Himachal Pradesh	3309	3669	273	9060
Jammu and Kashmir	5488	4109	55	9433
Jharkhand	2069	1897	52	28238
Karnataka	2616	2608	169	40413
Kerala	4004	4250	101	21955
Madhya Pradesh	1430	2339	207	63315
Maharashtra	2463	2689	107	65817
Manipur	2741	3249	33	2146
Meghalaya	4496	3199	-92	2543
Mizoram	4862	3738	-28	782
Nagaland	3590	4481	-5	805
Odisha	1062	1697	8	42341
Punjab	4960	4840	634	18446
Rajasthan	1498	3288	121	53086

1	2	3	4	5
Sikkim	3258	2875	-20	531
Tamil Nadu	2072	2506	120	38887
Tripura	1742	2792	32	2333
Uttar Pradesh	1633	2899	136	171562
Uttarakhand	3351	2879	79	8961
West Bengal	2079	2668	37	69233
Group of UTs	3235	3401	191	732
ALL INDIA	2115	2770	124	893651

* Excluding income from non-economic activities such as interest, dividend, etc.

Source: Table 6 of NSS report no. 497: Income, Expenditure and Productive Assets of Farmer Households, 2003.

Waiving of farm loan

1418. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the action taken by Government for waiving farm loans granted to farmers in the country;
- (b) whether any proposal/representation have been received from certain States/UTs in the matter, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action plan to address the grievances of farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) to (c) The Agricultural Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme (ADWDRS) was announced in the Union Budget 2008-09. The Scheme benefited 3.73 crore farmers to the extent of ₹ 52,259.86 crore. However, there is no proposal for waiving farm loans granted to farmers in the country.

In order to provide relief to borrowers in times of natural calamities, the Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) have issued standing guidelines for relief measures to be provided by respective lending institutions in areas affected by natural calamities which, *inter-alia*, include identification of beneficiaries, extending fresh loans and restructuring of existing loans, relaxed security

and margin norms etc. The moment calamity is declared by the concerned District Authorities, these guidelines automatically set in motion without any intervention to save precious time.

MSP of wheat

1419. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has increased MSP of wheat by ₹ 50/- per quintal only for rabi season, 2014-15, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the increased MSP is not in conformity with the cost of production, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would review its decision and increase the MSP of rabi crops particularly wheat, in view of the above and large scale suicide by farmers in recent years, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat for 2014-15 has been increased by ₹ 50 per quintal over its MSP for 2013-14 and fixed at ₹ 1450 per quintal. The MSP of wheat for 2014-15 at ₹ 1450 per quintal provides adequate margin against all India weighted average cost of production including family labour (A2+FL) of ₹ 744 per quintal estimated by Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

(c) According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) causes of suicides include, *inter-alia*, family problems, illness, drug abuse/addiction, unemployment, property dispute, cancellation/non-settlement of marriage, dowry dispute etc. while reasons for suicide as reported by State Governments include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal reasons.

Forest based traditional farming

†1420. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that more nutritious food grains can be procured from forest-based traditional farming as compared to chemical farming;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the plan being implemented by Government to promote forest-based traditional farming at present and the achievement of these programmes in the last three years; and
- (d) the details of the action plan and target set by the Central Government for the next five years to promote forest-based traditional farming?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) to (d) The forest and tree based traditional farming systems generally yield nutritionally rich products due to higher uptake and recycling of nutrients. For example tuber crops such as elephant foot yam, colocassia, tapioca, diascoria, sweet potato etc., spices such as ginger, turmeric, bay leaves, black pepper, large cardamom etc., vegetables like chow chow fruits like shiong (*Prunus nepalensis*), peach, pineapple etc. grown in forest based farming systems are nutritionally better as compared to the produce from chemical farming. The Government is promoting tree based farming system through agroforestry, integrated farming system approach and motivating farmers to plant trees on farm boundaries. A national agroforestry policy also has been enunciated during 2014.

Development of aquaculture in Odisha

1421. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will instruct the State Government of Odisha to allow water logged areas up to 100 hectare to an individual or progressive farmer to take on a minimum of 10 years lease for developing aquaculture pond, which will result in quantum jump in fish production as they will produce 10 tons per hectare against an average production of 2.5 tons per hectare by small farmers; and
- (b) whether individual farmers or groups or companies purchase 100 hectare of land for aquaculture relaxing the existing land ceiling of 10 hectare per individual?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture is not contemplating any such directives to the Government of Odisha.

Farmer-oriented agricultural policy

1422. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the share of agriculture in GDP has come down, yet 70 per cent people in the country depend on it for their livelihood, if so, the long term measures being taken to increase its productivity; and

(b) whether Government considers it necessary to completely revamp the agricultural system, if so, the steps that would be taken for making the agricultural policy to be farmer-oriented in the real sense of the term?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) As per the estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) the share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country has come down from 22.3 per cent in 2000-01, to 13.9 per cent in 2013-14 at 2004-05 prices. Further, as per Population Census, 2001 and 2011, the share of workers engaged in agricultural activities in the total workers has come down from 58.2% in 2001 to 54.6% in 2011.

To improve quality of production and productivity of Agriculture and Allied Sectors; during the Twelfth Five Year Plan, all the ongoing 51 schemes of the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation have been revamped/restructured into five Mission viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture Mission (MIDH), National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), and National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET); five Central Sector Schemes viz. National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP), Integrated Scheme on Agri-Census and Statistics (ISAC and S), Integrated Scheme of Agriculture Marketing (ISAM), Integrated Scheme of Agriculture Cooperation (ISAC) and Secretariat Economic Service; and one State Plan Scheme viz. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana. These Missions/schemes have a farmer oriented approach with special emphasis on small, marginal and women farmers.

Marketing of neera

1423. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is having consultations with State Governments to amend the Abkari Act in order to enable neera production, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Ministry is planning to help coconut farmers in marketing neera abroad and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Coconut Development Board (CDB) has consulted and advised major coconut growing States to take appropriate policy decisions at State level for exempting neera from the purview of Excise Acts in operation.

(b) The commercial production of neera has been initiated through federated Coconut Producer Societies and not sufficient to market it abroad.

MSP for wheat

†1424. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat, per quintal, per year, during last three years;

(b) whether in view of the mounting problems of farmers in the country increase in MSP is adequate;

(c) the agencies and organizations from which opinions are sought before fixation of MSP and whether opinion of any organization related with farmers is taken in this regard; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has issued instructions/suggestions to States for not providing additional bonus to farmers on their crops, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALANJI BHAI KUNDARIA): (a) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of wheat for the period 2011-12 to 2014-15 and the increase in MSP during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 is given below:

(₹ per quintal)		
Year	MSP	Increase over previous year
2011-12	1285	-
2012-13	1350	65
2013-14	1400	50
2014-15	1450	50

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) Government fixes MSPs of various crops on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors.

While recommending MSPs for various agricultural commodities the CACP also holds consultations with different stake holders including farmers' representatives.

The MSP of wheat for 2014-15 at ₹ 1450 per quintal provides adequate margin against all India weighted average cost of production including family labour (A2+FL) of ₹ 744 per quintal estimated by CACP.

(d) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has taken a policy decision that from Kharif Marketing Season 2014-15 and Rabi Marketing Season 2015-16 onwards, if a State announces bonus over and above MSP, the Central Government will limit the procurement for central pool to the extent of requirement of foodgrains for Targeted Public Distribution System/Other Welfare Schemes (TPDS/OWS), in case of decentralized procurement (DCP) States where State Government undertakes direct purchase of paddy and wheat on behalf of Government of India. The State Government will also be responsible for the disposal of any surplus quantity procured in the State over and above this quantity and bear the financial burden in this regard.

For non-DCP States, it has been decided that if a State announces bonus over and above MSP, the FCI will not take part in MSP operations in the State concerned and State agencies will have to mobilize resources and take care of entire MSP operations in the State on their own including the arrangements to be made for storage of procured foodgrains.

Market Intervention Scheme

1425. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has got Market Intervention Scheme for procuring agricultural and horticultural commodities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of funds allocated by Government to different States for such a scheme, during the last three years; and

(c) the details of criteria for providing such funds to different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Department

of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing a scheme namely Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are generally perishable in nature. The basic objective of MIS is to provide remunerative prices to the farmers in case of glut in production and fall in prices. Further, the MIS is implemented on the specific requests of the State Government/UT Administrations willing to share the loss with Central Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States). Under MIS, funds are not allocated to the States. Instead, Central share of losses as per the guidelines of MIS is released to the State Governments/UTs, for which MIS has been approved based on specific proposals received from them.

New agricultural loan scheme for small and marginal farmers

1426. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to introduce some new agricultural loan schemes for small and marginal farmers, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the details of such existing schemes for small farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALANJIBHAI KUNDARIA): (a) and (b) Government has already taken several measures to increase institutional credit flow and bringing more and more farmers including small and marginal farmers within the institutional credit fold. These measures, *inter-alia*, include fixation of annual targets for improving agricultural credit flow; provision of crop loans upto ₹ 3.00 lakh @ 4% per annum to such farmers who repay their loan as per the repayment schedule fixed by the banks; benefit of interest subvention scheme to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period upto six months for storing their produce in warehouses against negotiable warehouse receipts; collateral free loan upto ₹ 1.00 lakh; scheme for financing of Joint Liability Group (JLGs); simplification of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme etc.

Growth rate of agriculture sector

1427. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contribution of agriculture in GDP has been declining over the years and is likely to decline further, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the growth rate of crops production and productivity has also declined leading to poverty in various parts of the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to improve the growth rate of agriculture sector in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALANJI BHAI KUNDARIA): (a) As per the estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) the share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country has come down from 22.3 per cent in 2000-01, to 13.9 per cent in 2013-14 at 2004-05 prices.

The decrease in the share of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in GDP of the country in comparison to other sectors is on account of structural changes due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to industry and service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development of an economy.

(b) As a result of efforts made by the Government under various schemes/programmes to enhance production and productivity in the agriculture sector and due to technological advancements, the yield of foodgrains has increased from 1626 kg. per ha. in 2000-01 to 2101 kg. per ha. in 2013-14 and food grain production has increased from 196.8 million tonnes in 2000-01 to 264.8 million tonnes in 2013-14.

(c) Government has taken several steps to catalyze growth in the agriculture sector, 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.

Use of organic manure

†1428. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the concrete steps being taken by Government to provide relief to farmers as they are not able to reap the crop due to distribution of spurious soyabean seeds; and

(b) whether Government is taking appropriate steps to encourage the farmers for using the organic manure instead of expensive fertilizers?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The major Soyabean growing States have informed that no reports regarding distribution of spurious soyabean seeds were received by them in the last Kharif season. Moreover, State Governments are taking all necessary steps to curb the sale of spurious seeds in their States under the existing Seed Legislation.

(b) The Central and State Governments are providing assistance under various schemes to encourage the use of organic manure by farmers.

Public investment in fertilizer sector

1429. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total public investment in fertilizer sector during the last three years;
- (b) whether it is sufficient to address the growing demand for fertilizers in the country; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) An amount of ₹ 4638.59 crores as capital expenditure (CAPEX) has been invested by fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) during the last three years *i.e.* 2011-12 to 2013-14. The investment has been made in capacity enhancement of Thal unit of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers limited (RCF), Vijayapur I and II units of National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) and in changeover of feedstock from Low Sulphur Heavy Stock (LSHS)/ Fuel Oil (FO) to Natural Gas Projects at three LSHS/FO based units of NFL.

(b) and (c) The total additional capacity created from NFL Vijaypur - I and II and RCF-Thal for the year 2013-14 has been 6.37 LMT. The demand for urea and P and K fertilizers during the year 2013-14 was 316.90 LMT and 252.35 LMT respectively, while the indigenous production of urea and P and K fertilizers was 227.09 LMT and 105.17 respectively. The shortfall was met through imports. Therefore, the additional capacity is not sufficient to address the growing demand for fertilizers in the country. The demands could not be met, due to limited availability of Natural Gas and the high cost of liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). Department of Fertilizers has notified amendment in New Investment Policy(NIP)-2012 in October, 2014. The amended NIP-2012 will accelerate the speedy implementation of upcoming projects, which will further increase the indigenous production.

Revival of State-owned drug manufacturing companies

1430. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to revive State-owned sick drug manufacturing companies viz. Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL), Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. and Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. to cater to the unmet need for essential medicines like anti-retrovirals, cancer drugs, complex antibiotics and medicines used in treatment of tuberculosis etc.; and

(b) if so, the present position of these Central Public Sector Undertakings and the measures taken for their revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Presently revival of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) and Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) is under consideration of Government of India. The Revival Package sanctioned for Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL) is under implementation.

Promoting generic medicines

1431. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any guidelines for encouraging/motivating doctors to prescribe generic medicines to the maximum extent possible, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the extent to which the guidelines are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The Government has from time to time been issuing circulars/instructions to all Central Government hospitals, CGHS dispensaries and State Governments for encouraging/motivating doctors to prescribe generic medicines. Instructions have also been issued that all Central Government hospitals provide only good quality generic medicines, and that whenever any branded medicine is prescribed, it shall invariably mention that any other equivalent generic medicines could also be provided. The Code of Medical Ethics under Indian Medical Council Regulations, 2002 provides that every physician should, as far as

possible, prescribe drugs with generic names and ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs. Directions have also been issued to all the State/UT Governments on 01.10.2012 to grant/renew licenses to manufacture for sale or for distribution of drugs in proper/generic names only.

Reports of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

1432. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) regularly monitors shortage and availability of drugs;
- (b) if so, the details of the monitoring reports for the last three years; and
- (c) the action taken on the findings of NPPA in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) NPPA monitors shortages and availability of drugs on the basis of monthly reports received from State Drugs Control Administration and also complaints, if any, received from other sources. On receipt of such reports, NPPA immediately takes up the matter with the concerned manufacturers and advises them to rush the stock in the affected area. Concerned State Drugs controllers are also requested in this regard to ensure smooth supply of drugs in their States. Reports on short supply of certain medicines such as Anti-snake venom, Rabies vaccine, Rabies Immunoglobulin, Albumin Injection and Anti-malarial combination of Sulfadoxine+Pyrimethamine Tablet were received by the NPPA. In this regard, all the manufacturers/importers/marketing companies of these drugs have been directed to submit production/availability data and also a compliance report of resolving the shortage of these drugs in the country immediately issuing a gazette notification dated 09.09.2014.

Monitoring of shortage and availability of drugs is carried out by the NPPA as an on-going process for ensuring smooth supply of the drugs in the country. NPPA does not compile and maintain yearly data on shortages of drugs.

Use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture

1433 SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantum of chemical fertilizers used annually in the country;
- (b) the indigenous fertilizers used for agricultural purposes; and
- (c) by when Government will come out of these chemicals fertilizers pressure, which are harmful to health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The sales *i.e.* total quantum of all chemical fertilizers(like Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK) used for agricultural purposes in last three years is as follows:-

(Figures in LMT)

Product	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Urea	294.77	301.61	304.54
DAP	111.96	92.30	69.03
MOP	29.92	21.34	21.92
NPK	113.98	77.33	75.16

(b) The indigenous fertilizers produced and used in the country in last three years is as follows:-

(Figures in LMT)

Product	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Urea	219.84	225.75	227.15
DAP	39.63	36.47	36.11
NPK	77.70	61.80	69.13

(c) There is no scientific evidence of declining soil/crop productivity from judicious use of chemical fertilizers. However, indiscriminate and imbalanced use of fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over the years may result in nutrient deficiencies. There is also the possibility of contamination of ground water due to excessive use of nitrogenous fertilizers, particularly in light textured soils, that has consequence on human health if used for drinking purpose. Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients to reduce the negative impact of chemical fertilizers.

Violation of DPCO, 2013

1434. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the financial impact of the Drugs (Price Control) Order (DPCO), 2013 on the pharma companies;

(b) whether there is any information of violation of DPCO, 2013 by any pharma company; and

(c) if so, the action taken against such violation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) All medicines contained in National List of Essential Medicines and included in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) come under the purview of price control. Government does not maintain information related to financial impact of the DPCO, 2013 on the pharma companies.

(b) and (c) All manufacturers of a scheduled drug/formulation have to comply with the price fixed by the Government/NPPA from the date of its notification. If any company is found selling a scheduled drug/formulation at a price higher than the notified price, notice for recovery of the overcharged amount is issued to them. So far, demand notices for recovery of overcharged amount have been issued to 11 (eleven) companies under DPCO, 2013 as the following details:

*List of demand notices issued to the companies and amounts
recovered from the Companies under DPCO, 2013*

Sl .No	Name of the Companies	Name of the Formulations	Demand ₹ in crore	Recovery
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s Remidex Pharma Pvt Ltd and M/s GSK Asia Pvt Ltd	Crocine advance Tablet	53.99	53.99
2.	M/s Abbott Healthcare	Mercazole Tablet	0.04	
3.	M/s Wockhardt Ltd	Aziwok 500mg Tablet	2.19	
4.	M/s Abbott Healthcare	Phenergan 100ML Syrup	1.21	

1	2	3	4	5
5.	M/s Wockhardt Ltd	Tryptomer 25mg Tablet	3.55	
6.	M/s Abbott Healthcare Pvt Ltd	Gardenal 60 Tablets	0.79	
7.	M/s Scott Edil Pharmacia	Aziphar suspension	0.05	
8.	M/s IPCA Labs	Perinorm syrup 30 ml	0.52	
9.	M/s Baxter India Pvt Ltd	Dextrose 5% Injection	0.02	0.02
10.	M/s FDC Ltd	Zathrin 500 Tablet	0.23	
11.	M/s Novartis Pharma	Voveran	28.18	*
TOTAL			90.77	54.01
Suo moto payments received from various companies				0.57
Total amount recovered under DPCO, 2013				54.58

* Company has challenged the demand in Delhi High Court and Court has directed NPPA not to take any coercive action.

As on 28.11.2014, an amount of ₹ 54.58 crore has been recovered.

New plants for production of chemical fertilizers

1435. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to establish new units/plants for production of chemical fertilizers during the current Five Year Plan period, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government also proposes to set up any plant with external assistance to meet the shortage of fertilizers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps proposed to further promote indigenous production of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. In 2008, Cabinet approved revival of closed units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited

(FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation limited (HFCL) subject to non-recourse to Government funding and to consider write off of GOI LOAN and interest to the extent required. The revival of these closed units would be through nomination route by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and through bidding route by private sector. Sindri, Talcher and Ramagundam Units of FCIL to be revived on nomination basis. Gorakhpur and Korba units of FCIL and Durgapur, Haldia, Barauni of HFCL to be revived through bidding route.

In its meeting held on 9.5.2013, CCEA, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest to facilitate FCIL to arrive at positive net worth. This enabled FCIL to get de-registered from the purview of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. Proposal/action plan on revival of HFCL units to be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track.

The progress of revival of FCIL units is as under:

Revival of Talcher: Talcher unit of FCIL to be revived by consortium of PSUs namely RCF, GAIL, CIL and FCIL by forming two joint venture (JV) companies. The formation of Joint Ventures and process of selection of technology supplier for Coal gasification is under progress.

Revival of Ramagundam: Ramagundam unit of FCIL to be revived by consortium of PSUs namely NFL, EIL and FCIL by forming a JV company. The formation of Joint Venture and the process for selection of technology supplier is under progress.

Revival of Sindri: For Sindri Unit, SAIL-Sindri Projects Ltd. (SSPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of SAIL, has been incorporated in November 2011 for the purpose of revival of Sindri Unit of FCIL. Out of total land of 6652 acres with FCIL at Sindri, only 498 acres (the area of existing fertilizer plant) is encroachment free contiguous land as against the requirement of 3247 acres of encroachment free contiguous land required by SAIL for setting up the proposed facilities. However, no much progress has been made due to non-availability of around 3000 Acres of contiguous piece of land for the Steel Plant.

Rake points for fertilizers in Madhya Pradesh

†1436. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether urea would be included in the category of decontrolled fertilizers to remove control from it, if so, by when and the process of doing this;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the places where rake points are situated in Madhya Pradesh, the measures taken for strengthening them and the places where new rake points would be opened; and

(c) the action being taken to establish new rake points at Shujalpur, Garoth, Shahdol, Bhind, Dalauda, Salamatpur and Obaidullanganj in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Formulation of a new urea policy is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected from Ministry of Railways, and will be laid on the table of the House.

Demand and supply of fertilizers in the country

†1437. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of fertilizers in the country is not meeting the demand, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the measure taken by Government to fulfil the demand of fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Yes, the production of fertilizers in the country is not meeting the demand because of non-availability of sufficient quantity of feedstock and other raw materials like, natural gas, rock phosphate, Muriate of Potash etc. The following steps are being taken by the Government to provide adequate supply 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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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.
3. The gap between demand and production is met through imports.

Withdrawal of circular capping the drug prices

1438. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of drugs crucial to treatment of diseases such as TB, cancer and diabetes have increased abnormally after the May, 2013 circular capping the prices of these drugs was withdrawn in September this year;

(b) if so, the prices of these drugs when the prices were capped and after the withdrawal of the said circular; and

(c) the reasons for withdrawing the said circular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The internal guidelines issued by the NPPA on 29.05.2014 in respect of pricing of non-scheduled formulations related to eight therapeutic groups have been withdrawn on 22.09.2014 after due legal examination.

Shortage of fertilizers

1439. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are facing acute problems due to shortage and non-availability of chemical fertilizers in the country; if so the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of production, demand, supply, availability, distribution and consumption of chemical fertilizers in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT and fertilizer-wise; and

(c) the details of complaints received from the States regarding non-availability and shortage of fertilizers to the farmers during rabi and kharif seasons along with the action taken thereon, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Statements showing State/UT-wise and fertilizer-wise Demand (Requirement), Distribution (Supply plan), Availability (Supply) and Sales (Consumption) of all the fertilizers in the country for the last three years and current sowing season (upto October, 2014) are Annexed. The details of production related information can be seen at [See Appendix 233 Annexure No 5]

It can be seen from the above Statements that availability has been adequate *vis-a-vis* the actual consumption (sales). Distribution within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

(c) No, the department has not received any complaint from the States regarding non-availability and shortage of fertilizers to farmers during Rabi and Kharif seasons. However, requests from certain States for expediting the supply were received and appropriate action was taken to make the supply smooth.

Merger of BSNL and MTNL

†1440. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to merge BSNL and MTNL, if so, the reasons therefor;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government by merging the above two companies and by implementing 'One India Plan' proposes to make phone calls and net services cheaper, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any fixed time-limit has been set to effect the merger, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government is in the process of revival and revitalization of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) through various short term, medium term and long term measures. The long-term measures would attempt to position these PSUs to emerge as market leaders in the converged telecommunication market. Amongst various options being considered as long-term measures for revival of BSNL and MTNL is merger of the two CPSUs (Central Public Sector Undertakings). No decision has been taken for merger.

(b) No, Sir. Merger of BSNL and MTNL may help in adopting a common approach to network infrastructure, enterprise business and customer services issues.

(c) No Sir. For an in-depth study on the implications of merger of the two PSUs, four groups have been constituted to study issues of human resources integration, system integration, corporate integration and financial integration.

Studies on EMF radiations

1441. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether studies conducted by Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and Jawaharlal Nehru University have found that radiations emitted from mobile towers are degenerating DNA and chromosomes and the exposure to radiation from mobile towers and mobile phones could have an adverse impact on male fertility and deplete the defence mechanism of cells;

(b) whether the study of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has blamed electromagnetic radiation from communication towers for the declining number of sparrows, bees, etc.; and

(c) if so, measures taken or proposed to be taken to check adverse impact of Electro Magnetic Field radiation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Sir, Government on 24.08.2010, has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) consisting of officers from Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Indian Council of Medical Research (Ministry of Health), Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of Environment and Forest to examine the effect of Electro Magnetic Field (EMF) Radiation from base stations and mobile phones. In its report, the committee has, *inter-alia*, referred to following studies conducted by Jawaharlal Nehru University and Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar:

- “(i) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) supported an animal study (2005-08) entitled “Microwave radiations effects on reproductive systems of male rats” under Prof. J. Behari, School of Environmental Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Ante oxidative changes were noticed in reproductive pattern of male rates and increase in the level of CAT activity.
- (ii) Also studies conducted in Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar has found correlation between mobile phone use (exposure to radio frequency radiations) and DNA and chromosomal damage in lymphocytes of individuals using mobile phones which may have long-term consequences in terms of neoplasia and/or age-related changes.”

However, the Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) in its report, has examined various national and international studies on the environmental and health related concerns due to EMF and has indicated that most of the laboratory studies were unable to find a direct link between exposure to radio frequency radiation and health; and the scientific studies as yet have not been able to confirm a cause and effect relationship between radio frequency radiation and health. The effect of emission from cell phone towers on human health is not known yet with certainty.

Further, World Health Organization (WHO) has referred to approximately 25,000 articles published 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) As per Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, no research study has been conducted on EMF radiations from mobile towers and their effect on sparrow, bees etc. However, Ministry of Environment and Forests on 30th August, 2010 constituted an expert committee to Study the possible Impacts of Communication Towers on Wildlife including Birds and Bees. The committee reported that there are indications

that the Electromagnetic Radiations can affect biological systems of animals, birds and insects.

However, Science and Engineering Research Board, a statutory body under Department of Science and Technology has launched an initiative to conduct study on 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 and Fauna and Environment. A committee comprising of various experts from Medical and Engineering Institutes, has short listed research proposals for further consideration which will be supported for funding in campaign mode.

(c) Department of Telecommunication (DoT), since 2008, has been monitoring global developments and has already taken necessary steps and adopted stricter norms for safety from EMF radiation that are emitted from mobile towers and mobile handsets. Government of India has been taking due precautions and necessary actions in respect of EMF radiation emitted from mobile towers and mobile handsets by issuing various guidelines and norms taking into account the international standards/norms prescribed by International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) as recommended by World Health Organization.

Government of India adopted the ICNIRP guidelines in the year 2008 for basic restriction and limiting reference levels of Electromagnetic radiation from Mobile towers and inserted the additional clause in the Access Service Licenses *vide* its amendment letter dated 4/11/2008. Based on the recommendations by Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), these norms for exposure limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) have been further reduced to 1/10th of the existing limits prescribed by International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP).

In order to ensure compliance to the prescribed stricter precautionary norms of EMF radiation from mobile tower, the extensive audit of compliance of self-certificates being submitted by telecom service providers and base transceiver station (BTS) sites is carried out by Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) field units of DoT. This is regularly done by TERM units for the purpose of limiting the EMF radiation exposure and keeping general public areas in the vicinity of towers safe. In case, any BTS site is found to violate the prescribed EMF norms, actions are taken to put a penalty of ₹ 10 lakh per BTS per incidence including closing of BTS site as per the prescribed procedure. Additionally, the BTS sites against which there are public complaints are also tested by TERM Cell.

Reducing mobile tariffs

1442. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether telecom regulator, TRAI has proposed allowing for sharing of all telecom spectrum within a circle, which may reduce cost of mobile services and will benefit the consumer for cheaper voice and data services;
- (b) if so, Government's views and reaction thereto;
- (c) whether it is a fact that many mobile service providers are increasing their mobile tariff more than double in a year after successful one paisa per second call plan;
- (d) if so, Government's response thereto; and
- (e) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for cheaper mobile tariff in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) TRAI had submitted its recommendations on 'Guidelines on Spectrum Sharing' to the Government on 21st July, 2014. TRAI has proposed that the Operators whose entire spectrum holding in a particular band (900MHz/1800MHz) is/has been liberalized would be permitted to share spectrum without any additional one time spectrum charge. The matter is under consideration of the Government. Further impact on tariff of sharing of spectrum cannot be assessed as tariffs are function of many factors.

(c) and (d) As per the existing tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication access service is under forbearance except for National Roaming and Rural Fixed Line Services. The service providers have the flexibility to decide various tariff components for different service areas of their operation. Tariffs are offered by service providers taking into account several factors including input costs, level of competition and other commercial considerations. Hike and reduction of different tariff components by telecom service providers is a regular feature and these changes vary for different plans/special tariff vouchers and service areas.

(e) TRAI has, in the past, issued several regulatory guidelines for the cheaper mobile tariff and to protect the interest of the consumer and enhance transparency in tariff offers. Some of the measures for cheaper mobile tariff in the country are given below:

- (i) Protection has been given against hike in tariff as per which no tariff item in a tariff plan shall be increased during six months from the date of enrolment of a consumer into that plan. Further, no such hike is permitted during the promised validity period. In case of lifetime plans the tariff protection extends to the entire licence period of service provider.
- (ii) Telecom Tariff Order (TTO) 51st Amendment dated 20.04.2012 has mandated every service provider to offer to the subscribers at least one pre-paid and one post-paid tariff plan with pulse tariff of one second for local and national long distance calls.
- (iii) TTO 55th Amendment dated 17.06.2013 has reduced the ceiling tariff for various types of calls while roaming. In addition, the service providers have been mandated to offer special tariff plans for roaming (RTP and RTP-FR). The subscribers can avail partially free roaming or fully free roaming in lieu of payment of fixed charges, by subscribing to these plans.

International SIM cards

1443. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has extended the permit period to sell international SIM cards to three years from the one year earlier, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are about 70 companies in the country involved in this business?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Telecom (DoT) issues the No Objection Certificate (NOC) to the companies, who apply for sell/ rent of international calling card/SIM cards in India, The period of validity of this NOC has been extended to three years from one year earlier.

(b) As on date 39 (thirty nine) companies are holding valid NOC to sell/rent international calling card/SIM cards in India.

Mobile network facilities in remote areas

†1444. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government is considering to strengthen mobile network facility in those remote areas of the country where it is difficult to use mobile even today;
- (b) if so, the steps being taken for selection of such areas to provide the network facility;
- (c) whether Government has received complaints regarding poor mobile service in the rural areas of Pali and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the details of the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government is committed to the expansion of telecommunication facilities in all part of the country including provision of mobile services in rural and remote areas in a phased manner. Areas of strategic national importance are being taken on priority basis. The following schemes for expansion and improvement of telecommunication facilities have been taken up:

- (i) Proposal for Mobile Connectivity in 2199 tower locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas has been approved by Government on 20.8.2014 at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores.
- (ii) Proposal for mobile coverage to 8621 identified uncovered villages, installation of 321 mobile tower sites along National Highways and strengthening of transmission network in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura has been approved by Government on 10.9.2014 at an estimated cost of ₹ 5336.18 crores.
- (iii) Telecom Commission has given 'in principle' approval on 7.11.2014 for Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan including provision of mobile connectivity to uncovered villages in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands at a total estimated investment of ₹ 221.05 crores.
- (iv) Mobile coverage to balance uncovered villages, which presently do not have mobile connectivity, is to be provided in a phased manner over five years. Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Himalayan States (Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) and Western Border States (Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab) is targeted in the current financial year.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is taking action for improving the mobile services in rural areas of Pali and Jodhpur Service Switching Areas (SSAs) by planning of new mobile Base Transceiver Stations (BTSSs). 9 numbers of BTSSs and 23 number BTSSs have been commissioned in rural areas of Pali and Jodhpur SSAs respectively under Phase VII Project of BSNL recently. 1 number and 13 numbers BTSSs are being installed in Pali and Jodhpur SSA respectively in the balance period of the current financial year.

Department has identified 3 numbers of villages (Osian, Bhopalgarh and Shergarh) in Pali and 3 numbers of villages (Raipur, Rohat and Desuri) in Jodhpur, which are not covered by 2G mobile services and where connectivity has been planned. DPR for connectivity to these villages has been targeted along with connectivity to other uncovered villages in Rajasthan in the current financial year.

Free roaming and nation-wide MNP facility

1445. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any time-frame has been fixed to provide free roaming and Nation-wide Mobile Number Portability (MNP) facility as per the National Telecom Policy, 2012; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Department of Telecommunications has not fixed any time frame to provide free roaming. However, in the context of decline in costs and one of the objectives of the National Telecom Policy, 2012, is to work towards One Nation - Free Roaming throughout the country, the tariffs for national roaming service were reviewed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in the year 2013.

The issue of free national roaming *i.e.* tariff regime (*i.e.* a tariff regime in which incoming calls would become free of charge while the outgoing calls would be charged at the same tariff as that for the outgoing calls made from the home service area) was raised in the consultation paper on 'Review of tariff for National Roaming' issued by TRAI on 25.02.2013. From the comments of the stakeholders on the Consultation Paper, it was observed that most of the stakeholders were not in favour of free national roaming regime. Stakeholders were strongly averse to a regime in which incoming calls while on national roaming could become free. After analyzing the comments received from the

stakeholders, a view was taken by TRAI that fully free national roaming across all the tariff schemes is not practicable due to the following reasons:—

- (i) Tariff regime of ‘home equal to roam’ for outgoing voice calls and Short Messaging Service (SMS) may result in cross subsidization of roaming subscribers at the expense of non-roaming subscribers, as a result of which the home tariffs may increase.
- (ii) Tariff regime of free incoming voice calls while on national roaming may create serious distortions in the telecom service market. Such a regime would create arbitrage opportunity that could lead to SIM movement behaviour across the circles.

Through the Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO) (55th Amendment), 2013 dated 17.06.2013, which came into effect on 01.07.2013, TRAI made the following changes in the tariff regime for national roaming service:

- (i) Reduce the ceiling tariffs for national roaming service, as indicated in the following table:

Item	Ceiling tariff prior to TTO (55th Amendment), 2013	Ceiling tariff as per TTO (55th Amendment), 2013
Outgoing local voice call	₹ 1.40 per minute	₹ 1.00 per minute
Outgoing long distance (inter-circle) voice call	₹ 2.40 per minute	₹ 1.50 per minute
Incoming voice call	₹ 1.75 per minute	₹ 0.75 per minute
Outgoing local SMS	Forbearance	₹ 1.00 per SMS
Outgoing long distance (inter circle) SMS	Forbearance	₹ 1.50 per SMS

- (ii) Permitted Special Tariff Vouchers (STVs) and Combo Vouchers (CVs) for national roaming service to provide flexibility and convenience to the consumers; and
- (iii) Mandated the wireless access service providers to offer special roaming tariff plans in which subscribers can avail partially free roaming, or fully free roaming in lieu of payment of fixed charges.

National Telecom Policy 2012 envisages achieving of One Nation-Full Mobile Number Portability in the country. In this regard, the Department has issued instructions on 3rd November, 2014 to telecom service providers to implement full mobile number portability throughout the country within a time period of six months.

Manufacturing of telecom equipments within the country

1446. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any initiative to encourage manufacturing of telecom equipments within the country; and .

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken the following initiatives to encourage manufacturing of telecom equipments within the country:

- The policy for providing preference to domestic manufacturers for 23 notified telecom products in Government procurement has already been implemented.
- 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.
- The Government has imposed basic custom duty at 10% on specified telecommunication products that are outside the purview of the information technology agreement and has also imposed education cess on imported electronic products to provide parity between domestically produced goods and imported goods.
- Foreign direct investment up to 100% is allowed in manufacturing of telecom products under the automatic route.

Further, Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI)- an 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.

- (i) Under the Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme, approved units are allowed duty free import of goods required by them for carrying on export activities, CST reimbursement and excise duty exemption on procurement of indigenously available goods, as per the Foreign Trade Policy.
- (ii) Under the Focus Product Scheme of the foreign Trade Policy, exports of listed electronic products are entitled to duty credit scrip equivalent to 2% /5% of FOB value of exports. These include telecom products and components including mobile handset.
- (iii) DeitY provides funding under several schemes for promotion of R & D, including support for International Patents in Electronics and IT (SIP-EIT); Multiplier Grants Scheme and Scheme for Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) in the area of electronics, ICT and Management. As a result of this work, a Carrier Ethernet Switch Router equipment has been developed by IIT, Bombay. This has also been deployed by MTNL in Mumbai.
- (iv) The Scheme to enhance the number of PhDs in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (ITES) sectors has been approved. 3000 PhDs are proposed to be supported under the Scheme. This support is also available for telecom sector.

As a result of this effort, investment proposals have started to come from some of the telecom manufacturers in the country. Proposals involving investments of more than ₹ 1200 crores have been received. Several other important investors have shown interest and these proposals are expected to fructify in coming months.

Equipment type approval

1447. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has delayed issuing Equipment Type Approval (ETA) certification for import of low powered wireless devices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Cellular Association has demanded scrapping of ETA approval system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Equipment Type Approval (ETA) for low powered wireless devices is granted without delay on receipt of complete and correct application, in all respect, along, with the requisite documents.

(c) and (d) The Indian Cellular Association has recommended, *inter-alia*, that the ETA requirement for delicensed frequency bands for import of low powered equipment be done away with.

Sending mails by State transport buses

†1448. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the last 20-25 years, Department of Posts has been sending mails to all parts of Himachal Pradesh by State transport buses;

(b) if so, the names of the places and since when it is being done;

(c) whether Government would make its own transport arrangement, instead of using State transport buses to reach the mail to all parts because there is shortage of buses in Himachal Pradesh and passengers face problems in travelling; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir. The Department utilizes the services of State Transport Buses for carriage of mail in all parts of Himachal Pradesh. In addition, the Department also utilizes the services of private bus operators on certain routes for carriage of mail in the State of Himachal Pradesh. On Shimla-Kalka route, mail carriage is also done through the train and Departmental Mail Motor Service.

(b) The Department has been using buses of Himachal Pradesh Road Transport Corporation for carriage of mail in all parts of the State since long. Details of places

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

served through State Transport buses for carriage of mail are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) No Sir. The Department uses its own Mail Motor services on Shimla-Kalka route for carriage of mail. Besides this, mail is being conveyed through Mail Motor services to 12 town delivery offices in Shimla and Shoghi. In other parts of the State, the existing arrangements for carriage of mail through State Transport Buses as well as private buses are satisfactory. Hence, there is no proposal to introduce any Departmental transport arrangements.

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

Statement

*Places served through Himachal Pradesh State Transport Buses
in the State of Himachal Pradesh*

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
1.	Chamba	Chamba-Bhandal
2.	Chamba	Chamba-Tissa
3.	Chamba	Dalhousie-Chamba
4.	Chamba	Chamba-Bharmour
5.	Chamba	Chamba-Garola
6.	Chamba	Hardaspur-Kathana
7.	Chamba	Banikhet-Khairi
8.	Chamba	Chamba-Pathankot
9.	Chamba	Shahpur-Shihunta
10.	Chamba	Sultanpur-Sahu
11.	Chamba	Chowari-Sihunta
12.	Chamba	Chamba-Pathankot
13.	Dehra	Gagal-Kohala
14.	Dehra	Pathankot-Jawali
15.	Dehra	Raja-Ka-Tabab-Dhameta
16.	Dehra	Dehra-Bankhandi

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
17.	Dehra	Kangra-Nagrota-Surian
18.	Dehra	Dharamsala-Dehra
19.	Dehra	Dadasiba-Dehra
20.	Dehra	Dehra-Barikalan
21.	Dehra	Pathankot-Kathog (up trip) Barikalan-Pkt (Dn trip)
22.	Dehra	Kangra-Baroh
23.	Dehra	Jawalamukhi-Lower Ghallour
24.	Dehra	Jawalamukhi-Dadasiba
25.	Dehra	Dadasiba-SP Terrace
26.	Dehra	Guler-Dehra
27.	Dehra	Dehra-Dharamsala
28.	Dehra	Baggi-Jawalamukhi
29.	Dehra	Nahalina-Khundian
30.	Dehra	Kangra-Shimla
31.	Dehra	Jawalamukhi-Kohala
32.	Dehra	Dadasiba-Dehra
33.	Dehra	Jawalamukhi-Dehra
34.	Dehra	Dehra-Pirsaluhi
35.	Dehra	Nagrota Bagwan-Pathankot
36.	Dehra	Dehra-Pathankot
37.	Dharamsala	Dharamsala Cantt. - Pathankot
38.	Dharamsala	Nurpur-Saliali
39.	Dharamsala	Jassure-Gangath-Saura-Mohalla
40.	Dharamsala	Pathankot-Rey
41.	Dharamsala	Pathankot-Kandrori
42.	Dharamsala	Indora-Bhogarwan
43.	Dharamsala	Baijnath-Pathankot

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
44.	Dharamsala	Baijnath-Ladbharol
45.	Dharamsala	Palampur-Molag
46.	Dharamsala	Palampur-Dheera-Naura
47.	Dharamsala	Palampur-Sullah
48.	Dharamsala	D/sala-Charri-Rehlu-Shahpur
49.	Dharamsala	Nurpur-Kotla-Harchankian
50.	Dharamsala	Jassur-Kandwal
51.	Dharamsala	Palampur-Sanghole-Harsi
52.	Dharamsala	Palampur-Khera-Alampur
53.	Dharamsala	Palampur-Malkher
54.	Dharamsala	Damtal-Thakurdwara
55.	Dharamsala	Shahpur-Darini-Harnera
56.	Dharamsala	Baijnath-Bir
57.	Dharamsala	Panchrukhi-Pahra-Jalag
58.	Dharamsala	Dangoh-Kachhera-Bhawana
59.	Dharamsala	Baijnath-Sakri
60.	Dharamsala	Baijnath-Sansal
61.	Dharamsala	Dharamsala-Kangra
62.	Dharamsala	Baijnath-Pathankot
63.	Dharamsala	Sandhole-Palampur
64.	Dharamsala	Dheera-Palampur
65.	Dharamsala	Jalag-Pahra-Palampur
66.	Dharamsala	Pathankot-Shimla
67.	Dharamsala	Dharamsala-Chachian-Palampur
68.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Hatwar
69.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Berthin-Tallai
70.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Geharwin

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
71.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Chakoh
72.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Namhol
73.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Harlog
74.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Jukhala
75.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Harnora-NTPC Jamthal
76.	Hamirpur	Ghumarwin-Kuthera
77.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Deoth
78.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Tatoh
79.	Hamirpur	Swarghat-Jagatkhana
80.	Hamirpur	Ghumarwin-Dabla
81.	Hamirpur	Hawan-Harlog
82.	Hamirpur	Auhar-Behna Jattan-Rishikesh.
83.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Lehri Sarail-Hamirpur
84.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Naina Devi-Bhakra Dam
85.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Jhandutta
86.	Hamirpur	Sujanpur-Hamirpur-Patlander
87.	Hamirpur	Sujanpur-Hamirpur
88.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Awahdevi
89.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Kanjian
90.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur Kakriar
91.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Mandi
92.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Jangal Beri-Kakar
93.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Una
94.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Chakmoh
95.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Galore-Maharal
96.	Hamirpur	Barsar-Bhareri
97.	Hamirpur	Ghumarwin-Khothi

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
98.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Behal-Bassi Kehloor
99.	Hamirpur	Dhaneta-Mehre
100.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Bara-Nadaun
101.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Rangas-Kangoo
102.	Hamirpur	Berthin-Kalol-Jejwin
103.	Hamirpur	Bilaspur-Beri Rajadian-Barmana
104.	Hamirpur	Mundkhar-Ladraur
105.	Hamirpur	Kosrian-Tallai
106.	Hamirpur	Railla-Jajri-Lohari-Chakmoh
107.	Hamirpur	Barsar-Harsaur
108.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur-Lambloo-Bhareri
109.	Hamirpur	Pathankot- Trifalghat
110.	Hamirpur	Katrap-Shimla
111.	Hamirpur	Tallai-Jhabola-Daslehra
112.	Mandi	Manali-Mandi
113.	Mandi	Kullu-Bhutti
114.	Mandi	Kullu-Manali
115.	Mandi	Kullu-Pandoh
116.	Mandi	Bhunter-Manikaran
117.	Mandi	Bhunter-Garsa
118.	Mandi	Banjar-Aut
119.	Mandi	Aut-Sainj
120.	Mandi	Aut-Kotkhamradha
121.	Mandi	Banjar-Jibhi
122.	Mandi	Mandi-Pathankot
123.	Mandi	Mandi-Jahalman
124.	Mandi	Keylong-Udaipur.

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
125.	Mandi	Koksar -Keylong
126.	Mandi	Kullu-Udaipur
127.	Mandi	Samdho-Keylong
128.	Mandi	Keylong-Kullu
129.	Mandi	Mandi-Karsog
130.	Mandi	Karsog-Shimla
131.	Mandi	Mandi-Shimla <i>via</i> Bilaspur
132.	Mandi	Mandi-Janjehli
133.	Mandi	Mandi-Kotli-Saingloo
134.	Mandi	Mandi-Kataula
135.	Mandi	Mandi-Gagal
136.	Mandi	Mandi-Gagal
137.	Mandi	Mandi Jachh
138.	Mandi	Slapper-Mandi
139.	Mandi	Mandi-Ambala upto Roper point
140.	Mandi	Mandi-Delhi upto Roper point
141.	Mandi	Shimla-Mandi <i>via</i> Bilaspur up trip
142.	Mandi	Mandi-Jai Devi-Pangna
143.	Mandi	Churag-Mahun
144.	Mandi	Mahun-Tattapani
145.	Mandi	Bajjnath-Mandi
146.	Mandi	Joginder Nagar-Drubbal
147.	Mandi	Jogindernagar-Chimnoo
148.	Mandi	Ladbharole-Bajjnath
149.	Mandi	Mandi-Rewalsar-Hamirpur
150.	Mandi	Sundernagar-Nihri
151.	Mandi	Gohar-Mandi

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
152.	Mandi	Chailchowk-Gohar
153.	Mandi	Pathankot-Mandi
154.	Mandi	Sundernagar-Jaidevi-Jhungi
155.	Mandi	Sundernagar -Dehr.
156.	Mandi	Mandi-Sundernagar <i>via</i> Gagal
157.	Mandi	Mandi-Tullah
158.	Mandi	Mandi-Baldwara
159.	Mandi	Sarkaghat-Sajao Piplu
160.	Mandi	Sandhole-Mandi
161.	Mandi	Mandi-Sarkaghat-Sandhole
162.	Mandi	Sarkaghat-Dharampur
163.	Mandi	Sarkaghat-Mandi
164.	Mandi	Mandi-Jamni-Sandhole
165.	Mandi	Sarkaghat-Baldwara
166.	Mandi	Kullu-Banjar
167.	Mandi	Mandi-Shimla
168.	Mandi	Jogindernagar-Barot
169.	Mandi	Jogindernagar-Kuthera
170.	Mandi	Mandi-Dharamsala
171.	Rampur BSR	Shimla-Rampur
172.	Rampur BSR	B/Nagar-Nichar
173.	Rampur BSR	Recongpeo-Kaza
174.	Rampur BSR	R/Peo-Sangla
175.	Rampur BSR	Tipri-Urni
176.	Rampur BSR	Recongpeo-Rampur-Shimla
177.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Shimla-1
178.	Rampur BSR	Rampur -Shimla-2

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
179.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Anni
180.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Arsu
181.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Khanag-Surd-Bangla
182.	Rarnpur BSR	Rampur-Thanedhar
183.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Sarahan
184.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Kotgarh
185.	Rampur BSR	Jeori-Nigulsari
186.	Rampur BSR	Kingal-Chekul
187.	Rampur BSR	Nogli-Taklech-Nogli
188.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Kaalpa
189.	Rampur BSR	Anni-Peog
190.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Barach-Delath
191.	Rampur BSR	Rampur-Nankhari
192.	Rampur BSR	Kingal-Baragan
193.	Rampur BSR	Anni-Chowai
194.	Shimla	Chopal-Jhikanipul
195.	Shimla	Chopal-Sarain
196.	Shimla	Shimla-Baghi
197.	Shimla	Shimla-Kiari
198.	Shimla	Shimla-Nerwa
199.	Shimla	Narkanda-Raibahali
200.	Shimla	Chhaila-Dehra
201.	Shimla	Chopal-Shimla
202.	Shimla	Narkanda-Oddi
203.	Shimla	Shoghi-Anandpur
204.	Shimla	Dhami-Daragi-Sainj Bhajji
205.	Shimla	Shimla-Dhami

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
206.	Shimla	Mashobra-Chaini
207.	Shimla	Shimla-Junga
208.	Shimla	Shimla-Kangal
209.	Shimla	Theog-Balag-Pulbahal
210.	Shimla	Totu-Jubberhatti
211.	Shimla	Shimla-Narkanda
212.	Shimla	Shimla-Basantpur-Sunni
213.	Shimla	Totu-Ghanahatti-Panesh
214.	Shimla	Dhalli-Koti
215.	Shimla	Baghi-Khadrala
216.	Shimla	Ambala-Shimla
217.	Shimla	Jalog-Dharogara
218.	Shimla	Shimla-Rohru-Summerkot
219.	Shimla	Rohru-Pujarli-4
220.	Shimla	Rohru-Kutara
221.	Shimla	Chirgaon- Tikkeri
222.	Shimla	Rohru-Summerkot
223.	Stumla	Rohru-Jalag
224.	Shimla	Rohru-Chirgaon
225.	Shimla	Hatkoti-Padranoo-Mori
226.	Solan	Solan-Kalka
227.	Solan	Kalka-Darla
228.	Solan	Solan-Rajgarh-Nohra
229.	Solan	Kalka-Patta
230.	Solan	Parwanoo-Masulkhana
231.	Solan	Rajgarh-Habban
232.	Solan	Saproon-Deothi

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
233.	Solan	Subathu-Delgi-Bharti
234.	Solan	Solan-Dharamsala
235.	Solan	Arki-Bakhalag
236.	Solan	Arki-Domehehar-Jainagar
237.	Solan	Subathu-Haripur -Kuther
238.	Solan	Kalka-Nalagarh
239.	Solan	Kalka-Kasauli
240.	Solan	Nalagarh-Sai
241.	Solan	Nalagarh-Lodhimajra
242.	Solan	Kunihar-Mamligh-Syri
243.	Solan	Nalagarh-Dabhota
244.	Solan	Nalagarh- Baruna
245.	Solan	Nalagarh-Manjholi
246.	Solan	Nalagarh-Ramshehar-Diggall
247.	Solan	Diggall-Badhalag
248.	Solan	Ramshehr-Matuli-Chiachi
249.	Solan	Nalagarh-Bhogpur
250.	Solan	Barotiwala-Surajpur
251.	Solan	Kunihar-Khararhatti
252.	Solan	Kasauli-Sanawar
253.	Solan	Kalka-Patta
254.	Solan	Sarahan-Naalagarh-Wasni
255.	Solan	Sarahan-Narag
256.	Solan	Sarahan-Janot-Dangiar
257.	Solan	Chogtali-Rajgarh
258.	Solan	Rajgarh-Chhapang
259.	Solan	Rajgarh-Kheri

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
260.	Solan	Rajgarh-Dahan
261.	Solan	Nahan-Banethi-Chakli
262.	Solan	Nahan-Kala Amb-Trilokpur
263.	Solan	Nahan-Kaulawala Bhood
264.	Solan	Nahan-Bagthan-Parara
265.	Solan	Sangrah-Andheri-HPur Dhar.
266.	Solan	Kumarhatti-Sarahan
267.	Solan	Paonta-Batamandi
268.	Solan	Poonta-Nagetha
269.	Solan	Nohra-Charna-HP Dhar
270.	Solan	Shillai-Nainidhar
271.	Solan	Shillai-Rohnat
272.	Solan	Nahan-Surla
273.	Solan	Yamunanagar -Batamandi-Paonta
274.	Solan	Ambala-Nahan
275.	Solan	Nahan-Dadahu-Sangrah
276.	Solan	Nahan-Bhojand
277.	Solan	Nahan-Paonta
278.	Solan	Paonta-Shillai
279.	Solan	Paonta-Yamunanagar
280.	Solan	Kalka-Solan
281.	Solan	Nalagarh-Joghon-Kundlu-Glot
282.	Solan	Solan-Kandaghat-Chail
283.	Una	Una-Daulatpur-Chiock <i>via</i> Gagat
284.	Una	Una-Santoshgarh <i>via</i> Mehatpur
285.	Una	Thanakalan-Paraian-Una
286.	Una	Una-Chokimaniar-Sohari

Sl. No.	Name of Division	Name of Mail line
287.	Una	Una-Dulehar
288.	Una	Una-Derababa-Rudru
289.	Una	Una-Daulatpur-Chok <i>via</i> Amb
290.	Una	Santokhgarh-Una
291.	Una	Una-Pandogha
292.	Una	Una-Talmera-Bangana
293.	Una	Una-Jhamber
294.	Una	Una-Pathankot

Unsolicited SMS

†1449. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the problem arising out of a large number of unsolicited SMS sent on mobile phones; and

(b) if so, the details of the punitive action being contemplated by Government to sort out this problem?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has laid down the framework for controlling Bulk SMS/Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) through the 'Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010'. These regulations came in to force with effect from 27.09.2011 and have been reviewed from time to time. TRAI has issued a number of amendments to these regulations and directions to make the regulatory framework more effective and stringent. TRAI has issued Fifteen Amendment Regulations and Directions to address implementation issues and to further tighten the regulatory framework. These regulations prohibit sending of Bulk SMS/UCC by telemarketers/subscribers to telecom consumers, who have registered their numbers in the National Customer Preference Register (NCPR) for not receiving UCC and further

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

provide the following punitive actions against violations of the regulations by registered telemarketers, unregistered telemarketers and service providers:

- (i) To prevent Unregistered telemarketers from misusing concessional SMS packs or tariff plans for sending bulk promotional SMSs, a price restraint has been placed on sending of more than one hundred SMS per day per SIM at a concessional rate. The subscriber is free to send SMSs beyond this number, however, all such SMSs sent beyond one hundred SMS per day per SIM shall be charged at a rate not lower than ₹ 0.50 per SMS.
- (ii) To restrict unregistered telemarketers from sending bulk promotional SMSs using software applications, Access Providers have been mandated to put in place a solution, which will ensure that no commercial SMSs are sent having same or similar characters or strings or variants from any source or number. The solution will ensure that no more than 200 SMSs with such similar 'signature' are sent in an hour.
- (iii) For increasing consumer awareness and to caution against misuse, Access Providers have been mandated to send SMS to all customers on periodic basis, advising them not to send any commercial communications and informing them about the consequences of misuse.

Further, there is also provision of financial disincentives on telecom service providers in the regulation, which provides the Financial Disincentive on telecom service providers for the following:

- (i) For failure to prevent Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) originated from the service providers network by subscribers who are not registered with TRAI as a telemarketer-The Service Provider shall pay up to a maximum of ₹ 5,000/- financial disincentive for each valid complaint and
- (ii) For contraventions of the provisions of the regulations- ₹ 1 lakh first contravention, ₹ 5 lakhs for second contravention and ₹ 10 lakhs for third and each subsequent such contravention.

In accordance with the above provisions, TRAI has been imposing financial disincentive on telecom service providers.

TRAI imposes penalty for violations, which is recovered from the security deposit made by the telemarketer with the service providers while taking telecom resources as per the following table and such amount will be deposited with TRAI:

Sl.No	Number of Violation by Telemarketer access provider-wise	Deduction from security deposit	Security Deposit	Additional Security Deposit
	0 violation	Nil	1,00,000	Nil
1.	1st Violation	₹ 25,000	75,000	2,00,000
2.	2nd Violation	₹ 75,000	2,00,000	Nil
3.	3rd Violation	₹ 80,000	1,20,000	4,00,000
4.	4th Violation	₹ 1,20,000	4,00,000	Nil
5.	5th Violation	₹ 1,50,000	2,50,000	Nil
6.	6th Violation	₹ 2,50,000	Nil	Nil

In accordance with the above provisions, TRAI has imposed financial disincentives on 13 companies for ₹ 27,46,64,500/- (Rupees Twenty seven crores, fourty-six lakhs, sixty-four thousand and five hundred only).

Availability of secure communication channels

1450. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total expenditure and revenue of BSNL during the last three years;
- (b) the details of State units making profit and those making losses; and
- (c) whether Government has realized from recent events, the necessity of public investments to ensure secure communication channels available to people or is it satisfied with leaving this important field with private sector?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Details of total expenditure and revenue of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during the last three years is given below:

(₹ in crores)		
Year	Total Expenditure	Total Revenue
2013-2014	34929.60	27996.35
2012-2013	34900.43	27127.89
2011-2012	36586.11	27933.50

Government is conscious that the performance of BSNL needs substantial improvement and has been taking measures to address the present problems. These measures include:

- Waiver of Government loan to BSNL involving an amount of ₹ 1411 crores.
- Financial support of ₹ 6724.51 crores to BSNL on surrender of Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum.

BSNL is also taking several steps to enhance its revenues through investments to strengthen its network and focus on customer care and service delivery to improve quality of service. The investment projects being undertaken by BSNL include:

- Augmentation of its mobile network as part of its Phase-VII Project to create additional capacity of 15 million lines at an estimated cost of ₹ 4804.77 crores. This will result in addition of 14421 2G sites and 10605 3G sites across the country.
- Replacement of the entire network of wireline local exchanges by Internet Protocol (IP) enabled exchanges and deployment of Next Generation Network (NGN) equipment based on the latest architecture gradually to replace entire legacy telephone exchanges at an estimated cost of ₹ 600 crores.
- Migration of entire C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics) legacy telephone exchanges with technology solutions being developed by C-DOT at an estimated cost of ₹ 350 crores for which MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) has been signed between C-DOT and BSNL.
- Government has assigned the work of providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas through BSNL at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.58 crores.
- Government has assigned the work of providing mobile connectivity to uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam to BSNL on nomination basis at an estimated cost of ₹ 1975.38 crores.

(b) Details of Circles of BSNL making profits and incurring losses are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) While the entire telecommunications sector is of significant strategic importance to the security and development of the country, Government is conscious of the contribution by BSNL and the need for public investments in providing reliable and secure telecommunication facilities in strategic and remote parts of the country.

Statement*Circle-wise details of profit/loss of BSNL*

(₹ in lacs)

Circle Name	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
Territorial Circles			
Kerala Telecom	39680	25691	15703
Jammu and Kashmir Telecom	937	177	(2600)
Odisha Telecom	516	2978	3460
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	(494)	(517)	(305)
Chennai Telephones	(1791)	(2448)	(5900)
Uttarakhand Telecom	(5633)	(3757)	(6226)
Chhattisgarh Telecom	(5737)	(7420)	(9761)
North-East-II	(6029)	(6359)	(2658)
Himachal Telecom	(6753)	(7099)	(4562)
North-East Telecom	(7961)	(6575)	(5391)
Karnataka Telecom	(17721)	(23411)	(37487)
Haryana Telecom	(18547)	(14590)	(12118)
Assam Telecom	(20230)	(17448)	(15973)
Punjab Telecom	(21481)	(23146)	(29356)
Jharkhand Telecom	(23748)	(21699)	(10857)
Rajasthan Telecom	(28910)	(26025)	(28790)
Madhya Pradesh Telecom	(30403)	(28410)	(36290)
Maharashtra Telecom	(37849)	(53383)	(82015)
Kolkata Telephones	(38763)	(35551)	(26053)
Uttar Pradesh (West) Telecom	(41379)	(38811)	(39786)
Tamil Nadu Telecom	(43208)	(51286)	(56753)
Bihar Telecom	(43338)	(41715)	(44696)

Circle Name	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
West Bengal Telecom	(50998)	(51456)	(43288)
Gujarat Telecom	(55205)	(62826)	(63203)
Uttar Pradesh (East) Telecom	(57490)	(49931)	(37226)
Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Telecom	(63614)	(51212)	(62154)
Non Territorial Circles			
Corporate Office	44512	(40029)	(85358)
Maintenance New Delhi	13269	8101	16848
Northern Telecom Project	876	232	478
Chief Pay and Accounts Office ITI Bangalore	100	270	(249)
Western Telecom Project	21	(47)	(328)
Task Force Guwahati	(57)	14	60
Banking Financial Control and Investment	(235)	1941	(10889)
National Academy For Telecom Finance and Management	(318)	(222)	(251)
Telecom Stores Calcutta	(1809)	(1661)	(1675)
Quality Assurance Bangalore	(1861)	(1803)	(1994)
Southern Telecom Project	(1938)	3962	1218
Bharat Ratna Bhimrao Ambedkar Institute of Telecom Training	(1983)	(2153)	(2156)
National Circate Electronic Switching	(2470)	(2381)	(2375)
Advance Level Telecom Training Centre	(2554)	(2232)	(2310)
Eastern Telecom Project	(2935)	(231)	310
Telecom Factory Mumbai	(4422)	(3715)	(2004)
Telecom Factory Jabalpur	(4584)	(3431)	(4366)
Telecom Factory Kolkata	(4691)	(4222)	(2912)

Circle Name	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
Technical and Development Circle Jabalpur	(5087)	(4973)	(4835)
Data Networks	(8387)	(5659)	(4336)
Pay and Accounts Office, Head Quarter	(21117)	(24659)	(16168)
Maintenance Kolkata	(31406)	(30692)	(30599)
Maintenance Mumbai	(33805)	(33536)	(30701)
Maintenance Chennai	(36297)	(33896)	(36387)
GRAND TOTAL	(693325)	(777254)	(865261)

Note 1: The above items does not include prior period items and deferred tax.

Note 2 : Figures in bracket represents loss incurred by the circle.

Laying out of cables for digital India

1451. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Bharat Broadband Network Limited has stated that the deadlines set by Government for laying out cables for the “Digital India” initiative could be unachievable;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government is aware that National Optic Fibre Network (NOFN) is running five years behind schedule, leaving large areas of the country to still remain disconnected; and

(d) the budgetary allocations for optic fibre cable laying?

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

(b) Not Applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project was approved by Government on 25.10.2011. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) viz. Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited (BBNL) was incorporated on 25.02.2012 for execution of the NOFN project. The following difficulties were encountered in project implementation:

- (i) Project is of a mega nature widely dispersed across the country and to reach fibre to the unreached areas, which are rural and remote. Survey work to ascertain the total length of incremental OFC to be laid has been significantly completed and this has been a fairly time consuming process for the 3 participating Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Raitel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL).
- (ii) Supply constraints with a given set of suppliers to meet the vast demands of material requirement of large NOFN project.
- (iii) Constraints in timely availability of labour and contractors for trenching and cable laying in different parts of the country given the high volume of work of NOFN at rates within reasonable limits of estimated rates.

The scheme to connect all the Gram Panchayats with respective blocks on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to facilitate broadband services is envisaged to be completed in a phased manner by December 2016.

(d) Against an indicative cost of about ₹ 20,100 crore of NOFN project, ₹ 2,010 crore has been released by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to BBNL for optic-fibre cable laying as on 31.10.2014.

Telecom connectivity in LWE affected districts of Odisha

1452. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that proposal of Government of Odisha for provision of funds for telecom connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts of Odisha is pending with the Ministry; and
- (b) if so, will it be approved early?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government of Odisha had submitted a proposal for installation of mobile towers in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts of the State.

Government has approved a project on 20.8.2014 at an estimated cost of ₹ 3567.68 crores to provide mobile services in 2199 locations in Left Wing Extremism affected

areas, including installation of 253 mobile towers in Odisha. The project will be funded from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been nominated to execute the project.

Issuing mobile connections on the basis of Aadhaar Cards

1453. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts the Ministry is making to make it mandatory to provide mobile connection only on the basis of Aadhaar card as proof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that TRAI has made this recommendation;
- (c) whether in view of only 70 crore people having got Aadhaar cards, would it not hamper other 50 crore people in getting mobile connection; and
- (d) if so, how the Ministry is planning to go ahead in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Department of Telecommunications does not have any proposal to make it mandatory to provide mobile connection on the basis of Aadhaar Card as Proof of Identity/Proof of Address at present.

(b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has not made any recommendations with regard to use of Aadhaar Card as Proof of Identity/Proof of Address.

(c) and (d) In view of above, this does not arise at present.

Increase in internet speed and connectivity to small rural areas

1454. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps Government is taking to increase the internet speed in the country and also connectivity to small rural areas;
- (b) the mediums of delivering high speed internet in the country; and
- (c) the time-frame when the entire country will be covered by fibre optic network?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Government is implementing National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project to provide broadband connectivity through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to all the Gram Panchayats in the country (approximately 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats) at an estimated cost of ₹ 20,100 crore by bridging the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks. Under this project, at least 100 Mbps (megabits per second) bandwidth would be made available at each Gram Panchayat (GP) to be used by all the service providers on non-discriminatory basis. Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited (BBNL), a Central Public Sector Undertaking Unit (CPSU) has been created to execute the project. Work is being implemented by BBNL through 3 CPSUs viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Railtel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL).

NOFN is expected to provide the basic infrastructure for facilitating provision of broadband services in rural areas by telecom service operators. The project to connect all the Gram Panchayats with respective blocks through OFC is envisaged to be completed in a phased manner by December, 2016.

The roll out of services using 3G and Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum which was put to auction in 2010 would also lead to expansion of broadband facilities in the country.

India Post to enter into e-commerce

1455. SHRI AVINASH PANDE:

SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to make India Post to enter into e-commerce business, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether this proposal will generate more employment in postal department and revenue thereby, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Department of Posts provides its existing products and services like Speed Post, Express Parcel/Business Parcel etc. to all customers including e-commerce business. There is also a web based

e-Post Office at www.epostoffice.gov.in where sale of philatelic stamps, payment of Postal Life Insurance (PLI) premium and online generation of Electronic Indian Postal Order (eIPO) is provided. The Department has entered into an agreement with e-commerce company for online sale of philatelic products.

Department of Posts makes continuous efforts to generate more business from the market including the e-commerce segment with its standard procedures, existing infrastructure and resources.

Hacking incidents of Government websites

1456. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) the number of hacking incidents occurred to Government websites during last three years;

(b) whether adequate security software system is loaded for anti-hacking, keeping in view the sensitive nature of information on Government websites;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any special cell is set up to track and restore the website, in case of hacking by outsiders, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) As per the information tracked and reported to Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) a total number of 308, 371, 189 and 153 Government websites were hacked by various attackers during the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 (up to October).

(b) and (c) The Government websites host information for public dissemination. No sensitive information is hosted on Government websites. As per the guidelines of the Government, the Computer systems with sensitive information are isolated from Internet. The Government websites are adequately safeguarded by loading anti-hacking security software and installing security control devices like Network and Web Application Firewalls (WAF), Intrusion Prevention System (IPS), Anti-virus software etc. In addition, Government has also taken other measures to secure the websites from hacking, these include:

- (i) All Central Government Ministries/Departments and State/Union Territory Governments have been advised to conduct security auditing of entire Information Technology infrastructure. All the new Government websites and applications are to be audited with respect to cyber security prior to their hosting. The auditing of the websites and applications is to be conducted on a regular basis after hosting also. Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) provides necessary expertise to audit IT infrastructure of critical and other ICT sectors.
 - (ii) It has been mandated that all Government websites are to be hosted on infrastructure of National Informatics Centre (NIC), Education and Research Network (ERNET) or any other secure infrastructure service provider in the country.
 - (iii) National Informatics Centre (NIC) which hosts the Government websites is continuously engaged in upgrading and improving the security posture of its hosting infrastructure.
 - (iv) National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been directed not to host websites, which are not audited with respect to cyber security.
 - (v) All major websites are being monitored regularly to detect malicious activities.
 - (vi) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis. CERT-In has published guidelines for securing the websites, which are available on its website (www.cert-in.org.in), CERT-In also conducts regular training programmes to make the system administrators aware about secure hosting of the websites.
- (d) Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) tracks the hacking of websites on 24x7 basis and immediately alerts the concerned website owners to restore the hacked websites and taking further actions to secure the websites.

Opening of Post Office at Faridabad

†1457. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the time by which a Post Office and Speed Post centre will be opened for the convenience of residents of sectors 76, 86, 87, 88 and 89 in Faridabad; and

(b) whether any proposal in this regard is under consideration of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Department has received a proposal for opening of new post office in the area known as “Greater Faridabad” for the convenience of residents of sectors 76, 86, 87, 88 and 89. The same is currently under examination. If it is found feasible and justified as per departmental norms for opening of new post offices, it will be opened within the current financial year *i.e.* 2014-15. The Speed Post facility will be provided if the above Post Office is opened. Presently, the Speed Post facility in the areas of Sector 76 is being provided through Ballabgarh Mukhya Dak Ghar (MDG) and Sectors 86, 87 and 89 are being provided through Sector 16 A Post Office.

Connecting panchayats with internet facility

1458. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a project for connecting all Panchayats in the country with internet facility, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the allocation of funds made for this purpose and the quantum of funds released so far; and

(c) the status of the work taken up so far and the estimated time to be taken for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government approved National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project on 25.10.2011 to provide broadband connectivity through Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to all the Gram Panchayats in the country (approx. 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats) at an estimated cost of about ₹ 20,100 crore by bridging the connectivity gap between Gram Panchayats and Blocks. Under this project, at least 100 Mbps (mega bits per second) bandwidth would be made available at each Gram Panchayat (GP) to be used by all categories of service providers including Internet Service Providers (ISPs) on non-discriminatory basis.

Bharat Broadband Nigam Limited (BBNL), a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), has been created on 25.02.2012 for execution of the NOFN project.

BBNL has entered into agreement with 3 Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), RailTel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) to utilize their existing optical fiber to implement the work on ground for laying incremental optical fiber for connecting all Gram Panchayats (GPs).

(b) Against an indicative cost of about ₹ 20,100 crore of NOFN project, ₹ 2,010 crore has been released by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to BBNL as on 31.10.2014.

(c) Survey work has been completed by the 3 CPSUs viz. BSNL, RailTel and PGCIL for more than 80% of the Gram Panchayats. Tenders for trenching and pipe laying works have been finalized by 3 CPSUs for around 1154 blocks and work has commenced in 514 blocks. About 11411 km of pipe and 6577 km of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has been laid. Purchase orders for procurement of OFC and electronic transmission equipment Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) have been issued and supply commenced.

The scheme to connect all the Gram Panchayats with respective blocks on Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) to facilitate broadband services is envisaged to be completed in a phased manner by December, 2016.

Mobile signal towers in Goa

1459. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile signal towers existing at present in Goa erected by BSNL;

(b) the number of towers proposed to be erected;

(c) the hurdles which have come in the way and attempt made by BSNL to find solutions;

(d) the nature of agreement which BSNL enters into with the owners of the land on which the BSNL proposes to erect tower; and

(e) whether the apprehension regarding health hazard has been removed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has installed 129 mobile towers in Goa.

(b) and (c) BSNL has informed that eight number of additional mobile towers are proposed to be erected at Erlem, Bambolin Quarters, Mobor Leela, Bicholim ITI (Industrial Technical Institute), Hotel Gautam, EDCON, Navelim and Santacruz under its Phase-VII expansion plan. The main hurdle being faced by BSNL is the public apprehension due to radiation from mobile towers. BSNL has planned alternative sites for erection of mobile towers.

(d) BSNL has informed that Standard Lease Agreement is entered into with the owners of land depending on local needs and valid considerations.

(e) EMR (Electro Magnetic Radiation) norms have been notified by Department of Telecommunications which are to be met by all telecom service providers including BSNL. BSNL has informed that there is no health hazard because of these mobile towers.

Computerization of PDS

1460. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States, such as Tamil Nadu, have started implementing computerization of PDS using biometric enumeration data of National Population Register (NPR), if so, the percentage of eligible population that has been covered under the biometric enrolment of NPR exercise, State-wise; and

(b) how does Government proposes to address the problems of inclusion and exclusion of names of beneficiaries as the entire eligible population is not yet covered under the NPR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) A scheme on 'End-to-end Computerization of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) Operations' is being implemented in States/UTs. Digitization of beneficiary/ration card data is one of the key activities under the scheme. Further, States/UTs have been asked to feed available Aadhaar numbers in the database. States/UTs are also to put the digitised beneficiary/ration card data on their transparency portals in the public domain. This is expected to facilitate social audit of records, deduplication of bogus/ineligible ration cards, and address the problem of inclusion and exclusion of names of beneficiaries.

As per information given by State Government of Tamil Nadu, the State Government has decided to issue family cards on the basis of NPR demographic data which contain Aadhaar number for all the residents enrolled therein.

The work of biometric enrolment in 12 States/UTs, including in the State of Tamil Nadu, under National Population Register (NPR) is being implemented by the office of Registrar General of Citizen Registration, India. The State/UT-wise progress of biometric enrolment reported by them is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Further, it has been reported by the Registrar General of India that permanent NPR biometric enrolment centers would be set up at Tehsil/Taluk level in the 12 NPR States/UTs to cover the left over usual residents including beneficiaries.

Statement

Statement regarding State/UT-wise progress of biometric enrolment under NPR

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Population	Target Population for biometric enrolment (>5 years)	Total biometric enrolment completed	% Biometry Completed
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,25,41,302	1,12,87,172	49,99,961	44.30
2.	Nagaland	19,78,502	17,80,652	9,99,806	56.15
3.	Manipur	25,70,390	23,13,351	12,23,506	52.89
4.	Mizoram	10,97,206	9,87,485	1,57,990	16.00
5.	Meghalaya	29,66,889	26,70,200	12,116	0.45
6.	Assam	3,12,05,576	2,80,85,018	69,494	0.25
7.	West Bengal	9,12,76,115	8,21,48,504	6,31,91,615	76.92
8.	Odisha	4,19,74,218	3,77,76,796	2,96,96,189	78.61
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	13,83,727	12,45,354	55,609	4.47
10.	Lakshadweep	64,473	58,026	57,602	99.26
11.	Tamil Nadu	7,21,47,030	6,49,32,327	5,01,72,297	77.27
12.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3,43,709	3,09,388	2,05,525	66.44
	TOTAL	25,95,49,137	23,35,94,223	15,08,41,710	64.57

Strengthening of PDS

1461. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has short fallen in last five years in Logistics and Supply Chain Management techniques for distribution which impacted services and prices, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps proposed to utilize proper logistics means and strengthen the Public Distribution System across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of Central and State/UT Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) rest with the concerned State/UT Governments.

To improve functioning of TPDS and bringing transparency in the system, Government has been regularly issuing instructions and holding conferences, wherein State/UT Governments are requested for continuous review of lists of beneficiaries, improving the offtake of allocated foodgrains, door-step delivery of foodgrains to FPSs, ensuring timely availability of foodgrains at FPSs, greater transparency in functioning of TPDS, improved monitoring and vigilance at various levels, improving the viability of FPS operations through increase in FPS margins, etc.

The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) contains measures for reforms in Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), to be undertaken progressively by the Central and State Governments. These reforms *inter alia* include doorstep delivery of foodgrains to the TPDS outlets, application of information and communication technology tools, diversification of commodities distributed under the Public Distribution System over a period of time etc. Provisions for transparency and accountability in TPDS which includes disclosure of records of TPDS, conduct of social audit and setting up of Vigilance Committees at the State, District, Block and fair price shop levels have also been made in the Act, besides grievance redressal mechanism at the District and State levels.

Delay in implementing NFSA

1462. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the beneficiaries of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) were to be listed by the State Governments on the basis of Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC);

(b) whether out of 640 districts in the country SECC data has been released only for 280 districts so far; and

(c) whether the Supreme Court has asked the Centre to explain the delay in implementing the NFSA even a year after its passing, if so, Government's comments thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) As per the provisions of the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA), identification of eligible households for receiving subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), is entrusted to State Governments. Eligible households comprise of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households and priority households. While the identification of AAY households is to be done in accordance with the guidelines applicable to the said scheme, the remaining households, *i.e.* priority households, are to be identified in accordance with such guidelines as State Governments may specify. AAY is an ongoing scheme and the AAY households are already identified in States/UTs. For identification of priority households the complete responsibility for evolving the criteria and their actual identification is with the State Governments. It is not linked to Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC).

(b) The SECC consists of six stages *viz.*, enumeration, supervision, verifications and corrections, draft list publication, claims and objections and final list publication. As on 27.11.2014, 'Draft List' has been published in 397 districts in 28 States/Union Territories (UTs).

(c) No, Sir.

Fraud in online shopping

1463. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the large number of cases of online frauds happening currently in the country;

(b) whether there is any law to protect the interests of consumers in online shopping;

(c) whether the existing laws are adequate to protect the consumers in online trade; and

(d) if so, whether Government has taken any steps to regulate the e-commerce in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (d) Keeping in view the increasing number of online fraud/cheating cases, the Department has initiated steps for incorporating sufficient provisions for protection of consumer of online shopping/e-commerce under Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Penalty for selling pre-packaged items higher than MRP

1464. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that selling of pre-packaged items at higher than the maximum retail price will soon attract higher penalty, including a jail term, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to overhauling the Legal Metrology Act, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Department of Consumer Affairs is consulting various stakeholders regarding amendment to Legal Metrology Act. No view has been taken on any specific proposal for amendment.

Protection of consumer rights

1465. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question Number 280 given in Rajya Sabha on 25 July, 2014 and state:

(a) the specific time-frame by which Government intends to make amendment to the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 for inclusion of necessary safeguards for protection of rights of consumers of technology based marketing, like ecommerce, telemarketing etc.; and

(b) the details of provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 under consideration of the Ministry for amendment for the aforesaid purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) Sir, Government is making efforts to introduce the Bill for comprehensive amendments

to the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 at the earliest. However, no time-frame can be specified, since views from stakeholders are being continuously received.

(b) Sir, no final view has been taken on specific provisions which will need amendments.

Protection for domestic producers

1466. DR. E.M. SUDARSANANATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that retailer business and traders were affected to the extent of fifty per cent by the online/e-commerce with foreign country goods allowed entering into market; and

(b) if so, whether any Parliament enactment is contemplated to regulate the online trade to protect the interests of domestic producers and retail traders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) No such estimate/data is available with the Government

(b) At present, there is no such proposal.

Policy for e-commerce retailing

1467. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints against certain internet-based retailers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has got the matter investigated, if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering any particular policy for e-commerce retailing and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/likely to be taken by Government to regulate e-retail effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) No such formal complaint has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Presently there is no proposal for a separate regulatory framework for e-commerce under consideration. However, keeping in view the increased number of online fraud/cheating cases, the Government has also initiated steps for incorporating sufficient provisions for protection of consumers of online shopping/e-commerce under Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Creation of National Consumer Protection Authority

1468. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning radical overhaul of consumer laws in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government also proposes to create a National Consumer Protection Authority to protect consumers' rights, if so, to what extent the new Authority will be more effective to check consumer related disputes/affairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has held consultation with all stakeholders for a comprehensive amendment in Consumer Protection Act, 1986 for effective redressal of grievances of Consumers. The proposed amendments include introduction of provisions on chapter each on product liability, mediation and establishment of National Consumer Protection Authority. However no final view has been taken.

Food subsidy

1469. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of food subsidy disbursed during the last year had exceeded the Budget estimates, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government proposes to reduce the food subsidy, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) In the Budget Estimate for Financial Year 2013-14, an amount of ₹ 87,740.00 crore was allocated for food subsidy. However, in Revised Estimate it was enhanced to ₹ 89,740.02 crore. Accordingly, last year an amount of ₹ 89,740.02 crore was disbursed to Food Corporation of India and Decentralised Procuring (DCP) States as food subsidy. Hence there was no excess disbursement of food subsidy over and above the allocation made in budget. There is also no proposal for reduction in food subsidy.

Food inflation

1470. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:

SHRI JUGUL KISHORE:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any step to control the food inflation which is rising during the last three months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the cause of rise of food inflation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Food inflation is officially estimated on the basis of trends in Wholesale Price Index (WPI), for Food Articles as well as Food Products groups. Over the last 3 months (August- October 2014) food inflation has actually declined as shown below:

Commodity	Aug. 2014	Sept. 2014	Oct. 2014	% Variation (Oct. - Aug.)
1. All Commodities	185.9	185.0	183.9	-1.1
A. Food Articles	265.3	261.8	258.5	-2.6
(i) Cereals	237.0	236.6	235.8	-0.5
(ii) Pulses	239.0	240.9	238.2	-0.3
(iii) Vegetables	373.4	328.6	295.5	-20.9
B. Food Products	175.5	175.1	174.2	-0.7
(i) Sugar	195.2	193.7	192.3	-1.5
(ii) Edible Oils	145.8	144.5	144.1	-1.2

Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

- (c) The prices of essential items have remained within control. The measures taken by the Government for this include facilitating import of various items of mass consumption at zero or concessional import duties together with restriction on export, prescribing stock holding limits under Essential Commodities Act, allocation of foodgrains at affordable prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

Inflation of agricultural commodities

1471. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the recent wholesale price index has peaked in comparison to 2010-13;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for last three years;
- (c) the details of inflation rates recorded for agricultural commodities; and
- (d) the measures taken to check the inflation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) As per the latest Wholesale Price Index (WPI) released for October, 2014 the rate of inflation has declined to 1.77% in October, 2014 as compared to the previous four years *i.e.* 2010-11 to 2014-15 as shown below:

Rate of Inflation based on WPI for 2010-11 to 2014-15 (in percentage)

Item	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (Oct.14) (latest)
All Commodities	9.56	8.94	7.36	5.98	1.77

Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

(c) Under the Wholesale Price Index, Agriculture Commodities are covered under two major groups *i.e.* "Primary Articles" consisting of 'Food Articles' sub-group and under "Manufactured Products" consisting of 'Food Products' sub-group. The rate of inflation based on trends in the index for these groups during 2010-11 to 2014-15 is given below:

Rate of Inflation based on WPI for 2010-11 to 2014-15 (in percentage)

Item	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (Oct.14) (latest)
A. Primary Articles	17.75	9.80	9.81	9.84	1.43
1. Food Articles	15.6	7.30	9.90	12.76	2.70
B. Manufactured Products	5.70	7.26	5.41	2.99	2.43
1. Food Products	3.73	7.12	8.13	3.24	2.11

Source: Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

(d) Government has initiated several measures on the prices front to improve availability of essential commodities such as facilitating import of various items of mass consumption at zero or concessional import duties together with restriction on export, prescribing stock holding limits under Essential Commodities Act, allocation of foodgrains at affordable prices under Targeted public Distribution System (TPDS) etc. The recent steps taken in this regard are given in the Statement.

Statement

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 300 per M.T. *w.e.f.* 21.08.2014 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.
- Imposed stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities such as pulses, edible oil, and edible oil seeds for a period up to 30.9.2015.
- Based on interaction with the State Governments/UTs on 4th July, 2014, a decision has been taken to amend the Essential Commodities Act to make hoarding and black marketing a non bailable offence and increase the period of detention to one year from existing six months.
- The Government has approved for the current year *i.e.* 2014-15 Open Market Sale of ten million tonnes of wheat in the domestic market.

Corruption in PDS

†1472. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of corruption in PDS, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the State-wise details of the complaints received in this regard, especially from Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the efforts made to deal with these complaints and the action taken against the guilty;
- (d) whether Government is issuing new ration cards to the poor as an identity card to curb corruption in the PDS, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) by when these new ration cards will be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) There have been complaints about irregularities in the functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in some States/regions in the country. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Therefore, 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. A State/UT-wise statement indicating number of such complaints including those relating to State of Uttar Pradesh received during the year 2013 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been notified by the Government which mandates the State and UT Governments to carry out all required action to ensure smooth functioning of TPDS. PDS (Control) Order, 2001 also empowers State/UT Governments to take punitive action under clauses 8 and 9 in case of contravention of relevant provisions of the Order. As per reports received from State/UT Governments, details regarding action taken under clauses 8 and 9 of the said Order during the year 2013 are as below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Number of inspections	Number of raids conducted	Number of persons arrested/prosecuted/convicted	Number of FPS Licenses suspended/Cancelled Show cause notices issued/FIR lodged
705892	61653	3044	15230

Further, the National Food Security Act (NFSA) which has been notified on 10th September, 2013, provides for a comprehensive grievance redressal mechanism including District Grievance Redressal Officer for each district and State Food Commission. Besides, the Act contains provisions for transparency and accountability in TPDS, including disclosure of records of TPDS, conduct of social audit, setting up of Vigilance Committees at the State, District, Block and Fair Price Shop (FPS) level etc.

(d) The issuance of new ration cards, their modification, deletion, etc. is a continuous process to be undertaken by State/UT Governments. However, as per PDS(Control) Order, 2001, ration cards shall not be used as documents of identity.

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

Statement

Complaints on TPDS received in the department from individuals, organisations and through media reports etc. for the year 2013

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Complaints	Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Complaints
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	17.	Manipur	2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	18.	Meghalaya	1
3.	Assam	-	19.	Mizoram	-
4.	Bihar	32	20.	Nagaland	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	21.	Odisha	3
6.	Delhi	37	22.	Punjab	6
7.	Goa	-	23.	Rajasthan	18
8.	Gujarat	4	24.	Sikkim	0
9.	Haryana	11	25.	Tamil Nadu	9
10.	Himachal Pradesh	-	26.	Uttarakhand	2
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	27.	Uttar Pradesh	92
12.	Jharkhand	8	28.	West Bengal	7
13.	Karnataka	6	29.	Chandigarh	-
14.	Kerala	1	30.	Puducherry	-
15.	Madhya Pradesh	17			
16.	Maharashtra	20		TOTAL	282

Wastage of foodgrains

†1473. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that foodgrains and food-items got spoilt during last three years due to rain as there is no proper facility for their storage in many States, if so, the details thereof and the losses suffered during said years; State-wise; and

(b) the details of measures taken by Government to prevent such losses?

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

(a) and (b) Some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged/spoiled due to exposure to unseasonal rains during procurement, while loading and unloading in rakes and in storage due to floods and storms beside other reasons. The quantity of central pool foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in Food Corporation of India (FCI) due to rains during last 3 years and current year, State-wise is as under; which is very small.

State/ Region	Quantity accrued as damaged/non-issuable due to rains tons			
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (upto in Tons 31.10.2014)
Gujarat	227	381	205	0
Assam	1.222	0	4.14	0
Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	10.522
Punjab	9.946	0	0	0
TOTAL	238.168	381	209.14	10.522
Percentage of damaged grains	0.0005	0.0007	0.0004	0.00004

There is no shortage of storage capacity for foodgrains in the country. Against the total stock position of 405.90 Lakh tons in Central Pool as on 16.11.2014, total covered storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies as on 1.11.2014 is 571.89 lakh tons while CAP (Cover and Plinth) storage capacity is 159.85 lakh tons.

To augment covered storage capacity in the country, Government has formulated Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme for construction of storage capacities

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

through Private Entrepreneurs, Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs) and State agencies. Under this scheme, a capacity of 202.22 lakh ton has been approved for construction at various locations in 20 States. Out of which, a capacity of 20 lakh ton would be created in the form of modern silos. As on 31.10.2014, a capacity of 120.67 lakh ton in the form of conventional godowns has been completed.

Storage capacity in Maharashtra

1474. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assessment has been made to ascertain the shortage of storage capacity, both at the Centre and State level, in Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) how far the measures taken in the past have helped to bridge the gap between requirement and availability of storage capacity in Maharashtra; and
- (c) the details of measures proposed to be taken to make additional storage capacity in Maharashtra?

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

(a) Yes, Sir. Storage gap was assessed based on existing capacity and capacity required to store 4 months PDS requirements. A capacity of 5.83 Lakh MT was approved for construction of godowns in Maharashtra in Public Private Partnership mode.

(b) and (c) Average monthly allocation under Public Distribution System (PDS) in Maharashtra is about 4 Lakh MT. As on 31/10/2014, the storage capacity available with FCI in Maharashtra is 19.87 Lakh MT, which is sufficient to store foodgrains of more than 4 months' requirement. Thus, the storage gap has been bridged.

E-commerce in the country

1475. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the market for e-commerce by Flipcart, Snapdeal, Jabong is gradually growing in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether instances of irregularities in the functioning of e-commerce have come to the notice of Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the factors hindering the growth of e-commerce in the country along with the remedial action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) At present no official data on e-commerce industry is being compiled/available.

(b) No such formal complaint has been received.

(c) As per available information the major hurdles for growth of domestic e-commerce include poor infrastructure specially low internet penetration and absence of specific regulatory frame work.

Regulation of online retailing

1476. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI AVINASH PANDE:

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

(a) whether Government has formulated or is planning to formulate any rules, regulations and policy in respect of online retailing, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to monitor and regulate online business in order to bring clarity and transparency in e-commerce retail business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) At present there is no single set of law/regulations to govern e-commerce industry and therefore e-commerce activities come under the purview of different laws like Information Technology Act, 2000, Contract Law, Indian Penal Code, etc. E-commerce industry is also required to comply with other business laws like Company Law, Labour Law, Income Tax Laws etc. and also compliance with existing banking and financial norms applicable.

Keeping in view the increased number of online fraud/cheating cases, the Government has also initiated steps for incorporating sufficient provisions for protection of consumers of online shopping/e-commerce under Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Pendency of consumer cases due to vacant posts in CDRF

1477. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

SHRI C.M. RAMESH:

SHRI TARUN VIJAY:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that there is a large number of vacancies in the Consumer Disputes Redressal Fora (CDRF) at district as well as State level;

(b) whether Government is also aware that due to vacancy in the Consumer Disputes Redressal Fora, a large number of consumer complaints as well as appeals are pending; and

(c) whether Government has taken any concrete steps to fix this problem, if so, the details thereof and outcome obtained and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Vacancy in the Consumer Disputes Redressal Fora (CDRF) is one of the reasons for pendency of large number of consumer complaints as well as appeals.

(c) The State Governments have been requested from time to time to take action well in advance for filling up of vacancies of President and Members and to maintain a panel of candidates for filling up of future vacancies to avoid delay in appointments. The recent trend shows reduction in the vacancies to the post of President and Member in State Commission and that of President in District Fora.

Implementation of National Food Security Act

1478. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI P. RAJEEVE:

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

(a) whether the National Food Security Act is implemented in the country;

(b) if so, the details of all States regarding status of its implementation; and

- (c) the total allocation and expenditure incurred in this regard?

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) has deemed to have come into force on 05.07.2013. Based on the preparedness and identification of beneficiaries for coverage under the Act, reported by them, allocation of foodgrains to 11 States/Union Territories (UTs) namely, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan has started under the Act. Remaining 25 States/UTs have not completed the preparatory measures required for implementation of the Act.

Currently, a monthly allocation of about 18.34 lakh tons is being made under NFSA to the above 11 States/UTs, where implementation of the Act has started. Allocation of foodgrains under existing TPDS is being continued in States/UTs where implementation of NFSA has not started. Expenditure on subsidy involved in allocation of foodgrains under NFSA as well as existing TPDS is met out of budgetary allocation for food subsidy. During 2014-15, the allocation under food subsidy is ₹ 1,10,500 crore against which ₹ 93,894 crore has been released so far.

**Establishment of an authority with power to
initiate mass scale product recall**

1479. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to establish an authority with power to initiate mass scale product recall, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it would operate at multiple levels of intervention, right from production inspection to complaints by consumers to safeguard the interests of consumers;
- (c) whether misleading ads in posters, wall-writings, billboards and other dubious claims of products will be scrutinized and intervened by the proposed authority, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it will have the operation at the National, State and district levels, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):
(a) to (d) The Government is consulting various stakeholders regarding amendment to Consumer Protection Act, 1986. Creation of a Consumer Protection Authority is one of the proposals. No final view has been taken.

Scam in paying wages to loaders and labourers of FCI

1480. SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that hundreds of loaders of Food Corporation of India (FCI) have been paid inflated wages at the rate of more than rupees four lakh per month and thousands of labourers have been paid more than rupees one lakh per month during August, 2014, if so, the details thereof along with the details of total inflated wages paid to FCI loaders during current year; and

(b) whether Government has enquired into the huge scam and has fixed responsibility in this regard, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE):
(a) There is no such case where wages more than rupees four lakhs have been paid in the month of August, 2014. However, 370 departmental workers (loaders) working in Maharashtra Region have been paid 2½ years arrears of wages in August, 2014 due to wage revision *w.e.f.* 01.01.2012 alongwith monthly wages, due to which total payment exceeded rupees four lakhs. 4079 labourers out of 52035 have received more than rupees one lakh in August 2014 which includes wages, incentive and overtime. Loaders are piece-rated workers and their earnings are linked with their output (number of bags handled).

(b) General Managers (Region), FCI has not reported any huge scam in payment of wages to the labours. They investigate all such cases where the monthly payment exceeds one lakh and action is taken against the concerned officials wherever any anomaly is found in calculation of wages of workers. Vigilance Division of FCI also investigates all such cases wherever any instance of high wages have been reported.

Distribution of wheat and rice under National Food Security Scheme

1481. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of foodgrains *viz.* rice and wheat distributed during the last two years *viz.* 2012-13 and 2013-14 under the National Food Security Scheme, State-wise and quantity-wise;
- (b) the details of beneficiaries under the scheme, State-wise; and
- (c) whether such distribution has any impact on the market prices of rice and wheat, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Government of India has enacted the National Food Security Act (NFSA) with effect from 05.07.2013. So far 11 States/UTs have implemented NFSA. Details of rice and wheat allocated to these States/UTs during 2013-14 and beneficiaries identified under NFSA so far are given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (c) No such specific study has been conducted.

Allocation under NFSA for the year 2013-14 and beneficiaries identified so far under the Act

Sl.No. States/UTs	Rice				Wheat				Total		Month*	Beneficiaries identified so far under NFSA (in lakhs)
	NFSA		Tide Over		NFSA		Tide Over		Total			
1. Bihar (NFSA)	245.745	0	0	0	163.830	0	0	0	409.575	0	March, 2014	760.63
2. Chhattisgarh (NFSA)	322.719	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	322.719	0	Jan., 2014	200.77
3. Delhi (NFSA)	22.576	37.668	0	0	81.102	114.088	0	0	103.678	151.756	Oct., 2013	40.07
4. Haryana (NFSA)	317.499	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	317.499	0	Sept., 2013	126.49
5. Himachal Pradesh (NFSA)	38.370	53.676	0	0	54.606	107.346	0	0	92.976	161.022	Oct., 2013	26.78
6. Karnataka (NFSA)	538.736	0	0	0	80.350	0	0	0	619.086	0	Jan., 2014	401.93
7. Madhya Pradesh (NFSA)#	46.909	0	0	0	187.634	0	0	0	234.543	0	March, 2014	509.52
8. Maharashtra (NFSA)	329.272	0	0	0	420.994	0	0	0	750.266	0	Feb., 2014	700.16
9. Punjab (NFSA)	0	0	0	0	229.060	0	0	0	229.060	0	Dec., 2013	141.45
10. Rajasthan (NFSA)	0	0	0	0	1395.786	0	0	0	1395.786	0	Oct., 2013	446.62
11. Chandigarh (NFSA)	0.470	0	0	0	0.705	4.027	0	0	1.175	4.027	Feb., 2014	2.46
TOTAL	1862.296	91.344	0	0	2614.067	225.461	0	0	4476.363	316.805		3356.88

*Month from which NFSA implemented in the State.

#Wheat allocation of Madhya Pradesh includes coarse grains of 14500 tons.

Allocation of foodgrains to Kerala

1482. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Kerala has demanded allocation of more foodgrains for public distribution;
- (b) if so, the action taken by the Ministry thereon; and
- (c) the year-wise details of demand and allocation of foodgrains to Kerala during last three years?

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

(b) Government of India has been allocating additional foodgrains to the State from time to time, over and above normal quota under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

(c) Year-wise details of demand and allocation of foodgrains to Kerala during the last three years are as under:

(in lakh tons)

Year	Demand of foodgrains	Allocation of foodgrains		
		Normal	Additional	Total
2011-12	29.10	12.27	4.10	16.37
2012-13	26.22	12.27	5.53	17.80
2013-14	27.01	12.27	5.84	18.11

Hoarding and black-marketing of essential commodities

1483. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to amend the Essential Commodities Act to make hoarding a non-bailable offence;

(b) the action Government will take to ensure reduction in recent spurt in food prices;

(c) the number of hoarders raided so far and the quantity of foodgrains etc. recovered along with details thereof during last five years; and

(d) whether Government will take strict measures and establish special courts to stop hoarding and black marketing in future, if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Food prices are regulated by several factors *i.e.* production/manufacture cost of production, prices in international market, import and export increase and decrease in demand, maximum retail price, duties on their trade imposed by Government local bodies etc., prices of ingredients used in preparing the foods, cost of transportation, cost of labour involved, trade practices adopted by the traders, hoarding and black-marketing, etc. Presently pulses, vegetable oils, oilseeds, onion and potato are notified for fixing stock limits by the State Governments after concurrence of the Central Government. In comparison to 2013, the prices of agricultural commodities like onion and potato have remained on lower side during the current year.

(c) A Statement of raids conducted and commodities confiscated during the last five years, State-wise is enclosed.

(d) Establishing special courts falls under the jurisdiction of the State Government who can do it in consultation with concerned High Courts.

Statement

*Action taken under The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 during the last five years (2009-2013)
(Relating to offences of violation of Stock Control Orders)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of raids conducted					Value of goods confiscated (₹ in lakhs)				
		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7873	10253	14901	16783	21051	233.31	144.96	614.51	1441.89	2281.54
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2382	69	NR	NR	NR	Nil	Nil	NR	NR	NR
3.	Assam	Nil	634	1497	576	969	Nil	Nil	71.25	30.07	0.59
4.	Bihar	17	65	38	102	61	1.69	Nil	-	87.32	17.74
5.	Chhattisgarh	751	211		482	493	858.27	757.58	NR	109.63	1543.49
6.	Delhi	93	66	38	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	0.13	Nil	NR
7.	Goa	28025	82	616	620	640	528.31	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
8.	Gujarat	30	30296	30677	21868	17707	NR	428.99	298.13	221.41	241.54
9.	Haryana	107	167	209	18	113	0.82	361.62	7.25	13.26	9.24
10.	Himachal Pradesh	24642	22353	30608	35739	32278	10.99	11.62	27.95	19.10	14.08

11.	Jammu and Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12.	Jharkhand	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13.	Karnataka	1659	2016	1340	569	468	24.58	317.78	28.34	19.19	13.93								
14.	Kerala	48829	26603	32472	26285	39649	121.47	21.931	4.93	0	13.24								
15.	Madhya Pradesh	NR	27423	23786	21607	13929	NR	86.12	157.87	181.98	115.30								
16.	Maharashtra	1688	1820	2766	1455	1014	13842.38	1139.46	4708.04	2016.74	279.87								
17.	Manipur	Nil	9	10	18	6	Nil	0.47	3.64	12.5	6.24								
18.	Meghalaya	8	64	228	604	1059	Nil	0.91	Nil	0.02	1.35								
19.	Mizoram	366	84	306	172	194	Nil	0.11	Nil	Nil	Nil								
20.	Nagaland	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.39	Nil	Nil	Nil								
21.	Odisha	35494	60155	61287	43420	21614	14.56	5.29	25.43	7	1.69								
22.	Punjab	122	213	515	120	450	464.52	1.27	2.05	2.09	0.89								
23.	Rajasthan	281	447	426	229	243	36.89	193.33	192.47	126.51	234.07								
24.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil								
25.	Tamil Nadu	16404	18894	6028	10499	8778	623.25	708.69	184.41	152.24	131.63								
26.	Tripura	66	245	203	205	81	0.65	7.07	6.56	6.12	1.19								

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
27.	Uttarakhand	NR	NR	-	-	-	NR	NR	80.44	26.59	98.45
28.	Uttar Pradesh	39684	29723	30208	25524	36234	1929.48	6262.85	1124.94	1112.71	954.73
29.	West Bengal	161	365	252	489	339	90.4	262.04	409.05	246.94	27.61
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	208	193	256	211	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
31.	Chandigarh	8	10	-	9	3	7.97	9.16	-	4.44	0.96
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	1	13	5	NIL	0.22	35	31.04	21.98	Nil
33.	Daman and Diu	NR	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR	Nil	NR	NR	NR
34.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	Nil	Nil	NR	Nil	NR
35.	Puducherry	512	745	615	770	520	15.53	4.71	0.18	0.06	0.38
36.	Telangana	NR	NR	NR	8718	13701	NR	NR	NR	35.52	54.04
TOTAL		209413	233208	239295	217097	211594	18805.29	10761.351	7978.61	5855.29	5846.21

Source: Reports received from State Governments/UTs.

NR: Not Reported.

Procurement of foodgrains by FCI

†1484. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantum of foodgrains produced in various seasons in the country, are procured at a time by Government through Food Corporation of India (FCI); and

(b) the system prevailing in the State of Uttar Pradesh to procure foodgrains and the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) In all States/UTs, Central Government extends price support to paddy, coarse grains and wheat through the FCI and State Agencies. All the foodgrains conforming to the prescribed specifications offered for sale at specified centres during the specified period marketing season wise, are bought by the public procurement agencies at the Minimum Support Price (MSP). The producers have the option to sell their produce to FCII/State Agencies at MSP or in the open market as is advantageous to them. The FCI and State Agencies open procurement centres across all the districts of Uttar Pradesh and purchase foodgrains under the price support operations as per policies laid down by Central Government.

Central fund allocation to set up food testing labs in Gujarat

1485. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government allocates Central funds to States for setting up of Food Testing labs, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the funds allocated to Gujarat during the last five years along with the number of Food Testing labs set up in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under the Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for Setting up / Upgradation of Food Testing Laboratories. However, under this Scheme, Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not allocate separate funds for individual States.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In order to ensure better and more effective utilization of funds, implementation of the Food Testing Laboratory (FTL) Scheme has been entrusted to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) during the Twelfth Plan with effect from 01.04.2012.

(b) The details of the Food Testing Laboratories assisted by the Ministry in the State of Gujarat are as follows:

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Laboratory	Amount of Grant-in-aid approved	Status
1.	Gujarat Laboratory. F-17, Madhavpura Market, Shahibaug, Ahmedabad- 380 004 (Gujarat)	55.18 139.665	Completed on 28.02.2010 Grant-in-aid for upgradation sanctioned on 28.03.2012
2.	Junagadh Agricultural University, Motibagh, Junagadh - 362 001, Gujarat	374.44 320.00	Completed on 28.02.2008 Grant-in-aid for upgradation sanctioned on 02.06.2014
3.	Food Quality Testing Laboratory, Navsari Agricultural University, Eru Char Rasta, Navsari- 396450 (Gujarat)	274.80	Completed on 29.02.2008
4.	Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat 388110	249.15	Completed on 19.08.2014
5.	Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, Plot No. 160, Town Planning Scheme No. 20, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	144.22	Grant-in-aid sanctioned on 30.12.2010

Year-wise grant-in-aid released to Food Testing Laboratories in the State of Gujarat during last five years is as under:

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No	Year	Amount
1.	2009-2010	26.000
2.	2010-2011	101.292
3.	2011-2012	141.808
4.	2012-2013	99.660
5.	2013-2014	169.360
6.	2014-2015	369.830
(Up to 30.11.2014)		

Revival of closed textile mills

1486. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- whether Government has decided to revive the State owned textile mills which are lying closed since last many years;
- if so, the details of such mills which are lying closed and since when;
- the estimated amount to be invested in them; and
- the action plan formulated to revive such textile mills including NTC mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Presently, the Government has no such plan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) In so far as NTC is concerned, as per revival scheme approved by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) National Textile Corporation (NTC) has taken up modernisation of 23 mills, the details thereof is given in the Statement.

Statement*List of 23 NTC working mills*

Sl. No.	Name of the Mills	Location
Andhra Pradesh		
1.	Tirupathi Cotton Mills	Renigunta
Gujarat		
2.	Rajnagar Textile Mills	Ahmedabad
Kerala		
3.	Algappa Tex. Mills	Algappanagar
4.	Cannanore Spg. and WVG. Mills	Cannanore
5.	Kerala Laxmi Mills	Trichur
6.	Vijay Amohini Mills	Trivandrum
Karnataka		
7.	New Minerva Mills	Hassan
Madhya Pradesh		
8.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	Burhanpur
9.	New Bhopal Tex. Mills	Bhopal
Maharashtra		
10.	Podar Mills	Mumbai
11.	Tata Mills	Mumbai
12.	India United Mill No. 5	Mumbai
13.	Barshi Tex. Mills	Barshi
14.	Finlay Mills	Achalpur
Puducherry		
15.	Cannanore SPG. and WVG. Mills	Mahe

Sl. No.	Name of the Mills	Location
Tamil Nadu		
16.	Cambodia Mills	Coimbatore
17.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills	Coimbatore
18.	Pankaja Mills	Coimbatore
19.	Pioneer Spinners Mills	Kamudakudi
20.	Sri Ranga Vilas S. and W. Mills	Coimbatore
21.	Kaleeswarar Mills 'B' Unit	Kalayarkoil
22.	Coimbatore Spg and WVG Mills	Coimbatore
West Bengal		
23.	Arati Cotton Mills	Dassnagar

Measures undertaken to improve food processing industries

1487. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will tile Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any concrete measures have been taken by the Ministry to improve the food processing industries in the country during last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the manner in which the Ministry is making food processing industry globally competitive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, Government is implementing Central Sector Scheme for Development of Infrastructure for Food Processing having components of (a) Mega Food Parks (b) Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure and (c) Setting-up/Modernization of Abattoirs (subsumed in NMFP *w.e.f.* 01.04.2014); Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries; Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities; Scheme for Human Resource Development and Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions.

Further, during the Twelfth Five Year Plan the Government has launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'National Mission on Food Processing' (NMFP) which is being

implemented through the State Governments/Union Territories. The components of the NMFP are (i) Technology Upgradation/Setting up/Modernization of Food Processing Units (ii) Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticulture Products (iii) Setting-up/Modernisation of Abattoirs (*w.e.f.* 01.04.2014) (iv) Human Resource Development (v) Promotional Activities (vi) Creating Primary Processing Centres / Collection Centres in Rural Areas (vii) Modernisation of Meat Shops, and (viii) Reefer Vehicles. All the State/Union Territory Governments have been empowered to receive the applications, sanction and release grants-in-aid to the eligible beneficiaries under NMFP. State/Union Territory Governments also have the flexibility in identifying sectors for special focus and selection of locations of projects as well as beneficiaries to harness the potential of value addition by using locally grown raw material including fruits and vegetables for setting up food processing Industries.

(c) Government is implementing the Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Promotional Activities aimed at motivating the food processing industries for adopting internationally approved food safety and quality assurance mechanisms to become globally competitive. The scheme also aims at undertaking Research and Development for innovative products and processes to keep the industries abreast with latest technologies in Food Processing.

Realising targets for growth of food processing sector

1488. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the action-plan and strategy prepared by Government to realize the targets set for the growth of food processing sector;

(b) the total investment requirement for achieving the targets; and

(c) the areas/sectors identified by government for the purpose including in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) The Government has set up a Working Group on Food Processing Industries for Twelfth Five Year Plan which recommended Plan Allocation of ₹ 15304 crore for promotion and development of Food Processing sector during the Plan period. However, an allocation of ₹ 5990 crore has been made by the Planning Commission for the Twelfth Five Year Plan for various programmes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

(c) For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, Government is implementing Central Sector Scheme for Development of Infrastructure for Food Processing having components of (a) Mega Food Parks (b) Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure and (c) Setting-up/Modernization of Abattoirs (subsumed in NMFP *w.e.f.* 01.04.2014); Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries; Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities; Scheme for Human Resource Development and Scheme of Strengthening of Institutions.

Further, during the Twelfth Five Year Plan the Government has launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'National Mission on Food Processing' (NMFP) which is being implemented through the State Governments/Union Territories including in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The components of the NMFP are (i) Technology Upgradation/Setting Up/Modernization of Food Processing Units (ii) Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticulture Products (iii) Setting-up/ Modernisation of Abattoirs (*w.e.f.* 01.04.2014) (iv) Human Resource Development (v) Promotional Activities (vi) Creating Primary Processing Centres/Collection Centres in Rural Areas (vii) Modernisation of Meat Shops, and (viii) Reefer Vehicles. All the State/ Union Territory Governments including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been empowered to receive the applications, sanction and release grants-in-aid to the eligible beneficiaries under NMFP. State/Union Territory Governments also have the flexibility in identifying sectors for special focus and selection of locations of projects as well as beneficiaries to harness the potential of value addition by using locally grown raw material including fruits and vegetables for setting up food processing industries.

Promotion of FPIs

1489. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects for establishment/promotion of Food Processing Industries (FPI) sanctioned in the country;
- (b) the steps taken to oversee the waste management in such industries;
- (c) the number of research and development projects for the promotion of food processing industries sanctioned in the last four years, project-wise and State wise; and

(d) the amount of funds allocated for research and development in the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Government has been implementing a Scheme for Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries for setting up of new food processing units as well as technological up-gradation and expansion of existing units. Under the scheme, financial assistance is extended in the form of grant-in-aid to entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of ₹ 50 lakhs in general areas and @ 33.33% subject to a maximum of ₹ 75 lakhs in difficult areas. This scheme has been subsumed in the National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) with effect from 1st April, 2012 which is being implemented through State/Union Territory Governments. The details of Food Processing Units assisted by Ministry of Food Processing Industries during the last three years (2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14) under committed/spillover liabilities of 11th Plan are at Statement-I. The details of Food Processing Industries assisted through the State/ Union Territory Governments under 'NMFP during the 12th Plan (2012-13 and 2013-14) are at Statement-II. These projects are required to meet the standards of the waste management as laid down by the concerned regulatory authority in their State for the purpose.

(c) and (d) The number of Research and Development Projects sanctioned in last 4 years alongwith the funds released are as below:

(₹ in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Year	No. of new projects sanctioned	Assistance provided in the form of grant-in-aid
1.	2010-2011	10	559.83
2.	2011-2012	15	634.89
3.	2012-2013	38	1027.28
4.	2013-2014	38	1097.72
TOTAL		101	3319.72*

* Includes assistance for new projects as well as ongoing projects.

Project-wise and State-wise release of grant-in-aid for 'Research and Development' by the Ministry during the last four years is given in the Statements I to VI.

Statement-I

State-wise details of units of food processing industries assisted by the Ministry during the last three years (2011-12 to 2013-14) under committed/ spillover liabilities of the Eleventh Plan.

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	State	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14	
		Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99	17.90	225	43.45	145	29.40
2.	Assam	12	2.43	18	3.76	10	2.14
3.	Bihar	5	0.90	2	0.36	2	0.27
4.	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	0.33
5.	Chhattisgarh	75	8.42	149	17.54	68	8.01
6.	Daman and Diu	1	0.25	0	0.00	0	0.00
7.	Delhi	1	0.25	2	0.50	6	1.18
8.	Goa	2	0.50	1	0.19	5	0.93
9.	Gujarat	107	19.92	52	8.34	79	14.20
10.	Haryana	66	9.15	88	11.58	34	5.66
11.	Himachal Pradesh	17	4.88	5	1.33	10	2.60
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	6	0.98	2	0.16	3	0.55
13.	Jharkhand	1	0.17	6	1.24	2	0.38
14.	Karnataka	61	8.85	78	12.19	68	8.40
15.	Kerala	49	8.66	14	2.44	43	7.40
16.	Madhya Pradesh	24	4.02	31	4.27	30	4.05
17.	Maharashtra	200	27.96	136	18.35	171	24.17
18.	Manipur	10	1.85	21	4.67	36	7.93

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Meghalaya	0	0.00	1	0.05	3	0.72
20.	Nagaland	0	0.00	2	0.14	1	0.08
21.	Odisha	9	1.14	15	2.59	5	0.73
22.	Puducherry	1	0.25	6	1.50	1	0.25
23.	Punjab	142	16.40	231	24.45	83	9.49
24.	Rajasthan	96	12.57	44	6.71	50	5.45
25.	Tamil Nadu	78	14.25	46	7.23	58	9.97
26.	Uttar Pradesh	56	9.82	38	5.97	59	10.58
27.	Uttarakhand	6	1.76	7	1.72	7	2.25
28.	West Bengal	19	3.20	6	1.39	18	3.90
TOTAL		1143	176.48	1226	182.12	999	161.02

Statement-II

The State-wise details of food processing industries assisted through the State/Union Territory Governments under NMFP during the Twelfth plan (2012-13 and 2013-14)

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	State	2012-13		2013-14	
		Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	2.38	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	1.26	0	0
3.	Assam	8	2.61	14	1.04
4.	Bihar	3	0.58	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	1.00	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Gujarat	51	17.44	8	2.04
7.	Haryana	9	3.87	4	1.79
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	1.35	11	4.45
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	10	4.54	4	1.71
10.	Karnataka	36	13.92	14	4.71
11.	Kerala	7	2.59	14	5.39
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20	6.26	23	8.56
13.	Maharashtra	58	19.75	3	1.24
14.	Manipur	2	0.09	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	3	0.35	8	1.94
16.	Mizoram	2	0.35	2	0.40
17.	Nagaland	7	0.89	0	0
18.	Odisha	11	4.50	11	4.54
19.	Puducherry	2	0.75	0	0
20.	Punjab	3	1.27	5	0.89
21.	Rajasthan	9	3.23	39	14.17
22.	Tamil Nadu	5	1.75	0	0
23.	Telangana	3	1.00	0	0
24.	Tripura	1	0.75	1	0.99
25.	Uttar Pradesh	36	14.58	0	0
26.	Uttarakhand	4	1.35	1	0.75
27.	West Bengal	10	3.95	32	14.62
TOTAL		319	112.36	194	69.23

Statement-III

Project-wise and State-wise release of grant-in-aid for 'Research and Development' by the Ministry during the year 2010-11

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Topic of Research with Summary	Institution/University	State	Approved grant-in-aid sanctioned	Grant-in-aid released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Development of economic process for the drying of Umorok Chilli and Turmeric and their quality evaluation with stability study	North East Institute of Science and Technology, Jorhat	Assam	31.04	15.52
2.	Application of hurdle technology for value addition and preservation of spent chicken meal products at room temperature	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat	Assam	48.36	22.21
3.	Development of Health Promoting Extruded RTE breakfast cereal	Tezpur Univesity, Assam	Assam	40.32	20.16
4.	Production of dried honey powder using vacuum puffing technique	Assam University	Assam	24.75	12.37
5.	Refinement, standardization and popularization of technologies for	National Research Centre on Pig, ICAR, Guwahati, Assam	Assam	32.55	27.67

1	2	3	4	5	6
	value added pork products in North-Eastern India				
6.	Quality improvement of traditional method of rice beer production by the tribal people of North-East India	Tezpur University, Napaam, Assam	Assam	78.68	30.34
7.	Utilization of deolieds soyabean cake for production of enzymes bioactive components and protein products	IIT, Delhi	Delhi	15.60	7.80
8.	Bio processing and pilot scale production of high valued tea Nutraceutical Catechins and Theaflavins	Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur (Himachal Pradesh) - 176061	Himachal Pradesh	163.00	65.20
9.	Processing of Apple Pomace for value added product development	Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur (Himachal Pradesh) - 176061	Himachal Pradesh	107.44	38.85
10.	Molecular Characterization of nutritional evaluation of Moth Bean	CCS, Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar	Haryana	20.35	9.64
11.	Development of value added products of guar (Cyamopsis tetragonoloba L. Taub) gum	CCS, Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar	Haryana	32.50	13.63

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Development of traditional fermented dairy products enriched with an indigenous probiotic strain for promoting the health and well-being of consumers	Molecular Biology Unit, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	Haryana	67.83	53.67
13.	Value added processing of millet for sustainable nutritional security of tribals in Jharkhand	Department of Home Science, Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi, Jharkhand	Jharkhand	40.40	18.43
14.	Non-destructive Nano-sensors for detecting chemical and biological food toxins using surface enhanced Raman Scattering	Amirta Centre for Nanosciences, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences campus, Elamakkara, Cochin-682026, Kerala	Kerala	65.00	32.50
15.	Validation of Economically Important Fish Species from India by DNA Bar-coding using Cytochrome oxidase gene-I	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathawada Agricultural University, Aurangabad (Maharashtra)	Maharashtra	220.11	88.00
16.	Development of Healthy and Nutrient	Shivaji University, Kolhapur,	Maharashtra	31.13	15.56

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rich Noodles by Supplementation with Legumes and Leafy Vegetables	Maharashtra			
17.	Studies on preparation of Syrup and Jaggery of Neera obtained from Phoenix Sylvester's	University of Pune, Pune-411007	Maharashtra	24.67	20.46
18.	Development of process for Exploring the possibilities of utilization of processing waste of fruit crops	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University- Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	24.50	9.26
19.	Exploring the use of ornamental flowers as natural food colorants	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University- Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	24.595	16.77
20.	Nutritional approach for designing goat meat based functional products	Central Institute of Research on oats, Mathura (U.P.)	Uttar Pradesh	107.29	41.79
TOTAL					559.83

Statement-IV

Project-wise and State-wise release of grant-in-aid for 'Research and Development' by the Ministry during the year 2011-12

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Topic of Research with Summary	Institution/University	State	Approved grant-in-aid Sanctioned	Grant-in-aid Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Preparation of tailor-made annatto dye formulations for selected traditional and industrial processed foods	CFTRI, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	7.00	2.06
2.	Studies on the preservation of vegetable juices and Non-acidic fruit juices by Microwave Heating and development of prototype model of continous microwave pasteurization sterilization system	CFTRI, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	38.82	34.16
3.	Development of Ready to Reconstitute Misti Dahi Powder	Tezpur University	Assam	15.97	12.28
4.	Development of Enzyme Based Extraction Process for Improving quality and recovery of Starch from different varieties of Colocasia esculenta (Arbi)	Tezpur University	Assam	27.2642	22.82

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Development of Economic Process for the drying of Umorok Chilli and Turmeric and their quality evaluation with stability study	North East Institute of Science and technology, Jorhat	Assam	31.04	5.92
6.	Development of Health Promoting extruded RTE breakfast cereal incorporating Choukua rice and Bhimkol banana of Assam alongwith Carambola Pomace	Tezpur University, Naapam	Assam	40.32036	10.53
7.	Refinement, standardization and popularization of technologies for value added pork products	National Research Centre on Pig, ICAR, Guwahati	Assam	32.55	2.04
8.	Supercritical Fluid Extraction of Natural Antioxidant for Food Preservation	IIT, Delhi	Delhi	61.00	51.58
9.	Supercritical Fluid Extraction of Natural Antioxidant for Food Preservation	IIT, Delhi	Delhi	61.00	1.22
10.	Biotechnology Production of xylitol from zylose rich lignecellulosic materials	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	Delhi	23.11	16.31

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Development of traditional fermented dairy products enriched with an indigenous probiotic strain for promoting health and well being of consumers	The Director, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	Haryana	53.66	1.06
12.	Development of traditional fermented dairy products enriched with an indigenous probiotic strain for promoting health and well being of consumers	The Director, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	Haryana	69.948	11.07
13.	Value Added and Healthful Texturized Egg Product	Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Karnataka	38.51	28.25
14.	DNA barcoding to discriminate traded spices from their adulterants	Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut	Kerala	28.466	18.96
15.	“Non-destructive Nano-sensors for detecting chemical and biological food toxins using surface enhanced Raman Scattering	Amrita Centre for Nan-o-sciences, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences Campus, Elamakkara, Cochin	Kerala	65.00	26.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Low cost Dehydration of Fruits and Vegetables using Continuous Explosion Puffing Process (CEPP)	M/s Ghatge Precision Engineering Pvt. Limited, Satara	Maharashtra	34.16	13.66
17.	Validation of Economically Important Fish Species from India by DNA Barcoding using Cytochrome oxidase gene-I	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathawada University, Aurangabad	Maharashtra	220.11	19.75
18.	Improvement of Nutritional Value of Finger miller by Extrusion Cooking technology	Department of Agricultural Process Engineering, College of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, Dr. B.S. Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Depoli	Maharashtra	37.51	11.61
19.	Studies on Preservation of Syrup and jaggery of Neera obtained from Phoenix sylvestris	University of Pune, Pune	Maharashtra	24.38	2.32
20.	Low cost process development and quality evaluation of carbonated beverages made	College of Home Science Central Agricultural University, Tura	Meghalaya	27.22	23.26

1	2	3	4	5	6
	from Aloe Vera Gel Blend with extract of Amla, Sweet Lime and Ginger in Meghalaya-North East Region				
21.	Low cost process development and quality evaluation of carbonated beverages made from Aloe Vera Gel Blend with extract of Amla, Sweet Lime and Ginger in Meghalaya-North East Region	College of Home Science Central Agricultural University, Tura,	Meghalaya	27.22	0.19
22.	Development of Processing Techniques for preserving Juvenile Shoots of nutritionally rich and Edible Bamboos of Sub-Himalayan and North Eastern Region of India	Panjab University, Chandigarh	Punjab	106.92	86.51
23.	Novel bio-active edible films for extending shelf- life of meat based products	Department of Livestock Products Technology, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University-Ludhiana	Punjab	56.20	43.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Development and popularization of insulated ice bags for traditional fishing Sector	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University-Chennai	Tamil Nadu	14.98	0.81
25.	Pre and Post harvest technologies for moringa to enhance the shelf-life and value addition	Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	38.51	15.40
26.	Development and Standardization of technique for preservation of nutrient rich Palmyra Products	Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	8.75	3.43
27.	Post harvest technology and value addition of cashew apple	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	13.24	8.12
28.	Development of technology for resistant/modified starch substitute Cereals/millet and pulses blended bakery and pasta products	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai	Tamil Nadu	37.96	32.97
29.	Technology Assessment,	College of Fisheries,	Tripura	39.88	17.42

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Standardization and Acceleration of Shidal (Fermented Fishery Product) Production in Northeast India	Lembucherra			
30.	Development and quality evaluation of innovative convenience food products from milk	Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar, Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh	45.25	36.12
31.	Design of Novel Functional Food Supplements using Supercritical Carbon dioxide Extraction and Encapsulation Technologies	Jadavpur University	West Bengal	33.01468	30.72
32.	Food Irradiation unit assisting Food Irradiation unit assisting (i) Food Processing Industries (ii) R and D in New areas of irradiated Food and (iii) Training center for Food irradiation specially in Eastern and North Eastern Region	Jadavpur University	West Bengal	380.00	45.14
TOTAL					634.89

Statement-V

*Project-wise and State-wise release of grant-in-aid for 'Research and Development'
by the Ministry during the year 2012-13*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Topic of Research with Summary	Institution/University	State	Approved grant-in-aid Sanctioned	Grant- in-aid Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Optimization of Operational Parameters for the Extraction of Thiamine from Rice and Wheat Brans and Enrichment of Foods	Department of Biotechnology, GITAM Institute of Technology, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	19.00	8.50
2.	Development of Piperine Conjugates to Increase the Bio-availability of Iron	Department of Biotechnology, GITAM Institute of Technology, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	30.00	7.50
3.	Functionalized polymers for processing of soymilk and apple juice	Biotransformations Laboratory, Natural Products Division, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	33.34	23.17
4.	Development of Degradable Food Packaging Technology "Green-PACK"	Department of Chemical Engineering Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati	Assam	29.97	28.07

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Quality Assessment of traditionally processed dried fish of the North East India	Department of Biotechnology, Gauhati University Guwahati, Assam	Assam	32.93	24.79
6.	Osmotic dehydration and Microwave vaccum drying of Kachkal Banana	Department of Food Engineering and Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam	Assam	20.81	17.59
7.	Studies on functional properties of the dominant microflora found in rice beer of Assam	Tezpur University	Assam	046.02	40.31
8.	Quality improvement of traditional method of rice beer production by the tribal people of North-East India	Tezpur University, Napaam, Assam	Assam	78.685	7.87
9.	Kinetic of Thermal Degradation of Chlorophyll in Green Leafy Vegetables and increasing the Shelf-life of the vegetables	Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Raipur, Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh	11.714	8.87
10.	Enzymatic synthesis of Theanin: A nutraceutical using microbial gutamy transpeptidase	Department of Microbiology, University of Delhi, South Campus, New Delhi	Delhi	23.00	15.50

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Utilization of deoiled soybean cake for production of enzymes, bio-active components and protein products	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Delhi	15.60	3.22
12.	Development and Optimization of Edible Coating Formulations to Improve the Postharvest Quality and Shelf-life of Underutilized Short Lived Fresh Fruits by using RSM	Department of BRD School of Biosciences, Sardar Patel University Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat	Gujarat	17.128	13.71
13.	Study on development of dietary fibre enriched designer meat products	Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Hissar	Haryana	54.90	48.35
14.	Comparative Evaluation of Enzymatic and Fermentative methods for Preparation of Chicken liver Hydrolystates: Recovery, Biofunctional Characterization and Application	Meat, Fish and Poultry Technology Department, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka	Karnataka	41.64	35.46

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Production of n-3 Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids Concentrate from Sardine Oil	Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Surathkal Srinivasnagar, Mangalore	Karnataka	46.798	39.81
16.	Development of Process for nanoencapsulation of polyphenols for food supplement applications	Human Resource Development Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Karnataka	20.298	17.04
17.	Nutritionally Enriched Innovative Convenience foods Suitable for Industrial Production from Underutilized Grains	Department of Grain Science and Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, Karnataka	Karnataka	20.00	15.16
18.	Bio-technological approaches to regulate fermentation and drying process of cocoa.	Department of Plantation Products Spices and Flavour Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Karnataka	20.36	14.18
19.	DNA barcoding to discriminate trade spices from their adulterants.	Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut, Kerala	Kerala	28.466	7.29
20.	Studies in Physico-Chemical Properties of Plasma Processed Rice grains	Department of Food Engineering and Technology, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai	Maharashtra	22.38	19.69

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Development of Continuous and Energy Efficient Cooking Devices and Practices	Department of Chemical Engineering, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai	Maharashtra	25.832	16.92
22.	Studies for the selective separation of proteins from milk whey	NCL, Pune	Maharashtra	20.74	13.67
23.	Microwave (MV) Enhanced Air Heating and Drying System for Value addition of Agro-based Products: Dehydration and Disinfestations	Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Bombay, Powai, Mumbai	Maharashtra	24.70	18.35
24.	Development of Healthy and Nutrient Rich Noodles by Supplementation with Legumes and Leafy Vegetables	Shivaji University, Kolhapur	Maharashtra	31.13	12.45
25.	Isolation, modification of non-conventional sources of starch from North Eastern Region and their potential food application	College of Home Science, CAU, Tura	Meghalaya	40.184	35.59
26.	Development of Fortification Technology for Milk to Increase Bio-availability of Mineral	Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Ludhiana, Punjab	Punjab	70.72	62.36

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Characterization of Colostrum Bio-active Components from different spices and their Application in the Formulation of Novel Dairy Products	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur	Rajasthan	87.26	79.88
28.	Enhancing the Shelf-Life of Sapota (Manikara Zapota) by Value Addition	Department of Food Technology, Kongu Engineering College, Erode	Tamil Nadu	10.44	4.00
29.	Design and Evaluation of a Tamarind Fruit Dehuller and Deseeder	Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	10.44	7.22
30.	Design and Development of Ohmic Heating System for Pasteurization of Liquid Egg White and to Enhance the Functional Properties of Egg White Albumen	Department of Food and Agricultural Process Engineering, Agricultural Engineering College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	20.28	15.14
31.	Prebiotic Efficacy of Xylooligosaccharides (XOS) and their Food Applications	Centre for Food Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Anna University, Chennai and Post Harvest Technology	Tamil Nadu	27.708	18.85

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Centre, Agricultural Engg. College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore			
32.	Feasibility Study of Pulse Power Technique: Alternative Technology for Water Treatment	Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	29.995	25.49
33.	Ultrasound processing of liquid food: Feasibility and Efficacy	Department of Food Process Engineering, Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur	Tamil Nadu	9.988	6.69
34.	Development of database for Indian seafood safety and traceability based on AFLP markers	Fisheries College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Thoothukudi	Tamil Nadu	31.456	25.13
35.	Development of Shelf Stable Chicken Meat Products with Natural Preservatives-A Hurdle Technology Approach	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Science University	Tamil Nadu	31.90	24.70
36.	Bacteriophages-A novel biopreservative for vegetable	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	67.09	63.42

1	2	3	4	5	6
37.	Formulating value added products from minor tubers for food and industrial uses	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Home Science College and Research Institute, Madurai	Tamil Nadu	13.0825	7.84
38.	Development stability and consumer acceptance of omega-3 enriched functional food	College of Food and Dairy Technology, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Chennai	Tamil Nadu	52.91	42.78
39.	Development of Technologies for Novel Food Products based on Indigenous Technologies	Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur	Tamil Nadu	39.074	32.71
40.	Development of ready-to-serve fish products through flexible retort pouch technology for Northeast Markets	College of Fisheries, Central Agricultural University, Agartala, Tripura	Tripura	25.402	23.82
41.	Development and Production Technologies for Guava Pulp Enriched Fermented Dairy Products	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	41.27	32.51
42.	Development of Antimicrobial Polymeric nanocomposite	Department of Polymer, Science and Technology, University of	West Bengal	48.291	44.08

1	2	3	4	5	6
	film from PET waste for packaging of milk and milk products	Calcutta, Kolkata			
43.	Ultra High Temperature (UHT) processing of liquids beverages and semi-solid food products by microwave and electrical energy heating	Jadavpur University, Kolkotta	West Bengal	44.00	17.60
TOTAL				1027.28	

Statement-VI

Project-wise and State-wise release of grant-in-aid for 'Research and Development' by the Ministry during the year 2013-14

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Topic of Research with Summary	Institution/University	State	Approved grant-in-aid Sanctioned	Grant-in-aid Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Studies on the preservation of vegetable juices and Non-Acidic fruit juices by Microwave Heating and development of prototype model of continuous microwave pasteurization/sterilization system	CFTRI, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	38.826	2.72

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Development of a three dimensional culture system to produce meat from chicken satellite cells	D/o Biotechnology, GITAM, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam-530045	Andhra Pradesh	15.00	7.50
3.	Functionalized polymers for processing of soymilk and apple juice	Fadnavis Biotransformations Laboratory, Natural Products Division, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	33.34	1.50
4.	Development of enzyme based extraction process for improving quality and recovery of starch from different varieties of Colocasia Esculenta (Arbi) of Assam for food use	Tezpur University, Assam	Assam	27.26425	3.31
5.	Development of ready to reconstitute Misti Dahi Powder	Tezpur University,	Assam	15.97	2.44
6.	Development of value added products from Minor Fruits	Assam Agriculture University	Assam	65.93	45.40
7.	Studies on development of cereal based functional breakfast food from the underutilized crops of North-East	Department of Food Engineering and Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam, Tezpur	Assam	29.024	25.26

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Pilot Scale Process Technology for 'BHIM KOL' (MUSA BALBISIANA) Slice, Grits and Powder using Hybrid Drying Methods	Department of Food Engineering and Technology, Tezpur University, Napaam, Tezpur	Assam	35.324	31.91
9.	Quality Assessment of traditionally processed dried fish of the North East India	Department of Biotechnology, Gauhati University, Guwahati,	Assam	32.92	3.00
10.	Biotechnology Production of xylitol from zylose rich lignecellulosic materials	IARI	Delhi	23.116	5.35
11.	Utilization of deoiled soybean cake for production of enzymes, bioactive components and protein products	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	Delhi	15.60	2.40
12.	Supercritical Fluid Extraction of Natural Antioxidant for Food Preservation	IIT Delhi	Delhi	61.00	6.24
13.	In vitro assessment of	Department of Biochemical	Delhi	23.232	15.94

1	2	3	4	5	6
	the effects of commercially available nutraceuticals and oligosaccharides as prebiotics on the human gut microflora	Engineering and Biotechnology, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi			
14.	Development of Phenolic Enriched Multigrain Bread with Improved Functional Quality	Division of Post Harvest Technology, Indian Agriculture Research Institute, 3rd floor, NRL Building, New Delhi	Delhi	49.816	39.87
15.	Biotechnological approaches for utilisation of deoiled seed cakes in producing food enzymes and chemicals	Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas New Delhi 110016	Delhi	22.91	16.91
16.	Development of Process of Technology for functional snack food using flaxseed	D/o Food Processing Technology, A.D. Patel Institute of Technology, P.O. Box No. 52, behind GIDC New Vallabh Vidya Nagar, Karamsad, Anand	Gujarat	4.0465	2.02
17.	Development of Strip based detection tests for selected adulterants and contaminants in milk	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal,	Haryana	49.848	35.17

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Healthy Foods: Production of Stable and Active Probiotics	Dairy Microbiology Division of National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	Haryana	35.824	29.91
19.	Production of buffalo casein hydrolysates enriched with antioxidative and immunomodulatory peptides and their application for the development of functional beverage	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	Haryana	50.00	38.65
20.	Mineral bound milk based ingredients: Preparation, characterization and application	Division of Dairy Chemistry, National Dairy Research Institute Karnal	Haryana	46.852	35.18
21.	Development of Chromatographic and PCR Based Methodology to Ascertain the Quality of Milk Fat and its Validation under Filed Conditions	Division of Dairy Chemistry National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	Haryana	14.8556	11.95
22.	Preparation and Characterization of Nanoemulsions of Curcumin for their use in Functional Foods	Department of Dairy Chemistry National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal	Haryana	19.979	13.98

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Processing of Apple for value added product development	IHBT, Palampur	Himachal Pradesh	107.44	10.74
24.	Bio processing and pilot scale production of high valued tea Nutraceuticals: Catechins and Theaflavins	IHBT, Palampur	Himachal Pradesh	163.00	16.30
25.	Extraction of resistant starch from Horse chestnut and rice, its utilization as an encapsulating agent for targeted delivery into the clone	Department of Food Science and Technology, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu and Kashmir	54.734	38.53
26.	Use of Natural Resins and Gums for Preservation and Value Addition of Fishery Products	Indian Institute of Natural Resins and Gums Namkum, Ranchi 834010	Jharkhand	6.752	3.38
27.	Red Sorghum flakes based snack bar for health and nutritional security	Department of Horticulture, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad	Karnataka	36.916	32.21
28.	Value added and Healthful Texturized Egg Products	CFTRI, Mysore	Karnataka	38.51	1.60
29.	Biotechnological Production of Bioactive	Fermentation Technology and Bioengineering,	Karnataka	26.76	18.38

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Metabolites from Therapeutic Fungal Biofactory Ganoderma sp. for Pharmaceutical Applications	Central Food Technological Research Institute Mysore			
30.	Reverse Micellar Extraction of Lacto ferrin from whey: Continuous Process	D/o Chemical Engg. NIT, Karnataka, Surathkal, Shrivivanagar, Mangalore	Karnataka	46.862	35.18
31.	Scale up of chitosan based coating formulation for preservation of selected fruits	Department of Meat and Marine Sciences, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Karnataka	21.896	15.76
32.	Biotechnological approaches to regulate fermentation and drying process of cocoa	Department of Plantation Products Spices and Flavour Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Karnataka	20.36	1.89
33.	Comparative Evaluation of Enzymatic and Fermentative methods for Preparation of Chicken liver Hydrolystates: Recovery, Biofunctional Characterization and Application	Department of Meat, Fish and Poultry Technology, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore	Karnataka	41.64	4.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
34.	Validation of Nutracitically important plant resources in India by DNA Barcoding using various Gene Markers of India	Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad	Maharashtra	147.240	131.54
35.	Processing and Packaging of Tender Coconut Water for Rural Market	IIP, Mumbai	Maharashtra	46.664	31.58
36.	Synthesis and Characterization of Nano-Cellulose and its Application in Biodegradable Polymer Composite Films for Food Packaging	Department of Polymer and Surface Engineering, Institute of Chemical Technology, University of Mumbai Matunga, Mumbai	Maharashtra	32.73	23.91
37.	Microencapsulation of anthocyanin pigment extracted from kokam (<i>Garcinia indica</i>) processing industry waste	Department of Food Science and Technology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur-416004	Maharashtra	33.47	29.74
38.	Extraction and Concentration of Bio-active Compounds and Sugars from Horticultural Processing Waste using Microwave-Membrane Technology	Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Powai, Mumbai-400076	Maharashtra	27.636	14.41

1	2	3	4	5	6
39.	Studies on Post Harvest Application of 1-MCP on Shelf-Life and Quality of Mango and Tomato Fruits	Department of Chemical Technology, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University Aurangabad	Maharashtra	36.94	30.98
40.	Biochemical composition of Bombay duck fish, and functional characterisation of its muscle proteins	Division of Fisheries Resources, Harvest and Post-harvest Management, Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Maharashtra	21.30	9.10
41.	Use of Natural Resins and Gums for Preservation and Value Addition of Fishery Products	Mumbai Research Centre of Central Institute of Fisheries Technology CIDCO Admn Building, Vashi Mumbai-400703	Maharashtra	18.403	14.30
42.	Improving the microbial safety and nutritional quality of fresh meat using a low cost refrigerated cabinet for retail marketing of meat in street meat shops	Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology, Ludhiana, Punjab	Punjab	11.69	7.85
43.	Chemical, rheological and processing quality	Prof. Narpinder Singh Department of Food Science and Technology,	Punjab	69.208	62.10

1	2	3	4	5	6
	of fractions produced by successive size reduction milling of different wheat varieties	Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab			
44.	Development and Quality Evaluation of Gluten free Products for Celiac Disease Patients	Department of Food Science and Technology, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar-143005	Punjab	45.42	35.14
45.	Phosphine and Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) Combinations as Alternative to Methyl Bromide to Manage Stored Pests of rice Under Bulk Storage	Department of Storage Entomology, Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Pudukottai Road, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	39.804	33.29
46.	Package of Technologies for On-farm Processing, Value Addition and Safe Storage of Onions	Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	49.97	42.91
47.	Ultrasound processing of liquid food: Feasibility and Efficacy	Department of Food Process Engineering Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu	9.988	2.00
48.	Developing New Technologies for Processing Sugarcane Juice	Division of Crop Production Sugarcane Breeding Institute (ICAR), Coimbatore-641007	Tamil Nadu	37.40	30.49

1	2	3	4	5	6
49.	Developing Post Harvest Mechanization Package for Banana Central Core	Department of Agriculture Structures and Process Engineering, Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Coimbatore-641003	Tamil Nadu	37.968	31.48
50.	Nutritional approach for designing goat meat based functional products	Central Institute of Research on Goats, Mathura (U.P.)	Uttar Pradesh	107.29	10.73
51.	Design of Novel Functional Food Supplements using Supercritical Carbon dioxide Extraction and Encapsulation Technologies	Jadavpur University	West Bengal	34.16468	2.31
TOTAL					1097.72

Vacancies reserved for SCs/STs

†1490. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortfall in the appointment of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe officials in the Ministry of Law and Justice, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of various posts lying vacant in the Department of Law and Justice in other States including Uttar Pradesh and the number of posts that would be filled and the actual number of working Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe officials;

(c) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) by when all the vacant posts are likely to be filled in the Department of Law and Justice?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Yes, Sir, there is a shortfall of 46 SC and 47 ST in the appointment of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe officials in Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' and 'D' posts in the Ministry of Law and Justice. The Group wise details thereof are as under:-

Group 'A'	-	02 SC, 02 ST
Group 'B'	-	20 SC, 15 ST
Group 'C'	-	14 SC, 21 ST
Group 'D'	-	10 SC, 09 ST

(b) (i) 400 posts are lying vacant in offices of Union Ministry of Law and Justice located in different States.

The Group wise details thereof are as under:-

Group 'A'	-	86
Group 'B'	-	116
Group 'C'	-	106
Group 'D'	-	94

(ii) Number of posts that would be filled - 400

(iii) Actual number of SCs/STs working - 83 SC, 39 ST

The Group-wise details thereof are as under:-

Group 'A'	-	04 SC, 04 ST
Group 'B'	-	19 SC, 03 ST
Group 'C'	-	30 SC, 21 ST
Group 'D'	-	30 SC, 11 ST

(c) For CSS/CSSS/CSCS/CSOLS posts respective cadre controlling authorities have been requested to fill up the posts. For posts under the control of Ministry of Law and Justice, process has been initiated to fill up the vacancies in accordance with the prescribed Recruitment Rules and instructions with regard to reservation for SCs/STs are being followed.

(d) The process has already been initiated which may take some time.

Repeal of archaic laws

1491. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to repeal some archaic laws, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any of those laws would require some substitute mechanism to be put in place, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Yes, Sir. Review and repeal of out-dated/obsolete laws, including those enacted during the British era, is a continuous process. The Repealing and the Amending Bill, 2014 was introduced in Lok Sabha 11th August, 2014 for repeal of 36 Acts. The said Bill has been referred to Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee for examination and report. The Legislative Department has prepared draft Repealing and Amending (Second) Bill, 2014 for repeal of 287 amendments Acts from the year 1999 to 2013 and forwarded the same to all Ministries/Departments for their comments/views. The comments are still awaited. The Law Commission has recently submitted its 248th, 249th, 250th and the 251st Reports on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal", in which it recommended for repeal of 72, 113, 74 and 30 obsolete Acts respectively, including some State laws. The said Reports are available on the website of the Law Commission at <http://lawcommissionofindia.nic.in/>. The Legislative Department has examined the said Reports and letters have been issued to Ministries/Departments and the State Governments seeking their comments and also asking them to take necessary action. The replies are still awaited. The final decision can be taken only after receiving the comments from the State Governments in this regard. Meanwhile, the Legislative Department has identified and prepared a list of the 902 Appropriation Acts [including the Appropriation (Railways)] enacted by Parliament from the year 1950 till 2012 and forwarded the Note for the Cabinet to the Cabinet Secretariat seeking its approval.

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

Delimitation of Lok Sabha and Assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir

†1492. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government will contemplate upon delimitation

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly seats in Jammu and Kashmir which has not been done till now and due to which the voters of Jammu and Kashmir and Leh Ladakh do not get the opportunity to choose their representatives in the society freely, and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): The last delimitation of constituencies had been carried out as per the provisions of the Delimitation Act, 2002 on the basis of 2001 Census which do not include the State of Jammu and Kashmir. As regards delimitation of Assembly Constituencies in the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution was amended by the State Legislature in 2002 to provide that Assembly Constituencies as delimited by the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission on the basis of 1981 Census would not be further/delimited till the first Census to be taken after 2026.

Innocent people suffering in prisons

†1493. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lakhs of Innocent people are suffering punishments in the prisons of the country ;
- (b) if so, the action plan of Government to release them at the earliest;
- (c) whether such cases are proposed to be decided through Fast Track Courts;
- (d) if so, by when this task would be completed; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (e) The persons arrested under the relevant provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and detained under judicial remand are called undertrials. As per the prison statistics India, 2013 published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), out of 4.12 lakh different types of prison inmates in jails, 2.78 lakh are undertrials. In order to reduce the number of undertrials in prisons, the Chief Justices of the High Courts have been requested to advise the district judiciary to review all cases where under-trials are eligible for bail under Section 436 and 436A of CrPC, and take *suo moto* action for their release. They have also been advised to set up a mechanism in the High Court for periodic monitoring of the release of undertrials prisoners. Transfer of cases to Fast Track Courts's in the domain of the High Courts. The Chief Ministers and the Law Ministers have also been requested to use software applications to generate data of under-trial prisoners and review their cases periodically.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Disposal of cases of crime against women and children

1494. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for expeditious disposal, including setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs), of cases relating to crime against women and children in the country including Delhi;

(b) the number of cases related to racial crime, hate crime, rape and sexual harassment pending in the Supreme Court and various High Courts in the country along with the number of such cases disposed of by FTCs during each of the last three years and the current year, Court-wise; and

(c) the other steps taken by Government to provide legal assistance and to ensure speedy justice to the victims of such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Government has written to the Chief Justices of the High Courts to constitute Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for speedy trial of the pending rape cases in district/subordinate courts having a high pendency of such cases and to monitor the progress of these cases. The Chief Ministers of States have been requested to provide financial support to the High Courts for setting up FTCs for cases of crime against women. Setting up of subordinate courts including FTCs for speedy trial of cases relating to crime against women and children in the country including Delhi, is the responsibility of the respective State Governments under the Constitution of India.

(b) As per the reports published by National Crime Records Bureau, the cases reported and conviction rate in respect of crimes against women and children during the last three years are as under:

<i>Crime against women</i>		
Year	Number of cases reported	Conviction rate
2013	309546	22.4
2012	244270	21.3
2011	228650	26.9
<i>Crime against children</i>		
Year	Number of cases reported	Conviction rate
2013	58224	30.9
2012	38172	29.0
2011	33098	34.6

Information on pending rape cases and the cases disposed in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is given below:

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	1455

High Courts

Number of pending rape cases as on 31.01.2014	Number of rape cases disposed during last three years
31,386	15,453

(c) Legislative provisions have been made by the Government for setting up of special courts for speedy trial of offences against children. Section 25 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 provides that for the purpose of providing speedy trial of offences against children or of violation of child rights, the State Government may, with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Court, by notification, specify at least a court in the State or specify, for each district, a Court of Session to be a Children's Court to try the said offence. Section 28(1) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 provides that for the purposes of providing a speedy trial, the State Government shall in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court, by notification in the Official Gazette, designate for each district, a Court of Session to be a Special Court to try the offences under the Act provided that if a Court of Session is notified as a Children's Court under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 or a Special Court designated for similar purposes under any other law for the time being in force, then, such court shall be deemed to be a Special Court under this section.

Attention of the Chief Justices of High Courts has also been invited to the use of provisions under Sections 157, 309 and 327 of the Cr.P.C. with a view to examination of witnesses on a day to day basis, keeping adjournment at a bare minimum and expediting trial of cases involving heinous crimes such as rape. They were requested to impress upon the district judges to scrupulously adhere to these provisions in trial of cases involving heinous crimes such as rape and to conduct trials without adjournment as far as possible.

Section 357A of the Criminal Procedure, 1973 provides for payment of compensation to the victims of crime, quantum of which is to be determined by the State Legal Services

Authority or District Legal Services Authorities. They are empowered to pass interim order and to provide immediate relief in appropriate cases. For this, the victim may also approach Para Legal Volunteers in the Legal Services Authorities with a simple application.

Raising retirement age of judges of Supreme Court and High Courts

1495. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is thinking to extend the retirement age of judges; and
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to raise the retirement age for High Court judges from 62 years to 65 years and that of Supreme Court from 65 years to 68 years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) The Constitution (One Hundred and Fourteenth Amendment) Bill, 2010 which provided for increasing the retirement age of High Court Judges from 62 years to 65 years was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 25.08.2010. Thereafter, the Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee for examination and report, which recommended that the proposed Bill in its present form should be passed without delay. The Bill could not be taken up for consideration and passing in the Parliament and had lapsed with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha.

There is no proposal for increase in retirement age of Judges of the Supreme Court from 65 to 68 years.

Night Courts

1496. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is encouraging State Governments to start Night Courts or Evening Courts in the country ;
- (b) the States in which such Courts are functioning;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Judges and lawyers in some States are not in favour of starting such Courts; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and solutions found out, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) The Thirteenth Finance Commission recommended setting up of morning/evening/shift/weekend/mobile/Special Magistrate courts for reduction of pendency, as per the requirements of the States.

(b) As per the information received from the States till 31st October, 2014, such courts have been established, in 15 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

(c) and (d) The reasons of lack of adequate response for this initiative, are:—

- (i) Resistance from Bar Associations;
- (ii) Geographical and local constraints, particularly in North-Eastern States; and
- (iii) Non-availability of retired Judicial officers of appropriate status for these Courts.

The Government has, from time to time, taken up with the State Governments to utilize funds available for establishing such courts.

Central grants for development of infrastructure in Subordinate Courts

1497. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, under a Central scheme, Government provides grants to States for developing infrastructure in Subordinate Courts, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of Central grants released to West Bengal under this head during the last four years, year-wise;

(c) the details of infrastructure created in different Subordinate Courts in the State;

(d) whether Government proposes to increase the grants to States as very little has been achieved in terms of infrastructure; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (e) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary has been under implementation since 1993-1994. Under the Scheme, Central Government augments the resources of State Governments for improving the physical infrastructure of the Courts as well as for meeting the housing needs of judicial officers. The ratio of Central share *vis-a-vis* State share under the scheme

has been altered from 50:50 to 75:25 and the Scheme has been modified to cover only subordinate courts, from 2011-12 onwards. For North-Eastern States, it is 90:10 and has been in force with effect from 2010-11. Central assistance is restricted to the budgetary allocation made for the Scheme. However, States are free to spend additional amount. On receipt of the complete proposals from the State Governments including utilization certificates for the funds released earlier necessary financial assistance is sanctioned to the State Governments in terms of the guidelines of the scheme.

Central assistance of ₹ 25.18 crore and 20.00 crore have been released to the State Government of West Bengal during 2011-12 and 2014-15 respectively. No financial assistance was released during 2012-13 and 2013-14.

As per information made available by State Government of West Bengal, the details of infrastructure developed/being developed for subordinate courts in the State are given in the Statement.

Statement

*Details of infrastructure developed/being developed for subordinate courts
in the State of West Bengal*

Sl. No.	Year	Court Rooms constructed/ being constructed	Residential Units constructed/ being constructed
		Places	Places
1.	2011-12	Kharagpur, Diamond Harbour, Barrackpore, Berhampore (New), Barasat, Gorubathan, Siliguri, Tamluk, Alipore, Tufanganj, Kalna, Kakdwip, Berhampore, Chanchal Rajbari	Ranaghat
2.	2012-13	Diamond Harbour, Berhampore (FTC), Barasat, Tamluk, Tufanganj, Kakdwip, Berhampore (Composite), Bishnupur, Chanchal Rajbari, Bolpur, Islampore.	Kakdwip, Siliguri, Kurseong, Kalyani, Ranaghat, Purulia, Gopalbagh, Chanchal, Krishnanagar, Kenduadihi, Krishnanagar (HJO), Nabadwip, Asansol, Berhampore.
3.	2013-14	Diamond Harbour, Tehatta, Malda, Tamluk, Behrampur, Kakdwip	Kakdwip, Kalyani

Setting up of Family Courts

1498. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any proposals from State Governments to set up more Family Courts in the country to meet the demand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon so far, and
- (c) the present position thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) As per the Family Courts Act, 1984, Family Courts are established by the State Governments in consultation with the High Court. Central Government provides financial assistance to State Governments for Family Courts on receipt of their proposals. Recently, on receipts of proposals from State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, a grant of ₹ 3.75 crore and ₹ 1.00 crore have been released respectively to these States. A proposal has been received from Andaman and Nicobar Administration for creation of posts for setting up of Family Court in Portblair and the same is under process. As per the reports received from the State Governments, 410 Family Courts are functional in the country.

Women Reservation Bill

†1499. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the legal validity of the Bill passed by the Rajya Sabha in 2010 relating to providing 33 per cent reservation to women in the Parliament and the State Legislatures has lapsed, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is proposed to reintroduce the Bill in the House and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Bill lapsed on the dissolution of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha.

(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 study and careful consideration on the basis of consensus among all political parties before a Bill for amendment in the Constitution is brought before Parliament.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Completion of proceedings of court cases relating to politicians

†1500. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had given directions to establish a mechanism for completing the proceedings of criminal cases as well as court cases against politicians in one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the efforts made so far in this regard; and

(c) whether Law Commission has also given any suggestion in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) to (c) In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 16-12-2013 in the W.P. No. 536 of 2011 in the matter of Public Interest Foundation and Ors. *Vs* Union of India and Anr. pending disposal before it, the Law Commission had submitted its 244th Report recommending, *inter alia*, that 'for charges framed against sitting M.Ps/MLAs, the trials must be expedited so that they are conducted on a day to day basis and concluded within a one-year period. If trial is not concluded within one year period then one of the following consequences ought to ensue:

- The MP/MLA may be disqualified at the expiry of the one year period; or
- The MP/MLA's right to vote in the House as a member, remuneration and other perquisites attaching to their office shall be suspended at the expiry of the one-year period,

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the aforementioned writ matter *vide* its orders / dated 10-03-2014 has directed that in relation to sitting MPs and MLAs who have charges framed against them for the offences which are specified in section 8(1), 8(2) and 8(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the trial shall be concluded as speedily and expeditiously as may be possible and in no case later than one year from the date of the framing of charge(s). The Court further directed that in such cases, as far as possible, the trial shall be conducted on a day-to-day basis. If for some extraordinary circumstances the concerned court is being not able to conclude the trial within one year from the date

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of framing of charge(s), such court would submit the report to the Chief Justice of the respective High Court indicating special reason for not adhering to the above time limit and delay in conclusion of the trial and, in such situation, the Chief Justice may issue appropriate directions to the concerned court extending the time for conclusion of the trial.

The interim directions of the Honble Supreme Court have been brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Chief Justices of the High Courts and, the Chief Secretaries of all the States by the Central Government.

Setting up of a panel to review cases of under trials

1501. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a review panel was to be set up in every district, headed by the district judge with district magistrate and superintendent of police as members to meet every three months to review the cases of under trial prisoners, so that over crowding in jails could be reduced and to release those convicts who have been in custody for petty crimes for a long time due to delay in their trials; and

(b) whether the Ministry has set up a monitoring committee to follow up with all States Governments and Union Territories in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):

(a) 'Prisons' is a State subject and measures to address overcrowding in jails lie within the purview of the State Governments. However, in order to address the issue of overcrowding in jails, an advisory was issued to all the States and Union Territories on 17th January, 2013 advising them to consider constituting a 'Review Committee' in every district headed by the District Judge with the District Magistrate and District Superintendent of Police as members. The Committee is to meet every three months and review the cases of undertrial prisoners (UTPs) that have completed more than one fourth of the maximum sentence.

(b) In September 2014, the Supreme Court of India passed an order in the Bhim Singh case directing all judicial officers to effectively implement Section 436A of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Government has requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts to advise the district judiciary to review all cases where under-trials are eligible for bail under Section 436 and 436A of CrPC, and take *suo moto* action for their release.

They have also been advised to set up a mechanism in the High Courts for periodic monitoring of the release of undertrial prisoners.

Development of E-Prisons software has been initiated with the help of National Informatics Centre (NIC) to capture data relating to UTPs. Several States are using this software to generate data on UTPs. All the State Governments have been requested to review and revise Prison Manuals and use software applications to generate data of under-trial prisoners and review their cases periodically.

Disabled-friendly infrastructure

1502. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the problems faced by people with reduced mobility and disability, while travelling in Railways;
- (b) whether Government considers it a priority to equip all the railway stations and trains with disabled-friendly infrastructure and also go in for universal design; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) 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 'A1', '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 stations.

Indian Railways have manufactured SLRD/SRD coaches which have a suitably designed compartment and toilet adapted to the needs of disabled/wheel chair borne passengers. It is endeavored to have at least one such coach in each Mail/Express train.

Fully air conditioned Garib Rath trains have been provided with an Air conditioned disabled friendly compartment and toilets in the power cars.

Improvements in the sanitation/hygiene in Railways

1503. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether significant improvements in the sanitation/hygiene in Railways, both in station premises and trains, have been made possible with outsourcing of services to private operators;

(b) whether long-distance travellers, even in Rajdhani and Sampark Kranti trains, are still subjected to menace by rodents that destroy/damage valuables like clothes and documents apart from eatables in the baggages; and

(c) the steps taken to eliminate the menace of rodents in trains and whether regular fumigation at washing lines are done to eliminate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Improvement in the standard of sanitation/hygiene is a continuous process.

At major stations, Indian Railways have outsourced cleanliness related activities like mechanized cleaning, rag picking, garbage disposal, one time cleanliness etc. on contract basis to improve the cleanliness standards at railway stations. Public toilets at major railway stations have been brought under the 'Pay and Use' scheme with the participation of the private sector.

(b) No, Sir. Such incidents of damage to luggage by rodents are rare.

(c) Comprehensive pest and rodent control treatment for controlling the menace of bugs, cockroaches, is also being carried out in Base depots. Fumigation of coaches is also being done by Railways as per local requirements. To control the menace, Railways have been advised for complete vacation of pantry cars, which is a major source of infestation, prior to its intensive cleaning in base depot.

Dalli-Rajhara-Raughat railway line

†1504. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) when was the decision taken for laying Dalli-Rajhara-Raughat railway line in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the target for completion of laying of the said railway line;
- (c) the land levelled so far and the remaining land to be levelled for the purpose;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to avert the naxalite problem in laying the railway line; and
- (e) by when the work of laying the said railway line would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (e) Dallirajhara-Raughat-Jagdalpur new line project was included in Railway Budget 1995-96. Target for completion of Dallirajhara-Raughat section (95 Km) has not been fixed due to non-availability of encumbrance free land, forestry clearance and extreme law and order situation. In 33 Km length out of a total 95 Km, forestry clearance has been obtained and earthwork has been taken up in first 17 Km.

Regular meetings have been held between the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Railways and State Government of Chhattisgarh for deployment of necessary forces to facilitate progress of the construction work. No time-frame can be set at present for completion of the section.

Anti-collision device

†1505. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Krishak Express had collided with Barauni Express in Gorakhpur district on 1 October, 2014;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of trains equipped with Anti-Collision Devices, so far;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that engaging railway officials, especially drivers on

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

duty for excessive hours and not providing them any rest is the reasons behind most of the accidents; and

- (e) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) An accident of side collision of Train No. 15007 Up Manduadih-Lucknow Krishak Express with Train No. 15204 Dn. Lucknow-Barauni Express took place at Gorakhpur Cantt. Station on Gorakhpur Cantt.-Chhapra Section of Lucknow Division of North Eastern Railway on 30.09.2014. On 30.09.2014 at 2250 hrs, while Train No. 15007 Up Manduadih-Lucknow Krishak Express was required to stop at Up Home Signal of Gorakhpur Cantt, it overshot the Up Home Signal and side collided with Train No. 15204 Dn Lucknow-Barauni Express which was leaving Gorakhpur Cantonment station towards Chhapra. As a result, one Second Class coach of Train No. 15204 derailed and two Second Class Coaches (6th and 7th from train engine) capsized. In this incident, 13 passengers lost their lives, 17 passengers suffered grievous injury and 30 passengers suffered simple injury. As per the preliminary report of Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS)/North Eastern Circle, the accident was caused due to disregard of Home Signal of Gorakhpur Cantt. Station by the Engine Crew of train No. 15007 Up Krishak Express.

(c) Anti-Collision Device (ACD) has been implemented as a pilot project covering 1736 Route KMs and 548 Locomotives on non-electrified section of Northeast Frontier Railway.

(d) and (e) Analysis of incidents of Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD) during the last three years *i.e.*, 2011-12 to 2013-14 and the current year (upto August, 2014) does not indicate the excessive duty hours or inadequate rest of Loco Pilots as the reason for the incidents of SPAD. Analysis reveals that in about 70% incidents of SPAD, Loco Pilots had completed their duty upto six hours or less against prescribed 10 hours. Further, in about 65% incidents of SPAD, Loco Pilots had availed proper 'Headquarters' rest and in the remaining incidents, the Loco Pilots had availed 'Out Station' rest according to stipulated rest norms.

To prevent collision due to Signal Passing At Danger by driver, Train Protection Warning System (TPWS) based on (ETCS Level-1) (European Train Control System) has been implemented on Indian Railways as detailed below:

1. Pilot project of TPWS commissioned on 50 RKms suburban section of Southern Railway.

2. Commercial trials of pilot project of 200 Rkms of Northern/North Central Railway is in progress with 35 locomotives on nominated trains.
3. TPWS system has been introduced in commercial service on all the rakes on Dum Dum-Kavi Shubhash section of Kolkata Metro (25 RKM).

Also, Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) is being developed indigenously by RDSO for Collision Prevention as well as Protection against Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD) by loco pilot. A pilot project on 250 km section of South Central Railway for extending trials of TCAS is in progress by RDSO. Further, at the divisional level, duty hours of loco pilots is monitored and whenever duty hours of loco pilots exceeds the prescribed hours, replacement of loco pilot is provided.

Wardha-Nanded-Yavatmal railway line

1506. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Wardha-Nanded-Yavatmal railway line was announced in Railway Budget 2008, if so, the details of progress in this regard;
- (b) the reasons for delay of this project and the details of cost over-run; and
- (c) by when this project would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Wardha-Nanded *via* Yavatmal-Pusood (270 km) New Line work was sanctioned in the year 2008-09 on cost sharing basis (60 Railway: 40 Government of Maharashtra) at a cost of ₹ 697 crores. An expenditure of ₹ 67 crores has been incurred upto March, 2014. An outlay of ₹ 15 crores has been provided for 2014-15. 33 km land has been acquired out of 284 km. Bridge works in Wardha-Yavatmal section have been taken up.

(b) The project is facing delays due to constraint of funds as well as non-availability of land. The present anticipated cost of the project is ₹ 2500 crores which includes enhancement in land cost due to abnormal increase in land rates, Railways' new policy of not providing any level crossing on New Lines and normal cost overrun.

(c) Railways have a huge throwforward of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of funds. As a result, it is not possible to provide adequate funds to all the projects on a regular basis which is a pre-requisite for fixing time lines.

Use of sub-standard material for manufacturing bogies

1507. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sub-standard material is being used in manufacturing bogies of trains because of which accidents are taking place; and

(b) if so, the action taken/being taken by Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Quality systems are in place in the Railways to ensure that all the material used for manufacturing of bogies of trains is as per prescribed standards.

Objectives for railways during Twelfth Five Year Plan

1508. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the major objectives for railway sector in the Eleventh Five Year Plan and how far Railways have been able to achieve them;

(b) whether Railways have formulated objectives for the Twelfth Five Year Plan and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of measures taken by Railways to improve the amenities for passengers; and

(d) the steps taken to check train accidents, including those due to human error?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The major objectives of the Eleventh Five Year Plan were creation of adequate transport capacity to handle the medium-term and long-term projected growth of both passenger and freight traffic and provide improved services to both segments. The achievements of the Eleventh Five Year Plan are given below:-

(i) Freight Business:-

Item	Terminal Year Achievement
Originating Tonnage (Million Tonnes)	970
NTKM (Billion)	639.77

(ii) Passenger Business:-

Item	Terminal Year Achievement
Originating Passengers (Million)	8,139
Passenger Km (Billion)	1,062

(iii) Capacity creation:-

Items	11th Plan Achievement (km)
New Lines	2,205
Gauge Conversion	5,290
Doubling	2,756
Railway Electrification	4,501

(iv) Rolling stock:-

Items	11th Plan Achievement
Wagons	63,481
Coaches (including EMU/ MEMU/ DEMU)	17,085
Diesel Loco	1,288
Electric Loco	1,218

(b) The Twelfth Plan aims at faster, more inclusive and sustainable growth. The strategies are aimed at new and faster capacity addition along with improved productivity of the existing network and assets to increase transportation output for meeting the expanding requirements of the economy.

(c) Improvement of passenger amenities is a continuous and ongoing activity based on the volume of passengers, traffic handled at the station, *inter-se* priority of works and availability of funds. Minimum Essential Amenities are provided at all stations as per prescribed norms according to the category of each station.

Upgraded amenities are provided at identified stations under various modernization schemes. At present, stations are upgraded under the 'Adarsh Station Scheme' which has been launched in the year 2009. Under this scheme, 1052 stations have so far been selected for development. Out of these, 894 stations have been developed under this scheme.

(d) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/ systems being introduced to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle

Counters (BPAC), Auxilliary Warning System (AWS), LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device (YCD), Anti Collision Device (ACD), Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) and Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS).

Trains from North Eastern Region

1509. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the trains introduced from North-Eastern Region to various parts of the country in the last two years:

(b) whether these trains are being operated presently, 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) Indian Railways does not run trains on State-wise region-wise basis as railway network runs across State/regional boundaries. During the financial years 2012-13 and 2013-14, the following trains services have been introduced serving various stations located in North Eastern region of the country:

1. 55817/55818 Chaparmukh-Silghat Town Passenger (4 days a Week)
2. 12525/12526 Kolkata-Dibrugarh Express (Weekly)
3. 52589/52590 Karimganj-Silchar Passenger (Daily)
4. 12519/12520 Kamakhya-Loknanya Tilak (T) AC Express (Weekly)
5. 156211/15622 Kamakhya-Anand Vihar Express (Weekly)
6. 13281/13282 New Tinsukia-Rajendranagar Express (Weekly)
7. 156615/15616 Kamakhya-Dekargaon (Tezpur) Intercity Express (Daily)
8. 55761/55762 Rangiya-Dekargaon (Tezpur) Passenger (Daily)
9. 12551/12552 Yesvantpur-Karnakhya AC Express (Weekly)

All the above services are in operation, except 52589/52590 Karimganj-Silchar Passenger (Daily) which has been cancelled owing to gauge conversion work on the Lumding-Badarpur-Silchar section.

Railway Network

1510. SHRI A.V. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of per capita railway network in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the major new railway line projects proposed to be taken up in the current year and in the next five years in the country, especially in Odisha, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Railways to ensure the creation of critical railway networks; and
- (d) the steps taken, if any, by Railways to ensure that railway lines are laid as an effective mode of communication in the Maoist affected districts, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) As on 31.03.2014, on Indian Railways, route kilometrage *vis-a-vis* population of each State, as maintained per lakh of population of the State, is given below:—

(Provisional)				
Sl. No.	Name of States	Population* 2011	Route Kms. As on 31.3.2014	Route Kms. Per lakh of population
1	2	3	4	5
States				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	# 49386799	3592.67	7.27
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1382611	11.67	0.84
3.	Assam	31169272	2467.65	7.92
4.	Bihar	102904636	3638.73	3.54
5.	Chhattisgarh	25540196	1197.34	4.69
6.	Delhi	16753235	183.23	1.09
7.	Goa	1457723	69.31	4.75
8.	Gujarat	60383628	5258.49	8.71
9.	Haryana	25353081	1630.06	6.43
10.	Himachal Pradesh	6856509	296.26	4.32

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	12548926	273.32	2.18
12.	Jharkhand	32966238	2181.93	6.62
13.	Karnataka	61130704	3281.00	5.37
14.	Kerala	33387677	1049.74	3.14
15.	Madhya Pradesh	72597565	4976.08	6.85
16.	Maharashtra	112372972	5724.74	5.09
17.	Manipur	2721756	1.35	0.05
18.	Meghalaya	2964007	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	1091014	1.50	0.14
20.	Nagaland	1980602	12.85	0.65
21.	Odisha	41947358	2516.02	6.00
22.	Punjab	27704236	2269.27	8.19
23.	Rajasthan	68621012	5870.38	8.55
24.	Sikkim	610577	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	72147030	4026.96	5.58
26.	Telangana	## 35193978	@ 1753.00	4.98
27.	Tripura	3671032	151.40	4.12
28.	Uttarakhand	10116752	345.23	3.41
29.	Uttar Pradesh	199581477	8919.62	4.47
30.	West Bengal	91347736	4069.97	4.46
Union Territories				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	379944	0.00	0.00
2.	Chandigarh	1054686	15.70	1.49
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	342853	0.00	0.00
4.	Daman and Diu	242911	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Lakshadweep	64429	0.00	0.00
6.	Puducherry	1244464	22.16	1.78
	ALL INDIA	1209219626	65807.63	5.44

*Population based on 2011 Census of India.

Based on AP State statistical abstract May, 2014 (www.ap.gov.in)

Based on www.telangana.gov.in

@ Route Kms in respect of Telengana State shown as on 02.06.2014
(date of formation of the State).

(b) In the year 2014-15, no new railway line project has been sanctioned. Railway projects are sanctioned year-wise, hence projects to be taken up in the next five years including that in State of Odisha is not known.

(c) Projects have been prioritized based upon operational necessity. High priority projects have been given adequate funds in the current year to ensure their timely completion.

(d) Railway projects are planned for providing effective and economic mode of transportation for people and goods for all regions including maoist affected regions. There is no separate policy for Railway projects in maoist affected regions.

Survey for gauge conversion in Gujarat

1511. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of surveys taken up and the number of surveys completed, so far, by Railways for conversion in broad gauge in Gujarat during the last five years, survey-wise status thereof and by when Railways are going to execute these projects:

(b) the funds allocated by Railways during the last three years and this year project/survey wise: and

(c) the deadline within which Government intends to provide broad gauge connectivity to Amreli in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) During the last 5 years and current year (2009-10 to 2013-14 and 2014-15), following surveys for gauge conversion projects falling fully/partly in the State

of Gujarat have been sanctioned/taken up/completed. The details of the surveys and funds allocated against each survey during last three years and current year are as under:

(₹ in thousand)

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Kms	Outlay for 2011-12	Outlay for 2012-13	Outlay for 2013-14	Outlay for 2014-15	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Veraval-Talala- Visavadar (Veraval- Dhasa Jn. Via Talala- Visavadar-Khijadia)	190	1	10	10	10	Survey taken up.
2.	Katosan- Bahucharaji-Ranuj	76	1	10	0	10	Survey taken up.
3.	Kalol-Kadi-Katosan	37	0	1	10	10	Survey taken up.
4.	Bhadran-Bochasan- Petlad-Nadiad	60	0	0	1	10	Survey taken up.
5.	Existing metre gauge line in Ahmedabad area upto Mahesana (Ambliyasana-Vijapur- Gandhinagar loop)	40	0	0	0	200	Survey taken up.
6.	Pratapnagar- Vishwamitri- Jambusar-Samni and Jambusar-Kavi	103	50	0	153	0	Survey completed. As per survey report, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 792 crore with the rate of return of 2.63%. Railway is unable to take up the work due to its un-remunerative nature.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Jhaghadia- Netrang (GC) with extenison to Nandurbar (NL) via Sagbara-Khopar- Tawda-Shahda- Dondacha	192	500	700	600	860	Survey completed. As per survey report, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 1436 crore with the negative rate of return of 3.88%. Railway is unable to take up the work due to its un-remunerative nature.
8.	Khijadya-Amreli- Vosavadar- Junagarh	146	500	415	0	0	Survey completed. As per survey report, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 597.70 crore with negative rate of return of 1.51%. Railway is unable to take up the work due to its un-remunerative nature.
9.	Dhasa-Jetalser	104	100	600	1833	1133	Survey completed and work sanctioned in the Budget 2012-13. Final Location Survey (FLS) completed and preparation of plan, estimates, etc. have been taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Ahmedabad-Botad	174	100	1001	1500	800	Survey completed and work sanctioned in the Budget 2012-13. Final Location Survey completed and estimates sanctioned. Execution at the site has been taken up.
11.	Bilimora-Wagai (GC) with extension to Manmad (NL)	254	800	946	476	0	Survey completed. As per survey rep, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 3538 crore with the rate of return of 2.27%. Railway is unable to take up the work due to its un-remunerative nature.
12.	Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma with ext. upto Abu road	144	233	0	0	0	Survey completed. As per survey report, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 1197 crore with the negative rate of return of 2.82%. Railway is unable to take up the work due to its un-remunerative nature.

Time-frame for inclusion and completion of sanctioned project cannot be given due to large shelf on ongoing projects and limited availability of funds.

(c) Survey for gauge conversion of Khijadiya-Amreli-Visavadar-Junagarh has been completed. As per the survey report, the cost of conversion of 146.41 km long line has been assessed as ₹ 597.70 crore with the negative rate of return of 1.51%. Railway is unable to take up the work due to its un-remunerative nature, huge throwforward of ongoing projects and acute constraint of resources. Accordingly, no dead-line can be given for taking up the project.

Duplicity of claims

1512. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that duplicity of claims before various Railway Claims Tribunal Benches were brought to the knowledge of Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has taken any initiative in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

Duplicate cases were noticed in different Benches of Railway Claims Tribunal. The details of duplicate cases filed in various Benches of RCT, Zone-wise are as given below:-

Zone	Names of Benches	No. of cases
North	Delhi, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Ghaziabad and Gorakhpur	118
East	Kolkata, Patna, Guwahati, Bhubaneshwar and Ranchi	18
West	Mumbai, Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Nagpur	88
South	Chennai, Secunderabad, Ernakulam and Bangalore	19
TOTAL		243

(b) Yes, Sir.

The Registration of new cases is being done on computer. On receipt of the claims application check list of the case is being prepared with the details given in the application. After preparation of Checklist, registration is being made. The provision of identification of filing of duplicate case has been incorporated in the software at the stage of preparation of Checklist itself, wherein it is mandatory to check the verification clause, where details of the accident claims filed before any bench of RCT on the date of accident is mentioned in the application. If any case is filed before any other bench for the same accident, the system will indicate that the said case is already registered before a particular bench with details of Original Application Number and date of filing of the claim. Hence the duplicate case will not be accepted for registration.

Decrease in total number of train passengers

1513. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the last three financial years Railways have recorded fast decrease in total number of train passengers, if so, the year-wise details thereof;
- (b) the action proposed by Government to attract passengers for train travel; and
- (c) the list of reasons for decrease in number of train passengers, especially when number of travelers have increased in the country tremendously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. However, year-wise detail of the total number of train passengers during the last three financial years is given below:-

Year	(In Million)
2011-12	8224
2012-13	8421
2013-14	8397

- (b) Indian Railways continuously strive to improve passenger traffic by various measure like introduction of new trains, enhancement of the composition of more popular trains, attachment of extra coaches in the existing trains etc. Also, special trains are run during peak seasons, festivals and special events, keeping in view the pattern of traffic, commercial justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources etc. Running of special trains keeping in view the demand on various sectors is a continuous process.

(c) The reasons for the marginal decline in passenger traffic in 2013-14 include change in Advance Reservation Period (ARP) from 120 days to 60 days, impact of fare rationalization, changed norms/regulations in the issue of concessional tickets particularly in case of Izzat MSTs, closure of certain sections etc.

Stressed loco pilot

1514. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that harsh punishment for stressed loco pilots is forcing them to take their own lives;
- (b) the number of loco pilots and assistant pilots who committed suicides during the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to provide weekly/calendar day rest schedules for loco pilots and putting a cap on continuous night duty cycles for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) In case of every accident, a high level enquiry is conducted. In such enquiry, if a Loco Pilot is found to have violated laid down rules, which resulted/contributed to the accident, then disciplinary action is initiated and after getting representation from charged Loco Pilot and a detailed enquiry, as applicable, punishment is imposed, in accordance with the laid down norms and keeping in view the circumstances of the case.

(b) During the last three years, only one case of suicide by an Assistant Loco Pilot has come to notice.

(c) Weekly/calendar day rest to loco pilots on the Railways is regulated in accordance with Section 133 of the Railways Act, 1989. As per extant instructions, performance of continuous night duty by loco pilots should not normally exceed six nights at a stretch. Due to round the clock operation in Railways, it is not feasible to avoid night duty. Monitoring of duty, rest hours and continuous night duty cycle is being ensured by Zonal Railways as per laid down rules and regulations. Further, progressive implementation of computerized Crew Management System (CMS) for better monitoring of duty, rest hours and continuous night duty cycle of running staff is also being ensured.

Automatic ticket checking and fare collection system

1515. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways plan to introduce high-tech automatic ticket checking and fare collection systems across its vast network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and its aims and objectives;
- (c) the details of benefits that are likely to accrue to Railways and the passengers; and
- (d) when the systems are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Automatic Fare Collection system has already been introduced on Metro Railway Kolkata since 2011. Under this system, the Automatic Gates check and control passenger entry and exit without manual intervention and also ensures fare collection. By introducing this system manual checking of tickets has been done away with, resulting in faster and orderly entry and exit of commuters. This facility has however, not been introduced on other stations of Indian Railways.

For automation of on-board ticket checking system on Indian Railways, Hand Held Terminals were initially provided to ticket checking staff in 12 pairs of trains. Expansion of Hand Held Terminal usage has been sanctioned for 73 more pair of trains on Indian Railways. Hand Held Terminals enable the ticket checking staff to download the chart of the coach allotted to them and to allot vacant berths/seats available due to non turning up of passengers to Reservation Against Cancellation (RAC) passengers. It brings transparency in the working of TTEs as well as generates additional railway revenue due to utilization of vacant seats/berths on trains. Introduction of such projects on automation and their proliferation is a continuous and ongoing process.

Basic facilities at Railway Stations

†1516. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that basic facilities like drinking water and dustbins are not available at many railway stations; and
- (b) if so, whether Government would issue guidelines with regard to providing basic amenities at railway stations, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. However, improvement/augmentation of amenities including drinking water and dustbins at the railway stations is a continuous process.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Guidelines for provision of passenger amenities including drinking water and dustbins at the railway stations already exist.

Quality of services provided by Railways

1517. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quality in services is a major challenge for railways; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the quality of services, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Railways take various measures to improve the quality of its services. This is a continuous process.

- (i) Ticketing facilities/services have been expanded, upgraded, diversified and made more user-friendly. This is a dynamic process.
- (ii) Improvement in the standard of sanitation/hygiene is a continuous process. With a view to maintain proper standard of cleanliness, steps like mechanized cleaning process, award of rag picking/garbage disposal contracts, introduction of 'pay and use' toilet scheme, etc. have been taken. Inspections by various officials at the railway stations are also conducted to monitor cleanliness. and take remedial measures. Rules have been notified to penalize persons affecting cleanliness and hygiene at railway premises. Instructions have been issued to Zonal Railways to use Close Circuit Televisions (CCTVs) to monitor cleanliness at railway premises.
- (iii) It is the continuous endeavour of Indian Railways to provide good quality hygienic food to railway passengers. Zonal Railways have a detailed institutionalized mechanism for monitoring of quality and hygiene of catering services through regular, surprise and periodical inspections. If any deficiency is found, corrective actions are taken including penal actions like imposition of fines, termination of contract according to the gravity of the offence. Catering Services Monitoring Cell (CSMC) with a toll free number 1800-111-321 at national level has been set up for real time redressal of complaints. Similar monitoring cell are also functioning on zonal railways. Further, to improve

the quality and hygiene of catering services, Third Party Audit of catering services are to be conducted at periodic intervals by independent and reputed auditing agencies accredited by NABCB (National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies) as empanelled by the zonal railways. The parameters for audit include all aspects of catering services like personal hygiene, infrastructure facilities, cleaning and sanitation, food safety, storage facilities, implementation of regulatory, statutory and safety regulations, quality of presentation etc.

- (iv) Every year new trains are introduced taking into consideration demands in various sectors of the country within the resources available. The demand analysis is based on waiting lists in various sectors of the country, representation made by public representatives, etc. Accordingly, new trains including Special trains, Premium trains, Jansadharan express, Ladies Special suburban services, etc. are introduced. New coaches such as more and more LHB coaches, double decker coaches, etc., are also inducted into the system.

Improvement of freight market share

1518. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any pilot projects are being operated to increase freight, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Roll on/Roll off scheme is being implemented, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether any other inventive steps have been taken for improvement of freight market share, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways has approved a pilot project on trial basis for running of RoadRailer train and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with a private firm to increase freight earnings.

(b) Yes, Sir. Presently, transportation of trucks by Railway wagons is undertaken under the nomenclature 'Roll-on-Roll-off' (Ro-Ro) scheme on the network of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.

(c) To improve freight share of Railways, the following inventive steps have been taken by Indian Railways:

- (1) Procurement of wagons by private investors through Public Private Partnership mode under the following schemes:
 - (i) Liberalized Wagon Investment Scheme.
 - (ii) Wagon Leasing Scheme.
 - (iii) Special Freight Train Operators Scheme.
 - (iv) Automobile Freight Train Operators Scheme.
 - (v) Special Parcel Train Operator Scheme.
- (2) Private investment for development of Private Freight Terminals through Public Private Partnership mode.
- (3) Development of Eastern and Western dedicated freight corridors.
- (4) Automatic Freight Rebate for traffic loaded in inter-zonal traditional empty flow direction.

Sectors identified for hundred per cent FDI

1519. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has identified sectors for 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Railways;
- (b) if so, how many sectors have been identified, the details thereof; and
- (c) the revenue generated from these sectors in the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has permitted 100 percent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in construction, operation and maintenance of:

- (i) Suburban corridors through Public Private Partnership (PPP).
- (ii) High speed train projects.
- (iii) Dedicated freight lines.
- (iv) Rolling stock including trains sets and locomotive/coaches manufacturing and maintenance facilities.
- (v) Railway electrification.
- (vi) Signaling system.

- (vii) Freight terminal.
- (viii) Passenger terminal.
- (ix) Infrastructure in industrial park pertaining to railway line/siding.
- (x) Mass Rapid Transport System.

(c) Currently there are no operational projects of Suburban corridor through PPP, High speed train and Dedicated Freight Corridors. Also, Rolling Stock manufacturing and maintenance facilities, Railway Electrification, Signaling system, Freight terminals, Passenger terminals, Rail sidings in industrial parks are not separate profit centers on Indian Railways. In view of this, no revenue generation figures of the last five years are available.

Railway claims tribunal

1520. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a huge backlog of claims pending in various Railway Claims Tribunal (RCTs), if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether several posts of Judicial Member in various RCTs are lying vacant;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by Railways to fill up the said vacancies in a time bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

As on 01.11.2014, the total number of pending cases categorized as Goods (Freight), Train Accidents, Untoward Incidents and Refund (Fare) in all Benches of Railway Claims Tribunal, is as under:-

Zone	Names of Benches	No. of pending cases
North	Delhi*, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Ghaziabad and Gorakhpur	15426
East	Kolkata*, Patna, Guwahati, Bhubaneswar and Ranchi	14485
West	Mumbai, Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Nagpur	12145
South	Chennai, Secunderabad, Ernakulam and Bangalore	3924
TOTAL		45980

*Delhi and Kolkata have two Benches each.

The main reason for huge pendency of cases in Railway Claims Tribunal (RCT) is non-availability of adequate number of Members in various Benches of RCT. As on 12.11.2014, 21 posts of Members are lying vacant. The other reason being that, sometimes, parties also seek adjournments for giving evidence, cross examination, etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The vacancy position as on 12.11.2014 in different Benches of RCT is as under:-

Post	Sanctioned Strength	Working	Vacant
Vice-Chairman (Judicial)	02	00	02
Member (Judicial)	18	01	17
Member (Technical)	19	17	02
TOTAL			21

Owing to some administrative reasons, the selection process for filling up of the vacancies of Vice-Chairman (Judicial), Member (Judicial) and Member (Technical) arising in the years 2011, 2012 and 2013 could not be undertaken in time. The selection process for all vacancies arising up to the year 2013 (*i.e. Vice-Chairman (Judicial) - 02; Member (Judicial) - 15 and Member (Technical) - 01; Total= 18*) has since been completed and the appointment orders would soon be issued after completion of formalities and with the approval of competent authority.

In the meanwhile, Circuit Benches are arranged by deputing Members from one Bench to another in order to dispose of claims cases expeditiously.

Railways' development under PPP mode

†1521. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to fast develop railway sector under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode to make Railways a lucrative field for investors, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how far development in the above sector has since been attempted by Railways indicating the status of its progress?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In December, 2012, Ministry of Railways had announced a participative policy with five models of private participation to strengthen capacity augmentation and building rail connectivity projects.

Under the policy, financial commitments of ₹ 10,000 crores have been received for 17 projects. Model Concession Agreements have been prepared for three participative models *i.e.* Non-Government Private line model, Joint Venture model and Build Operate Transfer (BOT) model.

New express trains between New Delhi and Itanagar

1522. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new express trains were announced between New Delhi and Itanagar *via* Rangia;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of trains announced *via* Rangia and Tangla; and

(c) whether Tangla railway station is considered for stoppage being a major business hub, a tea garden belt and military transit destination, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The trains announced in Railway Budget 2014-15 serving Naharlagun (Itanagar) and other trains *via* Rangia and Tangla are as under:-

(i) 22411/22412 New Delhi-Naharlagun AC Express (Weekly)

(ii) 15617/15618 Guwahati-Naharlagun Intercity Express (Daily)

(iii) 15613/15614 Guwahati-Murkongselek Intercity Express (Daily)

(iv) 55429/55430 Rangia-Rangapara North Passenger (Daily)

(c) All the above announced trains have scheduled stoppage at Tangla station except 22411/22412 New Delhi-Naharlagun AC Express (weekly) which is proposed to have only 15 scheduled enroute stoppages.

New passenger trains

1523. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a demand to introduce a new passenger train between Mettupalayam and Pollachi and Mettupalayam to Bengaluru;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there has been a demand for running an additional passenger train between Mettupalayam and Coimbatore; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by railways on the above said demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Presently, introduction of new passenger train service between Mettupalayam-Pollachi and Mettupalayam-Bangalore as well as running an additional passenger train between Mettupalayam and Coimbatore is not feasible due to operational and resource constraints including terminal constraints and lack of spare maintenance facility at Mettupalayam and Coimbatore.

Restoration of railway services in areas affected by cyclone Hudhud

1524. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has initiated any action plan for restoration of railway services to Visakhapatnam and other areas affected by the cyclone Hudhud;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the loss occurred due to this cyclone and the precautionary steps adopted for the safety and security of railway assets along with the safety of railway passengers, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Hudhud, a severe cyclone hit north coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh in October, 2014. An important section of the railway line along the eastern coast of India, spread over two Zonal Railway systems *i.e.* South Central Railway (SCR) and East Coast Railway (BCOR) runs through these districts connecting two major cities of Andhra Pradesh-Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada. Hudhud struck Waltair division at 11:30 hours of 12th October, 2014 with a wind speed of upto 215 kilometre per hour and caused widespread devastation completely paralyzing Railway operations.

On ECOR, coaching and freight train operations were restored at 20:35 hours on 14th October, 2014. However, due to washing away of 100 metre track and one bridge girder, traffic of Kotavalsa-Koraput section could be restored only on 18th November, 2014. On SCR, train operations were normalized between Regupalem-Narsingapalli

section (both Up and Down lines) and on DN line between Narsingapalli-Bayyavaram section at 14:40 hours on 14th October 2014. The traffic on Narsingapalli-Bayyavaram UP line could be restored on 17:05 hours on 15th October, 2014.

As a precautionary measure, Railways cancelled 147 Mail/Express trains and 222 passenger services in anticipation of the cyclone and during the cyclone period. 35 Mail/Express trains were short terminated and 117 Mail/Express trains were diverted *via* routes that were not affected by the cyclone.

Financial losses (in rupees) incurred due to Hudhud is given in the table below:

Railway	Losses to freight loading	Coaching losses (in ₹)	Engineering assets loss (in ₹)	S and T assets loss (in ₹)
ECOR	89.82 crores	6.25 crores	60 crores	6,84,72,431
SCR	27.66 crores	6.25 crores		

(c) Two special trains were run between Visakhapatnam to Howrah and Bhubaneswar to Visakhapatnam to clear the stranded passengers.

Round the clock emergency controls were set up at divisional and Headquarters level of the concerned Zonal Railways. The two Zonal Railways remained constantly in touch with the State Government agencies and the Disaster Management Commission of Andhra Pradesh.

All other necessary precautionary steps were taken to ensure safety of passengers and Railway assets as per laid down guidelines.

Glass domed coaches

1525. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have decided to offer glass domed coaches with windows and roofs made of special shatter resistant glass to provide an all-round view to the travellers on some scenic tourist centric routes; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the scheme will also be introduced on Mettupalayam-Ooty route in Tamil Nadu; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

Manufacturing model rakes and semi-high speed coaches

†1526. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to manufacture model rakes and semi-high speed coaches;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this direction so far, 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) Orders have been placed on Carriage Rehabilitation Workshop, Bhopal to rebuild coaches with improved interior furnishings for use as model rakes. Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches, being manufactured and already running on Indian Railways, are fit for speeds upto 160 kmph. Order for one rake of LHB coaches fit for 200 kmph is placed on Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala.

(c) Does not arise.

Dynamic pricing

1527. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have introduced dynamic pricing in respect of certain trains, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether this has led to revenue increase for Railways; and
- (c) if so, the details of the revenue earned from such trains in comparison to normal passenger trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The concept of premium train services on dynamic fare over and above the regular train services has been introduced *w.e.f* 24.12.2013. The fare of Premium special trains on dynamic pricing increases depending upon the demand and availability

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of accommodation. The base fare of these trains is the normal adult fare applicable for the trains plus the tatkal charges and the fare can increase based on demand intensity subject to a prescribed maximum limit.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Additional earnings due to introduction of dynamic pricing for the period 24.12.2013 to 20.11.2014 is approximately ₹ 49.64 crores.

**Appointment of officers of Indian Administrative Service
in Railway and Railway Board**

†1528. DR. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a committee to appoint officers of Indian Administrative Service for the posts of Chairman, Member, Railway Board and General Manager-regional and unit railway in place of departmental officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the policy regarding appointment of officers of Indian Administrative Service in Railways and Railway Board; and

(d) the specific steps being taken by Government to improve the Railway Services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such policy at present.

(d) The Railway officers belonging to all cadres are imparted regular training to improve the services.

Extension of Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express route

1529. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government had decided to extend Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express upto Habibganj;
- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in implementing the decision;
- (c) the outcome of the previous trial run of the Shatabdi Express upto Habibganj; and
- (d) by when Shatabdi Express is likely to be extended upto Habibganj?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Extension of 12001/12002 New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express upto Habibganj announced in Railway Budget 2014-15 (July) has been implemented from 01.09.2014.

Security at railway stations in West Bengal

1530. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken measures to ensure security at railway stations and have stepped up their efforts for installing CCTV cameras and metal detectors at the sensitive stations in West Bengal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of places where the need for CCTV cameras have been identified and installed to tackle the possibility of naxal and terror attacks in the State; and
- (d) the details of the number of Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Reserve Police (GRP) personnel deployed at stations in West Bengal, Zone-wise and Station-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the States which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Railways through the Railway Protection Force (RPF) are supplementing efforts of States to strengthen security over Railways. Surveillance mechanism through close circuit television (CCTV) cameras and metal detectors over sensitive stations of Indian Railways, including railway stations falling in the State of West Bengal, is being further strengthened under an Integrated Security System (ISS) comprising of following four broad areas:

- Internet Protocol based CCTV surveillance system
- Access control
- Personal and baggage screening system
- Bomb Detection and Disposal System

(c) For strengthening of surveillance mechanism against naxal/terror attacks, CCTV cameras have been installed at Howrah, Sealdah, Kolkata Terminal, Gede, Asansol, Malda, Santragachi, Kharagpur, Midnapur, Adra, Purulia, New Jalpaiguri, Siliguri Junction, New Coochbehar, New Alipurduar and Alipurduar railway stations within the State of West Bengal.

(d) Deployment of RPF is on zone-wise pattern whereas GRP is deployed as per the jurisdiction of concerned States. Zone-wise position of deployment of RPF/GRP personnel over Eastern Railway (ER), Metro Railway, Kolkata, South Eastern Railway (SER) and Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) within the jurisdiction of State of West Bengal is as under:—

Railway Zone	RPF	GRP
ER	6548	1594
Metro Railway, Kolkata	940	401 (Metro Railway Police)
SER	207	510
NFR	270	201

Creation of separate railway division at Kazipet

1531. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Ministry has examined the proposal for creation of a separate railway division at Kazipet;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry did not find the proposal feasible;
- (c) how a proposal for setting up a separate division is examined in the Ministry;
- (d) the Committee in the Ministry which examined the said proposal;
- (e) the recommendations made by the Committee, if any; and
- (f) the reasons for rejecting the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal for setting up of a new division on Indian Railway is examined, keeping in view factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operating/administrative requirements etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency, without any regional considerations.

(d) The proposal was examined by a Committee of Senior Officers from Railways, which was set up to examine the large number of requests received from the State Government, Union Ministers, Members of Parliament/MLAs etc. for the creation of new zones and divisions on Indian Railways from various aspects of railways working.

(e) and (f) After examining the request from operational, financial, administrative and other aspects of railway working, the Committee did not recommend creation of a new division at Kazipet.

Rail corridor between Delhi and Chennai

1532. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to build a rail corridor between Delhi and Chennai for a journey in about six hours, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the other projects under Diamond Quadrilateral project to build a network of high-speed trains between different cities, the details thereof;

(c) whether any feasibility study has been made and by when the projects would be taken up; and

(d) the total cost for each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The Government is undertaking a feasibility study for Diamond Quadrilateral Network of High Speed trains comprising of four sides *i.e.* (i) Delhi-Mumbai, (ii) Mumbai-Chennai, (iii) Chennai-Kolkata, (iv) Kolkata-Delhi and both diagonals *i.e.*

(v) Delhi-Chennai and (vi) Mumbai-Kolkata, The total length of network will be approx. 10,000 km. Delhi-Chennai section has been identified for feasibility study in cooperation with Govt. of China.

Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) High Speed Rail Corporation of India Ltd. (HSRC) has been entrusted the work of conducting the above mentioned feasibility studies.

Decision on implementation of the projects will be taken after feasibility studies.

(d) Cost of each project would be known after feasibility studies are completed.

Procurement of railway coaches

1533. SHRI ALOK TIWARI :

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway coaches procured from private players during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, till date, zone-wise along with the names of companies which participated in tender for the same;

(b) the cost incurred on procurement of coaches from private players, year-wise;

(c) whether irregularities have been reported in procurement of GS coaches during 2013-14;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government has inquired into the alleged irregularities and fixed responsibility in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Procurement of coaches is not done by Railway Zones. Railway Board does the centralized procurement. During 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, till date, only one tender for procurement of Alternating Current Electric Multiple Unit (ACEMU) coaches has been finalized. The tender was opened on 10.06.2011. Seven firms participated in this tender as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of the firm
1.	M/s. Jupiter Wagons Limited, Kolkata.
2.	M/s. Hindusthan Engineering and Industries Limited, Kolkata.
3.	M/s. Besco Limited (Wagon Division), Kolkata
4.	M/s. Jessop and Company Limited, Kolkata.
5.	M/s. Titagarh Wagons Limited, Kolkata.
6.	M/s. BEML Limited, Bengaluru.
7.	M/s. Phooltas Harsco Rail Solutions Pvt. Limited, Patna.

Against the above tender, contracts placed on private firms and supplies received are as under:

Year	Firm - M/s.	Ordered quantity in rakes (Each rake consisting of 9 coaches)	Qty Supplied in rakes (up to October, 2014)	Cost incurred (Figures in crore)
2012-13	Titagarh Wagons Limited, Kolkata	11	2012-13 Nil 2013-14 Nil 2014-15 4	Nil Nil ₹ 40.74
	Jessop and Company Limited, Kolkata	6 rakes plus 5 loose motor coaches	Nil	Nil
	Besco Limited (Wagon Division), Kolkata	1	—	Nil
2013-14	No contracts have been placed.			
2014-15	No contracts have been placed.			

(c) No, Sir. No contract was either finalized or placed for procurement of GS coaches during 2013-14.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Private sector coach manufacturers

1534. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have awarded contracts to private sector coach manufacturers to supply coaches for its suburban and express trains;
- (b) if so, the details of such contracts awarded during the last two years;
- (c) the capacity of the public sector coach manufacturing units and the actual utilization of the capacity during the last two years; and
- (d) the reason for awarding contracts to private manufacturers bypassing the public sector units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The contracts for manufacture and supply of Alternating Current Electric Multiple Unit (ACEMU) coaches for suburban trains have been placed on the following private companies during the last two years:

Year	Contract No. and date	Ordered quantity in rakes (Each rake consisting of 9 coaches)	Rate	Firm
2012-13	2012/RS(PF and EC)-142/Coaches/18 dated 06.09.2012	11	₹ 10,18,54,592.68 per rake	M/s Titagarh Wagons Limited, Kolkata
	2012/RS(PF and EC)-142/Coaches/17 dated 06.09.2012	6 rakes plus 5 loose motor coaches	₹ 10,18,54,592.68 per rake and ₹ 1,60,17,903.64 per motor coach	M/s Jessop and Co. Ltd., Kolkata
2013-14	2013/RS(PF and EC)-142/Coaches/Besco/15 dated 18.11.2013	1 rake (Development contract)	₹ 8,99,98,272 per rake	M/s Besco Limited (Wagon Division), Kolkata

No contracts for supply of coaches of express trains have been placed on Private Coach Manufacturers.

(c) M/s BEML Limited, Bengaluru is the only Public Sector Undertaking unit under Ministry of Defence manufacturing coaches for the Indian Railways. Their intimated capacity for manufacturing mainline passenger coaches is 720 nos. of coaches per annum *i.e.* 60 nos. of coaches per month. During the years 2012-13 and 2013-14, the firm has supplied 621 nos. and 533 nos. of coaches.

(d) Public Sector Unit has not been bypassed. These contracts have been awarded following the advertised tendering route where M/s BEML Limited (a Public Sector Undertaking) also participated and has been awarded contract for ACEMUs, as detailed below:

Year	Contract No. and date	Ordered quantity in rakes (Each rake consisting of 9 coaches)	Rate
2012-13	2012/RS(PF and EC)-142/Coaches/16 dated 06.09.2012	8	₹ 10,18,54,592.68 per rake

In addition, following contracts are also under execution by M/s. BEML Limited at present:

Type of coach	Contract No. and date	Ordered quantity	Rate
Mainline Electric Multiple Unit	2012/RS(PF and EC)-142/Coaches/BEML/2 dated 28.3.2012	8 rakes (consisting of 8 coaches per rake)	₹ 6,71,30,000 per rake
Diesel Electric Multiple Unit	2012/RS(PF and EC)-142/Coaches/BEML/1 dated 3.1.2012	20 rakes (consisting of 8 coaches per rake)	₹14,42,26,766 per rake
Stainless Steel ACEMU	2005/RS(PF and EC)-142/BEML/14 dated 04.09.2008	6 rakes (consisting of 9 coaches per rake)	₹15,21,50,000 per rake

Dedicated freight corridor

1535. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the Dedicated Freight Corridor Project in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government is facing a lot of problems for land acquisition and in disbursement of compensation money; if so, the details there of; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for timely land acquisition and disbursement of compensation money, so that the deadline for the completion of this project could be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Two Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) viz. Eastern DFC from Ludhiana in Punjab to Dankuni in West Bengal and Western DFC from Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust in Mumbai to Dadri near Delhi have been sanctioned and implementation taken up. Excluding 538 km, Sonnagar-Dankuni Section of Eastern DFC which is to be implemented through Public Private Partnership, civil construction contracts of 1100 km have been awarded. Civil work on Khurja-Kanpur Section (343 kms) of Eastern DFC and Rewari-Palanpur Section (625 kms) of Western DFC have commenced and approximately 25% of work in Khurja-Kanpur Section and 12% in Rewari-Palanpur Section has been completed. Contract for construction of 54 major and important bridges in Vaitarna-Bharuch Section of Western DFC has also been awarded and work on 26 bridges has been completed so far. Electrification contract for 930 km of Western DFC has also been awarded recently. Work in Mughalsarai-Sonnagar Section of Eastern DFC is also progressing well. Approximately 9111 Hectare of land has been acquired and land compensation award of ₹ 6512 crore has been declared as per provision of Railway Amendment Act, 2008.

(b) While there are objections of a routine nature, including certain demands for change in alignment in some pockets, no major problem is being faced in acquisition of land for DFC Project.

(c) The provisions of Railway Amendment Act, 2008 and National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Plan, 2007 are being implemented for land acquisition and disbursement of compensation. For better coordination of land acquisition activities, State level coordination committees with respective State Governments have been formed to avoid delay in land acquisition and other related issues.

Quality of food sold at railway stations

†1536. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism to check the quality of food being sold at railway stations, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether any cases have been registered against selling of sub-standard food in the last two years, if so, the action taken so far in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Zonal Railways have a detailed institutionalized mechanism for monitoring of quality and hygiene of catering services through regular, surprise and periodical inspections. If any deficiency is found, corrective actions are taken including penal actions like imposition of fines, termination of contract according to the gravity of the offence. For real time assistance, Catering Monitoring Cells have been set up at Zonal and Divisional levels. A Centralized Catering Services Monitoring Cell (CSMC) has been set up at national level with a toll free number 1800-111-321. A defined Quality Assurance Programme with passenger opinion feedback scheme has also been made a part of the mechanism to improve the quality of catering services on trains. A pilot project for introduction of Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) based feedback system has been launched on some trains. Further, to improve the quality and hygiene of catering services, Third Party Audit of catering services are to be conducted at periodic intervals by independent and reputed auditing agencies accredited by NABCB (National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies) as empanelled by the zonal railways. The parameters for audit include all aspects of catering services like personal hygiene, infrastructure facilities, cleaning and sanitation, food safety, storage facilities, implementation of regulatory, statutory and safety regulations, quality of presentation etc.

(b) Approximately 196 cases of selling sub-standard food at stations have been registered by the zonal railways in the last two years (*i.e.* 1.11.2012 to 31.10.2014) and suitable action has been taken including imposition of fine in 91 cases, warning given in 52 cases etc.

Trains running in Andhra Pradesh

1537. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the fact that trains running in Andhra Pradesh from various parts of the country are not sufficient to meet the demands of the passengers planning to travel; and

(b) whether Government is planning for betterment of the railway network in the State, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways do not run trains on State-wise basis, as the railway network runs across State boundaries. However, Indian Railways not only undertakes regular analysis and review of occupancy pattern but also responds to public demands by introducing new trains, extending existing services and increasing their frequencies. This is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Further, as passengers demand is dynamic in nature and tends to surge during peak seasons/festivals etc., Railways, to the extent possible and subject to operational feasibility and availability of resources, plan special trains and augments loads of existing trains to cater to the extra rush of passengers. With a view to catering to the needs of passengers of various stations located in the State of Andhra Pradesh, 24 pairs of trains and 3 pairs of increase in frequencies have been announced in the Railway Budget 2014-15.

(b) At present, 17 new lines and 4 doubling projects aggregating 2777 km. falling partly or fully in the State of Andhra Pradesh have been taken up for betterment of railway network in the State.

New features in suburban trains

1538. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are considering to add new features in suburban trains, like advance audio-visual facilities, destination indicators, announcement about approaching stations, etc. as provided in the Delhi Metro, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways are considering to introduce stainless steel coaches in suburban trains, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Railways are planning to introduce more ladies special trains on suburban routes, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Provision of new features (including in the suburban trains) is

an ongoing process on Indian Railways. At present, the suburban trains in Mumbai region running with Siemens rakes already have display/audio-visual facility including announcement of approaching stations.

(b) Yes, Sir. Apart from Mumbai Suburban, a developmental order to manufacture and supply of 6 Stainless Steel EMU rakes was placed on M/s. Bharat Earth Movers Ltd., Bangalore. So far, 4 Stainless Steel EMU rakes have been manufactured by the firm. 2 rakes are working in Eastern Railway and 2 rakes are under despatch to Southern Railway.

(c) Presently, there is no proposal to introduce more ladies special trains on suburban routes.

Freight incentive scheme

1539. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incremental loading derived from each freight incentive scheme; and

(b) the marketing strategies employed for each scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The details of incremental loading (in tonnes) derived from various Freight Incentive Schemes in operation presently are as under:

Year	Freight Incentive Scheme for Loading Bagged Consignments in Open and Flat wagons	Freight Incentive Scheme for Traditional Empty Flow Directions	Freight Incentive Scheme for Freight Forwarders	Freight Incentive Scheme for Incremental Traffic
2010-11	22,53,796	27,49,666	7,05,349	3,18,77,129
2011-12	38,41,165	28,42,125	2,08,333	3,32,95,701
2012-13	30,88,780	26,36,827	1,60,367	3,58,57,567
2013-14	36,63,648	36,77,179	2,70,370	3,82,89,170
2014-15 (upto October)	7,75,287	34,14,069	4,80,847	2,50,45,067

In addition, a new scheme *viz.* Automatic Freight Rebate for traffic loaded in Inter-Zonal Traditional Empty Flow Direction has been launched from 1st October, 2014 on Southern and Northeast Frontier Railways. An incremental loading of 23843 tonnes has been registered during October and November 2014 under this new scheme.

(b) Regular meetings are held at Divisional, Zonal and Apex level with customers, trade bodies, merchant associations etc. with a view to making them aware of the benefits of the various Freight Incentive Schemes. Publicity is also being given through newspapers, railway website etc.

Operating ratio of Railways

1540. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operating ratio of Indian Railways is relatively higher in comparison to other countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of operating ratio of Indian Railways during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Railways to optimize their operating ratio;

(d) whether different committee reports have highlighted that Railways are lagging behind and have not kept pace with technology upgradation requirement due to inadequate investment;

(e) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(f) the concrete steps taken by Government to develop rail transport in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Information on Operating Ratio of railway systems in other countries is neither compiled nor maintained in this Ministry. Moreover, there are issues of diverse computation methodologies across countries, thus reducing validity of comparison of such statistical figures. The Operating Ratio of the Indian Railways for 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 was 94.9%, 90.2% and 93.6% (Provisional) respectively. Budget Estimates 2014-15 envisage an Operating Ratio of 92.5%.

(c) Improvement in Operating Ratio necessitates a progressively higher growth rate in Traffic Earnings *vis-a-vis* the growth in Working Expenses. It is a continuous endeavour of the Railways to increase revenues and control expenditure. Steps taken to

maximize the traffic earnings, *inter-alia*, include rationalization of fare and freight tariff, effective marketing strategies to capture more and more traffic, creation of additional capacity and optimum utilization of the existing rail infrastructure, improved throughput by steps to increase productivity and efficiency, improvement of passenger interface etc. To contain expenditure, Railways have made efforts through diverse means including strict economy and austerity measures, improved man-power planning, better asset utilization and inventory management, optimizing fuel consumption etc.

(d) Yes, Sir. Technological upgradation and the funding arrangement on Indian Railways has been highlighted by different expert committees.

(e) and (f) Technological upgradation on the Railways is an on going process and has to match the topographical and socio-economic conditions of the country and specific need and requirement of Railways. Efforts to garner more resources to meet these requirements is also a continuous and progressive endeavour. Towards technology upgradation and development of rail transport in the country, Railways have already initiated the following:

- Upgradation of sleepers from wooden and metal to concrete sleepers.
- Use of fan shaped turnouts on concrete sleepers in place of wooden and metal sleepers.
- Use of heavier section (60kg) and high tensile strength (90 UTS) rails in place of 90R/52 kg 72 UTS rails.
- Predominant use of long rail panels or welded rails in place of earlier fish plated joints.
- Decision to use thick web switches on heavy density routes along with Weldable Cast Manganese Steel (CMS) crossings in place of ordinary curved switches and Cast Manganese Steel Crossings (CMS).
- Ultrasonic testing of rails and welds with the help of digital double rail testers (DRT) in place of analogue single rail tester. Vehicle borne ultrasonic testing of rails and welds.
- Mechanised maintenance of track.
- Introduction of corrosion resistant, stainless steel, higher pay to tare ratio wagons.

- Bogie Mounted Brake System for wagons.
- Higher capacity Auto car wagons etc.
- Installation of Mobile Train Radio Communication (MTRC) system for providing full duplex communication between Driver, Guard, ASM, LC Gate and approaching trains as well as maintenance staff on A, B and C routes of Indian Railways.
- Setting up of MTRC system based on GSM-R technology.
- Pace of electrification on Indian Railways has been accelerated and around 1300 RKMs are being electrified every year .
- Signalling systems like Electrical/Electronic Interlocking with centralized operation of points and signals.
- Multiple Aspect Colour Light Signalling with LED Signals.
- Complete Track Circuiting of the station.
- Digital Axle Counters.
- Automatic Signalling.
- Train Management Systems (TMS) etc.
- Considering adoption of Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS) and Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) as means of Automatic Train Protection subject to available funds.
- Elimination of level crossings and unmanned level crossings.
- Introduction of new generation locomotives.
- Traction development for improvement in fuel efficiency, emission and reliability.
- High speed potential LHB coaches.
- Upgradation of suburban coaches.
- Green toilets on all passenger trains.
- Enhancement of customer amenities at stations and on trains.
- Feasibility studies for semi high speed operation.

- Establishment of loco and coach manufacturing units.
- Installation of captive power generation and renewable energy projects (solar, wind etc).
- Introduction of mobile ticketing.
- Construction of dedicated freight corridors: the Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) on the Eastern (Dankuni-Ludhiana, 1839 kms) and Western, (Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT) - Dadri, 1499 kms) routes are being constructed. The DFC Corridors are a strategic capacity augmentation initiative taken by Railways involves construction of dedicated freight lines to carry predominantly coal and steel on the Eastern Corridor and containers on the Western Corridor .
- For financing, apart from ring-fencing priority projects and ensuring funding for last mile projects as announced in the Budget Speech 2014-15, areas such as Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Public Private Partnership (PPP) are being tapped.

Development of handloom park at Bhudan Pochampalli

1541. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the then Minister had assured in September, 2013, at Bhongiri, Telangana, that the Ministry would provide ₹ 15 crore for development of hand-loom park at Bhundan Pochampalli;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even though it has a capacity of 2,000 looms, only 150 are currently running resulting in problems for weavers in the park; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to release the money and to increase the number of looms to 2,000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (c) The then Hon'ble Minister of Textiles had visited the Pochampalli Handloom Park on 16th September, 2013 and requested the State Government to convey their 'in-principle' approval for bearing 50% of the cost required for strengthening of the Pochampally Handloom Park. A meeting of the Committee was held on 5th September, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Secretary

(Textiles) for strengthening of Pochampally handloom park. However, it could not be considered for want of certain information/documents as required under the Scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Saving handloom industry of Uttarakhand

†1542. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that handloom industry in Uttarakhand is on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, whether State Government has requested Central Government to extend its helping hand in order to save the handloom industry;

(c) if so, the details of central aid being provided to the State under this head; and

(d) if not, the suggestion Government propose to give to the State to save handloom industry in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Government of India has not received any report from Government of Uttarakhand that the handloom industry is on the verge of closure in the State.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the Eleventh and Twelfth Plans (till November, 2014), a sum of ₹ 10.53 crore has been released to the State of Uttarakhand under the Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme. Under the Revival, Reform and Restructuring Package, a sum of ₹ 2.14 crore has been released to Uttarakhand State through NABARD. Under the Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, claims of ₹ 0.97 crore were settled. Under the Yarn Supply Scheme, Yarn worth ₹ 5.77 crore supplied to the handloom weavers/agencies of Uttarakhand State.

(d) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Policy to help textile industry

1543. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is continuing the policy of helping textile industry and National Textile Corporation by extending financial and logistic support; and

(b) whether the policy is further strengthened to help NTC mills such as NTC Kaleeswarar Mills, Kalayarkovil in Sivaganga district and other Mills in Coimbatore and Ramanathapuram districts in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Ministry of Textiles continues to extend financial support to the textiles industry through various Central sector schemes. As far as National Textile Corporation (NTC) is concerned since 2009-10 no specific financial support has been extended. NTC is pursuing its objectives and goals under the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction scheme, with the active support and guidance of the Ministry.

(b) There is no specific policy to strengthen NTC mills such as NTC Kaleeshwarar Mills, Kalayarkoil in Sivaganga District and other Mills in Tamil Nadu in Coimbatore and Ramanathapuram District.

Cotton production

1544. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cotton production is expected to cross 400 lakh bales next season; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the cotton prices are likely to come down due to lesser demand of Indian cotton, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) For the Cotton Season 2014-15 (October, 2014 to September, 2015), the Cotton Advisory Board has estimated the production of cotton at 400 lakh bales. Due to China's decision to offload its substantial stock of cotton, the market demand is short of supply. This has resulted in prices of cotton coming down. The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has started procurement of cotton as per the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Operations for safeguarding the interest of the cotton growers.

National Institute of Fashion Technology

1545. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether campus placement programme is regularly conducted at the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Chennai; and

(b) if so, the details of companies which conducted campus placement programme at NIFT, Chennai during the last five years and the number of students who got placement during such programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of companies who participated in Campus placement at NIFT Chennai campus is given in the Statement (See below).

209 students got placed during the last five years and, year-wise details are:

Year	Number of Students
2010	56
2011	41
2012	51
2013	38
2014	23

Statement

Details of the companies which conducted campus placement programme at NIFT, Chennai during the years 2010 to 2014

Sl. No.	Names of the companies
2010	
1.	Decathlon, Bangalore
2.	Intimate Fashions, Chennai
3.	Leather Crafts India Ltd., Chennai
4.	MAS Linea Leather Accessories Pvt Ltd., Chennai
5.	Rabia Leather Industries Pvt Ltd., Chennai
6.	E Shakthi. Com Pvt. Ltd.

Sl. No.	Names of the companies
7.	Bachee Shoes, Chennai
8.	Hasbro Clothing Pvt. Ltd. Chennai
9.	Tritan Leather Works Pvt. Ltd. Chennai
10.	Crimson House of Style, Chennai
11.	RmKV Silks, Chennai
12.	Crocodile Product Pvt. Ltd. Coimbatore
13.	ET Interactive, Chennai
14.	French Connections, Chennai
15.	AV Thomas Leather and Allien Product, Chennai
16.	Christian Fabre, Chennai
17.	Karan Woosin Ltd.
18.	Furture Value Group Pataloon, Mumbai
19.	Unity Exports
	2011
20.	Leather Crafts, Chennai
21.	Europa Groups, Chennai
22.	Tritan Leather Works, Chennai
23.	ET interactive, Chennai
24.	Rangoli, Pondicherry
25.	Evol Clothing, Chennai
26.	Mis Fits, Chennai
27.	Dixy Textile Pvt. Ltd., Tirupur
28.	Link UP Textile Pvt. Ltd., Tirupur
29.	Derby Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
30.	Standard Chartered Bank, Chennai
31.	Harley Street- Medical Prak Chennai
32.	Roverco Apparel Pvt. Ltd., Chennai

Sl. No.	Names of the companies
33.	Next Generation Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
34.	Future Group, Mumbai
35.	KH Shoe Pvt. Ltd., Rani Pet, Chennai
36.	Magnum Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
2012	
37.	ASA Fashion Life Style, Chennai
38.	Asharaa Inspired Living Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
39.	Celebrity Fashion Ltd., Chennai
40.	Cotton Blossom India Pvt. Ltd., Tripur
41.	Evolclothing, Chennai
42.	Florence Shoes, Chennai
43.	Indian Terrian, Chennai
44.	Indokem Overseas Ltd., Chennai
45.	Intimate Fashion (India) Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
46.	Karle International Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore
47.	Creative Edge, Chennai
48.	Magnum Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
49.	Maybel, Chennai
50.	Reliance Brand Ltd., Mumbai
51.	RmK V Silks, Chennai
52.	Sayee Leathers, Chennai
53.	Trident Home Furnishing, Chennai
54.	Tritan Leather Works, Chennai
55.	Venfield, Chennai
56.	Viia Dysn, Chennai
57.	Net Avenue Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
58.	Everonn Skill Development, Chennai

Sl. No.	Names of the companies
59.	Triiump International Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
60.	Shuamali Exports, Chennai
61.	RK Exports, Karur
62.	Krishna Creation, Chennai
63.	Roverco Apparel Co. Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
64.	Academy of Fashion and Design, New Delhi
65.	Shilpi Saryana Apparel Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
66.	Loguss Apparels, Tripur
67.	Vijay Garment Ltd., Chennai
68.	Carloo Textile, Tripur
69.	Rupa and Co., Tripur
70.	Priya Knitt Fabs, Tripur
2013	
71.	Genesis Colors Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
72.	Evolv Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
73.	Naser Tanning Company, Vaniyampadi, T.N
74.	Intimate Fashions, Chennai
75.	Tritan Leather Works Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
76.	Gupta and Company, Chennai
77.	Net Avenue, Technologies, Chennai
78.	Shopper Stop Ltd., Chennai
79.	Hasbro Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
80.	Stalwart Groups, Ooty
81.	Histyle (P) Ltd., Ambattur
82.	Atlas Export Enterprises, Karur
83.	Rakhava Impex, Karur
84.	Indokem Overseas Ltd., Chennai

Sl. No.	Names of the companies
85.	Design Classics Exports Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
86.	Trident Home Furnishing Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
87.	Frendi Fashions Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
88.	Leather Crafts India Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
89.	Celebrity Fashions Ltd., Chennai
90.	Metro Fabrics, Karur
91.	Paradigm International, Karur
92.	CHR Services, Chennai
93.	Ray and Di Designers, Chennai
2014	
94.	M/s Tritan Leather Works Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
95.	M/s Opus Fashion Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
96.	M/s Home Based Exports, Karur, T.N.
97.	M/s Rm KV Silks Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
98.	M/s Tonic Accessories, Chennai
99.	M/s Evolv Clothing Co. Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
100.	Raymond Apparel Ltd., Thane (W)
101.	C Bazaar, Chennai
102.	Isha Crafts, Chennai
103.	Moxi Sports, Chennai
104.	Sayee Leather, Chennai

Cotton purchase centres

1546. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of crash in cotton prices in the market Government has instructed to open more cotton purchase centres to purchase cotton from farmers at benchmark prices, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) the number of such centres are now functioning, State-wise and district-wise;
- (c) the number of bales of cotton, with total worth of price procured so far; and
- (d) the details of other steps taken to ensure that farmers are not forced to make distress sale in view of plentiful supplies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has been advised to open additional cotton procurement centres in consultation with the State Governments as and when required as envisaged under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation announced by the Government. For the Cotton Season 2014-15, CCI has proposed to operate more than 340 procurement centres in 92 districts across 11 cotton growing States in the country. The details of procurement centres to be operated by the CCI, State-wise and District-wise during Cotton Season 2014-15 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) During the Cotton Season 2014-15, by the end of November, 2014 CCI has procured approximately 11,58,000 bales of cotton valuing around ₹ 2700 crores.

(d) Directives have been issued to CCI for undertaking necessary action for MSP Operations, giving particular attention to specific areas which include giving wide publicity of MSP of cotton fixed and details of procurement centres opened by CCI for MSP operations, opening of additional purchase centres as per requirement, online payment to farmers through the Prime Minister's Jan Dhan Yojna and constant monitoring the operations in each centre on a daily basis by the CCI.

Statement

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd., Navi Mumbai

*State-wise No. of procurement centres to be operated
during Cotton Season 2014-15*

Sl. No.	State	No. of Distts.	No. of Centres
1.	Maharashtra	17	66
2.	Madhya Pradesh	7	19
3.	Gujarat	19	60
4.	Punjab	8	27
5.	Haryana	4	15
6.	Rajasthan	9	26
7.	Andhra Pradesh	6	27
8.	Telangana	9	81

Sl. No.	State	No. of Distts.	No. of Centres
9.	West Bengal	1	1
10.	Odisha	3	6
11.	Karnataka	9	15
TOTAL		92	343

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd., Navi Mumbai
No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in
Maharashtra Crop Year: 2014-15

Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Akola

Name of District		Name of Centre
1.	Yavatmal	1. Darwha
		2. Ghatanji
		3. Ralegaon
		4. Wani
		5. Mukutban
		6. Lonbehal
		7. Wadhona Bazar
		8. Shindola
2.	Buldhana	9. Khamgaon
		10. Malkapur
		11. Nandura
		12. Chikhli
3.	Akola	13. Akot
		14. Murtizapur
		15. Barshi Takli
		16. Patur
		17. Telhara
		18. Kapsi
		19. Dhamangaon
		20. Chandur Rly.
5.	Wardha	21. Deoli
		22. Pulgaon
		23. Rohna
		24. Wardha
		25. Hinganghat
		26. Sindi Rly.
		27. Kandli
		28. Jam
6.	Nagpur	29. Narkhed
7.	Chandrapur	30. Korpana

Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Aurangabad

Name of District		Name of Centre	
1.	Aurangabad	1.	Gangapur
		2.	Phulambri
		3.	Shivurbangla
		4.	Aadgaon
2.	Jalna	5.	Jalna
		6.	Partur
		7.	Ambad
		8.	Badnapur
		9.	Bhokardhan
3.	Parbhani	10.	Manvet
		11.	Selu
		12.	Bori
		13.	Jintur
		14.	Parbhani
		15.	Pathri
4.	Hingoli	16.	Jawlabazar
		17.	Sengaon
		18.	Basmatnagar
5.	Jalgaon	19.	Jalgaon
		20.	Bhusaval
		21.	Bodwad
		22.	Shendurni
		23.	Chalisgaon
		24.	Erandol
		25.	Jamner
		26.	Pahur
		27.	Pachora
		28.	Nandurbar
6.	Nandurbar	29.	Shahada
		30.	Naygaon
7.	Nanded	31.	Nanded
		32.	Tamsa
		33.	Kuntur
		34.	Georai
8.	Beed	35.	Dondaicha
9.	Dhule	36.	Shevgaon
10.	Ahmednagar		
Total Centres : 66			

*The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. Navi Mumbai**No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Madhya Pradesh*

Crop Year: 2014-15

Name of District		Name of Centre	
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Indore			
1.	Khargone	1.	Khargone
		2.	Barwaha
		3.	Sanawad
		4.	Bagod
		5.	Bhikengaon
		6.	Karhi
2.	Burhanpur	7.	Burhanpur
3.	Barwani	8.	Anjad
4.	Khandwa	9.	Khandwa
		10.	Bir
5.	Dhar	11.	Dhamnod
		12.	Gandhwani
		13.	Kukshi
		14.	Singhana
		15.	Bakaner
6.	Chindwara	16.	Sausar
		17.	Pandurna
7.	Devas	18.	Khategaon
		19.	Loharda
TOTAL CENTRES : 19			

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. Navi Mumbai
No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Gujarat
 Crop Year: 2014-15

Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Ahmedabad

Name of District	Name of Centre
1. Vadodara	1. Miyagaon
	2. Bodeli
	3. Dabhoi
	4. Pavijetpur
2. Chotaudepur	5. Handod
	6. Kaledia
	7. Golagamadi
	8. Kosindra
	9. Naswadi
3. Ahmedabad	10. Dhanduka
4. Sabarkantha	11. Himmatnagar
	12. Vadali
	13. Jadar
	14. Ilol
5. Kheda	15. Kapadwanj
6. Bharuch	16. Palej
	17. Samni
	18. Valia
	19. Jagadia
7. Mahasana	20. Visnagar
	21. Vijapur
8. Gandhinagar	22. Mansa
9. Aravali	23. Sathamba
Name of District	Name of Centre

Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Rajkot

1. Rajkot	1. Jamkandoran
	2. Wankaner
	3. Taraghadi
	4. Kuvadava
	5. Shapar
	6. Gondal
	7. Jasdan
	8. Rayadi
	9. Jetpur
2. Surendranagar	10. Dhangadhra

Name of District	Name of Centre
	11. Limbdi
	12. Chuda
	13. Vadod
	14. Sarla
	15. Chotila
	16. Lakhtar
	17. Godavari
	18. Ranpur
3. Bhavnagar	19. Mahuva
	20. Talaja
	21. Dasa
	22. Gadiadhar
4. Amreli	23. Rajula
	24. Savarkundla
	25. Dhari
	26. Babra
5. Junagadh	27. Junagadh
	28. Manavadar
6. Kutch	29. Anjar
	30. Bhuj
7. Botad	31. Botad
8. Jamnagar	32. Jamnagar
9. Gir Somnath	33. Una
	34. Kodinar
10. Morbi	35. Tankara
	36. Morbi
	37. Halvad
TOTAL CENTRES : 60	

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. Navi Mumbai

No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Punjab

Crop Year: 2014-15

Name of District	Name of Centre
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Bhatinda	
1. Mukatsar	1. Gidderbaha
	2. Malout

Name of District	Name of Centre
	3. Bariwala
	4. Killianwali
	5. Muktasar
2. Fazilka	6. Abohar
	7. Fazilka
3. Bathinda	8. Raman
	9. Maur
	10. Bhuchu
	11. Goniana
	12. Bathinda
	13. Sangat
	14. Rampuraphool
4. Mansa	15. Mansa
	16. Bhiki
	17. Sardulgarh
	18. Boha
	19. Baretta
	20. Budhlada
5. Barnala	21. Barnala
	22. Tapa
6. Sangrur	23. Lehragaga
	24. Sunam
7. Faridkot	25. Kotkapura
	26. Jaitu
8. Moga	27. Moga
TOTAL CENTRES : 27	

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. Navi Mumbai
No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Haryana
 Crop Year: 2014-15

Name of District		Name of Centre	
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Sirsa			
1.	Sirsa	1.	Sirsa
		2.	Dabwali
		3.	Kalanwali
		4.	Ellenabad
2.	Fatehabad	5.	Fatehabad
		6.	Ratia
		7.	Bhuna
		8.	Bhattu
3.	Hisar	9.	Hisar
		10.	Uklana
		11.	Barwala
		12.	Hansi
		13.	Adampur
4.	Jind	14.	Jind
		15.	Uklana
TOTAL CENTRES : 15			

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd, Navi Mumbai
No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Rajasthan
 Crop Year: 2014-15

Under the jurisdiction of B.O. Sriganganagar

Name of District		Name of Centre	
1.	Sriganganagar	1.	Sriganganagar
		2.	Kesarisinghpur
		3.	Shrikaranpur
		4.	Gajsinghpur
		5.	Padampur
		6.	Raisinghnagar

Name of District	Name of Centre
	7. Anupgarh
	8. Gharsana
	9. Suratgarh
	10. Sadursahar
2. Hanumangarh	11. Hanumangarh-Jn
	12. Hanumangarh-Tn
	13. Rawatsar
	14. Pilibanga
	15. Goluwala
	16. Sangaria
Under the jurisdiction of B.O. Bhilwara	
1. Bhilwara	1. Gangapur
	2. Asind
2. Ajmer	3. Beawar
	4. Bijaynagar
	5. Kekri
3. Pali	6. Sumerpur
4. Nagour	7. Merta City
5. Jodhpur	8. Bilara/Aasop
6. Chittorgarh	9. Kapasan
7. Udaipur	10. Fatehnagar
TOTAL CENTRES : 26	

The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd, Navi Mumbai

No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Andhra Pradesh

Crop Year: 2014-15

Name of District	Name of Centre
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Guntur	
1. Guntur	1. Tadikonda
	2. Guntur
	3. Narasaraopet

Name of District		Name of Centre
2	Kurnool	4. Chilakaluripet
		5. P.N. Padu
		6. Krosur
		7. Mancherla
		8. Sattenapalli
		9. Nadikudi
		10. Piduguralla
		11. Adoni
		12. Nandyal
		13. Yemmiganur
3	Prakasam	14. Pusapadu
		15. Parchur
		16. Inkollu
		17. Martur
		18. Darsi
		19. Giddalur
		20. Markapuram
		21. Nandigama
4	Krishna	22. Jaggaiahpet
		23. Kanchikacharla
		24. Mylavaram
		25. Gampalagudem
		26. Pitapuram
5	East Godavari	
6	West Godavari	27. Jangareddigudem
TOTAL CENTRES : 27		

*The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd, Navi Mumbai**No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Telangana*

Crop Year: 2014-15

Name of District	Name of Centre	Name of District	Name of Centre
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Warangal			
1 Warangal	1. Warangal	3 Medak	22. Gajwel
	2. Janagaon		23. Siddipet
	3. Narsampet		24. Jogipet
	4. Ghanapur		25. Togutta
	5. Parkal		26. Zaheerabad
	6. Nekkonda		27. Sadashivapet
	7. Kesamudram		28. Vatpally
	8. Mahabubabad	4 Mahabubnagar	29. Shadnagar
	9. Torrur		30. Nagar Kurnool
	10. Mulugu		31. Gadwal
	11. Cheryal		32. Badepally
2 Karimnagar	12 Karimnagar	5 Rangareddy	33. Parigi
	13. Jammikunta		34. Chevella
	14. Vemulawada		35. Vikarabad
	15. Peddapalli		36. Tandur
	16. Choppadandi		37. Ibrahimpatnam
	17. Husnabad	6 Nalgonda	38. Bhongir
	18. Dharmaram		39. Mallepalli
	19. Siricilla		40. Nekarikal
	20. Gangadhara		41. Thirumalagiri
	21. Gollapalli		42. Valigonda

Name of District	Name of Centre	Name of District	Name of Centre
	43. Suryapet		51. Chandragunda
	44. Mothkur		52. Nelakondapalli
	45. Huzurnagar		53. Kothagudem
	46. Choutaapal		54. Bhadrachalam
	47. Alair		55. Burgampadu
	48. Chityal		56. Enkoor
7 Khammam	49. Khammam		57. Thallada
	50. Madhira		
Name of District	Name of Centre	Name of District	Name of Centre
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Adilabad			
1 Adilabad	1. Adilabad		14. Bellampally
	2. Adilabad-B		15. Kondapally
	3. Indervally		16. Sarangpur
	4. Bela		17. Chennur
	5. Neradigonda		18. Kubeer
	6. Mancheri		19. Echoda
	7. Asifabad		20. Jainoor
	8. Wankidi		21. Narnoor
	9. Luxattipet		22. Indaram
	10. Sonala		23. Kadam
	11. Bhainsa		
	12. Boath	2 Nizamabad	24. Madnoor
	13. Pochera	TOTAL CENTRES : 81	

*The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd, Navi Mumbai**No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Odisha and West Bengal*

Crop Year: 2014-15

Name of District		Name of Centre	
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Rayagada			
1.	Rayagada	1.	Rayagada
		2.	Gunupur
2.	Kalahandi	3.	Kesinga
		4.	Karlapada
3.	Bolangir	5.	Jogimunda
		6.	Kantabanji
TOTAL CENTRES : 6			
Name of District		Name of Centre	
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Kolkata			
1.	South 24 Parganas	1.	Nimpith
TOTAL CENTRES : 1.			
No. of procurement centres to be operated for operations in Karnataka			
Crop Year: 2014-15			
Name of District		Name of Centre	
Under the jurisdiction of B.O., Hubli			
1.	Belgaum	1.	Bailhongal
		2.	Gokak
2.	Dharwad	3.	Hubli
		4.	Annigere
		5.	Navalgund
3.	Gadag	6.	Gadag
		7.	Laxmeshwar
		8.	Nargund
4.	Haveri	9.	Haveri
		10.	Ranebennur
5.	Bijapur	11.	Bijapur
6.	Chitradurga	12.	Chitradurga
7.	Raichur	13.	Raichur
8.	Gulbarga	14.	Shahpur
9.	Bellary	15.	Bellary
TOTAL CENTRES : 15			

Market for handloom products

†1547. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of inadequate marketing arrangement, handloom products produced by weavers are not getting sufficient market, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is considering implementation of a new national textile policy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken for solving various problems of country's weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Government of India has been implementing National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). It has Handloom Marketing Assistance as one of its components. Under this component, financial assistance is provided to organize domestic marketing events like District Level Events, State Level Handloom Expos, National Level Handloom Expos, Craft melas etc., which provide a marketing platform to the weavers/handloom agencies to sell their products. Financial assistance is also given to participate in the international exhibitions. During the year 2013-14, 376 domestic marketing events and participation in 22 international exhibitions were approved.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has constituted an Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shankar, Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitive Council for reviving Textile Policy 2000 and formulating a new National Textile Policy. The Expert Committee is yet to submit their report on handloom, handicrafts and technical textiles.

Promotional incentives to handloom weavers of West Bengal

1548. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that handloom cotton sarees made in West Bengal are very popular in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that the full potential of producing handloom cotton sarees of the State remain untapped; and

(c) if so, the promotional incentives Government proposes to extend to the handloom weavers of West Bengal who make cotton sarees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to tap the full potential of handloom, including production of cotton sarees in the State, the following developmental and promotional schemes for handloom weavers of West Bengal are implemented by Government of India:—

1. National Handloom Development Programme—two components:—
 - (i) Comprehensive Handlooms Development Scheme
 - (ii) Revival, Reform and Restructuring (RRR) Package for handloom sector
2. Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme two componentsr—
 - (i) Health Insurance Scheme for access to health care facilities
 - (ii) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana for life insurance
3. Yarn Supply Scheme
4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

In addition to above, the State Government has informed that they are also implementing following schemes for handloom weavers including those engaged in making cotton sarees:—

- (i) Comprehensive Handlooms Development Scheme in Dakshin Dinajpur District (Special Central Assistance under Backward Region Grant Fund).
- (ii) Production and marketing of Cheaper Variety of cotton Sarees.
- (iii) Setting up of modern dye house.
- (iv) Setting up of State Design Centre at Tantuja Bhavan, Salt Lake City.
- (v) Setting up of rural Handloom Haat.
- (vi) Old age pension to the handloom weavers.

Apart from the above, the following incentive schemes have been introduced by the State Government *w.e.f.* September, 2013:-

- (i) 10% State subsidy for export promotion.
- (ii) 6% interest subsidy on working capital to PWCS/Clusters/Handloom Groups.
- (iii) 5% additional marketing incentives over and above of existing marketing. Incentive funded equally by the GOI and State subject to a maximum ceiling to ₹ 5.00 lakh per PWCS.
- (iv) Power consumption in weaver's household to be treated as domestic consumption.

Empowering handloom weavers

1549. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to examine the feasibility of mechanizing any two out of the three basic motions of shedding, picking and beating and in the process convert the handloom industry to powerloom, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Sub-committee formed by the Ministry to go into the details of this proposal does not have a representative of weavers and on the country only has representatives of the powerloom industry, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the recent steps taken by Government aimed at empowering handloom weavers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Government had constituted a Sub-Committee to examine the issue of change of definition of handloom. The sub-committee examined the issue and given its recommendation based on the representations of the stakeholders and recommended that in the process of weaving, the weaver does not use power and hence definition of handloom need not be changed and it should remain in the purest form. The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has accepted the report of the sub-committee. The press brief has also been released for the public.

(b) The sub-committee constituted by the Ministry of textiles did not have any representative from handloom or powerloom weavers to examine the issue of change of definition of handloom. However, the committee had discussed in detail all the aspects of this issue with handloom and powerloom weavers in different clusters of the country.

(c) Government of India is implementing a number of developmental and welfare schemes to empower the handloom weavers such as Yarn supply/Mill Gate Price Scheme, National Handloom Development Programme, Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)-Handloom Mega Cluster.

Production of cotton in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

1550. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cotton produced from October, 2013 to September, 2014 in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana respectively;

(b) whether it is a fact that cotton in almost all markets in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana has been quoted less than the MSP;

(c) if so, whether Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL) has instructed its centres to buy cotton from farmers at MSP; and

(d) the total cotton brought to market yard by farmers and cotton purchased by CCIL, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) estimate, the cotton production from October 2013 to September, 2014 in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana was 78 lakh bales.

(b) and (c) The cotton prices have touched the MSP level in many parts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) is operating 27 procurement centres in Andhra Pradesh and 81 procurement centres in Telangana.

(d) The details of district-wise arrivals *vis-a-vis* purchases by CCI by the end of November 2014 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Arrival of cotton during current cotton season (by November, 2014)

(1 Bale = 170 Kg.)

Sl. No.	Name of District	Progressive arrivals	Purchases (in bales)
Branch-Warangal			
1.	Karimnagar	160090	110293
2.	Khammam	69677	42109
3.	Mahabubnagar	49317	39276

Sl. No.	Name of District	Progressive arrivals	Purchases (in bales)
4.	Medak	25743	19787
5.	Nalgonda	109542	93747
6.	Rangareddy	22160	21460
7.	Warangal + Others	343471	93250
TOTAL		780000	419922
Branch-Adilabad			
1.	Adilabad	257640	198857
2.	Nizamabad + Others	72760	4932
TOTAL		330400	203789
Branch-Guntur			
1.	Guntur	19567	17770
2.	Krishna	94654	85559
3.	Kurnool	60917	18329
4.	Prakasam	31417	28902
5.	West Godavari	3952	3611
TOTAL		210507	154171

The House then adjourned at twenty-six minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House re-assembled at thirty-three minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

RE. OBJECTION ON LISTING THE LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS INSTEAD OF PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Private Members' Resolution. Further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda on 1st August, 2014 regarding the Agrarian Crisis and Suicides by the Farmers in Vidarbha Region. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Vijay Darda ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, सबसे पहले ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a Private Members' Business. It is not a Government Business. Why do you object? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : सर, सबसे पहले मैं इस सदन का और माननीय सदस्यों का धन्यवाद करता हूँ जिन्होंने विदर्भ के बारे में हमारे प्रस्ताव को ...(व्यवधान)... चर्चा के लिए अनुमति दी है।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I do not understand the logic of obstructing the Private Members' Business ...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय जवाहरलाल दर्डा : मैंने इस प्रस्ताव पर पिछले सत्र में 1 अगस्त 2014 को चर्चा आरम्भ की थी ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, it is a Private Members' Business day. After this, we have listed two legislative Businesses. Sir, after the Private Members' Business, why has the Legislative Business been listed? ...(Interruptions)... Two Bills are for withdrawal and one Bill is for consideration. ...(Interruptions)... I will request the Government not to list ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That we will decide at 5.00 p.m. Now we will have to take up the Private Members' Business. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Why? They have listed two Legislative Businesses, one for withdrawal and one for consideration at 5.00 p.m. on Friday. That is not the parampara in the House. ...(Interruptions)... This has never happened on the Private Members' Business day, ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why don't you allow the Private Members' Business to be taken up? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: That is the reason. ...(Interruptions)... Normally, on Friday, the Legislative Business, two Bills are for withdrawal and one bill is for consideration. ...(Interruptions)... This has never happened before. ...(Interruptions)... Please give a ruling on this. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You know that the time of the House has been extended up to 6.00 p.m. The Private Members' Business will be over at 5.00 p.m. Therefore, we have to utilize the remaining one hour. That is all. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Why should there be a discussion at 5.00 p.m. on Friday? That is the point I am making. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Rajaji, what is your complaint? ..(Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the House is not in order. ..(Interruptions)...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी): सर, प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स बिजनेस 2.30 बजे से लेकर 5.00 बजे तक है और 5.00 बजे से 6.00 बजे तक गवर्नमेंट बिजनेस लिस्ट में है। ...(व्यवधान)... यह इसलिए है कि जो प्राइवेट

[श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी]

मेम्बर्स बिजनेस है वह 2.30 बजे से लेकर 5.00 बजे तक है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ऐसा पहली बार नहीं हो रहा है, ऐसा इससे पहले भी हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह जो एक घंटे का समय सदन को काम करने के लिए मिल रहा था, वह इसलिए ही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is what I have said, It is the time for the Private Members' Business. There is no logic in saying this. ...**(Interruptions)**... There is no rationale in obstructiong the Private Members' Business. ...**(Interruptions)**... The House is adjourned for 15 minutes.

The House then adjourned at thirty-eight minutes past two of the clock.

The House re-assembled at fifty-two minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*:

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay; what is your point of order? Yes, I am allowing a point of order.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, my point is the following.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you quoting any rule?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: No; I am talking about the practice which you are more aware of than me. You have got more experience in this House than I have, that we can take up official business after the Private Members' Business on a Friday, but only on the condition that the House approves. Without the approval of the House how was official business circulated in this House and circulated to us in the List of Business as Government Business? This is unprecedented, Sir, and it is against the practice and the precedence in this House. And neither was it discussed in the B.A.C. Even when it is discussed in the B.A.C., when it comes before the House on a Friday, that matter, if it is urgent Government business, yes, the House will agree. But, then, without taking the House into confidence, without taking the House's approval, how did you list it? I have a serious objection. I think this has been improper.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Would you like to say something, Shri Naqvi?

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, आप इस पर अपनी रूलिंग दीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Let me give you the background.

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: Sir, it is a serious issue. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I am telling you. You may give your ruling later, but my point to you is, unless the House approves at the beginning of the day that today we shall take up some Government Business after the Private Business is over, on the Friday concerned, until the House gives its approval, it cannot be listed in the Revised List of Business. Then it may come as 'supplementary', but it cannot be listed. That has been my experience so far. I am sure your experience is larger and wider than mine. So let us not violate our norms for certain expediency. सर, मैं यह बात सदन की गरिमा के आधार पर कह रहा हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Have you got anything to say, Shri Naqvi?

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सीताराम येचुरी जी ने जो बात कही है, यह सही है कि जिस दिन प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिजनेस होता था, उस दिन गवर्नमेंट बिजनेस नहीं होता था। चूंकि अब सदन की कार्यवाही का समय पांच बजे से छः बजे तक एक घंटा बढ़ा है, तो निश्चित तौर से पांच बजे से छः बजे के बीच में अगर कोई सरकारी बिल है, तो उस पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)... सरकारी बिल ...(व्यवधान)... वह सरकारी बिल नहीं होता, वह देश के सरोकार से जुड़ा बिल होता है, वह इस सदन का बिल होता है। यह एक चीज़ है।

दूसरी चीज़ यह है कि यदि आपको इस पर कोई आपत्ति है ...(व्यवधान)... मैं सीताराम येचुरी जी की बात से सहमत हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... अगर कोई आपत्ति है, तो चेयर को यह अधिकार है कि इस पर रूलिंग दे सकते हैं ...(व्यवधान)... आप अभी प्राइवेट मेम्बर्स बिजनेस कीजिए।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, इस सदन में कोई भी कार्यवाही करने से पहले हम बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी में उसके ऊपर चर्चा करते हैं। अगर इस सदन की कार्यवाही केवल सरकार के अधिकार क्षेत्र में होती और सदन का उसमें कोई हस्तक्षेप न होता, तो बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी की जरूरत ही नहीं थी।

श्री उपसभापति : अच्छा, ठीक है।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी की जो पिछली मीटिंग थी, जिसमें इस हफ्ते का बिजनेस डिसाइड हुआ ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have got your point. ...(Interruptions)... You made your point.

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : पहली बात तो यह है कि उसमें यह मुद्दा कभी चर्चा में नहीं आया।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the position is this. Hon. Yechury, I agree. You have raised a pertinent point; it is a very relevant point. I know, on Friday, even before 5.00 p.m., all hon. Members want to go to their Constituencies due to Saturday and Sunday. I know the compulsion. So, you have raised a pertinent point. And, yes; it was not our practice to take up any Government business after the Private Members' Business is over. It was not our practice. But...

एक माननीय सदस्य : यह “बट” ही खराब है सर।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me say. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, please, there is a slight difference.

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव (तेलंगाना) : “बट” के बाद कुछ बन सकता है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is ‘but’ dangerous or am I dangerous? Which one is dangerous? You tell me.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, when you say ‘but’, it is doubly dangerous. That is the point.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, we have amended the rule. By amending the rule, we have extended time from 5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. That should have been the reason. And, on that ground, the Government must have thought that it is prudent...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: No ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You allow me to complete. What are you saying? Let me complete. Without hearing, you are saying ‘no.’

AN HON. MEMBER: No.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What ‘no’? This is all. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, since one hour from 5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. is available, the Government, naturally, must have thought to make use of that time. That is how the List of Business has come. Therefore, I am not blaming the Government for listing that business between 5.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. However, the suggestion made by hon. Yechuryji, supported by Shri Chaturvedi, the entire House and concurred by the hon. Minister by saying that if House wants, it can decide on it, therefore, I feel, in view of the suggestion made here and as I see consensus, it would be advisable that Government may not bring Government Business between 5.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. However, I am leaving this as a suggestion for consideration of the Government. But, the final decision will be taken by the hon. Chairman who is coming on Monday. I myself will take up the matter with the hon. Chairman and the final decision will be taken by the hon. Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, let me start Private Member’s Resolution. Shri Vijay Darda. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Rajasthan): Sir, unless and until this impasse is resolved, this House cannot be in order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, it is in order.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No; it is not in order, because we are raising a point.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Vijay Darda will start, then we will see. ...*(Interruptions)*...

3.00 P.M.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: We have been raising a point. I know that you are very happy that nobody is here. It is a separate issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is in order.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, Sir. That is a separate issue. What I am saying is this. Sir, we have issued a joint statement today.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, all the nine opposition parties have issued a joint statement. We have appealed to the Government to reconsider their obduracy. We have appealed to them that on the same wordings of the Prime Minister's speech, on the spirit of it, let us sit down and work out a resolution for this House. We have appealed to the Government on that. We are also saying that we are not interested in disrupting the proceedings. We want the House proceedings to continue in the interest of the country and in the interest of the Government Business. Therefore, the responsibility for undoing this lies with the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : यह बिल्कुल ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम संतुष्ट नहीं हैं, हमने फिर भी सम्मान किया है और प्रस्ताव किया है। हम बिल्कुल संतुष्ट नहीं हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Through you, Sir, we want to reiterate that appeal so that you please convey to the Government that they take the initiative to resolve this impasse. This impasse is because of the Government ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, this week, this House, with the full support of the Opposition passed five Bills in two days. This is unprecedented. The Opposition is totally wanting to pass more Bills. Five Bills in two days! So, our intentions are clear. Our first demand on the Floor of the House was sacking the Minister. But, after listening patiently and respectfully to the Prime Minister, we have scaled down on that. We have been very reasonable. We are saying no need to sack her, just pass the resolution. Now, we appeal to the Government, please don't be so adamant and arrogant. Please be reasonable and allow the House to run with the reasonable Opposition like us. Nine parties are together.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, as I had said, and what Mr. Derek and Mr. Sitaram Yechury have said, the record should be very clear. Yesterday, when we were informed that the Prime Minister would come to the House, we all felt that this institution was getting the due respect which we had been demanding for days. At the same time, I must make it absolutely clear, because there have been so many speculative stories that we had agreed that if the Prime Minister comes and makes any statement, the statement would be over. We listened to the Prime Minister. We were disappointed because it was merely a repeat of what was said. Yet, we all, the Leaders of the Opposition Parties, met and collectively

[Shri Anand Sharma]

took a considered view that we would acknowledge it. Therefore, we scaled down our demand as has been conveyed by both, Mr. Derek O'Brien and Mr. Sitaram Yechury, that we will then ask for a resolution which was discussed yesterday in the Business Advisory Committee. Mr. Sitaram Yechury had suggested that. We said that it would be a right thing for this House to do to restore the dignity of the democratic discourse. Now, a resolution in general disapproval of any inflammatory speech, any derogatory statement, by any Member of Parliament including Ministers was the most reasonable proposition of the Opposition. The Government did say that they would come back. They got back to us this morning. They said that they reject this. So, this is the obduracy of the Government, unreasonableness of the Government, which has forced continuation of the statemate in the House. If the Government is serious to transact the Government Business, the responsibility of running the House then is with the Government. Here, they are fortunate to have a reasonable Opposition and a responsible Opposition. I must also remind that Session after Session, in the past, the proceedings were derailed. The complete legislative agenda was derailed. No business was transacted. It is a published book of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat which says how much business was transacted in which Session. We need not be told about the responsible Opposition. Here is the responsible Opposition. The Business has been transacted last week and the credit goes to this Opposition. The credit does not go anywhere else. Still, this Opposition is willing. It is for the Government now.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं विपक्ष का और विपक्ष के सभी साथियों का बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद करता हूँ, बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ कि उन्होंने दो दिनों में पाँच-छः बिल पास करवाए।

श्री उपसभापति : थोड़ा शुक्रिया हमारा भी तो कर दीजिए।

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : सर, आपको तो शुक्रिया है ही। जहाँ तक हमारी संवेदनशीलता ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : एक मिनट, आपको मेरी बात सुन कर हंसी आएगी। एक बार तो आप इनका शुक्रिया कर दो, लेकिन उसके बाद 'but' से अपनी बात शुरू करो। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : जब आपने हमारी संवेदनशीलता और हमारी ईमानदारी की बात की है, तो मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि जिस दिन यह विषय उठा, उसी दिन, एक घंटे के अन्दर, जो माननीय मंत्री हैं, वे सदन में आई और आने के बाद उन्होंने माफी मांगी, apology की। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : उन्होंने खेद प्रकट किया, माफी नहीं मांगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : उसके बाद ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसके बाद ...**(व्यवधान)**... पहले मैं पूरा जवाब दे दूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**... खुद सदन के नेता श्री अरुण जेटली जी ने कहा कि हम इसको किसी

तरह से भी एप्रूव नहीं करते, हम इसकी निन्दा करते हैं। उनके बाद वेंकैया नायडु जी ने इस बारे में कहा, फिर मैंने स्वयं कहा। जब सदन ने कहा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी को आना चाहिए और प्रधान मंत्री जी को यहां आकर बात करनी चाहिए, तो प्रधान मंत्री जी ने स्वयं यहां आकर यह कहा कि हम इस तरह के किसी भी बयान का समर्थन नहीं करते, हम इसको strongly disapprove करते हैं। हमें लगता है कि इसके बाद यह मुद्दा क्लोज़ हो जाता है, यही सदन की परम्परा है। आप सदन की जिस परम्परा और जिस सम्मान की बात कर रहे हैं, हम भी सदन की उसी परम्परा और सम्मान की बात कर रहे हैं। हमें लगता है कि यह मुद्दा यहीं क्लोज़ हो जाए और सदन की कार्यवाही चले।

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : उपसभापति महोदय ...(व्यवधान)... उपसभापति जी, ...(व्यवधान)... मुझे एक मिनट का समय दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : Sir, don't reopen the issue. ...(Interruptions)... Don't reopen the issue. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : That is what I am saying. ...(Interruptions)... Let me make it clear that the Chair. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, मुझे सिर्फ एक मिनट का समय दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : सर, मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, मुझे एक मिनट का समय दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : इसमें भी आपकी मोनोपली है क्या? हमें भी तो बोलने का मौका मिलना चाहिए।

श्री उपसभापति : ठीक है, आप बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)... सब लोग बोलते हैं, आप भी बोलिए।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : आप अपनी सीट पर नहीं हैं, इसीलिए आपको मौका नहीं मिल रहा है।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : मैं तो लेडी मैम्बर की जगह पर जाकर बैठ गया कि शायद हमको इस तरह मौका मिल जाए।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी : इसीलिए आपको मौका नहीं मिला है।

श्री उपसभापति : आपको अपनी सीट पर जाना चाहिए। बोलने के लिए आपको अपनी सीट पर जाना चाहिए। आप बोलिए।

SHRI K.C. TYAGI : Sir, this was my sacrifice for the ladies.

सर, जो बात श्री सीताराम जी ने, श्री सत्यव्रत जी ने और श्री आनन्द जी ने कही, बाकायदा 9 पार्टियों की तरफ से लिखकर आपके सामने वह चीज़ आई है। अब अगर आप इसके ज्यादा डिटेल् में जाएंगे कि किसकी कम गलती थी, किसकी ज्यादा गलती थी, इस पर तो कई दिन से बहस हो ही रही है। Good spirit में जो resolution आया है, वह आपके सामने है। सोमवार तक आप इस मामले को sort out कीजिए।

[Shri K.C. Tyagi]

हम सदन चलाना चाहते हैं। हमारे जितने साथी हैं, सभी पार्टिज़ के नेताओं ने अपनी भावनाओं को बता दिया है, इसलिए आप भी इसमें rigidity मत दिखाइए। यह समूचे सदन का फैसला है, इसमें कोई 'if' and 'but' नहीं है। इसमें न आप हारे, न हम हारे, न आप जीते, न हम जीते।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, hon. Members, see, I do not find any use in furthering this discussion because I know this is not going to be settled here. I think the leaders of the opposition parties and the Government should sit together, sort out and come with a solution, at least, by Monday. That is all what I can say. The Chair cannot take a decision on this. I am not able to take a decision. My request to everybody is, now you have made your points. Why don't we allow Private Members' Business?
...(Interruptions)...

SOME MEMBERS: No ...(Interruptions)... No ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not understanding the logic of that.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I will tell you, in the spirit ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Sir, I am also unable to understand when this expression of the Prime Minister's speech is almost identical to the resolution that we are proposing, what is the objection of the Government? Why does the Government object to it?

SHRIMUKHTARABBASNAQVI: It is not acceptable, it is not the way. अब एक चीज़ तो हो गई है, हम भी चाहते हैं कि सदन चले। जब हम दोनों यही चाहते हैं कि सदन की कार्यवाही चले, तो इसमें बाधा कहां है? जब हम दोनों ही यह चाह रहे हैं कि सदन चले, तो इसमें बाधा कहां है?
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : जिस भावना का इज़हार इन्होंने किया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : कौन सी बाधा है? कौन सी बाधा है, उसको खत्म करिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, इसका मतलब यह है कि सरकार ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : सत्यव्रत जी, कोई बाधा नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान).... जो-जो आपने कहा, वह-वह हमने किया। ...(व्यवधान).... अब ऐसा नहीं होता है कि आप जो कहेंगे ...(व्यवधान)....

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : सर, ...(व्यवधान).... हमने रास्ता निकाला, लेकिन ...(व्यवधान).... आप बन्द कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Naqvi, I have made a suggestion that the leaders of the opposition parties, and may be, the Leader of the House, all leaders, sit together and sort it out because the Chair cannot take a decision on this ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: I will discuss, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Raja, is there anything new? If there is nothing new. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, adjourn the House till Monday. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If there is nothing new, then, why don't you allow Private Members' Business? ...*(Interruptions)*... Anand Sharmaji, why don't you allow the Private Members' Business, then? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, there is an impasse between the Government and the Opposition. ...*(Interruptions)*... As long as this issue is unresolved, it won't be correct for the House to resume normal transaction of any Business. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You agree for the Private Members' Business ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: We are very clear on that. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are very clear. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, I will have to adjourn the House; that is the only way now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Either the Government should agree to what we have said. ...*(Interruptions)*... They cannot. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, leaders of the Opposition and the Government should meet and find a solution by Monday morning. Till that time, the House can be adjourned. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government should come out as a ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government should respect. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. I think, I am going to adjourn the House ...*(Interruptions)*... The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 8th December, 2014.

*The House then adjourned at twelve minutes past
three of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Monday, the 8th December, 2014.*