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Friday
12 December, 2014
21 Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

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RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT
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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, 12th December, 2014/21st Agrahayana, 1936 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

Anniversary of terrorist attack on the Parliament Building

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, 13th of December, 2014, marks the Thirteenth Anniversary of the dastardly attack on the Parliament House by terrorists.

On this occasion, we recall the supreme sacrifice made by our security personnel, which includes two from the Parliament Security Service, five from the Delhi Police, and a lady Constable of the Central Reserve Police Force who lost their lives. One Gardener of the C.P.W.D. and a cameraperson of A.N.I. were also among those who lost their lives. By preventing the entry of terrorists inside the Parliament House Building, at the cost of their lives, they all have set an example of supreme sacrifice.

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

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

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

Regarding declaring 21st June as the International Day of Yoga

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, yesterday the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted by acclamation a Resolution moved by India to declare 21st June as the 'International Day of Yoga'. This is a matter of great joy and a fitting recognition of the ancient science of Yoga.

Hon. Prime Minister of India had made the proposal during his address to the United General Assembly on September 27th this year. One hundred and seventy-seven countries co-sponsored the Resolution adopted yesterday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : माननीय सभापति जी, मेरा पाइंट ऑफ आर्डर है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : अभी पेपर्स लेड हैं।

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

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**Annual Statement (December 2014) and Reports of the Law
Commission of India**

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Tenth Annual Statement on Pending Law Commission Reports (December, 2014).

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1164/16/14*]

- (ii) Two Hundred and Forty-fifth Report of the Law Commission of India on Arrears and Backlog: Creating Additional Judicial (wo) manpower.

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1160/16/14*]

- (iii) Two Hundred and Forty-sixth Report of the Law Commission of India on Amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

[Placed in Library. *See L.T. 1161/16/14*]

- (iv) Two Hundred and Forty-seventh Report of the Law Commission of India on Sections 41 to 48 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 - Proposed Reforms.

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1162/16/14*]

- (v) Two Hundred and Forty-eighth Report of the Law Commission of India on “Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal” - (Interim Report).

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1163/16/14*]

**Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of various Telecom Companies
and related papers.**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Fourteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), 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 Nigam.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1074/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Second Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), 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 Company.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1072/16/14]

- (iii) (a) Twenty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), 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 Nigam.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1073/16/14]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Informatics Centre Services Inc. (NICSI), 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 Company.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1075/16/14]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles

II. Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of various Textile Corporation, Textile Research Associations and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Textiles, under sub-section (3) of Section 13 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948:—

- (1) G.S.R. 174, dated the 16th August, 2014, publishing the Central Silk Board Employees Pension Fund (Amendment) Rules, 2014.
- (2) G.S.R. 175, dated the 16th August, 2014, publishing the Central Silk Board Contributory Provident Fund (Amendment) Rules, 2014.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1173/16/14]

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:—

- (1) (a) Forty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Textile Corporation Limited (NTC), 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. 1771/16/14]

- (2) (a) Forty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), Navi Mumbai, 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. 1772/16/14]

(3) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following paper:—

- (i) (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Man-Made Textiles Research Association (MANTRA), Surat, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by the Government on the working of the above Association.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1774/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Sixty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Synthetic and Art Silk Mills' Research Association (SASMIRA), 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. 1175/16/14]

**Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of various Cooperatives, J&K HPMC,
Srinagar and related papers**

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (i) (a) Thirty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Federation of Urban Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies Limited (NAFCUB), 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 Federation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1246/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report of the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, and the Audit Report thereon.

- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Cooperative Union.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1244/16/14]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), 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 Federation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1247/16/14]

- (iv) Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticulture Produce Marketing

and Processing Corporation Ltd. (J&K HPMC), Srinagar, for the years 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, within the stipulated period.

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1245/16/14*]

I. Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of various PSUs and related papers

II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of CIPET, Chennai 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 Hansraj Gangaram Ahir,
I lay on the Table:—

- I. 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) Sixtieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL), 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) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1044/16/14*]

- (ii) (a) Fifty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL), Marine Lines, Mumbai, 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 Company.

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1045/16/14*]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Brahmaputra Cracker and Polymer Limited (BCPL), Guwahati, Assam, 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 Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1254/16/14]

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET), Chennai, 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. 1255/16/14]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture

II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of PPV&FR, New Delhi and related papers

III. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of KCDC, Mangalore, NDDB, Anand 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 Co-operation) Notification No. G.S.R. 575 (E), dated the 11th August, 2014, publishing the Agar Agar Grading and Marking Rules, 2014, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1275/16/14]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 85 and sub-section (4) of Section 62 of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Act, 2001:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FR), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FR), New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1266/16/14]

III. 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) Thirty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited (KCDC), Mangalore, 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. 1271/16/14*]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 29 of the National Dairy Development Board Act, 1987:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Dairy Development Board, Anand, 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. 1274/16/14*]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

II. Report and Accounts of CWC, New Delhi and related papers

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : महोदय, मैं श्री राव साहेब दादाराव दानवे की ओर से निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल रखता हूँ:-

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution), under Section 52 of the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007:—

(1) G.S.R. 811 (E), dated the 17th November, 2014, publishing the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Registration of Warehouses (Amendment) Rules, 2014.

(2) G.S.R. 821 (E), dated the 19th November, 2014, publishing the

Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Registration of Warehouses
(Amendment) Rules, 2014.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1279/16/14]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (11) of Section 31 of the Warehousing Corporation Act, 1962: —

- (a) Fifty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), 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 Corporation.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1278/16/14]

Notification of the Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 7 of the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) Notification No. S.O. 2806 (E), dated the 1st November, 2014, amending Notification No. S.O. 31 (E), dated the 2nd January, 2013, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

[Placed in Library. *See No.* L.T. 1013/16/14]

**Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of IICPT, Thanjavur, NIFTEM, Haryana
and related papers**

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (साध्वी निरंजन ज्योति) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ:-

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT), Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, 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. 1281/16/14]

- (ii) (a) Fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Haryana, 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. 1282/16/14]

**Various Reports of CAG concerning Railways and Ministry of
Labour and Employment**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:—

1. Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Environment Management in Workshops, Sheds and Production Units of Indian Railways for the year ended March, 2013 - Union Government, (Railways) - Report No. 23 of 2014 - Performance Audit;

2. Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Hospital Management in Indian Railways for the year ended March, 2013 - Union Government, (Railways) -Report No. 28 of 2014 - Performance Audit; and

3. Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Employee's State Insurance Corporation (Ministry of Labour and Employment) for the year ended March, 2013 - Union Government, (Civil) - (Autonomous Bodies) Report No.30 of 2014 - Performance Audit.

[Placed in Library. *See No. L.T. 1213/16/14*]

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। आप एक मिनट सुन लीजिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Allocation of time for disposal of Government Legislative and other Business

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on the 11th of December, 2014, has allotted time for Government Legislative and other Business, as follows:-

Business	Time Allotted
1. Consideration and passing of the Payment and Settlement Systems (Amendment) Bill, 2014, as passed by Lok Sabha.	One hour
2. Consideration and passing of the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008, as reported by the Select Committee of Rajya Sabha.	Four hours

Business	Time Allotted
3. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after they are passed by Lok Sabha:-	
(a) The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2014.	One hour
(b) The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2014.	One hour
4. Motion for annulment of Notification No. 24/2014 - Central Excise, dated the 2nd December, 2014 seeking to further amend Notification No. 12/2012 - Central Excise, dated the 17th March, 2012, seeking to increase the Basic Excise Duty (BED) on unbranded petrol, branded petrol, unbranded diesel and branded diesel.	One hour
5. Motion for modification of Notification No. 24/2014 - Central Excise, dated the 2nd December, 2014 seeking to further amend Notification No. 12/2012-Central Excise, dated the 17th March, 2012, seeking to increase the Basic Excise Duty (BED) on unbranded petrol, branded petrol, unbranded diesel and branded diesel.	
2. The Committee also recommended that the House may sit beyond 6.00 p.m. for the transaction of Government Legislative and other Business.	

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of Implementation of Recommendations contained in the Fifty-seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (साध्वी निरंजन ज्योति) : महोदय, मैं खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय से संबंधित राष्ट्रीय खाद्य प्रौद्योगिकी उद्यमशीलता एवं प्रबंधन संस्थान (एन.आई.एफ.टी.ई.एम.) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित कृषि संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के सत्तावनवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ।

**STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR THE
REMAINING PART OF THE CURRENT SESSION**

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी) : महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से यह सूचित करता हूँ कि वर्तमान सत्र की शेष अवधि के दौरान निम्नलिखित सरकारी कार्य लिया जाएगा:-

1. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में विनियोग (संख्या 4) विधेयक, 2014 पर विचार और लौटाना।
2. राज्य सभा की प्रवर समिति द्वारा यथा प्रतिवेदित बीमा विधियां (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2008 पर विचार और पारित करना।
3. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में संदाय और परिनिर्धारण प्रणाली (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014 पर विचार और पारित करना।
4. यान-हरण निवारण (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014 पर विचार और पारित करना।
5. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और पारित करना:-
 - (क) कोयला खान (विशेष उपबंध) विधेयक, 2014 - अध्यादेश को प्रतिस्थापित करने के लिए
 - (ख) सरकारी स्थान (अप्राधिकृत अधिभोगियों की बेदखली) संशोधन विधेयक, 2014
 - (ग) राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली विधि (विशेष उपबंध) संशोधन विधेयक, 2014
 - (घ) कम्पनी (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014
 - (ङ) क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014
 - (च) लोकपाल और लोकायुक्त (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014
 - (छ) भाण्डागारण निगम (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, matters to be raised with the permission of the Chair. Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, क्या यह बजट सेशन के लिए बताया गया है?...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is Government's intention only. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : यह Current session के लिए बनाया गया है ...*(व्यवधान)*... कल बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी में चर्चा हुई है...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : कल कार्य मंत्रणा समिति की जो बैठक हुई थी, उस बैठक में स्वयं ही यह आ गया था कि ऑलरेडी इतने घंटे पहले से engaged हैं कि उसके बाद इन बिलों को किसी भी तरह से लिया जाना संभव नहीं है। आपको अगर इन बिलों को लाना संभव करना है, तब आप कहिए कि आप सदन की अवधि बढ़ा रहे हैं। अगर अवधि नहीं बढ़ा रहे हैं तो जितने बिल रखे हैं, इनको फिर स्टैंडिंग कमेटी में भेजने के अलावा ...(व्यवधान)... इनको आप स्टैंडिंग कमेटी में भेज दें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nareshji, it is Government's intention only. ...*(Interruptions)*... They may try.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, वे हमें डरा रहे हैं। इतने बिल दिखाकर तो डरा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आप तो यहां डरा रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no threat at all. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : क्यों नहीं है?

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : आपको कोई डरा सकता है क्या? आप वैसे ही सबको डराते रहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no threat to anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*... If anybody is being threatened, it is only the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आपने नियम समिति का जो प्रस्ताव रखा था, जो नियम समिति की रिपोर्ट आयी थी, उसमें सदन का कार्यकाल शाम को 5 बजे से बढ़ाकर 6 बजे तक किया गया, यानी 2 बजे से 6 बजे तक, चार घंटे आपने बिज़नेस के लिए दिए। सुबह 11 से 1 बजे तक जीरो ऑवर और क्वेश्चन ऑवर और उसके बाद 1 से 2 बजे तक लंच का समय रखा गया। श्रीमन्, कल जब घंटे जोड़े गए थे, तब 19 से 22 घंटे तो सिर्फ अगले हफ्ते के लिए हो गए।

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : कल जो घंटे जोड़े गए थे, वे इस हफ्ते के जोड़े गए थे।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : और कौन सा हफ्ता अभी बाकी है? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : अभी बाकी है।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : कौन सा हफ्ता बाकी है? ...(व्यवधान)... उसके बाद कौन हफ्ता बाकी है? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There is no need of argument on this. ...*(Interruptions)*... इसमें argument की कोई जरूरत नहीं है।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, सरकार की मंशा ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : यह सरकार की इंटेंशन है, जितना भी कर सकते हैं, करेंगे।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : इंटेंशन खराब है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सरकार चेयर पर दबाव बनाना चाहती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसको स्पष्ट कर ...**(व्यवधान)**... सरकार की नीयत स्पष्ट नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : There is no pressure. ...**(Interruptions)**... कोई प्रेशर नहीं है। Nobody can pressurize the Chair. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : हम लोग इस प्रस्ताव का विरोध करते हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You have every right to oppose it. ...**(Interruptions)**... Now, Shri K.C. Tyagi. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यह कार्य मंत्रणा समिति का प्रस्ताव नहीं है। यह सरकार का प्रस्ताव है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं इसका विरोध करता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सरकार की कोशिश जारी रहेगी और हमारा विरोध भी जारी रहेगा ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. K.C. Tyagi, what is your point of order? ...**(Interruptions)**... आपका प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर क्या है?

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : सर, मैं संविधान के अनुच्छेद 25 और 28 के अंतर्गत तो प्रश्न उठाऊंगा, लेकिन उससे पहले मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज संसद पर हमले की वर्षगांठ मनायी गयी थी।

एक माननीय सदस्य : वह कल है।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : जी, कल 13 तारीख को है। संसद पर जो, आतंकवादियों की गोलियों के घाव थे, वे तो मिस्त्रियों ने भर दिए, लेकिन संसद का जो ग्रंथ है, कांस्टीट्यूशन, उस पर जो प्रहार हो रहे हैं, उनको भी भरने का प्रयास करना चाहिए। महोदय, धर्म की स्वतंत्रता का अधिकार अनुच्छेद 25 और 28 में निहित है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No; no. That has nothing to do with this. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please do not bring that issue here. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मेरी बात तो सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Please do not club the Freedom of Religion with the incident of attack on Parliament. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : आप मेरी बात तो सुन लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप मुझे अपनी बात तो रखने दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसके तहत ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (राजस्थान) : कृपया उनकी बात सुन ली जाए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : आप एक बार मेरी बात तो सुन लीजिए। मुझे एक बार अपनी बात तो रखने दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं सिर्फ अपनी बात रखना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Tyagiji, the attack on Parliament was a terrorist attack, which ...*(Interruptions)*...

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : अगर इस सदन में हम अपनी बात नहीं कहेंगे तो कहाँ कहेंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

† شری منور سلیم : اگر اس سदन میں ہم اپنی بات نہیں کہیں گے تو کہاں کہیں گے۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The attack on Parliament was a terrorist attack, which every Indian condemns. ...*(Interruptions)*... I do not understand why you link that with this issue of Freedom of Religion ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no need of that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मैं एक मिनट में अपनी बात पढ़कर सुनाता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अनुच्छेद 25 सभी लोगों को विवेक की स्वतंत्रता तथा अपनी पसंद के धर्म के उपदेश, अभ्यास और प्रचार की स्वतंत्रता की गारंटी देता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, मेरे पास ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, this is not a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, संविधान का उल्लंघन हुआ है ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, मेरी बात तो सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, this is a constitutional point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Then, he can go through the Rule Book and find out the provision to raise it, if there is any. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, Mayawatiji, the day before yesterday, raised the issue of conversion. We have given a notice under Rule 267. Because, now we are getting reports that there is even a rate card of religion conversion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, if you have given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, this is not only Agra issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, there should be a Short Duration Discussion on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you have given a notice, that will be examined. ...*(Interruptions)*...

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, we have also given a notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you have given a notice, that will be examined. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Time-bell rings)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, यह महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव (तेलंगाना) : उपसभापति महोदय, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, this cannot be allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... उपसभापति जी, भारत देश के अंदर संविधान के परखच्चे उड़ाए जाएं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... लोगों का धर्म परिवर्तन कराकर उसे घर वापसी का नाम दिया जाता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If a notice has been given, that will be examined. I am telling you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Chairman will examine it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : उपसभापति महोदय, ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप जिस मुद्दे पर चर्चा कराना चाहते हैं, हम उस मुद्दे पर चर्चा कराने के लिए तैयार हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What are you saying, Mr. Minister? ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us listen to the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen to the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : सर, माननीय सदस्यों ने नोटिस दिया है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप मंत्री जी की बात सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please listen to the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... He may throw some light on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : उस नोटिस पर सरकार ने चर्चा के लिए सहमति व्यक्त की है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उस पर 17 तारीख निर्धारित की गई है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : आप मंत्री जी की बात सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप मंत्री जी की बात सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी बोल रहे हैं, आप उनको सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : आप 17 तारीख को जिस पर चर्चा करनी हो, उस पर करिएगा, हम इसके लिए तैयार हैं। अगर आपको लगता है कि आप उससे पहले चर्चा करना चाहते हैं, तो अपने साथियों से बात कर लीजिए, कांग्रेस के सदस्यों से बात कर लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... वे हैदराबाद एयरपोर्ट पर चर्चा करना चाहते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप उससे पहले चर्चा कर लीजिए। हम चर्चा के लिए तैयार हैं। जब चाहिए आप चर्चा कर लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please listen to the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Please listen to the Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)... Listen to what he is speaking. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी : 17 तारीख को कम्युनल हिंसा पर एक नोटिस है, जिस पर सरकार ने सहमति व्यक्त की है। उस पर 17 तारीख का समय तय हुआ है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. See, Members have informed that notices have already been given. I would like to assure them that all such notices will be examined by the hon. Chairman. That is one point.

Secondly, hon. Minister himself has said that the Government has no objection on discussing this subject. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... Any day can be fixed, ...(*Interruptions*)...

आप बैठिए। त्यागी जी, आप मेरे दोस्त हैं। आप बैठ जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : यह कन्वर्जन का सवाल नहीं है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति : आब बैठ जाइए। आप सुनिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... इसलिए मैं हिन्दी में बात करता हूँ कि आप अच्छी तरह से सुन सकें। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, इसका कन्वर्जन से कोई रिश्ता नहीं है। आप आधा मिनट मुझे बोलने का मौका दे दीजिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री उपसभापति : अभी आप बैठ जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप बैठ जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, यह और बात है। सर प्लीज मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: See, the point is, hon. Minister has also said that the Government is ready for the discussion. So, there need not be any dispute. When the Government is ready and notices are there, the hon. Chairman will fix a date.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, on Monday.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, that can be decided. ...(*Interruptions*)... That can be decided. There need not be any dispute. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Sir, I will not be present on Monday. So, keep it on Tuesday.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. So, no need of dispute. Your point is well taken. ...(*Interruptions*)... Your point is well taken. त्यागी जी, आप बैठ जाइए। आप इतने सीनियर मेम्बर हैं। आपकी बात सुन ली। उसका फैसला हो गया। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, मैंने अपनी बात नहीं कही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार) : सर, इतनी देर में तो आप इनकी बात सुन लेते।
...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मेरा प्वाइन्ट ऑफ आर्डर है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is already on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I have to lay this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will call you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : सर, आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। सर, मैंने अभी अपनी बात नहीं कही है। सर, विश्व हिन्दू परिषद ने प्रस्ताव पास किया है कि देश की मस्जिदों से माइक हटाए जाएं। मैं इस पर आपकी व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत) : सर, यह प्वाइन्ट ऑफ आर्डर नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no; not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Not allowed. Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture. Shri K.N. Balagopal.

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I present the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture:—

- (i) Two Hundred Fourteenth Report on the Action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Two Hundred First Report on Functioning of National Akademis and other Cultural Institutions - Issues and Challenges;
- (ii) Two Hundred Fifteenth Report on the Action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Two Hundred Third Report on Privatization of Services at Airports; and

- (iii) Two Hundred Sixteenth Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Two Hundred Eleventh Report on Upkeep of various Monuments in Delhi, National Museum and other important issues pertaining to the Ministry of Culture.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, matters to be raised in Zero Hour. Shri Ravi Prakash Verma. ...(Interruptions)... Zero Hour. Shri Ravi Prakash Verma. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप लोग बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Let me dispose the Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Release of funds under PMGSY to Uttar Pradesh

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर सरकार का ध्यानाकर्षण करना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार द्वारा प्रचलित ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के जनमार्गों के उच्चीकरण के लिए प्रधानमंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना का कार्यक्रम चलाया गया था। इसके माध्यम से पूरे भारत के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में बड़ी तादाद में मार्ग उच्चीकृत किए गए थे और यह योजना बहुत लोकप्रिय हो गई थी। पिछले दो वर्षों से इसमें कुछ व्यतिक्रम आया है तथा भारत सरकार द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश में फेज-9 एवं फेज-10 के 1130 अधूरे प्रोजेक्ट्स पर बकाया 3,000 करोड़ रुपया अभी तक जारी नहीं किया गया है। इस कारण से मार्ग अधूरे पड़े हैं तथा इन्हें प्रयोग करने वाले किसान, महिलाएं एवं स्कूल जाने वाले छात्र, छात्राएं तथा बच्चों की बड़ी असुविधा का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। मेरे गृह जनपद लखीमपुर के प्रधानमंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना के 79 प्रोजेक्ट्स अधूरे पड़े हैं, जिन पर 80 करोड़ रुपए दिए जाने हैं। महोदय, मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि तत्काल 3,000 करोड़ रुपये जारी करके इन अधूरे मार्गों को पूर्ण निर्मित कराने का कष्ट करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Ritabrata Banerjee.

Mushrooming activities of non-banking financial institutions

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir. I rise to raise a very important issue about the mushrooming of the banking and financial institutions in different parts of the country and also the plight of the common people.

Now, as far as my State is concerned, in this period, Sir, there have been innumerable

[Shri Ritabrata Banerjee]

number of such scams. The Saradha Chit Fund scam which has taken place in my State and also in some other States in the eastern part of the country, has taken a toll of 99 people's lives. Till date, 99 people have committed suicide. They had lost their money in the chit fund scam. Two and a half thousand crores of rupees is the conservative estimate. Eighteen lakhs of people have lost their money. Not only this, there are reports in newspapers that 136 ponzi scheme companies have been collecting sixty thousand crores of rupees. The Government has come up with definite figures that 200 ponzi scheme companies have collected money in the last few years. Most interestingly, one single ponzi scheme company, known as the Rose Valley Company, in the last three-and-a-half years, has collected ₹ 15,000 crores. The Enforcement Directorate had gone on a seize. ₹ 295 crores were seized in a single day from a single office. So, this is the sorry state of affairs existing there. Most interestingly, if we look on the other side of the border, a political party which is a constituent of the ruling coalition in Bangladesh, had organized a rally in the streets of Dhaka, alleging that the money looted in the Saradha Chit Fund scam had gone there to help the terror camps of *Jamaat-e-Islami* there. These allegations were there in *Raatshahil* and in *Saatkira*.

Sir, these are very serious things and, unfortunately, the owners of chit fund companies, some of whom are in jail and some outside, have been saying that *. This is a very serious thing, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): No, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Sir, what is happening in Bengal is a very serious thing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, this should not form part of the record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it should be expunged from the records. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, this is an allegation ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will go through the records. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Before the Supreme Court gave an order, the regime in Bengal tried to suppress the witnesses through all possible means ...*(Interruptions)*... There have been conspiracies ...*(Interruptions)*... the common people in oblivion, but the voice of the common people cannot be suppressed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, the Supreme Court ...*(Interruptions)*...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: The voice coming from the breath of the common people and the heart of the common people will give it all the fire that will deny the ...*(Interruptions)*... The people of Bengal will give a befitting reply to the people who have cheated them and looted them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, let me listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... One of you may speak.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, just one thing. First of all, the CBI investigation is going on under the orders of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court is monitoring the case. How this matter has been allowed to be discussed here, I don't know. Secondly, CBI has not named the Chief Minister as yet, but the hon. Member...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the name of any person has been mentioned, I will expunge it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, it has to be expunged from the records. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, he has mentioned only the facts. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me speak, Mr. Rajeeve. If any name has been mentioned and if that person cannot come and defend himself here, all such names will be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: But, Sir, he has only mentioned the facts. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Veer Singh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, he is mentioning facts only. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, let me say one thing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Veer Singh.

Establishment a High Court Bench of Allahabad in Western Uttar Pradesh

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश की हाई कोर्ट बेंच को लेकर जो बहुत पुरानी मांग है, उसके संबंध में अपनी बात रखना चाहता हूँ। मान्यवर, पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में हाई कोर्ट की बेंच बने, इसके लिए चालीस वर्षों से, पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के अधिवक्ता, वहां के व्यापारी, वहां के किसान, वहां का आम आदमी मांग कर रहे हैं, किन्तु अभी तक हाई कोर्ट बेंच की स्थापना नहीं हुई है। पिछले एक माह से पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के सभी अधिवक्ता हड़ताल पर हैं। इसके साथ-साथ न्यायालयों का काम भी ठप पड़ा हुआ है। मेरी मांग है कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में हाई कोर्ट बेंच की स्थापना हो। पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश काफी बड़ा है, इसकी आबादी आठ करोड़ की है और यह इलाहाबाद से काफी दूर पड़ता है। दूर होने के कारण गरीबों को सस्ता न्याय नहीं मिल पाता है, गरीब लोग वहां नहीं जा पाते, जिससे वे न्याय से वंचित रह जाते हैं। डॉ. भीमराव अंबेडकर जी का एक सपना था, उनकी एक सोच थी कि इस देश में रहने वाले हर नागरिक को सुलभ न्याय मिले और छोटे-छोटे स्टेट बनें, छोटे-छोटे जिले बनें। ऐसा बाबा भीमराव अंबेडकर साहब का सपना था। इसी सपने को लेकर आदरणीय बहिन कुमारी मायावती जी जब उत्तर प्रदेश की मुख्यमंत्री थीं, तो उन्होंने बहुत सारे छोटे-छोटे जिले बनाए थे और केन्द्र सरकार के सामने यह प्रस्ताव भी रखा था कि उत्तर प्रदेश के चार राज्य बनें। चार राज्य बनने पर लोगों को सुलभ न्याय मिलेगा। मेरा आपसे यह निवेदन है कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में बहुत लंबे अरसे से जो हाई कोर्ट बेंच की मांग चल रही है, उसकी स्थापना करें। वहां पर, पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के सभी किसानों, व्यापारियों, गरीब लोगों के हित में हाई कोर्ट बेंच की स्थापना होनी चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : उपसभापति जी, मैं स्वयं को इससे एसोसिएट कर रहा हूँ और बताना चाहता हूँ कि लाहौर की दूरी 400 किलोमीटर है, जबकि इलाहाबाद की 600 किलोमीटर है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, हाई कोर्ट बेंच की बात सही है, लेकिन चार राज्यों के बंटवारे की बात का हम विरोध कर रहे हैं।

श्री किरनमय नन्दा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : हम बंटवारे का विरोध करते हैं।

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : हम बंटवारे का विरोध करते हैं।

श्री वीर सिंह : छोटे स्टेट होने से न्याय मिलेगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Mahendra Singh Mahra.

Demand for increasing gas supply to Uttarakhand

श्री महेन्द्रसिंह माहरा (उत्तराखंड) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, उत्तराखंड प्रदेश 1 करोड़, 20 लाख की आबादी वाला प्रदेश है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : इससे तो हमें ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप बैठिए त्यागी जी।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह माहरा : आज उत्तराखंड गैस और मिट्टी के तेल की भारी कमी के कारण परेशानी से जूझ रहा है। मान्यवर, यदि उत्तराखंड का भूगोल देखें, तो 13 जिलों में से 10 जिले पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों के हैं और संपूर्ण उत्तराखंड 65 परसेंट जंगल से घिरा हुआ है, परंतु आज हमें जलाने की लकड़ी के लिए तरसना पड़ता है। आज यदि रोटी बनाने के लिए हम लकड़ी काटना चाहें, तो नहीं काट सकते हैं। उत्तराखंड में केरोसीन का जो कोटा नई सरकार ने कम किया है, जो कि पिछली सरकार के समय में 9,913 किलोलीटर था, इस सरकार ने, केन्द्र की नई सरकार ने उसको काटकर 2972 किलोलीटर कर दिया है। यानी 6941 किलोलीटर केरोसीन कम कर दिया गया है। मान्यवर, प्रदेश में गैस के कनेक्शन कम करने के बाद लोगों को पंद्रह-पंद्रह, बीस-बीस दिन तक लाइन में खड़े होना पड़ता है और वे गैस लिए बिना ही घर वापस चले जाते हैं। सरकार की ऑनलाइन व्यवस्था चौपट है, सारी प्रणाली फेल हो चुकी है, आधार कार्ड नहीं बन पा रहे हैं, बैंकों में खाते नहीं खुल पा रहे हैं और स्थिति विस्फोटक होती जा रही है। मान्यवर, उत्तराखंड के दस जिले, जो पहाड़ी, पर्वतीय क्षेत्र में हैं, उन कई जिलों की सीमाएं चीन और नेपाल से जुड़ी हुई हैं। मान्यवर, इस विस्फोटक स्थिति के कारण रोजाना सड़कों पर जाम लगता है और रोजाना प्रदर्शन हो रहे हैं। मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से माननीय पेट्रोलियम मंत्री जी से आग्रह करूंगा कि राज्य में गैस और केरोसिन तेल की आपूर्ति बढ़ाई जाए; ऑनलाइन व्यवस्था और आधार कार्ड को ठीक कराया जाए एवं बैंक में खाते शीघ्र खुलवाए जाएं। धन्यवाद।

DR. M.S. GILL (Punjab): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Reported caste discrimination among school children

डा. विजयलक्ष्मी साधौ (मध्य प्रदेश) : सर, यह मेरा सौभाग्य है कि आज प्रधान मंत्री जी यहां उपस्थित हुए हैं और मैं उन्हीं के स्लोगन से अपनी शून्यकाल की बात की शुरुआत करती हूं। प्रधानमंत्री जी ने स्लोगन दिया है “सबका साथ, सबका विकास” और “मेक इन इंडिया”। मैं उनसे

[डा. विजयलक्ष्मी साधौ]

यह पूछना चाहती हूँ, आपसे यह पूछने की गुस्ताखी कर रही हूँ कि यह कैसा सबका साथ है, कैसा सबका विकास है और कैसा मेक इन इंडिया है? 6 दिसम्बर, 2014 को हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में एक खबर छपी है कि मध्य प्रदेश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में किसी एजेंसी के द्वारा एक सर्वे किया गया। इसने जो रिपोर्ट दी है, उसके माध्यम से यह बताया गया है कि देश के जो नौनिहाल हैं, जिसमें आप सबका साथ चाहते हैं, उन नौनिहालों की क्या गलती है कि वे दलित परिवारों में पैदा हुए हैं? आप भी मध्य प्रदेश के कई गांवों के अन्दर इन नौनिहालों के साथ स्कूलों में अध्यापकों के द्वारा डिस्क्रिमिनेशन किया जाता है, भेदभावपूर्ण बर्ताव किया जाता है। मैं रिपोर्ट के आधार पर आपसे यह कहना चाहती हूँ, यह हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स की रिपोर्ट है कि एक तरफ तो यह कहा जा रहा है कि जो मध्य प्रदेश स्टेट है, जिसकी इमेज ऐसी बनाई जाती है कि *Madhya Pradesh is one of the fastest growing States* और दूसरी तरफ बच्चों को स्कूलों में मिड डे भोजन में मजबूर किया जाता है कि उन-उन बर्तनों में वे खाना खाएं, जिनमें उनके नाम खुदे हुए हैं। उनको अलग लाइन में बिठाया जाता है, उनके लिए अलग पानी की व्यवस्था की जाती है। यह मैं नहीं कह रही हूँ, यह सर्वे रिपोर्ट कह रही है। मैं माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी से पूछना चाहती हूँ कि यह कैसा विकास है, किसका विकास है? आप कैसे मेक इन इंडिया की कल्पना कर रहे हैं? क्यों एक कम्युनिटी के लोगों को अलग रखा जा रहा है? उनको मुख्य धारा में जोड़ने की कोशिश क्यों नहीं की जा रही है?

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक बात कहना चाहती हूँ। मध्य प्रदेश में एक धार जिला है, जहां की ज्यादातर आबादी आदिवासी और दलितों की है। वहां पर बच्चों को स्कॉलरशिप तभी दी जाएगी, जब वे फोटोग्राफ्स उपलब्ध कराएंगे। इसमें लिखा है कि “In Dahi village of Dhar district, Dalit school kids are told that they would get scholarships only after they produce photographs of family members skinning dead animals, considered their traditional occupation. यह क्या हो रहा है! ये क्या दर्शा रहे हैं! ये क्या कह रहे हैं! कथावा विलेज छत्तरपुर, मध्य प्रदेश का विलेज है, यहां पर वे पानी के मटके लेकर चले आ रहे हैं। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... वह भी अध्यापक के द्वारा! यह कैसा मेक इन इंडिया है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Time over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री मोती लाल वोरा (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव (तेलंगाना) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

DR. M.S. GILL (Punjab): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we all associate with the issue raised by the hon. Member. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Santiuse Kujur. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**Discontinuation of supply of subsidised food grains by F.C.I. to
tea garden plantation workers in Assam**

SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR (Assam): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise the ...*(Interruptions)*... issue of discontinuation of supply of subsidised foodgrains to tea garden workers in Assam.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the subsidised foodgrain distribution scheme has been in operation in tea estates of Assam since Independence. The allocation is made by the Central Government and State Government through Food Corporation of India. The tea garden workers and their dependants have been benefiting for more than 65 years and the tea garden managements have been successfully implementing the scheme.

The scheme is being implemented uniformly regardless of transport connectivity of tea gardens particularly in the remote areas and recurring flood-affected areas. There are almost 1000 tea gardens across the State of Assam. It requires approximately 12,700 metric tonnes of foodgrains per month for supply to the tea estate workers. About 25 lakh tea garden population is benefited from this scheme.

Now I have come to know that the foodgrain supply would be discontinued from January 2015. As a result, there is uncertainty and unrest in the minds of tea workers. Protests and agitation are going on in the tea gardens demanding distribution of foodgrain amongst the tea workers through the present system.

[Shri Santiuse Kujur]

Therefore, Sir, I request the present NDA Government, through you, to continue the present system of supply of foodgrains at a reasonable price for the welfare of the poor tea garden workers of Assam.

Government must not go ahead with any anti-tea garden workers policy by suppressing the existing ration benefit, which actually is part of the tea garden worker's wage.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI PANKAJ BORA (Assam): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

डा. संजय सिंह (असम) : सर, मैं इनके उल्लेख से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव (तेलंगाना) : सर, मैं भी इनके उल्लेख से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Recent arrest of Tamil Nadu fishermen

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am raising the same issue for the second time within 15 days. In the month of November, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not the same issue, but another incident.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: It is the second stage of the same issue, an unending episode. Sir, on 21st of November, 14 fishermen from Tamil Nadu and three of their boats were captured by Sri Lankan Government. And with that, 78 boats have been berthed in precarious conditions in Sri Lanka and 38 of our fishermen are languishing in the prison. Sir, we raised the issue in the House. Our leader wrote letters to the Government to take necessary steps to release the prisoners. We also thanked the Prime Minister for his timely intervention to save the life of five fishermen who were on death row in Sri Lanka. But this episode is continuing. The day before yesterday, 43 fishermen from Karaikal and

Akkaraipettai have been arrested by the Sri Lankan Government when they were fishing in Indian waters. Their boats have been damaged. Their valuable boats and catches have been seized and now they have been remanded till 22nd of December. Sir, this has been going on for a long time and we are compelled to feel that it is a futile thing. Why? Sir, on the eve of elections, the then Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, when visited Tamil Nadu, she visited the families of Tamil Nadu fishermen and assured them that she would raise the issue in the Parliament and make it a national issue. But now, to our dismay, the Minister of External Affairs, the Government of India, has filed an affidavit in the Madras High Court that the maritime boundary issue between Sri Lanka and India and the sovereignty over Kachchatheevu issue is a settled matter. Sir, the Kachchatheevu island has been ceded to Sri Lanka without consulting anyone despite the resistant made by our leader, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, and a resolution was also passed in the Assembly.

Sir, I urge the Government to take necessary steps, first, to retrieve Kachchatheevu which alone is the solution and also arrange for meeting between the fishermen of Sri Lanka and those of Tamil Nadu. Sir, we are very, very sorry that dismay, frustration and despair are in the minds of Tamil Nadu fishermen. Sir, we fight so hard to bring this issue in the House. We discuss some lives which are suffering in a foreign country but every day the livelihood of our Tamil Nadu fishermen and their lives are at stake. So many are imprisoned; they are not being released. Sir, our Tamil community in Sri Lanka has been totally wiped away and now the attempt is to wipe away our Tamil Nadu fishermen, and they are totally deprived of their livelihood by way of seizing their boats. So, I urge the Prime Minister, who is here, to take necessary steps to release the boats and fishermen and this episode need not continue in future.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री वी. हनुमंत राव (तेलंगाना) : सर, मैं भी इनके उल्लेख से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI S. THANGAVELU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, 130 Indian fishermen in Bangladesh ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. A. Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Let the Prime Minister respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Government respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*... Allow him to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: The sentiments of Tamil Nadu fishermen are not understood. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Kindly understand the sentiments. Kindly understand the suffering. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why is the Government not responding? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Five hundred fishermen have been killed so far!

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, Tiruchi Siva, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Five hundred fishermen have been killed so far! ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called Shri Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: UPA or NDA, we are left on the road. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no response from the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... They can give an assurance that they will take steps. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please resume your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called the name of Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप लोग बैठिए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please resume your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: This is a very serious issue, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why is the Government totally neglecting Tamil Nadu? ...*(Interruptions)*... It is totally neglecting Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is a very serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is a very, very serious issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why doesn't the Government respond? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, you take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I have made my point. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have made my point, but what is the assurance? ...*(Interruptions)*... Every time we are raising the issue, there is no response. ...*(Interruptions)*... No result! ...*(Interruptions)*... Our fishermen are killed again and again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the responsibility of the Government? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, you please resume your seat.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Is it not the Government's responsibility? ...*(Interruptions)*... Where is the response of the Government, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*... Our fishermen are killed again and again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, it is time for Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, after I complete my speech, he can again raise it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, it is not only Tamil Nadu issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a national issue too. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, in Bangladesh ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Why doesn't the Government say that they will take necessary steps? ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a simple assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*... In the Zero Hour you said ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: It will be a consolation to our fishermen. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will be a consolation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Please, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, in Bangladesh ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, in Bangladesh ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, in Bangladesh ...*(Interruptions)*... There are 130 Indian fishermen in Bangladesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: For that you give notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will call you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Derek O'Brien, for Bangladesh issue, you give a separate notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Tiruchi Siva, you have already made your point. Now, you resume your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Raja, I have not called you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have not allowed you. Mr. Rangarajan, I have not allowed you. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have given the floor to Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: What is the use of making our point? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: We want that the Government should respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: I am also raising the issue of killing of people. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Navaneethakrishnan only... *(Interruptions)*... Shri Tiruchi Siva, you have made your point. Why are you obstructing this? ... *(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ... *(Interruptions)*... You have made your point.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, this is not the solution. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not to give the solution. I want to allow Shri Navaneethakrishnan. Sit down. ... *(Interruptions)*... Now, take your seat. ... *(Interruptions)*... Shri Navaneethakrishnan, please. ... *(Interruptions)*... All others please resume your seats.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Thank you, Sir. I am raising Tamil fishermen issue. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat. ... *(Interruptions)*... I have given the floor to Shri Navaneethakrishnan. ... *(Interruptions)*... Only what he says, will go on record. Nothing else will go on record. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: After that, you should allow me, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. Sit down. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: You should allow me. ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No condition. But sit down. ... *(Interruptions)*... Okay. Yes, Shri Navaneethakrishnan, you can now start. ... *(Interruptions)*...

Release of 66 fishermen and 81 boats held in Sri Lanka

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir. I am raising the issue of Tamil fishermen. Tamil fishermen are being treated like slaves in Sri Lanka. I thank our hon. Amma and hon. Prime Minister for releasing five fishermen. I would also like to draw the kind attention of our hon. Prime Minister, who is very much present here, to this issue. On 3.6.2014, our hon. Amma, people's Chief Minister met the hon. Prime Minister ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Where is the people's Chief Minister? ... *(Interruptions)*... Where is the people's Chief Minister? ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you object? ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): This is a serious issue. ... *(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Where is the people's Chief Minister?
...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you object? ...(Interruptions)... Sit down.
...(Interruptions)... Sit down. No. Please. Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Tiruchi Siva
...(Interruptions)... Shri Tiruchi Siva, you had your say. You sit down. ...(Interruptions)...
No, please go back to your seat. Please go back to your seat. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: * ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, he has used unparliamentary
language. ...(Interruptions)... He has used unparliamentary language. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... AIADMK Members,
please go to your seats. ...(Interruptions)... No, Tiruchi Siva, you had your say.
...(Interruptions)... You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... You had your say; you sit down.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: He is coming here, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... You go to your seat.
...(Interruptions)... AIADMK Members, please go to your seats. ...(Interruptions)... Please
go to your seats. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Siva, please go to your seat. ...(Interruptions)...
AIADMK Members, please take your seats. ...(Interruptions)... Take your seats.
...(Interruptions)... Yes, Mr. Navaneethakrishnan. ...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members,
please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Let him say...
(Interruptions)... Dr. Ramalingam, please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Tiruchi Siva,
don't do this. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Don't take my name. ...(Interruptions)... He came to this
place. ...(Interruptions)... I am controlling my Members. ...(Interruptions)... Why are you
calling me, Sir? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... You sit down.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I am sitting in my place. ...(Interruptions)... I am telling my
Members ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Siva, you are on the panel of the Vice-Chairmen.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

...(Interruptions)... You should be an example for others. ...(Interruptions)... You are unnecessarily obstructing him? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, he has come to this place. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: For what are you obstructing him? ...(Interruptions)... Go to your seat. ...(Interruptions)... Please take your seat. ...(Interruptions)... Please take your seat. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I am already in my place. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Why should he come to my seat? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: How can he come to his seat? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad... (Interruptions)... Listen to the hon. Minister. ... (Interruptions)... Listen to the hon. Minister. ... (Interruptions)... Listen to the hon. Minister. ... (Interruptions)... Listen to the hon. Minister. ... (Interruptions)... Please take your seat. ... (Interruptions)... AIADMK Members, sit down. ... (Interruptions)... You take your seat please. ... (Interruptions)... Dr. Maitreya, sit down. ... (Interruptions)... Dr. Maitreya, take your seat. ... (Interruptions)... You are obstructing your own Member. ... (Interruptions)... Please sit down. ... (Interruptions)... I will have to adjourn the House. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Sir, he is using unparliamentary language. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You sit down. ... (Interruptions)... You sit down. ... (Interruptions)... You sit down. ... (Interruptions)...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: * ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad. ... (Interruptions)...

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I would only request the hon. Members that we must maintain the dignity of the House. ... (Interruptions)... We should not use unparliamentary language. ... (Interruptions)... I will appeal to all the hon.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Members that you should not use unparliamentary language. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would only request this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All of you sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... AIADMK Members, allow your Member to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Allow your Member to speak. Allow your Member to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Mr. Navaneethakrishnan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: While meeting hon. Prime Minister, hon. Amma gave a memorandum ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आज सदन में जो हुआ, वह उचित नहीं हुआ। इसके लिए कम से कम एक प्रस्ताव तो कर दें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will go through the record. If there is anything unparliamentary, it will be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I would only request ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, it should be condemned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I would only request ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Maitreyan is a very senior Member of this House and our colleague. My friend also is a very senior Member. I respect all of you. I know we can convey our views. But I think we should not lose our temper. I would request you to end the matter here. And if there is anything unparliamentary, we will expunge it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If there is anything unparliamentary, I will expunge it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, hon. Amma in the memorandum requested hon. Prime Minister ...*(Interruptions)*... to sanction financial assistance of ₹1,520 crore from the Central Government for alternate fishing activities and ₹10 crore for annual maintenance. There are two solutions to solve the problem of Tamil fishermen. One is to retrieve Kachchatheevu permanently. Already, hon. Amma has moved the hon. Supreme Court to declare that the agreement is void. So, Kachchatheevu must be retrieved and Sri Lanka cannot have any legal rights over Kachchatheevu. As an interim relief, the

amounts, namely, ₹1,520 crore and ₹10 crore, may be immediately sanctioned by the hon. Prime Minister.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, hereafter, Sri Lanka must learn yoga because yoga is going to be observed throughout the world. They must learn yoga and they must also behave properly. Likewise, I request the DMK Members also to learn yoga and behave properly. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Md. Nadimul Haque. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Why should he speak about DMK Members? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you object? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is objectionable in that? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your objection? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: He said that the DMK Members have to be controlled. ...*(Interruptions)*... That should be expunged.. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have told you that I will go through the record. If there is anything unparliamentary, it will be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will go through the records and see. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, जरा इस तरफ भी देखिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this, Mr. Raja? ...*(Interruptions)*... You have not given notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am raising the issue with your kind permission. ...*(Interruptions)*... You know the seriousness of the issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know it.

SHRI D. RAJA: That is why, please allow me to say a few words. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the point is, the issue was raised in the presence of the Prime Minister. I wish the Prime Minister would have stayed here and responded to the issue. That is the first thing. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prime Minister heard what you said.

SHRI D. RAJA: The issue was raised in his presence and the role of the Prime Minister was commented upon. So, the Prime Minister should have remained here and responded to the issue. This is my first point.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is your view.

SHRI D. RAJA: Secondly, Sir, the fishermen issue has been raised in this House umpteen number of times. It is not the first time. But the Government of the day will have to act to strive for a permanent solution. *...(Interruptions)...* Let me conclude. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. *...(Interruptions)...* That's enough. *...(Interruptions)...* I have another Zero Hour notice. *...(Interruptions)...* Mr. Rangarajan, no, no. *...(Interruptions)...* That's all. *...(Interruptions)...* There's one more Zero Hour notice. *...(Interruptions)...* That's enough. *...(Interruptions)...* You cannot make a lecture now. *...(Interruptions)...* That's enough. You don't have extra privilege. *...(Interruptions)...* Nowadays, *Rajas* do not have extra privilege. *...(Interruptions)...* *Rajas* are also equal to other citizens. You should know that. *...(Interruptions)...* Yes, Mr. Rangarajan.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, a very important issue has been raised by my Tamil Nadu colleagues. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You support this. *...(Interruptions)...* Associate with that. *...(Interruptions)...* That's all. *...(Interruptions)...* Dr. Natchiappan, you also associate. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, the Prime Minister was here. We request him to respond. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Dr. Natchiappan. *...(Interruptions)...*

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, there should be a permanent solution. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You should also associate. *...(Interruptions)...* Mr. Rangarajan and Dr. Natchiappan, both of you please associate. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, Shri Md. Nadimul Haque. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, the Government should respond. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, our hon. Member may be allowed to raise his Zero Hour matter. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is for the Government to decide. *...(Interruptions)...* It is not for the Chair. *...(Interruptions)...* You sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, Shri Md.

Nadimul Haque....(Interruptions)... Everybody is asking for the same thing, it is not political. ... (Interruptions)... I know that everybody is asking the same thing. ... (Interruptions)... That is why, I allowed more Members. ... (Interruptions)... Now, Mr. Rangarajan, please take your seat. ... (Interruptions)... You have made your point. ... (Interruptions)... There is one more Zero Hour matter. ... (Interruptions)... Let me clear that. ... (Interruptions)... What can I do? It is for the Central Government. ... (Interruptions)... I am not Central Government. ... (Interruptions)... Please take your seat. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, through you, we are requesting the Government to respond. ... (Interruptions)... It is a very burning issue. ... (Interruptions)... Lives of so many people and fishermen are at stake. ... (Interruptions)... Why does the Government not respond? They respond to each and every thing. ... (Interruptions)... Why not a few words of consolation for the people of Tamil Nadu? ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The point is, I cannot ask or compel the Government. ... (Interruptions)... It is up to the Government. ... (Interruptions)... Okay. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, normally, it is not the routine during Zero Hour that the Government must respond. You are very experienced. But, seeing the sentiments of my friends from Tamil Nadu, we completely share their concern. The Government has already been walking the extra mile to ensure safety and security of fishermen. They have always complimented the role of the Prime Minister. We shall take on board their concerns and take appropriate measures.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I must thank the Minister for that assurance.

Controversy over demand to handover Taj Mahal to U.P. Sunni Wakf Board

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, there is a controversy raging over property rights of the Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal was declared as “Monument of National Importance” by the Archaeological Survey of India under the provisions of “Ancient Monuments and Archaeological sites and Remains Act, 1951”. The UNESCO subsequently declared it as “World Heritage Site”.

Now, a controversy has been triggered by the demand that the Taj Mahal should be handed over to the U.P. Sunni Wakf Board which manages Muslim places of worship and burial grounds. Certain members of the Hindu community countered the demand by saying that the Mughal Emperor Shahjahan “purchased a part of Tejo Mahalaya Temple’s land from Raja Jai Singh” and claimed that document to prove it still exists. There has

also been a rift between the Shia and the Sunni community because Mumtaz Mahal, the Mughal Queen who is interred in this monument was a Shia Muslim, while her husband, the Emperor Shahjahan, who was also interred here by his son Aurangzeb, was a devout Sunni Muslim. Taj Mahal is maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India.

The Taj Mahal should not be made a part of any controversies as it will affect the flow of tourists to the city of Taj -- Agra. Taken to be one of the seven wonders of the modern world, the Taj Mahal is a prime tourist attraction and attracts the most number of foreign tourists in India.

I urge upon the Government, through you, to immediately take necessary actions to resolve all the controversies so that the issue may not divide communities and thus create serious communal problems. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, ताजमहल पर कोई विवाद नहीं है। यह नेशनल मॉन्यूमेंट है। *...(व्यवधान)...* लोग इस पर विवाद क्यों खड़ा करते हैं? इस पर कोई विवाद ही नहीं है। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Sir, Shakeel Badayuni in an Urdu couplet has said, I quote: “इक शहंशाह ने बनवा कर हसीं ताजमहल, सारी दुनिया को मोहब्बत की निशानी दी है।”

ایک شہنشاہ نے بنوا کر حسین تاج محل
ساری دنیا کو محبت کی نشانی دی ہے۔

I end this by saying that character and status of Taj Mahal must not be disturbed under any circumstances, no matter who says what.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by my colleague.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

डा. विजयलक्ष्मी साधौ (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM (Meghalaya): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : सर, मैं भी इस विषय से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : सर, हम भी इस विषय से संबद्ध करते हैं।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : उपसभापति जी, हम सब लोग इस बात से चिंतित हैं कि ताजमहल का भी राजनीतिकरण किया जा रहा है, ताजमहल को भी राजनीति का मुद्दा बनाने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है, इसे विवादित मुद्दा बनाया जा रहा है। यह चिंता की बात है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, इस पर तो मैं कहूंगा कि एक प्रस्ताव सदन में हो जाए, बेशक सत्ता पक्ष की तरफ से आ जाए कि ताजमहल को विवाद का मुद्दा नहीं बनाना चाहिए। ताजमहल इस राष्ट्र की धरोहर है, विश्व की धरोहर है और प्यार की धरोहर है। इसको कभी मुद्दा नहीं बनाना चाहिए। मैं चाहूंगा कि इस पर प्रस्ताव आ जाए, जिससे लोग इस पर आगे राजनीति न कर सकें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I agree with the hon. Member. Taj Mahal is a great heritage. It should not be politicised.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Is Zero Hour over?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Then, yesterday I had raised a point of order under Rule 34. Then, the Chair actually deferred the ruling. Now, I want the ruling on the 'List of Business' issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You see that was in regard to a particular Bill. Your point was the time was not allotted by the BAC for that particular Bill; and the Bill can't be taken up. That is the point you have mentioned. But yesterday the House has deferred that Bill for a future date. Therefore, I will give the ruling when that Bill is taken up.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: My objection was in regard to the 'List of Business'. The discussion on the Bill was not taken up in the BAC. Then it was included in the List of Business. My objection was when the BAC has not made a provision to include that Bill in the 'List of Business', how could you bypass the BAC?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will give you additional information. If my memory is correct, the Government, in the List of Business for the next week, had included that Bill also and had announced in the House. I agree, I am not ruling out what you have said. But the Government's intention to include that Bill had been announced in the House. This is number one. But your point is well taken that the BAC did not consider that Bill and no time was allotted.

That was your point. That is one of the reasons why the Bill has been deferred. I will give the ruling when the Bill is taken up.

Now Question Hour, please.

12.00 Noon**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****Status of world class railway station at Bhubaneswar**

*261. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of world class railway station at Bhubaneswar; and
- (b) whether any alternatives are being considered, if so, the progress made in respect of such proposals and their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) It has been decided to undertake prefeasibility studies regarding redevelopment of Bhubaneswar or New Bhubaneswar station through the Chinese Railway Construction Engineering Group, at their cost, under an MoU signed between Indian Railways and National Railway Administration, Government of the People's Republic of China on 18.9.14. Preliminary information has been exchanged between China Railway Construction Engineering Group and Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) in this regard.

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*.)

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, kindly excuse me, my voice is gone.

This project was announced in this House, with a lot of fanfare, six-and-a-half years ago, during the Railway Budget Speech of 2008-09. A lot of preliminary work had been done by the East-Coast Railways during 2008-09, which was actually in the nature of pre-feasibility surveys. In spite of that, the reason for not finalizing it for a long period of six-and-a-half years, during which it has been shelved, is beyond comprehension. My understanding is, the Railways shelved it; the Government shelved it. Again, because of the media pressure and political pressure, it was revived. Then again, it was shelved. All this was not in the public domain, but this was going on. May I ask why the Railways have been shelving this project for the last six-and-a-half years?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, what the hon. member has said is almost correct. What he has said is absolutely right. It was discussed for the first time when this project was announced in the year 2009. Subsequent to that, an MoU was signed between the

Chinese and the Indian authorities. I am just giving you the history. Subsequently, there was no action, virtually. Though there was an MoU, the Chinese were perhaps insisting on doing it on a nomination basis, which was probably not possible. Recently, there has been a new development, which I would like to share with you. On 18th September, a new MoU was signed between China and the Government of India, during the visit of the hon. President of China. At the summit meeting between the hon. President of China and our hon. Prime Minister, it was decided that we should try and take it up. Now, the Chinese and Indian Railway Station Development Corporation are working on it. I think there has been a lot of progress made. But I fully agree with you that there has been an inordinate delay. A very high pitch had been created at that time, but it was not matched with the action. So, I really agree with you. I would definitely try to look into it to make sure that at least this MoU is operationalized and concrete action taken.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, we thank the hon. Prime Minister for taking interest in the matter. I feel, we are ultimately coming to the starting point, that is, the pre-feasibility survey. But, again, as if our Railways are not good enough, at their cost the Chinese Railway Construction Corporation will take up the pre-feasibility work. In that context, to avoid further delay, will the Minister kindly tell us about the pre-feasibility report, the concept note and the draft project report containing the modalities of the actual work to be carried out? Would it be in the PPP mode, the SPV or some other mode? What is the thinking? What is the time-schedule that you envisage in the matter?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, in fact, this is a much larger issue. I will try to answer it afterwards. Let me precisely answer what the hon. Member is asking. There have been six stations which are being developed by the Railway Stations Development Corporation. There are a lot of stages involved in that. Obviously, those stages are: first you submit inception and prefeasibility report, then you appoint an architect, technical consultants, financial and legal consultants, subsequently, you need in-principle approval of the local authorities, then you invite request for qualification, then short-listing of bidders, then request for technical proposals, and finally it is awarded. Then it starts and hopefully it is completed. So, I think this exercise takes such a long time. This is the normal process they are following for the six stations, not the Bhubaneswar alone. The Bhubaneswar Railway Station is a completely different category because this is being developed by the Chinese in collaboration with the Railway Stations Development Authority. So, I personally feel, and on this I will come back to the Parliament very soon, that at this rate, I don't think we will be able to develop many stations. I think we really need to revisit this issue in its entirety. What we are proposing is why not put all the stations that we have in India for

redevelopment without going through these elaborate processes which I have mentioned. First we appoint consultants and things like that. Rather than that, if you put it in public domain, put it on website and say all the stations of India, small, big, A size, A-plus size, all categories would be developed in this way. What we really want out of it, should be very well specified. What we want is an outcome from the development of stations. It should be something like this that we want proper and adequate waiting room facilities, ladies dormitories; we must have segregation of arrival and departure, all essential facilities like catering, unifying integration at both sides of the city, integration with public transport as access station, etc. Some outcome should be properly specified. We put it on website and invite bids that if anybody would like to develop a station, please tell us. If you can fulfil all these obligations towards the railways, what is that you want from the Railways? All of that then could be, on hands-off basis, properly scrutinized by a technical authority on one side, and parallelly by a financial consultant and then again the shortlisted bids could be put in public domain through a website. So the whole exercise will be completely transparent. Probably, then only we will be able to complete a large number of stations in the shortest possible time. Let us go by the experience. We have been doing this for the last several years. We had declared it first in 2006-07, then it came in 2009-10 and 2010-11 and that was all with good intentions. I am not even trying to fault the intention of any of my predecessors who were trying it. They were also trying it with a good intention. We must learn the right lesson. We must unlearn the lessons as well and try to frame a policy which could bring in transformation in terms of station development. This is what I propose. I will come back to the Parliament because we have yet to get it approved by the Cabinet. We will come to the Parliament at a time ...*(Interruptions)*... when this could be done in a way that is completely transparent and also could be put at, as the Prime Minister has been saying, speed and scale at the same time.

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : चेयरमैन, सर मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ, आप देख रहे हैं कि यह वैरी स्पेसिफिक क्वेश्चन है। भुवनेश्वर को वर्ल्ड क्लास रेलवे स्टेशन बनाने के लिए साढ़े छः साल पहले यहां प्रतिसतुति दी गई थी। चेयरमैन सर, क्या यह गलत है जो लोग बोल रहे हैं, हम नहीं बोल रहे हैं कि ओडिशा को और ईस्टर्न इंडिया को रेलवे महकमे में बहुत ही नेगलेक्ट किया जा रहा है, स्पेसिफिकली वर्ल्ड क्लास इंडिया में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask your question.

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : भुवनेश्वर को वर्ल्ड क्लास करने का काम आप कब शुरू करना चाहते हैं, यह स्टेट केपिटल है और चंडीगढ़ के साथ प्लान हुआ था और वहां नव कलेवर होने को जा रहा है, तथा जगन्नाथ जी इंडिया में चौथे धाम हैं। इसलिए हम उम्मीद करते हैं मंत्री जी स्पेसिफिक कहें कि 2015 से पहले यह जरूर शुरू किया जाएगा, यही हम आपसे एक उम्मीद करते हैं।

श्री सुरेश प्रभु : सर, मैं आपको वही कह रहा था कि सिर्फ पूर्व भारत तक ही यह सीमित नहीं है, पूरे देश के स्टेशनों को डेवलप करने की जरूरत है। उसमें भुवनेश्वर बहुत ही अहम स्टेशन है इसलिए उसको तो करना ही चाहिए। इस बारे में हमारी संसद को भी एक आश्वासन दिया गया है। लेकिन अभी जो काम चल रहे हैं मैं उसके बारे में बतला रहा था कि पांच स्टेशन हैं, आनन्द विहार, दिल्ली, बिजवासन दिल्ली, चंडीगढ़, हबीबगंज भोपाल और शिवाजीनगर पुणे, और उसमें भी दो ऐड करिए, सूरत और गांधी नगर, इन स्टेशनों के लिए Station Development Authority काम कर रही है।

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : क्या आप भुवनेश्वर का काम शुरू करेंगे 2015 से पहले?

श्री सुरेश प्रभु : भुवनेश्वर के बारे में मैंने पहले बताया, आपने सुना नहीं। जैसा मैंने कहा कि भुवनेश्वर के लिए एम.ओ.यू. सितम्बर, 2014 में साइन किया गया है। जो कुछ काम नहीं हुआ था।

Hopefully, we will try to put some pressure and try to make it happen. I cannot give you the timeline just now because not a substantial amount of work has yet been carried out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, I would request other questioners to please focus on the wording of the question. Shri Vijay Goel.

श्री विजय गोयल : सभापति जी, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि नई दिल्ली और पुरानी दिल्ली...

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं, सवाल भुवनेश्वर पर है Please put your supplementary to this question.

श्री विजय गोयल : सर, मेरा सवाल वर्ल्ड क्लास और इंटरनेशनल स्टैंडर्ड के स्टेशन्स के बारे में है।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं, गोयल जी, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**... This question is on Bhubaneswar. Now, Shri Naresh Agrawal. आपका सवाल भुवनेश्वर पर है?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय मंत्री जी, चूंकि माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : नरेश जी, is it on Bhubaneswar?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आपने हमको भुवनेश्वर तक सीमित किया है और मैं बहुत सीमित वैसे भी हूँ। सीमाओं में रहना जानता हूँ। मंत्री जी ने क्योंकि अपने उत्तर में भुवनेश्वर के अलावा कई और स्टेशनों का नाम लिया है। श्रीमन्, यह उत्तर संदर्भित है। उन्होंने गांधीनगर समेत दो स्टेशन गुजरात के लिए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : देखिए प्लीज....

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, जब मंत्री उत्तर दे दें ...**(व्यवधान)**... तो उत्तर की सीमाओं तक हम उसको रखेंगे।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से सिर्फ यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि भुवनेश्वर को लेने के वक्त आपने कौन-कौन से ऐसे मानक देखे थे, जिन मानकों के अंतर्गत भुवनेश्वर विश्व क्लास में लिया जा सकता था? क्या देश के और स्टेशन उन मानकों में नहीं आते? अगर और भी स्टेशन भुवनेश्वर वाले मानकों में आते हैं, तो वे कितने हैं और उन सबको आप विश्व स्तर का कब तक बनाएंगे, यही मैं आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nareshji, one minute.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : मैंने भुवनेश्वर ही कहा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that. I admire the manner in which you have twisted it. But this is a speculative supplementary. The main question was specific on Bhubaneswar.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आप मंत्री को बचाने की बात कर रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति : मैं नहीं बचा रहा हूँ, मैं किसी को नहीं बचा रहा हूँ।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : पीठ का काम हमें बचाने का है, सरकार को बचाने का नहीं है।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, नहीं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, हम पीठ से यही आशा करते हैं कि हम जैसे कमज़ोर लोगों को पीठ बचाएगी, हमारी रक्षा करेगी, हमारे अधिकारों का हनन नहीं होने देगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, we have a precious time. Let me now call Shri A.U. Singh Deo.

SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. Minister himself has said, "Good intentions alone are not good enough." As Bhupinder Singhji has said, we are having Nabakalebara coming next year. This project needs to start immediately. I want to put a specific question to the hon. Minister as to whether the State Government has been consulted, while they are planning this particular world-class railway station and whether their views have been taken into account. I ask this because we have specific problems in Odisha as far as Bhubaneswar is concerned, because we have the Nabakalebara and 50 or 80 lakhs of people coming in. Have you consulted the State Government and what are the views

which they have given? And what consultations or concessions do you need from the Odisha Government? You could take it up with them.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, last week, I met the hon. Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik and raised this issue. In fact, we want to do it as a collaborative effort. As the hon. Member has rightly said, the State Government has to be fully on board, including taking ideas on how we should develop it. But this particular one is an MoU between a Chinese company and the Indian Railway Station Development Corporation. So, the Odisha Government also will be taken on board. In fact, we would like to work with the Odisha Government. I do not want to expand the answer of the question, but the Odisha Government will be fully on board and the Chief Minister has agreed to work with us.

Train accidents

*262. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of train accidents occurred during the current year along with the number of persons died and injured in these accidents;
- (b) the reasons that Railways have not been able to curtail train accidents;
- (c) whether Government is seriously thinking to bring any drastic changes in the present system of railway safety;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard by Railways so far; and
- (e) the mandate and achievements of the Research Designs and Standards Organisation, a research arm of Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) During the current year from April to November, 2014, 63 consequential train accidents (excluding incidents of trespassing at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users), took place on Indian Railways wherein 98 persons lost their lives and 290 persons sustained injuries. Consequential train accidents include train accidents having serious repercussion in terms of loss of human life, human injury, loss to Railway property or interruption to Rail traffic.

(b) As a result of various safety measures taken by the Indian Railways over the years, the number of consequential train accidents (excluding incidents at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users), has declined from 239 in 2003-04 to 69 in 2012-13 and 71 in 2013-14. Accidents Per Million Train Kilometers, an important index of safety, has also come down from 0.41 in 2003-04 to 0.10 in 2013-14 despite quantum increase in the volume of traffic carried by the Indian Railways. In the current year from April to November, 2014, these consequential train accidents however increased from 48 to 63 in comparison to the corresponding period of the previous year due to increase in derailments.

(c) Improvement in train safety is a continuous process and constant upgradation of technology is being adopted in a continuous manner in all spheres of railway operations and infrastructure to prevent accidents and to enhance safety.

(d) Safety devices/ systems being progressively installed including those which are being developed, are as under:

- (i) Train Protection Warning System.
- (ii) Train Collision Avoidance System.
- (iii) Vigilance Control Device.
- (iv) Electrical/ Electronic Interlocking System.
- (v) Block Proving by Axle Counters.
- (vi) Mobile Train Radio Communication.
- (vii) Centralized Traffic Control and Train Management System.
- (viii) Upgradation of track structure consisting of Pre Stressed Concrete Sleepers and High Strength (60 Kg. 90 Kg.) rails on concrete sleepers.
- (ix) Progressive shifting to Flash Butt Welding which is superior in quality compared to Alumino Thermit Welding and Ultrasonic Testing of rails and welds as per laid down periodicity.
- (x) Progressive use of modern track maintenance machines, viz. Tie Tamping, Ballast Cleaning Machines, Track Recording Cars, Digital Ultrasonic Flaw Detectors, Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars, etc.
- (xi) Introduction of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Design crashworthy coaches and manufacturing of coaches with Centre Buffer Couplers and anti-climbing features.

- (xii) Progressive use of fire retardant furnishing material in coaches to enhance their fire worthiness.
- (xiii) Progressive use of improved material for electrical fitting and fixtures in coaches.
- (e) The mandate of Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) with regard to safety, is as under:
 - (1) To frame suitable specification of all railway systems (rolling stock as well as fixed infrastructure).
 - (2) To design, develop and approve all railway systems (rolling stock as well as fixed infrastructure).
 - (3) Speed certification of rolling stock.
 - (4) Regular recording of track geometry.
 - (5) Regulation of delegated safety items.
 - (6) Documentation of maintenance instructions.
 - (7) Association in failure investigation whenever required.
 - (8) Training of personnel for ultrasonic flaw detection of rails and axles.
 - (9) Psychological Safety Aptitude Test Development and Testing.
 - (10) A standing committee of nodal Executive Directors of RDSO deliberates over the criteria to be met by newly designed rolling stocks.

Some of the recent achievements of Research Designs and Standards Organisation in the field of safety are:

- (1) Development of Train Collision and Avoidance System (TCAS).
- (2) Upgradation of specification for coach interior material to make it fire-proof.
- (3) Jerk-free couplers for LHB coaches.
- (4) Development of specification for rail stress monitoring system.
- (5) Long welded rail on ballasted rail bridges.
- (6) Development of crashworthy design of coaches.
- (7) Development of 260 meter rail to reduce number of rail welds to reduce weld fractures.

- (8) Improved Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) testing of rails to avoid rail fracture.
- (9) Improved Alumino Thermit (AT) welding of rails to avoid rail fracture at weld location.

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Sir, I had put a very specific question, namely, the number of train accidents that occurred and the number of loss of lives and injuries. The Minister has given a statement and that shows the accidents that have happened in the Railways, except those at unmanned level crossings. So, the answer is incomplete because the accidents at unmanned level crossings have not been taken into account. Secondly, Sir, I would specifically want to know from the hon. Minister the number of accidents that have happened in the East Coast and the number of lives lost.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put only one question.

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Sir, I am putting my question. I am putting a very specific question that the number of accidents that have happened in East Coast division and the number of casualties and injuries.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, if you read the body of the answer, the number of accidents has already been mentioned in the statement but, Sir, if you permit me, I can give a very exhaustive list. If you want, I can share it with you personally because I don't want to take so much time of the House, but the answer has already been provided and if you go through part (b) of the statement, it is very well decided. If you want specific information about a particular State or a particular kind of accident, the list is here. I can share it with you personally.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now put your second question.

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Sir, my first question is not answered. The first question is about East Coast division.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has answered the question. Now put your second question.

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Sir, as all of us are aware that Railway announces compensation for the dead and the injured, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the norm that is laid down for the injured and for the dead because there are a lot of times when different compensation packages are announced. So I would like to know what the norm is and what the accepted proposal is for Railways to give compensation.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: These are very laid down norms about how much compensation that is paid when there is a casualty, how much is the compensation when there is a partial injury or when there is a substantial injury. These are the norms which have been laid down for a long time. Again, this was not the question. You are asking about the type of compensation. But if you want, I can share that with you. I don't mind giving the answer to you. You are asking about the number of accidents; that is given. If you want about the compensation and on what basis the compensation is shared, I can share it with you.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, on the issue of safety, I am not getting into the big reasons for electrical fires or unmanned crossings or the Mumbai wall, which has not been constructed. Sir, my basic question is, the Railways over the last few years have been testing out and piloting two main safety device systems. One is the TPWS, which is the Train Protection and Warning System and the other is the Train Collision Avoidance System. Sir, these two systems have already been piloted in one or two Railways. My question to the Railway Minister is: (i) When does he expect to take a call to finalise (a) one of these systems once and for all, which, considering the pilots, have been done of the two-three alternative systems available around the world. Which system is there and what is the timeline?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, there were a large number of systems, as you said, are used on experimental basis in different forms of Railways. In fact, the Railway Research and Development Organisation are also working on that. Some of these are in trial and, in fact, this idea would be to implement it in as many Railways as possible. Sir, if you just permit me to say, one issue was similar to this. It was also considered by Dr. Anil Kakodkar Committee which was appointed a few years ago. They have also mentioned about this. Some of these ideas which are incorporated in the Committee saw these experiments which have been tried and which are the new ideas generated from this Organization, which are in trial at various places. All needs to be integrated. It needs a huge amount of capital infusion. So, that is something which has also to be considered. But that again is not to be compromised at the cost of safety. We have to make sure that we invest this money. I have to find out the money. Hopefully, at the time of Budget we will be able to find answer to the trade-off between the investment and also the safety of the passengers, which has to be ensured.

SHRI M. P. ACHUTHAN: Sir, one of the reasons for railway accidents is human factor. So my question is: How many posts in the Railways are lying vacant. Posts connected with safety of the Railways are vacant now. What is the timeframe to fill up the vacancies which are connected with basic safety measures of the Railways?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, the filling of posts is again something connected with attrition, designation and retirement and this always happens. But on safety *per se*, unfortunately, there is not a single position at the Board Level. That is another recommendation of the Anil Kakodkar Committee that we should have somebody who should really be mandated. A new post for Members' safety and research should be created. But, there is no such position today. At Zonal as well as at Divisional level, there are positions. So, obviously, some of them could be lying vacant. But, they are getting filled in. In fact, we have taken up a drive to fill up a large number of positions on a massive scale, because there have been some positions at the Board level lying vacant for sometime now. So, we are really working on it on expeditious basis to make sure that positions are filled very soon.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Motilal Vora.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Sir, the hon. Minister has not replied number of lower posts that are lying vacant. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, as per the Government's report, 1.5 lakh posts are lying vacant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rajeeve, this is not your question.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, हम जानते हैं कि चेयर का लगाव हमसे बहुत है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं जानता हूँ कि चेयर का लगाव हमसे बहुत है, लेकिन किसी दबाव में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : इसकी कोई ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : हमारे अधिकारों की उपेक्षा हो रही है, इसीलिए मैं जा रहा हूँ। श्रीमन्, मैं जा रहा हूँ।

(इस समय माननीय सदस्य सदन से बाहर चले गए।)

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, he has taken only one minute for question. We want a specific answer. Actually, as per the reply given in this House, there are 1.5 lakh posts relating to safety are lying vacant. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rajeeve, you cannot seek clarification on behalf of another Member. Let the Member ask.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want your protection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question then?

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Sir, my question was: How many posts in the Indian Railways connected with safety are lying vacant? The hon. Minister says that there are no vacancies at the Board level. I want to know how many posts of workers and employees are lying vacant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: it is a factual question. The data can be given now or later.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: How many vacancies have been filled-in?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, the number of safety category vacancies at various zonal and divisional level, which includes track maintenance and everything, is 1.29 lakh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Fine. Thank you.

श्री मोती लाल वोरा : माननीय सभापति महोदय, अप्रैल 2014 से लेकर नवम्बर 2014 तक 98 व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई और 290 व्यक्ति घायल हुए। बिना समपार के, यहां चौकीदार नहीं है, उसका कहीं पर भी उल्लेख नहीं है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने कहा कि बहुत से कदम आपने उठाए हैं, लेकिन आपने इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में दुर्घटना 48 से बढ़कर 63 हुई, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस बात को बताने की कोशिश करेंगे कि इतने उपाय करने के बाद भी इतनी दुर्घटनाएं क्यों बढ़ गई? दूसरा प्रश्न है।

श्री सभापति : आप एक ही सवाल पूछिए।

श्री मोती लाल वोरा : जो 98 व्यक्ति मरे हैं और 290 व्यक्ति घायल हुए हैं, उनको कम्पनसेशन देने के बारे में सरकार ने क्या नीति अपनाई है? माननीय सभापति महोदय, एक्सीडेंट्स होते हैं, जो लोग मर जाते हैं, उनके परिवार के लोग रेलवे से क्लेम को लेने के लिए मारे-मारे फिरते हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि इन 98 व्यक्तियों में से और 290 घायल व्यक्तियों में से कितने लोगों के क्लेम को अभी तक आपने स्वीकार किया है?

श्री सुरेश प्रभु : सर, यह बात सही है कि इस साल में नवम्बर तक जो हादसे हुए हैं, उनकी संख्या 48 से 63 तक हो गई है। यह संख्या बढ़ गई है, यह बात भी सही है। ज्यादातर इसका कारण डिरेलमेंट है और डिरेलमेंट के क्या कारण हैं, उसके भी अलग-अलग रीजन्स हैं। हर एक्सीडेंट के लिए, हर हादसे के लिए जो इन्क्वायरी की गई, उसकी मैंने रिपोर्ट भी मंगवाई है, वह रिपोर्ट भी रेडी है। यह बिल्कुल सही है कि पिछले छह महीने में हादसों की संख्या बढ़ गई है। मैं समझता हूं कि सेफ्टी बहुत जरूरी है। मुझे नहीं लगता है कि हमारे देश के सामने इसका कोई और पर्याय है। हम सेफ्टी को इस तरह से देख सकेंगे, जिसमें यह भी इन्क्लूड है कि वेकेंसीज़ भरनी चाहिए। इसके साथ-साथ हमें निवेश भी करना चाहिए। इसके लिए cost कहां से आएगी, इसके बारे में भी सोचना चाहिए। यदि हम सब लोग agree करते हैं, तो एक लांग टर्म मेज़र लेकर, अगले तीन साल में हम सेफ्टी को नम्बर वन प्रोयोरिटी पर रखेंगे। हम कस्टमर सर्विस के साथ-

साथ इसमें निवेश करेंगे। अभी immediately तो रिजल्ट मिलने में टाइम लगेगा, लेकिन तीन साल में मुझे पूरा विश्वास है यदि हम इसमें निवेश करके मीडियम टर्म प्लान बना लेते हैं, तो जरूर हमें इसमें राहत मिलेगी।

श्री मोती लाल वोरा : सभापति महोदय, कितने लोगों को क्लेम दिया गया, कितनी धनराशि दी गई, उसका कहीं जबाब ही नहीं दिया है। जो लोग मर चुके हैं, उनके क्लेम्स के मामले अभी भी लम्बित हैं। मैंने आपसे स्पष्ट रूप से पूछा था कि 98 लोग मर गए, उन परिवारों को क्या आपने कम्पनसेशन दिया है और उनको कितनी धनराशि दी है?

श्री सुरेश प्रभु : जहां पर भी लोगों की मौतें हुई हैं या उनको injury हुई है, रेल के नियमों के मुताबिक जो भी बनता है, हम उनको दे देंगे। अभी कोई स्पेसिफिक केस होगा, जिसको नहीं मिला होगा, तो आप मुझे जरूर बताइए, हम उसके ऊपर भी एक्शन लेने की कोशिश करेंगे।

Steps taken to counter fog situation

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

(a) whether Railways have advised all its zones to take adequate steps to gear up for problems arising due to fog, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether this year, fog is expected to be worse due to a deficient monsoon, if so, the action taken by zonal railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Guidelines are already in place instructing Zonal Railways to take action during foggy season to deal with train operations as under:-

- (i) To provide safeguard in train operation in Automatic Block System during foggy weather by restricting the number of trains to two between two stations.
- (ii) Reduce the speed of train.
- (iii) Deputing additional staff to alert the Loco Pilot through placement of detonators before the First Stop signal.
- (iv) Improving the visibility of signals.
- (v) Loco Pilot to take precautions, be vigilant and alert and to observe Special Rules and instructions regarding speed limits under foggy conditions.

- (vi) Indian Railways have decided to cancel 27 pairs of train services between 31.12.2014 and 15.02.2015, to ensure smooth operation of trains and safety of passengers during foggy conditions.

Technological options are being pursued by Indian Railways for prevention of accidents during conditions of poor visibility by installing notably Fog Safe Device, which is a Global Positioning System (GPS) based device installed to assist the Loco Pilot during poor visibility condition. Currently, a total of 1381 Fog Safe Devices are under trial on Northern, North Eastern and North Western Railways in fog prone areas. In addition, Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), Train Protection and Warning System (TPWS) are also under various stages of trial.

- (b) Based on the analysis of data of rainfall and fog activity at Palam Airport, it has been observed that there is no relationship between monsoon rainfall activity and subsequent winter season fog activity in and around Delhi.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Sir, in part (a)(vi) of the Minister's answer, it is said, "Indian Railways have decided to cancel 27 pairs of train services between 31.12.2014 and 15.2.2015." Sir, it is an alarming figure. Cancelling train services due to fog is not adviceable. Fog is a big problem, I also know. But, the train operation has to be there particularly for the long distances, for example, trains coming from south India-like Tamil Nadu Express, GT Express, Chennai Rajdhani, Kerala Express, Mangala Lakshadweep Express, Andhra Pradesh Express, Dakshin Express, Nizamuddin-Secunderabad Express -- never reach Delhi in time. What steps have you taken to curtail the delay?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, this is a yearly seasonal problem. The fog comes year after year and this happens. Sometimes, the driver is not able to see the signal. In fog, the driver has the right of way. The railway has the right of way unlike in some of the roads where you have to stop because the other car also has the right of way. The Railway has actually the right of way only on one side. Therefore, normally, the signaling is the only way by which the driver can exercise that right properly. At the time of fog, he is not able to see the signal. In case he does not see the signal and if he jumps the signal, there could be an accident. So, the only way we can do this is by way of some technological device. There are two types of devices. One is the cab signaling and the other is fog safe, which is a GPS device. These devices are being installed in some small numbers. But, if you really need to increase the number of them, again it is an issue. What normally is done is that the driver is advised to slow down the speed, to make sure that whenever he approaches the signal, he should be able to see the signal. Sometimes, he can't see

the signal at all. Therefore, manually, a person called fog signalman is kept there. He detonates something whereby the driver knows that he is nearing the signal. That is the only thing that is done. Because of all these, the speed slows down. When the speed is slowed down, the trains get delayed. But this is far better than the driver is allowed to drive at the normal speed and meet with an accident.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Sir, you have not answered about the cancellation of 27 pairs of trains. Due to fog, accidents are common. Sometimes, in the hilly areas, the trains hit elephants, tigers, and deer due to fog. I would like to know from the Minister what steps he is proposing to take to reduce the number of accidents. When will he settle all the compensation claims pending in Tribunals now? I mean, compensation due to accidents that happened in fog.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does this relate to the question?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, obviously, most of the claims go to the Tribunal. If your suggestion is that you should get everything in the Tribunal.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: A lot of time is wasted in the Tribunal. The delay is even for 3-4 years.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, normally there are spot payment of *Ex-gratia* compensation. Over a period of time, these of course go to the Tribunal. Then, the Tribunal sets it. If it is higher than that, the Railways are supposed to pay the higher amount. The system which is normally followed is spot payment as well as, subsequently, the Tribunal has a right to overrule it and give higher awards.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : सभापति जी, मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ, क्योंकि मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि हमने 1,381 fog safe devices लगाई हैं और वे भी ट्रायल बेसिस पर लगाई हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या इन्होंने ऐसे एरियाज को identify किया है कि रेलवे में कहां-कहां fog safe devices चाहिए और कितनी चाहिए, क्योंकि सारा नार्थ इंडिया ही fog से प्रभावित हो जाता है। हमारे हिमाचल प्रदेश में जालंधर, पठानकोट और चंडीगढ़ वगैरह सब fog एरिया में आता है। जिसमें ट्रेन्स का चलना बहुत मुश्किल हो जाता है, इसलिए मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि आपने कितने आइडेंटिफाई किए हैं, आपको इनसे कितने और चाहिए और ये कब तक लगेंगे? आपने जो ट्रायल किया है, वह कितना सक्सेसफुल हुआ है? क्या उसमें इम्प्रूवमेंट की जरूरत है और यह कब तक होगा? क्योंकि ट्रेन्स का लेट होना, ट्रेन्स का न आना बहुत बड़ी बात है, cancellation is no solution to this. So, that I would like to know from the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, these devices have been fixed at 1,381 places. 1,381 जगहों पर इस तरह के devices लगाए गए हैं। इसमें उत्तरी प्रदेश भी हैं, पूर्वांचल भी है और North-Western रेलवे भी है। ये सब जगहों पर है, पर नॉदर्न रेलवे में trial basis पर ज्यादा हैं। जहां की बात आप कर रही हैं, वहां तो लगाया ही गया है, लेकिन वह ट्रायल बेसिस पर है। अभी सभी जगहों पर हंड्रड परसेंट नहीं लगाया गया है, क्योंकि उसके क्या रिजल्ट्स होंगे, क्या नतीजे आएंगे, उनको भी देखने की आवश्यकता है। आपने जो बात पूछी है, उसके लिए बता दूं कि नॉदर्न इंडिया में लगाया गया है।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर : उपसभापति जी, मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं आया है। मैंने पूछा है कि जो ट्रायलस किए गए हैं, वे कितने सक्सेसफुल हुए हैं? क्या इसमें इम्प्रूवमेंट की जरूरत है एवं आपको लगाने के लिए कितने devices चाहिए?

श्री सुरेश प्रभु : कितने चाहिए, मैं वही बता रहा हूं कि यदि ये सभी जगहों पर लगाने हैं, तो उनकी संख्या और होगी। अभी कितने लगाए हैं, इसके लिए मैं आपको बता रहा हूं कि 1,381 have been fixed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Increase in indebtedness of cotton farmers

*264.SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the promotion of cultivation of Bt. cotton has led to an increase in indebtedness among the cotton farmers, especially those of the Vidarbha region in Maharashtra;

(b) if not, the reasons and factors that support this conclusion; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to study, prevent and compensate the losses occurred to such farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Sir. Bt. Cotton hybrids have been widely accepted by farmers. The area under Bt. Cotton covers more than 90% of the total area under cotton cultivation. Loans for cultivation of various crops, including Bt. Cotton, are by themselves not responsible for the indebtedness of the farmers. Successive crop failure and expenditure on health, marriages and other social ceremonies are major reasons for indebtedness of farmers in the country.

(c) Government fixes the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) of various crops including cotton after taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments & 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. Price support to cotton is extended through procurement operations by Cotton Corporation of India.

Government is also implementing crop insurance schemes viz. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme, Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme and Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme to compensate farmers, including cotton growing farmers, against losses in crop yield due to non-preventable risks such as natural calamities, pests and diseases and adverse weather conditions.

SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Sir, I would like to inform the House that the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, had commissioned an independent study for undertaking Impact Evaluation and Socioeconomic Study of Bt. Cotton in July, 2013. Which institution has been appointed to conduct this study, and has the study started or not? If, yes, then, when is it expected to complete it; if not, why has it not been established?

श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया : सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य ने बीटी कॉटन के अध्ययन की जो बात कही है, मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि सारे भारत में बीटी कॉटन बहुत हो रहा है। इसके अध्ययन के लिए कि कृषि में कैसे ज्यादा प्रॉडक्शन होगा, खर्चा कम कैसे होगा, इस पर कृषि विभाग ने पूरा अध्ययन कर लिया है। यानी कॉटन में ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्रॉडक्शन हो रहा है और खर्चा भी कम हो रहा है।

श्री अविनाश पांडे : सभापति जी, मेरे सवाल का जवाब नहीं मिला है। मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछा है कि क्या इसकी कोई स्टडी या अध्ययन कराया गया है? 2013 में एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री के द्वारा एक कमीशन अपॉइन्ट किया गया था, जिसमें स्वतंत्र रूप से इसका अध्ययन करने की बात को माना गया था, लेकिन मैंने आपसे पूछा है कि क्या उस पर कोई अध्ययन किया गया है, उसका क्या रिजल्ट है और यह अध्ययन किसने किया है?

श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया : सभापति जी, मेरे पास अभी रिजल्ट नहीं है, मैं माननीय सदस्य को भिजवा दूंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Second supplementary, please.

SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Sir, my second supplementary is, whether the cultivation

of Bt. Cotton has a higher cost of inputs, because as GMC is more expensive and requires more water than traditional varieties of cotton, and whether the Government is planning to fix different Minimum Support Prices for these two varieties of cotton cultivated, to mitigate the risk incurred by farmers. If not, why?

श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया : सभापति जी, 2001-02 में, जब से बीटी कपास आया, तब से पूरे भारत में कॉटन का प्रॉडक्शन 99.97 बेल्स का था, बाद में, 2013-14 में यह बढ़कर 366.16 लाख बेल्स हो गया है। यानी कॉटन का पूरे भारत में ...(व्यवधान)... एक मिनट ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल : मंत्री जी ने सवाल का सही जवाब नहीं दिया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute ...(Interruptions)... one minute ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : 2013 में मूल्य निर्धारण के लिए एक कमेटी बनाई गई है ...(व्यवधान)... आप सुनिए, आपकी यही प्रश्न था, आपका न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य का प्रश्न था ...(व्यवधान)... मैं उसी पर बोल रहा हूँ। 2013 में एक कमेटी बनाई गई कि आज के जो मूल्य निर्धारण के तरीके हैं, उनमें बहुत सारी विसंगतियाँ हैं, ये कैसे दूर की जाएँ और उसका क्या स्वरूप हो। इसकी चार बैठकें हो चुकी हैं, लेकिन अभी तक रिपोर्ट नहीं आई है, रिपोर्ट आने के बाद उस पर कार्यवाही की जाएगी।

श्री सभापति : श्री किरनमय नन्दा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अविनाश पांडे : सर, एक मिनट।

श्री सभापति : आप दो सवाल पूछ चुके हैं।

श्री अविनाश पांडे : सर, इसकी कोई टाइम लिमिट होगी। सर, यह बहुत गम्भीर मामला है।

श्री सभापति : किसी कमेटी की कोई टाइम लिमिट नहीं होती है, आप अच्छी तरह जानते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अविनाश पांडे : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब दें।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down.

SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Sir, through you, I wish to ask a supplementary from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that BT crop will be banned in future production.

श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया : ऐसा कुछ होने वाला नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... ऐसा कुछ होने वाला नहीं है।

श्री सभापति : श्री आनन्द शर्मा।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : सर, मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर के भाग 'ग' में सरकार द्वारा कृषि लागत एवं मूल्य आयोग (सी.ए.सी.पी.) की सिफारिशों और न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य की बात की है। माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि देश में कपास की कीमत पूरी तरह से टूट गई है। पूरे देश के अन्दर महाराष्ट्र से लेकर आन्ध्र प्रदेश तक, विशेषकर आन्ध्र प्रदेश, गुजरात, पंजाब और हरियाणा में पिछले तीन सप्ताह में सैकड़ों किसानों ने आत्महत्या की है। छोटे स्टैपल कपास का जो न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य था, वह पहले 3,400 रुपए था और लॉग स्टैपल कपास का मूल्य 3,700 रुपए था। पिछले साल उसे बढ़ा कर 3,400 रुपए से 3,700 रुपए किया गया और अब लॉग स्टैपल कपास का मूल्य 4,000 रुपए किया गया है। अभी इतने बड़े घटनाक्रम के बाद जब किसान इस वक्त त्रस्त हैं, इस साल इसे केवल 50 रुपए बढ़ाया गया। एक तो कीमत आधी रह गई, दूसरी बात है कि निर्यात बंद हो गया। चीन ने अपनी नीति बदल ली। चीन के पास कपास का भंडार था, हमारा 80 परसेंट एक्सपोर्ट वहां जाता था। चीन दुनिया के बाजार में अपना कपास ले आया, तो दुनिया के बाजार में भी कीमत टूट गई और अपने देश का बाजार भी टूट गया। क्या आप इस हालात को देखते हुए कॉटन कारपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया से सही मूल्य पर किसान का कपास लेकर उसको रखेंगे? दूसरा...

श्री सभापति : आप एक सवाल पूछिए।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : कपास की समस्या को देखते हुए किसान, जो इस वक्त कर्ज से दबे हुए हैं, वे आत्महत्या न करें, इसको मद्देनजर रखते हुए क्या उनका कर्ज माफ करने के बारे में सरकार कोई विचार करेगी?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : महोदय, कल हमने इस पर विस्तार से चर्चा की थी और माननीय सदस्य उस समय नहीं थे। मैंने यह बताया था कि इस देश के अन्दर जिस भी इलाके में जो समर्थन मूल्य है, यदि भाव उससे नीचे जाता है, तो हम उसको समर्थन मूल्य देकर खरीदते हैं। हमने कल यह भी बताया था कि पिछले वर्ष 92 क्रय केन्द्र खोले गए थे, जबकि इस बार 341 क्रय केन्द्र खोले गए हैं। लोक सभा के अन्दर भी और राज्य सभा के अन्दर भी मैंने सभी माननीय सदस्यों को यह भी कहा कि जहां भी आपके क्षेत्र में ऐसा लगता है कि जरूरत है, तो आप खबर करिए, वहां पर तुरंत क्रय केन्द्र खोला जाएगा। हम एक भी किसान ऐसा नहीं चाहते हैं, जिसको समर्थन मूल्य से कम पर इसे बेचना पड़े। सरकार इसके लिए पूरी तरह तैयार है कि हम उसको समर्थन मूल्य देंगे। आप कोई इलाका बताइए, जहां यह नहीं खुला है, हम तुरंत खोलेंगे।

श्री सभापति : श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : सर, इसको ज्यादा करने की डिमांड चल रही है।

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Sir, while giving reply, the Government claimed that BT Cotton hybrids have been widely accepted by the farmers. My question is whether the Government has considered also the scientific studies made by the London School of Medicines and the Cambridge University's Political Science Department to

the effect that cotton farmers of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra have been subjected to inexplicable miseries, sometimes leading to suicide, because of the introduction of BT Cotton hybrids and pesticides by companies like Monsanto.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : देखिए, आत्महत्या पर कल भी हमने चर्चा की थी। आज भी हम आपको बताना चाहते हैं कि 2013 में पूरे देश में जो 11,772 आत्महत्याएं हुई हैं, वे कृषि परिवार से जुड़े हुए लोगों ने की हैं। राज्य सरकार के द्वारा जो रिपोर्टिंग की जाती है, उसके मुताबिक इन 11, 772 आत्महत्याओं में से 511 आत्महत्याएं कृषि कारणों से हुई हैं। कुल आत्महत्याएं 11,000 से ज्यादा हैं, लेकिन उनमें स कृषि कारणों से हुई आत्महत्याएं 511 हैं। देखिए, आत्महत्या चाहे जिस कारण से भी हो, निश्चित रूप से दुःखद है।

आपने कुछ अध्ययन संस्थानों की बात की है, हमारे देश में इन्दिरा गांधी विकास अनुसंधान संस्थान, मुम्बई, सामाजिक विकास केन्द्र और राष्ट्रीय विकास केन्द्र, हैदराबाद, यशवंत राव चव्हाण विकास प्रशासन अकादमी, पुणे, इन लोगों ने भी कुछ अध्ययन किए हैं। इनकी जो रिपोर्ट्स आई हैं, उनमें बताया गया है कि इन आत्महत्याओं के पीछे केवल एकमात्र कारण ऋण ही नहीं है, बहुत से कारणों में से ऋण भी एक कारण है, लेकिन फिर भी यह स्थिति चिन्ताजनक है। आज ऋण प्रवाह को हम और भी तेज कर रहे हैं। पिछली सरकारों ने भी ऋण प्रवाह को तेज किया था, पिछले वर्ष यह 7,000 करोड़ रुपये था, इस वर्ष हमने इसे 8,000 करोड़ रुपये किया है। साहूकारों से जो ऋण लिया जाता है, वह भी आत्महत्याओं में एक बहुत बड़ा कारण बनता है। किसानों को संस्थागत ऋण मुहैया करवाया जा सके, इसके लिए सरकार ने समय-समय पर ऋण प्रवाह को तेज किया है।

Uniform Civil Code

†*265. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is prepared to have a Uniform Civil Code, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether creation of Uniform Civil Code would violate the cultural diversity of the country and if not, how; and
- (c) whether a Uniform Civil Code would affect the personal laws of any particular community and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

(a) to (c) Article 44 of the Directive Principles of the Constitution sets implementation of Uniform Civil Code as duty of the State. The object of article 44 is to introduce a Uniform Civil Code for the purpose of national consolidation. The Uniform Civil Code is based on the assumption that the personal laws based on scriptures and customs of each religious community in the Country be replaced with a common set governing every citizen in a civilized society. The Uniform Civil Code covers marriages, divorce, inheritance, adoption and maintenance.

2. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar explained in the Constituent Assembly (Vol.VII CAD p. 550) that in fact, the bulk of these different items of civil laws have already been codified during the British rule and the only major items still remaining for a Uniform Code are marriage, divorce, inheritance and succession (adoption, guardianship).

3. In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, wide consultation with stakeholders would be required for taking further steps in this regard.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Hon. Chairman, Sir, the Minister has given a reply and I think his reply is full of ambiguity and ambivalence. It is not clear whether they are going to implement it or they are not going to implement it because they have written that implementation of Uniform Civil Code is the duty of the States. Now there are a lot of apprehensions after this answer. What exactly is the Government going to do? Is there any plan *in cognito* to implement it? Please clarify it.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have made it very clear that the matter is of utmost importance because Article 44 of the Constitution mandates that we should have a common civil code. Of course, for the last several years, there were several deliberations, discussions and debates across the country with regard to this Common Civil Code. Sir, there are various judgements of the Supreme Court right from the Shah Bano case, Sharda Mudgal case, even in 2003 in the Vellimuttam's case. All these observations made by the Supreme Court say that there need to be a Uniform Civil Code. Unfortunately, because of various issues, we could not come to a common opinion. Taking into consideration all these things, however, I would like to assure the House that we have to move forward on Uniform Civil Code only with an absolute clarity on various issues related to it. It is our duty to move forward as it is mandated by the makers of our Constitution. So, totally this is a debatable issue. Certainly, this Government wants to have more debate on this issue and we should come out with a Common Civil Code, a Uniform Civil Code across the country.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: It further confuses us. He says it is very difficult because there are a lot many problems. Then he is saying it is our duty to implement it. What this exactly is I am not able to figure out. He says that a lot many deliberations are going on. In the answer he has written that the process of consultation with stakeholders is required. When is he going to initiate the process of consultation with the stakeholders? Doesn't he think it will create problems in the country because there are a lot many apprehensions?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Chairman, Sir, certain issues need to be deliberated. We are well aware of various factors that certainly by bringing this Uniform Civil Code we will be able to enhance the status of women and the so-called lower castes because many of the personal laws are biased against them. Many provisions are violative of human rights. All these things are to be discussed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Are you going to do it or aren't going to do it? They are being politically exploited by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to know what the concrete answer is. Are you going to implement it? Or, are you not going to implement it? ...*(Interruptions)*... This is what I want to know.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have made it very clear in my statement that it needs to be implemented, but after wider consultations with the stakeholders. I have made that very clear. You can go through the reply.

SHRI RAJIV SHUKLA: When will it be initiated?

SHIR D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, we will initiate it at the earliest. You know, there are certain customary laws in different States, especially in the case of the Scheduled Tribes. So, all those things are to be kept in mind. Even some precaution has to be taken with regard to articles 25 and 26 of the Constitution, so that there is no conflict with article 44 of the Constitution. So, I am very particular that this needs to be taken up. We will initiate our deliberations and discussions as early as possible. We would like to see that a Uniform Civil Code is there in the country, so that it leaves a very good impression all over the world.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, my question is related to the last part of the answer. The last part of the answer is: In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, wide consultation with stakeholders would be required for taking further steps in this regard. If consultations lead to consensus, it is well and good; else, my question to the Minister is: Is the Government contemplating to set up some kind of a mechanism to initiate the process of consultations? If you are thinking on this, can you please share

with the House what the Government is trying to do; what mechanism the Government is contemplating? Can you share all this? You have talked about 'consultation'. How this process of consultation will begin?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, it is not that this initiation has started just now. It had started even pre-Independence. Even during the British Rule, the Caste Disability Renewal Act, the Child Marriage Act, etc., had been enacted. Even after the Independence, in 1954, the Special Marriages Act had been enacted, which enables the people of all religion to solemnize marriage as per this law. Even today, I would like to inform this August House, in Goa, there is a Uniform Civil Code, known as the Family Law. And, this has been accepted by all the castes and communities of Goa. Even after the merger of Goa with the Indian Union, that law is continuing. So, we have to work it out. We should plan for it. What Mr. Raja has said is absolutely correct. We will have to work out the modalities. We will have to identify the issues and take up them in and outside the Parliament. A clear vision will have to be given by the Government. We are working on all this. We will certainly come before the House with all those things.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Sir, the answer, by the Minister, says that article 44 of the Constitution, under the Directive Principles of State Policy, says that Uniform Civil Code is one of the duties of the State. There are several Directive Principles, including 'prohibition'. Why is the Government not keen in bringing prohibition in the country? Why is the Government only interested in bringing a Uniform Civil Code? It has to be kept in mind whether any Directive Principle clashes with the Fundamental Rights. Has the Government thought of it? You are talking about scriptures. There are many scriptures. It is fundamental for Muslims to follow what is mentioned in *Quran*. You cannot change the scripture. That is not possible, it interferes with Article 25 of the Constitution, which deals with the Fundamental Right to freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion. Has the Government done a study in this regard? What is the intention of the Government when they talk of a Uniform Civil Code? Is it possible in our country, with so much diversities, to bring a Uniform Civil Code? Has the Government done any exercise in this regard?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: For that only, I have said in my reply that it is a very sensitive issue. And, because it is a sensitive issue, wider consultations need to be held. There is a judgement in the case of *Sarla Mudgal Versus Union of India*. There, they have said, "...had to emphasise the urgency of infusing life into Article 44 of the Constitution which provides "That States shall endeavour to secure the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India." On how long it will take for the Government

of India to implement the mandate of the framers of the Constitution under Article 44 of the Constitution – even a direction in the form of a request is also made by the Supreme Court to implement this – we will have to work out modalities. We will have to sit across the table. I don't dispute that Articles 25 and 26, which relate to our religion and other things, should not conflict with Article 44 of the Constitution. At this stage, I do not want to comment anything about bringing of prohibition and other things.

SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: That is also a Directive Principle. ...*(Interruptions)*... Prohibition is also a Directive Principle.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am answering an issue with regard to Uniform Civil Code only. I am not going beyond this limit. As far as Uniform Civil Code is concerned, certainly, the Government is working on it. We will come up with certain issues, which will be placed into the public domain. So, only after detailed discussions, a conclusion will be arrived at.

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम : माननीय सभापति जी, अनुच्छेद 44 के एक हिस्से का तसकीरा करके माननीय मंत्री जी एक विवाद खड़ा करना चाहते हैं, देश के बहुत सारे मुद्दे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be careful.

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम : महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान की जो मुख्य धारा है, जिसमें बाइबिल, गीता, कुरान, सबको अहमियत दी गई है, आपकी मंशा इन सबके विपरीत जाती है, आप समान नागरिक संहिता को क्यों प्रधानता देना चाहते हैं?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I don't dispute the question raised by my friend. Of course, there are certain issues that need to be consulted. I would like to place before the House that even in Tribal Customary, customs are notified for the tribal areas, which come under Schedules V and VI. So, all those things need to be considered. For that only, right from the beginning, I have been saying that these are the issues on which the Government can't take a decision immediately. The Government has to place all these things before the Parliament. They also need to be placed into the public domain. There should be wider consultations, as I said earlier. After that only, we are going to have a Uniform Civil Code. Till then, the matter is into the public domain.

Nabarangpur-Jeypore railway line

*266.SHRI A.V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey and estimate of the Nabarangpur – Jeypore railway line have been received by the Railway Board; and

(b) if so, the action taken to accord approval and make provision of funds for its implementation in view of the area being in backward Koraput-Balangir-Kalahandi (KBK) region and naxal affected?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Survey Report assessed the project cost at ₹ 485 crore (at 2012-13 price level) with a Rate of Return (ROR) as (-)7.654%. The project could not be taken up due to huge throwforward of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of funds. Even after receipt of Odisha Govt's offer of sharing 50% cost of construction and providing land free of cost, the limited overall availability of funds with the Railways preclude sanctioning of this project.

SHRI A.V. SWAMY: Sir, the answer is very disappointing. It says that the Odisha Government has offered land free of cost and has also offered to share 50 per cent cost of construction to take up this particular project, that is, from Jeypore to Nabarangpur. In spite of that, the answer says that they are unable to implement it for want of funds. Sir, this project is in an area which is backward and naxal-affected. This forms a part of a programme which was initiated in 1934 by the British Government, to link Khariar road via Khariar, Ampani, Nabrangpur & Malkangiri up to Bhadrachalam. That was neglected and today it has become a naxalite area. Even after our offering 50 per cent of the cost of the project and free land, it is not being considered. Would the Minister be able to kindly convince us the logic behind it? This is the not the first time. All the projects of Railways which we have suggested – the Government of Odisha suggested – have been kept in cold storage. Therefore, I would request the Minister to give an answer as to what is the criterion on which it is done. If it is not backwardness, if it is not a Naxalite area, if it is not a project which was hanging for about sixty years, what are then the criteria the Government of India is looking to for this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Let the hon. Minister reply.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, this particular project has an anticipated cost outlay of about ₹485 crores at 2012-13 prices. And, when the survey was made, it was found that it has a negative rate of return of -7.654 per cent. But I fully agree with what the hon. Member has said that there are certain projects which have been taken up irrespective

of finding out the rate of return, which is basically internal rate of return, which is only in terms of finding out how much money we will get out of that project. But there are issues like Naxalite areas. So, what happened – as I was mentioning earlier in the last week – is, when the hon. Chief Minister of Odisha met me, I suggested to him, ‘why not we make a Special Purpose Vehicle with Odisha Government and Government of India where we will like to take up projects of this nature in which I would also request my other sister Ministries to participate because fighting Naxalism has a national priority?’ So, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Economic Affairs, all of them should join hands in doing that. Therefore, if you can set up a specialized dedicated entity dealing with a particular project like this – and the Odisha Government also participates in it -- we will like to take it up. So, this is the situation.

SHRI A.V. SWAMY: The second question is simple, Sir. There have been a number of proposals given by Government of Odisha for expansion of the Railways. We are giving 14,000 crores of rupees to the kitty of Railways and not even ₹6,000 crores is being given in return for taking up new projects. Therefore, I wanted to know why there is this injustice. Is there anything beyond the common understanding about why the projects are not being taken up? I will request the Minister to kindly tell us about it.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU: Sir, there is a long list of on-going projects in Odisha. There are projects which are under implementation, but as I said – and I really would like to repeat the same thing – that to address Odisha’s feeling ‘that they are not being taken on board as much as they should be’, a dedicated organization which is only for Odisha and Government of India is being contemplated, and we have actually started the process of negotiating with the Government. We would sign an MoU hopefully very soon. In fact, the Chief Minister was saying that we should try to do it very quickly because he liked the idea which I proposed to him, and if this happens, then we will be able to address this issue in a proper manner.

श्री ए.यू. सिंह दिव : सर, मेरे ज्ञान में रेलवे मिनिस्टर के पास 16 लाख करोड़ के प्रोजेक्ट्स पेंडिंग हैं। जो आया, उसने नया प्रोजेक्ट अनाउंस किया और वह आधा ही रहा, पूरा नहीं हो पाया। Sir, Kalahandi is the poorest area in the country. Besides the project mentioned by Mr. Swamy, another project is pending for the last 17 years called Khurda-Bolangir.

सर, यह 17 साल से पेंडिंग है और इसमें कोई काम नहीं हुआ। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि वह यह काम कब करेंगे? ओडिशा गवर्नमेंट इसकी 50 परसेंट कॉस्ट बीयर कर रही है और लैंड फ्री दे रही है, तब भी इसमें कोई अग्रगति नहीं हो रही है। ये इसे कब करेंगे और यह कितनी जल्दी होगा, बताएं?

श्री सुरेश प्रभु : सर, जैसा सम्माननीय सदस्य ने कहा, यह बिल्कुल सही है कि हम लोग अनाउंस करते गए, प्रोजेक्ट्स की संख्या बढ़ती गई और आज यह अनुमान लगाना भी मुश्किल है कि ये कितने हैं। लेकिन, आज करीबन चार से छः लाख करोड़ तक के प्रोजेक्ट्स various stages of implementation में हैं, जिनकी अनाउंसमेंट की गई है। चूंकि सरकार के पास पर्याप्त धन उपलब्ध नहीं है, जिसकी वजह से ऐसा हो रहा है, लेकिन मैं यह सोच रहा हूं और फिर यही कहना चाहूंगा कि खासकर ओडिशा के लिए स्पेशल परपज व्हीकल बनेगा। अगर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट साथ में काम करेंगे तो शायद ये प्रोजेक्ट्स जल्दी कम्पलीट होंगे।

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Sir, my question is very specific. The Government of India has recognized KBK as a special zone, a special area with 10:90 process. It is like a special category zone.

इसलिए मैं आपसे निवेदन करता हूं कि के.बी.के. की यह जो लाइन है, इसको आप जल्दी से जल्दी पूरा करें, क्योंकि हम इसके साथ सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं।

श्री सुरेश प्रभु : सर, मैं इनकी भावना को स्वीकार करता हूं और इसके ऊपर हम सोच रहे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question 266; third supplementary, Mr. Mohapatra. But, I am afraid, the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Share of BSNL in communication sector

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

(a) the details of the share of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the communication sector of the country;

(b) whether BSNL is on the verge of closure, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of BSNL towers installed in various cities and villages of Rajasthan during the last ten years that are yet to start functioning alongwith the persons responsible for the delay; and

(d) by when these towers would start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The total number of telephone

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

connections in the country are 962.64 million as on 31.10.2014 and there are 102.23 million telephone connections of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) constituting market share of 10.62%.

(b) No, Sir. Government has taken several measures to revive BSNL and provide some financial relief so that BSNL could undertake expansion plans and provide better services. 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.

BSNL is separately preparing a revival plan for increasing revenue potential, identifying business opportunities, organizational restructuring and training to enable human resource to grow into customer-centric companies with expertise in marketing and customer services delivery and developing human resources strategy in line with restructured organizational vision. With these steps being taken, BSNL will be able to upgrade and enhance network coverage and capacity and provide better quality of services to their customers thereby increasing its subscribers base.

BSNL is also taking several steps to enhance 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 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.

(c) BSNL has informed that out of total 3885 towers, 221 towers in Rajasthan are non-functional of which 94 towers were installed under Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF) scheme. The main reason is non availability of Base Transceivers Stations (BTS) equipment as BSNL had been unable to procure mobile equipment for expansion of its network over the period 2009-2013 during Phase V and VI of mobile network expansion projects. Under its Phase VII expansion project BSNL has planned 1754 new towers in Rajasthan. Out of which 803 towers have been commissioned.

(d) The non-functional towers shall be utilized by installation of BTSs in a phased manner by BSNL under its Phase VII expansion project after assessment of techno-commercial feasibility by June, 2015.

BSNL has initiated following steps for utilization of towers including non-functional towers in the country including the State of Rajasthan.

- Commissioning BSNL equipment as per plan & availability of equipment and other resources.
- Allowing sharing of BSNL towers to other operators on external tenancies as a tool for better financial management & improved operations.

Telecom equipment testing

*268. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to make it mandatory for testing of all telecom equipments in the country from the next year, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the above steps are being initiated for checking cyber attacks and spying, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, the modern age telecom equipments are prone to spyware/malwares etc., if attempted by the outfits, anti-social/anti-national activists or unfriendly country. These Trojans, spyware /malware etc. are the potential threats, if embedded in any of the telecom network elements by vendor or any other third party source, which may damage the concerned network element causing disruption in services, infecting other network elements or leakage of information to unintended user.

In order to address the issue, Government has issued the amendment to various telecom licenses (*i.e.* Access Services, National Long Distance and International Long Distance Services licenses on 31.05.2011 and Internet Service Providers & VSAT service providers on 03.06.2011) and has included the same provisions in the subsequent Universal Licenses, in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs and Telecom Industry, wherein it is mandated that Licensee shall induct only those network elements into his network, which have been got tested as per relevant contemporary Indian or International Security standards by any International Agency/Laboratory of the respective standards upto 31st March, 2015. It has been mandated to get security testing and certification of telecom equipments done from authorized and certified agencies/labs in India from 1st April, 2015.

Introduction of bullet trains and semi-high speed trains

*269.SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the announcement of introducing bullet trains and semi-high speed trains in the country is a fresh initiative of Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the proposed road map for the purpose; and
- (c) the action taken in the past for introduction of high speed trains in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) So far only Prefeasibility studies for introduction for High Speed Rail have been conducted / in progress for several sections. But, decision regarding Bullet trains has been announced in Budget 2014-15 for starting with an already identified Mumbai-Ahmedabad sector, where a number of studies have been done.

Further, an ambitious plan to have a Diamond Quadrilateral Network of High Speed Rail has been embarked upon, as announced in Budget 2014-15.

Introduction of semi-high speed trains at 160/200 kmph on identified corridors has been announced in the Rail Budget 2014-15.

- (b) (i) For Mumbai-Ahmedabad sector, two studies, one a Joint feasibility study, co-financed by India and Japan and another a business development study by French Railway (SNCF) have been undertaken. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has submitted first interim report in July 2014 and Second interim report is submitted in November 2014. SNCF has submitted the report in September, 2014.

A provision of ₹ 100 crore has been made in this Budget for high speed project to RVNL/HSRC (High Speed Rail Corridor) for taking further steps.

- (ii) Agreement for conducting Prefeasibility studies in Delhi-Chennai in cooperation with China has been signed on 28th November 2014 by RVNL.
- (iii) Feasibility study for High Speed in Amritsar-Chandigarh-Delhi Section has been awarded to JV of Systra/France and RITES on 14th October 2014.

Completion of feasibility study will be required for drawing a detailed Road Map.

The corridors identified for introduction of semi-high speed trains are: Delhi-Agra, Delhi-Chandigarh, Delhi -Kanpur, Nagpur-Bilaspur, Mysore-Bengaluru-Chennai, Mumbai-Goa, Mumbai-Ahmedabad, Chennai-Hyderabad & Nagpur-Secundrabad.

All technical inputs required for running of commercial service at 160 kmph on New Delhi-Agra corridor have been given and the corridor is awaiting for final approval. Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore corridor has been assigned to ERYUAN Engineering Group, China under co-operation agreement with China for carrying out feasibility study for up-gradation of speed to 160 kmph on this corridor.

For the balance semi-high speed corridors, identification of quantum of input required for raising speed by the concerned zonal railways will be required for drawing a detailed Road Map.

- (c) Pre-feasibility study for Mumbai-Ahmedabad sector has been completed in 2010 by M/s RITES, M/s ITALFER (Italy) & M/s SYSTRA (France). Further two studies, one a Joint feasibility study, co-financed by India and Japan and another a business development study by French Railway (SNCF) have been undertaken. JICA has submitted first interim report in July 2014 and Second interim report in November 2014. SNCF has submitted the report in September, 2014.

Several pre-feasibility studies have been completed / are in progress in different sectors, as below:-

- (i) Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi -Patna - 991 km.
- (ii) Howrah-Haldia - 135 km.
- (iii) Hyderabad-Dornakal-Vijaywada -Chennai - 664 km.
- (iv) Chennai-Bangalore-Coimbatore-Ernakulam-Thiruvananthapuram - 850 km.
- (v) Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar - 450 km.
- (vi) Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Jodhpur - 591 km.

Policy to promote organic farming

*270.SHRI K. C. TYAGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the growing need for organic farming in the country in view of media reports on adulterated food items being sold by vendors; and
- (b) whether Government proposes to formulate a national policy to promote organic farming in the country, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Reports have appeared in the media, from time to time, regarding sale of adulterated food items. The standards of food products are prescribed in Food Safety and Standards (Food Product, standards and food additives) Regulation, 2011 & Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, toxins and residues) Regulation, 2011. Every food Business Operator in the country has to comply with Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the Rules & Regulations, 2011 made thereunder. As per section 29 of FSS Act, 2006, the Food Authority and the State Food Safety Authorities are requested to monitor and verify that the relevant requirements of law are fulfilled by food business operators at all stages of food business.

Organic agriculture involves an ecological production management system that Promotes and enhances biodiversity, biological cycles and soil biological activity in a sustainable manner. Organic farming is a demand-driven niche market with strict quality standards and process controls. Area certified under organic farming has grown from 4.55 lakh ha. in 2009-10 to 7.23 lakh ha. in 2013-14.

Government is promoting organic farming through various schemes/programmes Under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Network Project on Organic Farming of ICAR and National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP).

Financial assistance is provided through State Governments for:

- (a) Organic Village adoption for manure management and biological nitrogen harvesting.
- (b) Promotion of Organic Input production on farmer's field.
- (c) Promotion of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification for area under organic farming.
- (d) Promotion of NPOP certification for area under export.

Assistance is also provided for setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit and Bio fertilizer/Bio pesticide units through NABARD.

Shortage of urea and chemical fertilizers

†*271. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards shortage of urea and other chemical fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) whether Government is making any plan to meet the shortage of fertilizers and chemical fertilizers to address the problems of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): (a) Sir, there is no shortage of urea and other chemical fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) 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 & Co-operation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2. On the basis of month-wise & 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 & Cooperation (DAC), Department of Fertilizers (DoF), and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
 - (iv) Priority is accorded to Urea movement by Railway during peak consumption period in each season.
3. Distribution within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

Pantry car in all long distance trains

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

- (a) whether the incident of food poisoning of passengers on the 8th November, 2014 in Lokmanya Tilak - Kochuveli Garib Rath Express, which is running without a pantry car, has come to the notice of the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the steps the Ministry would take to ensure the quality of food and beverages sold on railway platforms by vendors;
- (c) the number of long distance trains which are running without pantry cars; and
- (d) whether the Ministry would consider providing pantry cars in all long distance trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir. An incident of food poisoning of 2 passengers on 8th November, 2014 in Lokmanya Tilak - Kochuveli Garib Rath Express (Train number 12201), which is running without a pantry car, was reported at Shoranur Station over Southern Railway. The affected passengers were provided all possible medical assistance by railway authorities and penal action has been taken against the licensee.

(b) 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 etc. 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 and Third Party Audit of catering services has also been made a part of the mechanism to improve the quality of catering services on trains. 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. Further, to provide quality and hygienic meals, trials of branded pre-cooked 'Ready-to-Eat' meals have been conducted on a few trains.

(c) At present, there are 245 pairs of long distance trains having more than 24 hours travel time in which pantry cars have not been provided.

(d) As per norms laid down in the Catering Policy 2010, provision for attachment of pantry car is based on order of priority with first priority to Durgam and Rajdhani Express trains; followed by long distance premier, Superfast Trains; Mail & Express trains with more than 24 hours journey time either way; and lastly for the remaining trains, with preference to those trains in which vestibules are provided. However, for the convenience of the passengers, trains in which pantry cars are not provided, catering services are availed by passengers through static catering units at en-route stations and in some trains through Train Side Vending.

New railway route in Uttarakhand

†*273. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any request for construction of a new railway route by the name of Haldwani-Ladhiyaghati (Champawat) in Uttarakhand, if so, the details of the action taken thereon;

(b) if not, whether the Ministry would consider this proposal, in case it is received in future; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) No, Sir. Ministry of Railways have not received any request for construction of a new Railway line from Haldwani to Ladhiyaghati (Champawat) in Uttarakhand. However, Ministry of Railways have taken up survey of new lines from Haldwani to Ritha Sahib (Distt. Champawat) and Haldwani to Chorgalia.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Trade practices of online retailers

*274. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the concerns regarding predatory pricing and tax evasions by online retailers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any probe has been made into the business model and trade practices of these online retail companies, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to regulate such companies and prevent the occurrence of e-commerce frauds?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes Madam, an information (case no. 80/2014) has been filed by Sh. Mohit Manglani in the Competition Commission of India against alleged anti competitive conduct of online retailers like M/s Flipkart India

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Pvt. Ltd., M/s Jasper Infotech Pvt. Ltd., M/s Xerion Retails Pvt. Ltd., M/s Amazon Seller services Pvt. Ltd., M/s Victor E-commerce Pvt. Ltd. and other similar E-commerce / portal companies. The matter is under consideration of the commission.

Tax evasion is a criminal offence and prosecution and penalties are imposed under different Acts by the Government. Trades done through online/internet portal are subject to income tax as per provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 and the relevant Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements entered into by the Central Government. At present data on Direct Tax collection is not being maintained based on the mode of business/trade conducted online or otherwise.

(b) Based on various complaints received from consumers being duped by “fly by night” companies/e-retailers, the following five cases were referred to Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) for investigation by the Central Government:-

- (i) Gold Quest International Pvt. Ltd.
- (ii) Questnet Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.
- (iii) SpeakAsia Online Pvt Ltd.
- (iv) Unipay2U group of companies and
- (v) Abclndya Networks Pvt. Ltd.

The SFIO investigation confirmed that these companies had duped customers through web based investments and other products by (a) Offering valuable collectables with very low or no intrinsic value (b) Giving access to e-magazine that facilitated earning of regular income through participation in online survey (c) Facility of online gold trading and (d) Online gaming.

Based on the above findings Government has asked SFIO to file prosecution under provisions of Companies Act, 1956 and Indian Penal Code against three companies *i.e.* Gold Quest International Pvt. Ltd. (including its group company Questnet Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.) and Abclndya Networks Pvt. Ltd. Investigation in respect of two companies *i.e.* M/s Unipay2U group of companies and SpeakAsia Online Pvt Ltd. is under examination.

(c) At present there is no single set of law/regulations to govern E-commerce industry and therefore E-commerce activities including online shopping come under the purview of different laws like Information Technology Act, 2000, Contract Law and Indian Penal Code. E-commerce industry is also required to comply with other business laws like Company law, Labour law, Income Tax laws, Sales Tax law etc. Government is also considering as part of the proposed amendment to the Consumer Protection Act-1986,

inclusion of necessary safeguards for protection of rights of consumers of technology based marketing like E-commerce, telemarketing etc.

Appointment of retired SC judges

*275.SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether article 124 (7) of the Constitution prohibits a retired Supreme Court judge to plead or act in any court or before any authority within the country;
- (b) whether Parliament is deemed to be an authority within the meaning of article 124 (7) read with article 12, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the practice of appointing retired SC judges in various political capacities is morally correct, and whether it poses serious danger to judicial independence, as large number of Government cases are pending in SC, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Article 124 (7) of the Constitution of India restricts retired Supreme Court judges to plead or act in any Court or before authority within the territory of India.

(b) The doctrine of separation of powers enshrined in the Constitution of India implies specific roles to be assigned to the executive, the legislature and the judiciary. All three pillars of democracy constitute the State as defined in Article 12 of the Constitution of India.

(c) The Constitutional provisions for appointments to the posts of Governor, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Chief Vigilance Commissioner etc. by the Central Government do not exclude retired judges from amongst those eligible for such appointments. Various legislations, enacted by Parliament, have provisions for appointment of retired judges of the Supreme Court/High Court in Tribunals, Commissions and other Authorities.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Expansion in area of operation of Mother Dairy

2191.SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Mother Dairy is considering to expand its area of operation across the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Mother Dairy is also considering to establish around 6,000 distribution outlets in various Southern States within six to nine months and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Mother Dairy, through its various product categories, is present in major towns in all the regions across the country. Although State-wise expansion plans have not been drawn up Mother Dairy is working towards strengthening its presence, which also includes southern region.

Availability of price-sensitive vegetables

2192.SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to unveil a scheme with corporate support to end shortage of kitchen staples through green house cultivation on a large scale;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government has roped in major corporate groups with NGOs chipping in with the marketing support to make price-sensitive vegetables available throughout the year; and

(c) whether this scheme is proposed to be rolled out in the States and if so, the names of States where it is going to be introduced first, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) is being implemented in all States/UTs during Twelfth Plan and provides assistance for protected cultivation of horticulture crops, including vegetables, through Green House Structure/poly houses.

The Vegetable Initiative for Urban Clusters (VIUC) also promotes open field cultivation and protected cultivation of vegetables in green houses and shadenet houses. The scheme also facilitates formation of Farmer Interest Groups (FIGs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and their tie up with market aggregation and financial institutions. VIUC scheme is being implemented in all states with focus on addressing supply chain issues of vegetables in cities having a population of more than one million. In case, where the city's population is less than one million, then the State capital is selected.

Use of poly mulching technology

2193. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though water harvesting and conservation are being encouraged by Government, the number of farmers adopting it is still quite negligible in the country, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to encourage farmers to adopt poly mulching technology in water deficient areas and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation are promoting rain water harvesting and conservation measures in the country by supplementing efforts of State Governments for augmentation, conservation and efficient management of water resources through technical and financial support.

Major programmes promoting such activities are Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM), Repair Renovation and Restoration of water bodies (RRR), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) etc.

Higher initial investment, sizeable area requirement for water harvesting structure accompanied with continuous reduction in farm holding sizes are major constraints in its large scale adoption by individual farmers. However, *in situ* moisture conservation technologies, as integral part of package of practices, is promoted in all agriculture development programmes of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) to benefit a large section of farming community.

(b) To conserve the soil moisture, plastic mulching is being promoted under protected cultivation component of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme of DAC. Mulching of raised beds are also promoted for raising hi-value crops like flowers, fruits and vegetables along with drip irrigation system.

Marketing facilities to farmers

2194. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in the absence of sound marketing facilities,

farmers have to depend upon local traders and middlemen for disposal of their farm produce which is sold at throw-away price;

(b) whether Government is also aware that in most of the small villages in Vidarbha and other places, farmers sell their produce to money lenders from whom they usually borrow money; and

(c) if so, the facilities provided to farmers of Vidarbha and in other States so that farmers do not go for distress sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) Agri-marketing is a State subject and while the Government has been engaging the States in a continuous dialogue on agri marketing reforms, the initiative in the sector lies with the States. The Government on its part, has been advocating multiple avenues of sale including direct marketing by bulk buyers, processors, exporters, etc. at the farm gate and promotion of Farmer Producer Organisations to leverage benefits of aggregation specially for market linkages. The Government also implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) in order to provide remunerative prices to the farmers and avoid distress sale. Assistance is also being provided for construction of scientific warehouses to enhance small and marginal farmers' retention capacity and to enable them to avail marketing credit by way of pledge financing and Negotiable Warehouse Receipts System (NWRS).

In the instance of Vidarbha Maharashtra has already reformed their marketing regulations. Under the Maharashtra Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 1963, farmers are at liberty to sell their produce anywhere. In the State, there are 304 Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs), out of which 103 are in Vidarbha region. Further as a result of having reformed their marketing laws, several alternative marketing channels for sale of farmers produce have come up. State has granted 77 licenses for direct marketing (sourcing the produce directly from the farmers) and 21 for private markets. In Vidarbha region, marketing infrastructure has been created in the APMCs under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and infrastructure is also being created under Maharashtra Agricultural Competitiveness Project (MACP), Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded project and Convergence of Agricultural Interventions in Maharashtra (CAIM) project. Further to avoid distress sale by farmers, Government has provided several facilities like- (i) Collateral management wherein Pledge loan is given to farmers at minimum interest rate by Banks and APMCs (ii) Marketing Federation is procuring produce at Minimum Support Price (MSP); (iii) 9713 storage structures

with capacity of 58,12,134 Metric Tonnes are available with various organizations like Cooperative societies, APMCs, Central & State Warehousing Corporation and private owners where farmers can store and avail credit from Banks by pledging Warehouse Receipts.

Release of second instalment for agricultural schemes in Chhattisgarh

†2195. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that second instalment for normal BGREI and VIPUA under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana in Chhattisgarh is yet to be received from the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not releasing second instalment despite reminder from the State and by when it is expected to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government has released ₹93.0 crore to Chhattisgarh as second instalment for implementing Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during 2014-15. This includes ₹40.25 crore and ₹2.50 crore towards second instalment for implementing Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) and Vegetable Initiative in Urban Cluster (VIUC) respectively.

Assistance to farmers of Punjab

2196. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Punjab contributes 45 per cent wheat and 25 per cent paddy to the Central pool every year;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing assistance to farmers in Punjab, despite more than 90 per cent rainfall deficiency there in the current year; and

(c) whether Government is planning to provide assistance to the farmers, 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) Average contribution of Punjab to Central pool for wheat and paddy during last three marketing season has been 38.75% and 32.47% respectively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) In accordance with extant guidelines of National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), Government of India considers providing central assistance to farmers in form input subsidy who have lost their crops by 50% and above due to drought. However, such assistance is considered only after State declares drought and submits detailed relief Memorandum seeking financial assistance from NDRF. State Government of Punjab has not, so far, declared drought in any part of the State during Kharif 2014.

Per capita availability of foodgrains

2197.SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the per capita availability of foodgrains during the last five years; and
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to increase the per capita availability of foodgrains and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The per capita net availability of foodgrains for the years 2009 to 2013 is given below:

Per Capita Availability of Foodgrains

(Grams per day)

Year	Foodgrains
2009	444.0
2010	437.1
2011	453.6
2012	450.3
2013(P)	510.8

(P) Provisional.

Fluctuations in per capita net availability are mainly due to fluctuations in production on account of variations in weather conditions, increasing population, change in stocks etc.

(b) Government implements various programmes/schemes viz. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) etc. with the objective of increasing production and productivity of rice, wheat and other crops. In addition, Indian Council of Agricultural

Research (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities (SAU) have developed a number of improved varieties/hybrids of foodgrain crops to enhance production and productivity of food crops.

Government has also taken steps for increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs, extension, marketing etc. to improve agricultural production and productivity. Other measures taken by the Government include incentivisation through higher Minimum Support Prices of agricultural commodities, increase in credit flow to agriculture sector, interest subvention on crop loans etc.

In addition, Government imports various agricultural commodities to augment their domestic availability.

Quality control of organic manure

2198.SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the different types of organic manures produced in the country, the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of money Government has been spending to purchase organic manures during the last three years;
- (c) the existing mechanism for quality control of organic manures for the interest/benefit of farmers;
- (d) the details of number of approved firms for supplying organic manure in the country, State/Union Territory-wise details thereof; and
- (e) the details of punishments for defaulters of the suppliers of organic manures and the number of defaulters punished during the last three years, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The different type of organic manures produced in the country is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Government is encouraging production of organic manures by providing 100% financial assistance to State Government/Government Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 lakh per unit and 33% of project cost maximum limited to ₹63 lakh per unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment for establishment of agro / vegetable waste compost production units of 3000 TPA production capacity and 100% financial assistance to State Government/Government Agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 160.00 lakh per unit and 25% of cost limited to ₹40 lakh per unit

for individuals/ private agencies for bio-fertilizers production unit of 200 TPA production capacity as credit linked back ended subsidy through National Bank for Agricultural & Rural Development (NABARD) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). The details of subsidy provided in last three years is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) In the Fertilizer Control Order, 1985, four organic fertilizers namely City Compost, Vermi Compost, Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM) and organic manure are specified in Schedule IV of the FCO, 1985. No person sell manufacture/import for sale, sell, offer for sale stock or exhibit for sale or distribute any organic fertilizer which is not notified in the FCO or not of standard prescribed in the said order. State Governments are the implementing authority and are adequately empowered to take necessary action in regard to the violation of any of the provision of FCO, 1985. The State Governments check the quality of organic fertilizers by drawing samples and testing them at notified Laboratories.

(d) and (e) Under FCO (1985) State Governments are empowered for authorisation to supplier of organic manures under their jurisdiction. State Governments takes appropriate punitive action as deemed fit as per procedure laid down in the FCO (1985) against the defaulters for committing contraventions to FCO (1985). Under the Essential Commodities Act, 2005 for the contravention of any of the provision of the FCO, 1985 may result in a punishment from three months to seven years.

Statement-I

Details of organic manure production & availability in the country (excluding green manures)

Year	Rural compost	Urban compost	FYM	Vermi compost	Other manures	Total manure production & availability
2008-09	486.39	255.88	1302.38	55.79	35.2	2135.64
2009-10	804.49	618.96	1220.65	73.72	40.62	2758.44
2010-11	797.54	111.24	2234.44	114.16	131.82	3389.20
2011-12	939.85	140.86	1860.64	268.50	35.43	3245.28
2012-13	1039.35	143.04	2850.50	53.70	29.16	4115.76
2013-14	224.97	63.33	9647.8	582.27	24.27	10542.64

The manure production is increased from 2758.44 MT (2008-09) to 10542.64 MT (2013-14)

Statement-II

Subsidy released by NABARD as Capital Investment Subsidy for existing components of Commercial Production Units of Organic Inputs

(₹ in lakh)					
Sl. No.	Name of the State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (upto 31.07.14)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20.00	20.00	13.74	0.00
2.	Assam	22.32	0.75	35.10	0.00
3.	Bihar	5.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Gujarat	0.00	2.03	40.00	36.85
5.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	124.27	0.00
6.	Kerala	6.78	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	2.26	0.00	0.00
8.	Maharashtra	43.08	23.01	11.22	0.00
9.	Punjab & Haryana	14.04	0.00	18.76	0.00
10.	Rajasthan	21.34	0.00	0.00	0.00
11.	Tamil Nadu	0.0	0.00	98.34	0.00
12.	Tripura	20.0	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Uttar Pradesh	3.3	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		156.11	48.05	341.43	36.85

Source: NABARD, Mumbai (fund is not earmarked State-wise, it is need based proposal)

Drought situation in Maharashtra

2199.SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given any attention towards the prevailing drought situation in various parts of the country, particularly Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the measures Government has taken to mitigate the crisis in Maharashtra; and

(c) whether Government is aware of the shortage of food items in Maharashtra, and if so, the details thereof with remedial steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the eventuality of drought, State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on receipt of drought relief memoranda from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures.

To deal with challenges posed by delayed and aberrant monsoon and in the wake of shortfall in sowing of major crops during kharif-2014, Government has taken following measures:

- (i) Implementation of Diesel Subsidy Scheme for protective irrigation of crops with an allocation of ₹100 crore;
- (ii) Enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy to partially recompense the farmer for the additional expenditure incurred in resowing and/or purchasing appropriate varieties of seeds;
- (iii) Implementation of drought mitigating interventions on perennial horticulture crops with an additional allocation of ₹700 crore under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH);
- (iv) Implementation of Additional Fodder Development Programme (AFDP) as a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) with an allocation of ₹100 crore during 2014-15 for ensuring availability of fodder;
- (v) Waiver of duty on import of de-oiled soya extract, groundnut oil cake, sunflower oil cake, canola oil meal, mustard oil cake, rice bran and palm kernel cake to increase availability of feed ingredients.

In addition, States including Maharashtra were advised to keep aside 10% of funds available under RKVY and other schemes for undertaking appropriate interventions to mitigate any situation arising out of deficient rainfall. Government of India has also released ₹6.25 crore to Maharashtra as first instalment towards implementing AFDP.

During Kharif 2014, Government of Maharashtra has reported that 19059 villages covering 22 districts in the State are drought affected and submitted a drought relief

memorandum seeking central assistance from National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF). Government of India has already constituted an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to visit the State, conduct on spot assessment and recommend central assistance from NDRF.

(c) Government of India has allocated 3,75,133 tons of foodgrains per month to Maharashtra from February, 2014 onward as per entitlement of the State under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). On the basis of request received from the State, Government of India has also allocated additional 3,98,700 tons of foodgrains to Maharashtra for the beneficiaries who could not be covered under NFSA. No request has been received from Government of Maharashtra, so far, for additional allotment of foodgrains for drought relief during the current year.

Fall in production of wheat due to air pollution

2200.SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in a recent study, it has been stated that India's wheat production has fallen drastically since 2010 because of rise in air pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto along with the total quantity of wheat produced in 2010 and thereafter till 2014, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has conducted/proposes to conduct any study to ascertain the factual position in this regard;

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

(e) the steps being taken by Government to reduce the adverse impact of air pollution on crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) A model based study conducted by Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune under the Ministry of Earth Sciences estimated that ground level ozone damaged 3.5 million tonnes of wheat, 2.1 million tonnes of rice, 0.17 million tonnes of cotton and 0.23 million tonnes of soyabean in the country during the year 2005.

The experiments conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have also shown that ozone pollution can potentially reduce crop yields. Besides, long

term use of waste water for irrigation can adversely affect crop yields on account of higher pest incidence and disturbance in plant metabolism due to heavy metal contents.

However, as a result of various Crop Development Schemes of Government of India being implemented through State Governments, production of most of the agricultural crops including wheat in the country during the recent years has been increasing. Details of production of wheat during 2010-11 onwards are as under:

Production of Wheat (Million Tonnes)			
2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14*
86.87	94.88	93.51	95.91

* 4th advance estimates.

(e) Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India has taken various measures to contain air pollution in cities which, *inter-alia*, includes supply of cleaner fuels as per Auto Fuel Policy, use of gaseous fuel for public transport in select cities, Pollution Under Control (PUC) Certificate System for in-use vehicles, stringent source-specific emission standards and their compliance, use of beneficiated coal in thermal power plants, strengthening public transport system, expansion of metro train system in select cities, implementation of revised emission norms for gensets, etc.

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.

Data for production of crops

2201. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the fact that Government prepares various financial policies based on data for production of various crops and agricultural commodities in the country, the Central Government in consultation with the State Governments, contemplates to take any steps to obtain more accurate data in this regard;

- (b) if so, the updated status of action taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) the present method of obtaining such data prevalent in the country and the modifications, if any, being contemplated in the method?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) At present, the responsibility for furnishing data on area, production and yield of different crops lies with State Agricultural Statistics Authorities (SASAs) in various States/UTs. However, Government of India provides financial support to State/UT Governments under the Sub-scheme on improvement of Agricultural Statistics (IAS) which has three components *viz.* Timely Reporting Scheme (TRS), Establishment of an Agency for Reporting of Agricultural Statistics (EARAS) and Improvement of Crop Statistics (ICS). The estimates are prepared on the basis of area enumeration and yield assessment through Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) in a sample of about 20% villages selected in such a manner that over a period of 5 years all the villages of a State/UT are covered. The area enumeration and CCEs are generally done by the field functionaries of State Revenue/Agriculture Departments. Under the ICS Scheme, States/UTs are provided support for sample check of area enumeration and CCEs to ensure quality of primary data collected by States/UTs.

Based upon the data received from States/UTs, during an Agricultural Year (July to June), Ministry of Agriculture releases four advance estimates followed by final estimates of area, production and yield of major agricultural crops in the country. First Advance Estimates are released in the month of September followed by second, third and fourth Advance Estimates respectively in February, April and July of next calendar year. Final Estimates are released along with second Advance Estimates for the subsequent agricultural year.

To arrive at better crop forecasts based on the latest developing remote sensing technology, Ministry of Agriculture has established Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre (MNCFC) which is providing multiple in-session production forecasts of area, production and yield of selected crop in the country. In order to improve the quality of official estimates, the Ministry of Agriculture validates the estimates received from States/UTs on the basis of forecasts provided by MNCFC as well as the estimates prepared on the basis of econometric and agro-meteorological models, etc.

Based on the methodology suggested by an Expert Committee constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. A. Vaidyanathan for preparation of State/national level agricultural estimates, action to undertake a pilot study has been initiated.

Use of pesticides in agricultural activities

2202. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to reduce the use of pesticides in agricultural activities carried out throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive policy to drastically reduce the use of pesticides in agriculture which adversely affect the consumers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (e) The Government is popularizing Integrated Pest Management Approach to reduce use of pesticides since 1991-92 through 31 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) in 28 States and one UT (Andaman and Nicobar Islands). CIPMCs conduct pest surveillance, monitor pest incidence/situation, mass produce biological agents for releasing in the fields, conserve natural bio-control agents, promote bio-pesticides as an alternative to chemical pesticides and advocates judicious and safe use of chemical pesticides as a last resort. These activities are implemented through Farmers Field Schools (FFAs), training to State Agriculture Extension officers and NGOs/Private Bodies. For smooth and effective implementation of IPM activities Central Government provides funds to the State Government provides funds to the State Govt./SAUs/KVKs/NGOs/Private Bodies.

If pesticides are used as per instructions on label and leaflet, they are safe and efficacious. A 'Grow Safe Food' campaign has been initiated to carry the message of safe and judicious use of pesticides to farmers and other stakeholders. A simple message on the five essential principles of judicious pesticide use -- application of pesticides on the right crop, against pests for which the pesticide has been approved, at the right time, in approved doses and as per approved method of application-is sought to be conveyed through hoardings, banners etc. in regional languages in Gram Panchayats and rural areas. 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.

Dairy Development in Kerala

2203. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of total quantity of milk production in various States of the country including Kerala, State-wise;

(b) the total amount spent/to be spent on dairy development in the country during the last three years and the current year and its percentage share in the Gross Domestic Production;

(c) the amount allocated/proposed to be allocated to Kerala for dairy development during the said period and achievements made therein; and

(d) whether Government is implementing various other schemes to promote production of milk and milk products in the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The total quantity of milk production in various States of the country including Kerala during 2013-14 is 137685.88 M.T. The details are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India during the last three years (i.e 2011-12 to 2013-14) and the current year has released a sum of ₹ 156618.54 lakh under dairy development schemes. This amount is 0.01% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Factor Cost at current prices of 2013-14.

(c) Department Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India, has released an amount of ₹ 8131.78 lakh to Kerala State and an amount of ₹ 5502.09 lakh was utilized by the State during the last three years (*i.e.* 2011-12 to 2013-14) and the current year under dairy development schemes.

(d) This Department is presently implementing following schemes to promote production of milk and milk products in the country:

- (i) **National Dairy Plan (Phase-I):** The Government of India has approved National Dairy Plan Phase-1 (NDP-I) with an outlay of ₹ 2242 Crore for a period of six years from 2011-12 to 2016-17 on 16th March, 2012 as a Central Sector Scheme. The Scheme is implemented through National Dairy Development Board and the objectives of the National Dairy Plan, Phase I are:

- (a) To help increase the productivity of milch animals and thereby increase milk production to meet the rapidly growing demand for milk.
- (b) To help provide rural milk producers with greater access to the organized milk-processing sector.
- (ii) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development:

The new Scheme National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBB&DD) was launched during 2013-14 by merging four existing schemes *i.e.* Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP), Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production (SIQ&CMP), Assistance to Cooperatives and National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding with the budget provision of ₹1800 crore for implementation during 12th Plan. The objective of the scheme is to enhance productivity of milch animals and create dairy infrastructure for improved procurement, processing and marketing.

- (iii) **Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme :** “Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)” is implemented through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) across the country with an aim to generate self employment opportunities in the dairy sector, covering activities such as enhancement of milk production, procurement, preservation, transportation, processing and marketing of milk by providing back ended capital subsidy @ 25% of the project cost to the General Category (@33.33% of the project cost to SC/ST category) farmers/beneficiaries for bankable projects through NABARD subject to the norms of the scheme. The budget provision during 12th plan is ₹ 1400 crore.

Statement

*State-wise Milk Production in the country including Kerala
during the year 2013-14*

		(in '000 MT)
Sl. No.	State	2013-14
	All India	137685.88
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13007.07
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	43.35

Sl. No.	State	2013-14
3.	Assam	814.52
4.	Bihar	7197.06
5.	Chhattisgarh	1208.61
6.	Goa	67.81
7.	Gujarat	11112.18
8.	Haryana	7441.67
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1150.81
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1614.67
11.	Jharkhand	1699.83
12.	Karnataka	5997.03
13.	Kerala	2654.70
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9599.20
15.	Maharashtra	9089.03
16.	Manipur	81.70
17.	Meghalaya	82.16
18.	Mizoram	15.30
19.	Nagaland	80.61
20.	Odisha	1861.19
21.	Punjab	10011.10
22.	Rajasthan	14573.05
23.	Sikkim	45.99
24.	Tamil Nadu	7049.19
25.	Tripura	129.70
26.	Uttar Pradesh	24193.90
27.	Uttarakhand	1550.15
28.	West Bengal	4906.21

Sl. No.	State	2013-14
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14.21
30.	Chandigarh	44.43
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11.00
32.	Daman and Diu	0.82
33.	Delhi	284.31
34.	Lakshadweep	6.07
35.	Puducherry	47.25

Source: AHS Unit-Department of AHDF Gol.OM No.26(1)-4/2013-Parl-M/AHS dated 10.12.2014

MSP for agricultural produces

†2204. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices is paying any attention to the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) proposed by State Governments; and

(b) whether the support prices of various agricultural produces are to be announced this year according to the proposal given by the State Governments, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) The Commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices (CACP) considers a number of important factors while formulating its recommendations on price policy, 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.

While recommending Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for various agricultural commodities the CACP also holds consultations with different stake holders including State Governments.

The MSPs for 2014-15 season have been announced by the Government based on the recommendations of CACP, views of concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments and other relevant factors.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Reduction in fertility of soil

†2205. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has investigated the issue that excessive use of chemical fertilizers is destroying the fertility of land;
- (b) if so, the report of the investigation; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government in accordance with the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) There is no scientific evidence of declining soil fertility from judicious use of chemical fertilisers. However, indiscriminate and imbalanced use of fertilizers coupled with low addition of organic matter over years may result into multinutrient deficiencies and deterioration of soil health.

Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal implements All India Co-ordinated Research Project (AICRP) on 'Long-Term Fertilizer Experiments.' These monitor the soil fertility in different soil types (fixed locations) under dominant cropping systems. The investigation over the last few decades indicated that continuous use of nitrogenous fertilizer alone produced the highest decline in crop yields at almost all the centres and had deleterious effect on long term fertility and sustainability in particular, showing deficiencies of other major and micro nutrients. Even in NPK fertilized system, the deficiency of micro and secondary nutrients has become yield limiting factors after a number of years and their application becomes necessary to sustain high yield potential. Only integrated use of optimal dose of NPK and organic manure maintained sound soil health and gave higher sustainable crops yields.

(c) Accordingly,

(i) Government is advocating soil test based balanced use of fertilisers in conjunction with organic sources of plant nutrients like Farm Yard Manure (FYM), Compost, bio-fertilizers and green manuring.

(ii) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) is being implemented to promote soil test based balanced and judicious use of fertilizers through setting up/strengthening of soil testing laboratories, trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) In addition, split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, growing leguminous crops and use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) are advocated by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The ICAR also imparts training, organizes frontline demonstrations to educate farmers on these aspects.

Interest free loan to farmers

†2206. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to provide interest free loan to farmers particularly in those States where only 'barani' cultivation is done and only one crop is grown based on nature throughout the year; and

(b) whether Government proposes to waive of the loan of farmers of the famine or drought affected States, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) No, Sir. However, the Government is implementing interest subvention scheme for providing crop loan upto ₹3 lakh at the rate of 7% per annum which further gets reduced to 4% per annum for such farmers who repay their loans on time. In order to discourage distress sale of crops by farmers, the benefit of interest subvention has been made available to small & marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period of upto six months (post harvest) against negotiable warehouse receipts on the same rate as available to crop loan.

(b) No, Sir. However, in order to provide relief to borrowers in times of natural calamities, the Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agricultural & Rural Development (NABARD) have issued standing guidelines for relief measures to be provided by respective lending institutions in areas affected by natural calamities such as drought, flood etc. The guidelines, inter-alia, include extending fresh loans and restructuring of existing loans, relaxed security and margin norms etc.

Assistance to FFDAs of Kerala

2207.DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received requests from Government of Kerala to reconsider the decision to restrict Central financial assistance on capital cost for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

infrastructure development of fishing harbours in the country, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Central Government thereto;

(b) the number of Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) operating in Kerala;

(c) the work undertaken by such agencies in the State for development of fisheries during the last three years; and

(d) the funds sanctioned by Government during the said period for assisting FFDAs of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations" during the financial year 2014-15 with central financial assistance restricted to 40% of the capital cost for infrastructure projects in general areas and 55% in hilly and Scheduled areas.

(b) and (c) The Government of Kerala, Department of Fisheries has reported that there are 14 Fish Farmers Development Agencies(FFDAs) operating in Kerala. The works undertaken by these FFDAs during the last three years as reported by the Government of Kerala are as below:

- (i) coverage of about 3,000 hectare area for fresh water and brackish fish culture,
- (ii) construction of new ponds of 30 hectare,
- (iii) renovation of pond/tank of 2700 hectare area,
- (iv) training of 12,000 farmers in fish culture,
- (v) assistance to 60,000 farmers for fish culture,
- (vi) harvesting of 21,000 tonne fish,
- (vii) cage culture of different species such as *Etroplus suratensis* along with training to fishermen for cage culture,
- (viii) commencement of a fish feed mill,
- (ix) supply of craft and gear to fishermen societies for fishing in reservoirs, and
- (x) reservoirs stocking in 27 Reservoirs of Kerala.

(d) Details of the central funds released to the Government of Kerala under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture for assisting FFDAs during the last three financial years are as below:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Amount (₹ in lakh)
1.	2011-12	113.00
2.	2012-13	162.43
3.	2013-14	162.28

Development of dairy value chain

2208. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to develop dairy value chain including establishing rural cold chain across the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to develop dairy value chain in the country, especially in Andhra Pradesh, under cooperative, joint venture as well as Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India was implementing Centrally Sponsored schemes namely Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production (SIQ-CMP) and Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP) to develop dairy value chain including establishing rural cold chain across the country. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme IDDP and SIQ-CMP has been discontinued from the financial year 2014-15. The erstwhile IDDP and SIQ-CMP scheme along with its objectives and targets have been subsumed under the new scheme "National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)" from 2014-15 of the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The Scheme-wise details of chilling capacity created under IDDP and SIQ-CMP are given in Statements-I and II (*See below*).

(b) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India is implementing "National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)" to develop dairy value chain in the country, including Andhra Pradesh, under cooperative dairy sector and on Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for projects where end implementing agencies are New Generation Milk Producer Companies.

Statement-I

State-wise Physical Target and Achievement under “Intensive Dairy Development Programme” (IDDP) as on 30.09.2014

Sl. No.	State	Chilling Capacity(TLPD)	
		Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	803.50	766.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12.50	2.00
3.	Assam	43.00	26.00
4.	Bihar	492.00	454.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	45.50	40.50
6.	Goa	31.00	28.00
7.	Haryana	277.00	264.50
8.	Himachal Pradesh	106.00	120.75
9.	Jharkhand	16.00	13.00
10.	Gujarat	30.00	30.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	35.00	6.00
12.	Karnataka	45.00	50.00
13.	Kerala	253.00	465.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	48.00	165.00
15.	Maharashtra	319.00	320.00
16.	Manipur	35.00	30.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	1.70
18.	Mizoram	0.00	15.00
19.	Nagaland	12.00	10.00
20.	Odisha	433.00	336.50
21.	Rajasthan	35.00	140.00

1	2	3	4
22.	Sikkim	79.00	40.20
23.	Tamil Nadu	195.00	178.00
24.	Tripura	11.00	6.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	142.00	65.00
26.	Uttarakhand	181.00	69.00
27.	West Bengal	194.50	8.00
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2.00	2.20
TOTAL		3876.00	3652.85

TLPD - Thousand litre per day

Statement-II

Chilling capacity Target and Achievement under “Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production(SIQ-CMP)” Scheme

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Chilling Capacity (Bulk Milk Cooler) (in “000 Litre)	
		Target	Achievement as on 30.09.2014
1	2	3	4
1.	Assam	10.00	2.50
2.	Andhra Pradesh	82.00	72.00
3.	Bihar	98.00	26.50
4.	Goa	45.00	21.00
5.	Gujarat	1204.000	1220.00
6.	Haryana	128.00	94.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	52.000	66.500
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	61.00	33.00
9.	Karnataka	591.00	478.00

1	2	3	4
10.	Kerala	840.000	756.500
11.	Madhya Pradesh	141.00	144.00
12.	Maharashtra	823.000	595.600
13.	Mizoram	19.500	17.50
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00
15.	Nagaland	3.00	3.00
16.	Odisha	62.50	62.50
17.	Punjab	442.000	388.40
18.	Rajasthan	261.000	223.000
19.	Sikkim	7.500	6.500
20.	Uttar Pradesh	114.50	139.50
21.	Tamil Nadu	701.000	641.000
22.	Puducherry	23.00	35.00
23.	West Bengal	21.20	11.70
TOTAL		5730.20	5037.70

Gap between potential and achievement in fisheries sector

2209. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap between potential and achievement in the fisheries sector is quite high. If so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor, State-wise: and

(b) the fresh steps taken by Government to reduce this gap by setting up various facilities required for the improvement in the sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) Planning Commission envisages an annual average growth of 6% for fisheries sector during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. As against this, envisioned growth, a growth of 5.96% has been achieved during 2013-14. To achieve the desired growth the Government has taken the following measures :

(i) Government of India has production and welfare oriented schemes for development of fisheries in the country such as:

- (a) Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure & Post Harvest operation
- (b) Development of Inland Fisheries & Aquaculture
- (c) Strengthening of Data base and GIS of Fisheries Sector
- (d) National Fisheries Development Board
- (e) National Scheme of Welfare of Fishermen
- (ii) Impetus and further boost through assistance programmes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and National Mission for Protein Supplements (NMPS).

Bird-flu in Kerala

2210. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed outbreak of Bird-flu in Kerala recently, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether precautions have been taken to control this, and for future prevention, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The outbreak of Bird-Flu in Purakkad and Thalavady panchayats of District Alappuzha and Aimanam in district Kottayam of Kerala was notified on 25.11.2014.

The Department took all necessary precautions to control the outbreak of Bird-Flu. On confirmation of disease, State was immediately advised to take necessary measures like identifying alert zone, movement restrictions of poultry and poultry products, formation of Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) etc. A notification on the disease was issued for control and containment operations by the State Government as per Action Plan on Prevention, Control and Containment of Avian Influenza. Immediately team of Experts from Southern Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (SRDDL), Bangalore was deputed. One expert from the Department was permanently deputed to assist in Control and Containment measures. One more team of Scientist from National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (NIHSAD), Bhopal was deputed for technical assistance.

There were also further reports of mortality in ducks at Chennithala of district Alappuzha and Vallikkumaram of district Kottayam. The outbreaks at these two

epicentres were also notified on 2nd and 3rd December, 2014 respectively. The operation is over at epicenters Purakkad and Thalavady and Chennithala in Alappuzha district and at Aimanam and Vallikkumaram in Kottayam district. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also taken necessary steps in accordance to their contingency plan to prevent human cases of Avian Influenza. Sanitization Certificates have been issued by the State after completion of control and containment operations. Post Operation Surveillance Plan (POSP) guidelines have already been issued for the epicenters. Control and Containment operation is going at epicenter Choorathara in Arpookkara Panchayat of Kottayam district. Surveillance is continuing throughout the State.

For future prevention, the States are constantly advised by the Department to keep eye on unusual mortality/ sickness in birds and regularly send samples for testing to Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory/ NIHSAD, Bhopal. Special emphasis has been given on surveillance in wet markets, areas near wetlands and international borders. The States are advised to be in preparedness to handle any eventuality and keep the strategic reserves of PPE, disinfectants and other logistics required for control operations. The States are also advised to carry out awareness programme on the disease among masses.

Measures to make agriculture profitable

†2211. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken for quality improvement and availability of essential factors like fertilizers, seeds, electricity and irrigation facilities for agriculture in order to make it a profitable business; and
- (b) the details of facilities being given to agriculture sector similar to that given to industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The Government is implementing various Missions, Schemes and Projects which facilitate production, availability and distribution of quality seeds and fertilizers to farmers. Details of these initiatives are given in Statement (*See below*).

Government of India has launched a new schemes *viz.* Deendayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) which aims to provide reliable and adequate power supply to farmers by separation of agriculture and non-agriculture feeders and strengthening of sub-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

transmission and distribution infrastructure in rural areas, among others. Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana for rural electrification will get subsumed in DDUGJY.

Water is a State subject; water resources/ irrigation projects are planned, executed and maintained by State Governments from their own resources and as per their own priorities. Government of India provides financial and technical assistance to the States under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme, Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Scheme and CADWM Programme, to enhance the irrigation potential of the country as well as to ensure its effective utilization. Financial assistance is also being provided 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.

(b) Government is implementing many Missions/ Schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) and Grameen Bhandaran Yojana etc. for raising investments in agriculture. In addition, Government has issued a framework for Public Private Partnership for Integrated Agriculture Development (PPPIAD) for using RKVY allocation for bringing greater association of private sector in agricultural development projects in the States.

Agriculture sector has been identified by Government as priority lending sector, which constitutes at last 18% of the total loan portfolio of the banks. Crop loans are provided to farmers at a concessional rate of 7% per annum with 3% interest subvention for timely repayment. Post harvest loan is also available to farmers on the basis of negotiable warehouse receipts for a period of six months on the same terms so as to prevent distress sales. Thus, crop loans are available to farmers at more favourable terms than loans available to industries sector. However, loans for post harvest management

activities including marketing, processing etc. are available on rates decided by the banks concerned.

Government has also taken several fiscal incentive measures such as tax deduction, waiver/reduction of Excise Duty, reduction of Custom Duty on specific food items etc. with a view to encouraging the growth of food processing industries. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA) is also implementing various schemes for promotion of export of agricultural and processed food products.

Statement

Details of Missions, Schemes and Projects which provide high quality seeds and fertilizers 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.

Grants to Matsya Krishak Vikas Abhikaran

†2212. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken on Madhya Pradesh Government's proposal dated 1 May, 2014 sent to the Ministry pertaining to demand for grants to Matsya Krishak Vikas Abhikaran; and

(b) whether any action has been taken on the proposal of fisheries Department of Madhya Pradesh Government sent on 23 May, 2014 to the Ministry pertaining to providing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

accommodation with facilities to the fishermen engaged in fishing in large ponds for long in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture has accorded approval to the proposal of Government of Madhya Pradesh dated 1st/27th May, 2014 for development of inland fisheries under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture as per the details below:

(₹ in lakhs)					
Sl. No.	Particular	Target area	Total	Central share (75%)	State share (25%)
1.	Renovation of ponds and inputs	1065 ha.	125.88	94.41	31.47
2.	Construction of new ponds	250 ha.	125.88	94.41	31.47
TOTAL			251.76	188.82	62.94

The Central share of ₹ 129.37 lakh has been released during the current financial year (2014-15) and the unspent amount of ₹ 59.45 lakh revalidated for implementation of the aforementioned approved project. Besides, an unspent balance of ₹ 6 lakh available with the Government of Madhya Pradesh has also been revalidated for replacement of an old vehicle under the CSS.

(b) A proposal was received from Government of Madhya Pradesh dated 23rd May, 2014 regarding construction of fishermen houses. A sum of ₹ 94 lakh has been approved as first instalment, which is subject to availability of funds.

Suicide by farmers in Telangana

2213. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers committed in Telangana since last six months;
- (b) the causes for farmers' suicides; and
- (c) the measures taken to prevent suicides in farming community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government of Telangana has reported that sixty nine (69) farmers committed suicide in the State in last six months. According to the State Government, reasons for such suicides, *inter-alia*, are natural calamities like successive droughts, floods, long dry spells resulting in crop loss, leading to mounting of debts, and consequent social humiliation and psychological trauma faced by the family.

(c) Government of Telangana has informed that the following measures are undertaken by them to mitigate the farmers' suicides:-

- (i) crop damages relief is provided in terms of financial assistance to the affected farmers
- (ii) crop loans of farmers up to ₹ 1.0 lakh have been waived off to ease the burden of debt.
- (iii) Subsidised seeds are being supplied to the affected farmers in the affected areas.
- (iv) improved implements are being supplied to farmers with 50% subsidy, under farm mechanization scheme.
- (v) free power supply to the farming community.

Apart from the above, Government of India has also taken several steps to revitalize the agriculture sector and improve condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure and delivery of credit, technology and other inputs, extension, marketing etc. Various programmes/ schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of Government is primarily to increase farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages. Other measures taken by the Government for the benefit of farmers include enhancement in minimum support prices of agricultural commodities, increase in institutional credit flow to agriculture sector, debt waiver/ relief, interest subvention on crop loans, revival package for strengthening Short Term Rural Cooperative Credit Structure, Crop Insurance, integrated farming system, promoting cultivation of cash crops and supplementing farmer's income through poultry, fisheries, bee-keeping, etc.

Ban on bonus on purchase price of wheat

†2214. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has put a ban on bonus on purchase price of wheat if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government is aware that the yield of wheat crop has been low due to irregular rain this year?

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

(a) No, Sir. The Government has not put any ban on bonus on purchase price of wheat, but has decided that in case, a surplus under decentralised mode of procurement (DCP) State gives bonus to farmers for wheat or paddy from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15 and Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16 onwards, the Central Government will limit the procurement for Central pool to the extent of requirement of foodgrains for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) allocation of that State and will provide acquisition and distribution subsidy to the State Government accordingly. FCI may acquire any additional quantity of foodgrains from such State Government/ its agencies for augmenting its stocks elsewhere, but it would not be under any compulsion to do so. The State Government will be responsible for the disposal of any surplus quantity procured in the State over and above this quantity and bear the financial burden in that regard. Further, if a Non-DCP State gives bonus to farmers over and above the Minimum Support Price (MSP), the Food Corporation of India (FCI) will not take part in MSP operations in that State and State Agencies will have to mobilize resources and take care of MSP operations in the State on their own including the arrangements to be made for storage of procured foodgrains. With respect to such States, FCI in consultation with the Department of Food and Public Distribution will decide as to how much stock of wheat or rice it should acquire from the concerned State in a particular season and will restricts its Central Pool procurement to that extent leaving rest of the surplus stock to be disposed off by the State Government concerned at its own risk and cost. The reasons for taking this decision are that bonus distorts the market of concerned commodity and drives away private buyers out of the market in the State leaving farmers to depend on Government only for sale of their produce. It also generates possibilities of various kinds of malpractices.

(b) No, Sir. There is no such report.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Implementation of crop insurance schemes in Bihar

†2215. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of farmers benefited under crop insurance scheme and weather-based crop insurance scheme in Bihar during the last three years, district-wise; and

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to recognize a panchayat as a unit under both these insurance schemes and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Details of farmers benefitted under crop insurance schemes, including weather based crop insurance scheme, in Bihar district-wise during the last three years are given in Statement (*See below*).

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

Statement

District-wise no. of farmers benefitted under crop insurance schemes during last 3 years (2011-12 to 2013-14) in Bihar

(Figures in No.)

Districts	NAIS	MNAIS	WBCIS
Aurangabad	0	0	315433
Banka	0	0	45607
Araria	0	0	15600
Arwal	0	0	43491
Sitamarhi	1307	0	0
Banka	0	0	41768

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
Begusarai	0	0	381320
Bhagalpur	0	0	115836
Bhojpur	0	0	283846
Bhabhua	0	0	258083
Buxar	0	0	158298
Darbhanga	0	513	35281
Gaya	0	0	441836
Gopalganj	0	0	144599
Bhagalpur	0	0	1968
Jahanabad	0	0	99227
Khagadia	0	37714	54447
Kishanganj	0	0	40484
Patna	0	0	89700
Purnea	950	0	11256
Lakhisarai	0	0	122305
Madhepura	0	0	49176
Rohtas	0	0	388067
Saharsa	0	0	63170
Samastipur	0	0	895510
Saran	282	0	147544
Seikhpura	0	0	38205
Sheohar	0	1025	8758
Siwan	0	0	195124
Supaul	0	0	130288
Sitamarhi	0	19923	58478
Vaishali	169	0	63602

1	2	3	4
East Champaran	0	29159	183931
West Champaran	0	0	228430
Kaimur	0	0	16995
Katihar	121	0	27621
Jamui	0	1978	228943
Munger	0	2019	58089
Madhubani	0	74358	197432
Muzaffarpur	0	47673	204007
Nalanda	0	0	119813
Nawada	0	0	172240
GRAND TOTAL	2879	214362	6175808

Note - NAIS: National Agricultural Insurance Scheme.

MNAIS: Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme.

WBCIS: Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme.

(Above details are as on 9.12.2014)

Development of liquid form of chemical fertilizers

†2216. SHRI RAM NATHT HAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa have developed the liquid form of chemical fertilizers, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): No Sir, the scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Pusa have not developed the liquid form of chemical fertilizers.

However, Scientists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Pusa, have developed liquid form of biofertilizers formulations for farmers' use. The details are given below:-

1. *Rhizobium*: provides 20-30 kg. N/ha.
2. *Azotobacter*: provides 15-20 kg. N/ha.
3. *Azospirillum*: provides 5-10 kg. N/ha.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

4. Phosphorus solubilizing bacteria: provides 15-20 kg. P_2O_5 /ha.
5. Potash solubilizing bacteria: provides 5-10 kg. K/ha.
6. Zinc solubilizing bacteria: improves Zn nutrition
7. NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potash) providing formulation: Inoculation with this single product can help to augment 15-20 kg N, 15-20 kg. P_2O_5 /ha. and 5-10 kg. K/ha.

These formulations are available in 100 ml bottles, which can be applied directly on the seed and are sufficient for one acre field.

Structural changes in land holding

2217. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that structural changes in land holdings cast adverse effect on agricultural productivity and performance which in turn are making agriculture a most unremunerative activity; and

(b) if so, details of the structural changes in land holding pattern that have occurred over the years and steps taken by Government to solve the problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) As per the evidence available from various studies there is inverse relationship between farm size and productivity and profitability. It has been demonstrated that in India per hectare productivity is highest at lower size farm holding and lowest in the large size holding among different size classes. A table is given below to indicate performance of different farm size categories:

Agricultural output per household, per hectare and per capita on different farm size categories, 2002-03

Farm size class: Hectare	House hold size: Number	Per capita land: hectare	Output value (Rupees)		
			Per household	Per capita	Per hectare
1	2	3	4	5	6
0.01-0.4	5	0.04	4783	965	25173
0.4-1.00	5	0.12	12563	2364	18921
1.01-2.00	6	0.24	23292	3801	16780

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.01-4.00	6	0.43	40403	6734	15091
4.01-10.00	7	0.82	77120	10588	13564
>10	8	2.20	137473	16782	7722
All	6	0.22	18858	3143	15426

Source: Situation Assessment Survey, NSSO 59th round, Report No. 497.

(b) The structure of land holdings is changing over time with division of holding due to increase in population of farmers. As a result farms get divided, size is shrinking and per cent of marginal holdings in total holdings is rising. And, more and more area is coming under marginal and small holdings. The details of the same are given in Statement (*See below*). However, the Land and its management falls under the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of State as provided in entry no. 18 of list II of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Statement

Number and Area of Operational Holdings by size Group

No. of Holdings: ('000 Number)									
Area Operated: ('000 Hectares)									
Average Size: (Hectares)									
Category of Holdings	Number of Holdings			Area			Average Size of Holdings		
	2000-01*	2005-06*	2010-11	2000-01*	2005-06*	2010-11	2000-01*	2005-06*	2010-11(P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Marginal (Less than 1 hectare)	75408 (62.3)	83694 (64.8)	92356 (67.0)	29814 (18.7)	32026 (20.2)	35410 (22.2)	0.40	0.38	0.38
Small (1.0 to 2.0 hectares)	22695 (19.0)	23930 (18.5)	24705 (17.9)	32139 (20.2)	33101 (20.9)	35136 (22.1)	1.42	1.38	1.42
Semi-Medium (2.0 to 4.0 hectares)	14021 (11.8)	14127 (10.9)	13840 (10.1)	38193 (24.0)	37898 (23.9)	37547 (23.6)	2.72	2.68	2.71
Medium (4.0 to 10.0 hectares)	6577 (5.5)	6375 (4.5)	5856 (4.3)	38217 (24.0)	36583 (23.1)	33709 (21.2)	5.81	5.74	5.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Large (10.0 hectares and above)	1230 (1.0)	1096 (0.8)	1000 (0.7)	21072 (13.2)	18715 (11.8)	17379 (10.9)	17.12	17.08	17.37
All Holdings	119931 (100.0)	129222 (100.0)	137757 (100.0)	159436 (100.0)	158323 (100.0)	159180 (100.0)	1.33	1.23	1.16

* Excluding Jharkhand.

Source: Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Agricultures Census 2010-11, Provisional).
Agricultural Statistics at a Glance 2013.

Depleting grazing land

2218. DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that grazing land is fastly depleting in the country; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government has issued directions to States to take measures against their sale and unauthorised construction on them, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) As per the latest available Land Use Statistics data, area under Permanent pastures and other grazing lands in the country has marginally declined from 10.5 million hectares in 2001-2002 to 10.3 million hectares in 2011-12.

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

Policies for agricultural development

2219. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) how is the agricultural development policy of NDA Government different from that of the UPA Government; and

(b) the reasons for these changes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Government of India constituted National Commission on Farmers (NCF) in February, 2004. Thereafter, NCF was reconstituted in November, 2004. NCF submitted its final report in October, 2006. After consultations with the State Governments and the Central Ministries concerned, National Policy for Farmers (NPF), 2007 was finalized in September, 2007.

Agriculture is a State subject. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of the States through appropriate policies, schemes and programmes and budgetary support.

Reliance on imported foodgrains

2220. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of wheat and pulses has declined in the country in the recent past, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether reliance on imported foodgrains including wheat and pulses has increased during this period, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures taken/being taken to lessen the reliance on imported agricultural produces and to increase their production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) No, Sir. The production of wheat and pulses in the country during last three years, *i.e.*, 2011-12 to 2013-14 has been higher than their annual production before 2011-12. State-wise details of production of wheat and pulses in the country during the last five years are given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) As indicated in the following table, the import of major foodgrains in the country during the last five years, *i.e.*, 2009-10 to 2013-14 has been fluctuating. It is, however, observed that the quantity of foodgrains other than pulses imported during the above period has been insignificant:

Crop	Quantity Imported ('000 Tonnes)				
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rice	0.07	0.19	1.06	0.72	1.44
Wheat	164.38	185.28	0.02	2.94	11.27

1	2	3	4	5	6
Pulses	3749.99	2777.83	3495.84	4013.24	3177.89
Barley	0.39	2.48	0.28	35.18	0.50
Maize	19.14	16.31	3.88	5.35	13.87

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics.

In order to increase production of agricultural crops on sustainable basis and reduce import dependence, Government of India is implementing through State Governments various Crop Development Schemes/Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) etc.

Statement

State-wise estimates of production of wheat and pulses during 2009-10 to 2013-14

State/ UT	Production ('000 Tonnes)									
	Wheat					Pulses				
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14*	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andhra Pradesh	10.0	13.0	11.0	10.0	7.0	1429.0	1440.0	1230.0	1623.0	1552.0
Arunachal Pradesh	4.8	5.9	6.5	4.4	#	9.7	9.1	10.5	10.6	#
Assam	63.5	52.8	60.3	44.2	32.0	64.6	70.1	68.6	84.4	110.0
Bihar	4570.8	4097.6	4725.0	5357.2	5081.0	472.5	537.8	511.3	542.8	514.7
Chhattisgarh	121.9	126.8	133.1	141.3	134.0	488.7	537.5	499.1	648.7	470.8
Goa	NG	NG	NG	NG	NG	8.5	8.0	8.3	9.0	#
Gujarat	2352.0	4019.5	4072.0	2944.0	3651.4	517.0	723.0	780.0	572.2	739.0
Haryana	10500.0	11630.0	12685.7	11117.0	11800.0	100.0	158.5	127.0	130.4	125.0
Himachal Pradesh	327.1	546.5	595.8	608.6	538.5	20.7	41.6	30.8	46.1	39.1
Jammu and Kashmir	289.9	446.3	500.3	462.4	464.6	13.6	16.7	13.2	14.2	12.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Jharkhand	173.2	158.4	302.6	319.5	356.3	223.7	329.6	412.0	609.3	570.3
Karnataka	251.0	279.0	193.0	179.0	230.0	1118.0	1565.0	1134.1	1259.3	1465.0
Kerala	NG	NG	NG	NG	NG	10.3	3.0	2.5	3.2	4.0
Madhya Pradesh	8410.0	7627.1	11538.5	13133.4	13927.7	4304.6	3386.2	4161.9	5165.9	5093.6
Maharashtra	1740.0	2301.0	1313.0	1181.0	1602.0	2370.0	3099.8	2268.0	2306.0	3120.0
Manipur		5.3	5.4	6.0	#	7.2	24.2	26.9	28.4	#
Meghalaya	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	#	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	#
Mizoram	NG	NG	NG	NG	NG	6.5	6.1	5.3	3.3	#
Nagaland	2.4	5.3	5.4	5.9	#	34.7	36.4	34.7	43.6	#
Odisha	5.8	4.2	2.4	2.0	1.1	399.3	426.9	343.4	424.4	423.7
Punjab	15169.0	16472.0	17280.1	16591.0	17035.3	18.0	19.3	15.0	53.0	40.9
Rajasthan	7500.9	7214.5	9319.6	9275.5	8921.8	713.7	3259.7	2432.1	1956.8	2467.8
Sikkim	5.9	2.7	2.7	0.6	#	12.9	11.9	5.9	5.8	#
Tamil Nadu		0.0	0.0		0:0	204.1	246.0	369.3	209.9	435.5
Tripura	1.3	0.6	0.5	1.3	#	4.5	5.2	6.0	6.0	#
Uttar Pradesh	27518.0	30001.0	30292.6	30301.9	30246.3	1901.4	2037.0	2403.0	2332.0	1708.4
Uttarakhand	845.0	878.0	878.0	858.2	844.0	46.0	52.1	49.0	51.3	57.0
West Bengal	846.7	874.4	872.9	895.9	947.0	150.1	176.1	130.6	192.3	250.0
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NG	NG	NG	NG	NG	1.8	1.2	1.0	0.7	#
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	#	4.9	6.1	4.0	5.0	#
Delhi	92.7	111.0	84.8	65.3	#	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	#
Daman and Diu	NG	NG	NG	NG	NG	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	#
Puducherry	NG	NG	NG	NG	NG	0.3	1.3	1.0	0.8	#
Others	NA	NA	NA	NA	87.1	NA	NA	NA	NA	70.4
ALL INDIA	80803.6	86874.0	94882.1	93506.5	95907.1	14661.8	18240.9	17088.9	18342.5	19269.8

* 4th advance estimates.

Included in others.

NG: Not Grown.

NA: Not Applicable.

Policy to promote organic farming

†2221. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has framed any policy to promote organic farming;
- (b) if so, in what manner interests of farmers will be served by these policies;
- (c) whether the way in which farmers are provided subsidy for chemical fertilizers, is there any similar provision in this policy for providing subsidy or economic assistance to farmers engaged in organic farming; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) Government is promoting organic farming through various schemes/programmes under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Network Project on Organic Farming of ICAR and National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP).

Financial assistance is provided through State Governments for:

- (i) Organic Village adoption for manure management and biological nitrogen harvesting.
- (ii) Promotion of Organic Input production on farmer's field.
- (iii) Promotion of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification for area under organic farming.
- (iv) Promotion of NPOP certification for area under export.

Assistance is also provided for setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit and Bio fertilizer/Bio pesticide units through NABARD.

The pattern of assistance for these interventions is given in Statement-I (*See below*). State-wise details of funds released for promotion of organic farming during last three years and current year through various missions/programmes are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Area certified under organic farming has grown from 4.55 lakh ha in 2009-10 to 7.23 lakh ha in 2013-14. This shows growing interest of the farmers in adopting organic farming practices.

Statement-I

Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic farming

Component	Pattern of assistance
NMSA	
1. Setting up of mechanized Fruit/ Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit	100% assistance to State Govt./Govt. agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 lakh /unit and 33% of cost limited to ₹63 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment for 3000 TPA production capacity.
2. Setting up of state-of-art liquid/ carrier based Biofertilizer/ Biopesticide units	100% assistance to State Govt./Govt. agencies upto a maximum limit of ₹ 160.00 lakh /unit and 25% of cost limited to ₹40 lakh/unit for individuals/ private agencies through NABARD as capital investment of 200 TPA production capacity.
3. Setting up of Bio-fertilizer and Organic fertilizer testing Quality Control Laboratory (BOQCL) or strengthening of existing Laboratory under FCO	Assistance up to maximum limit of ₹85 lakh for new laboratory and up to a maximum limit of ₹45 lakh for strengthening of existing infrastructure to State Government Laboratory under Agriculture or Horticulture Department.
4. Promotion of Organic Inputs on farmer's field (Manure, Vermi- compost, Bio-Fertilizers Liquid/ solid, Waste compost, Herbal extracts etc.)	50 % of cost subject to a limit of ₹5000/- per ha and ₹ 10,000 per beneficiary. Propose to cover 1 million ha area.

Component	Pattern of assistance
5. Adoption of organic farming through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification	₹20,000/- per ha subject to maximum of ₹40,000/- per beneficiary for 3 year term.
6. Support to PGS system for on-line data management and residue analysis	₹ 200 per farmer subject to maximum of ₹ 5000/- per group/year restricted to ₹ 1.00 lakh per Regional Council. Up to ₹ 10,000/- per sample for residue testing (Residue analysis to be done in NABL Labs).
7. Organic Village adoption for manure management and biological nitrogen harvesting	₹ 10 lakhs/village for adoption of integrated manure management, planting of fertilizer trees on bunds and promotion of legume intercropping through groups/ SHGs etc. (Maximum 10 village per annum/State will be supported).
8. Training and demonstration on Organic Farming	Capacity building of stakeholders on organic farming, Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), quality control of organic input etc. ₹20,000/- per demonstration for a group of 50 participants or more.
9. Support to research for development of organic package of practices specific to state and cropping system	Against specific proposal.
10. Setting up of separate Organic Agriculture Research and Teaching Department	Against specific proposal.
MIDH	
1. Adoption of Organic Farming.	50% of cost limited to ₹ 10000/ha for a maximum area of 4 ha. per beneficiary, spread over a period of 3 years involving

Component	Pattern of assistance
	an assistance of ₹4000/- in first year and ₹3000/- each in second and third year. The programme to be linked with certification.
2. Organic Certification	₹ 5 lakh for a cluster of 50 ha which will include ₹ 1.50 lakh in first year, ₹1.50 lakh in second year and ₹2.00 lakh in third year.
3. Vermi compost Units/organic input production)	50% of cost conforming to the size of the unit of 30'x8'x2.5' dimension of permanent structure to be administered on prorata basis. For HDPE Vermibed, 50% of cost conforming to the size of 96 cft (12'x4'x2') and IS 15907:2010 to be administered on pro-rata basis (₹ 100,000/ unit for permanent structure and ₹ 16,000/unit for HDPE Vermibed).

RKVY: Under RKVY, State Governments have flexibility and autonomy in the process of selection, planning, approval and execution of schemes including Organic Farming, as per their priorities. Accordingly, cost of projects under Organic Farming are approved by respective State Level Sanctioning Committees.

ICAR: ICAR Research Centres are involved in developing Package of Practices for different crops and cropping system under Organic Farming in different agro-eco regions of country.

NPOP: NPOP was notified under Foreign Trade Development and Regulation Act (FTDR) in year 2001, primarily for regulation and certification of organic commodities meant for export. It provides institutional mechanism for the implementation of National Standards for Organic Production, through a National Accreditation Policy and Programme. It covers crop production, animal husbandry, food processing, labelling, storage and transport.

Statement-II

Funds released for Organic Farming during the last three years and current year under the various schemes:

States	NMSA (CISS)*	(₹ in lakhs)			MIDH (NHM & HMNEH) (₹ in lakhs)			RKVY**			(₹ in crore)		
		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	13
Andaman and Nicobar Islands								5.00					
Andhra Pradesh	20.00	20.00	13.74		416.50	12.75	46.75		15.00		16.00	9.47	
Telangana								6.13				5.00	
Arunachal Pradesh					123.48	170.00	132.00	50.00		2.99			
Assam	22.32	0.75	35.10		35.60	73.65	200.00	80.00	9.00	11.57	11.88	11.00	
Bihar	5.25				6.38	85.00	42.50		101.05				
Chhattisgarh					1462.72	150.45	127.50				1.26		
Goa					2.55	2.55	5.10		0.18				
Gujarat	2.03		40.00	36.85	63.80	28.05	21.30		108.16	11.63	22.55		
Haryana					36.86	31.34	44.80		1.51	3.38	2.00		
Himachal Pradesh				12.00	398.21	79.00	156.54	42.40	10.05	10.50	7.50	8.00	
Jammu and Kashmir				76.50	117.10	144.91	0.00	137.50	0.79	2.37	1.64	3.02	
Jharkhand					63.75	227.50	158.32		1.58	4.00			
Karnataka			124.27		237.15	544.17	459.00		33.00	21.00	14.40	12.45	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Kerala	6.78				216.75	89.25	51.00		1.23	1.44		1.40
Madhya Pradesh	0.00	2.26				28.56	131.75		4.40	5.69	3.00	
Maharashtra	43.08	23.01	11.22								4.88	3.10
Manipur					110.00	260.00	70.00	33.00	2.82	0.75	0.29	3.67
Meghalaya					0.00	0.00	51.50	12.50		-		
Mizoram					16.50	20.00	30.00				0.05	
Nagaland					123.0	102.00	90.00	36.00	1.50	3.00	0.60	1.00
Odisha					76.50	425.00	759.95					
Punjab	14.04#		18.76#	105.00	67.36	22.53	27.63					
Rajasthan	21.34				48.88	102.00	97.75		3.67	0.70		4.77
Sikkim				470.50	492.50	265.50	165.50	50.00	2.50	1.20		
Tamil Nadu			98.34		21.25	29.75	132.77			6.60		
Tripura	20.00				79.40	52.00	73.35	67.04				
Uttar Pradesh	3.3				73.11	39.31	22.95		16.56	28.18	95.03	
Uttarakhand					53.60	40.00	55.45		13.31	9.44	19.42	13.94
West Bengal				78.75	-	97.75	-			6.11		
TOTAL	156.11	48.05	341.43	779.60	4342.95	3123.02	3153.41	519.57	311.31	145.55	200.50	76.82

* Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) through NABARD

** Cost of project approved by State Level Sectioning Committee (SLSC)

Punjab & Haryana MIDH includes (NHM & HMNEH)

Protection of indigenous cows

2222. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has set aside ₹ 500 crore for the protection of indigenous cows;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that 17 per cent of cow breed in the country are foreign, whereas 83 per cent are indigenous; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that if we increase their productivity the overall milk production will rise, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

As per 2007 livestock census, 17% of cows are exotic and crossbred and 83% are indigenous cows. With a view to conserve and develop indigenous bovine breeds and to increase their productivity the Government has provided a focus on indigenous bovine breeds by way of Rashtriya Gokul Mission, a project under the National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development; and set aside a sum of ₹ 500.00 crore. In order to compliment and supplement the efforts made by the States and UTs the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing the following schemes for increasing productivity of bovines including indigenous cows, and to enhance overall milk production:

- (i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development
- (ii) National Dairy Plan-I
- (iii) Rashtriya Gokul Mission
- (iv) Central Cattle Breeding Farm
- (v) Central Herd Registration Scheme
- (vi) Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute

Research and development on organic farming

2223. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of agricultural land under organic farming in the country, State/ Union Territory-wise including Bihar;

(b) whether Government has undertaken research and development works on organic farming in the country, if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether organic farming experts of Karnataka have made detailed presentation to Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is considering to start a pilot programme to promote organic farming and open outlets of organic products in different parts of the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The State-wise area under organic farming in the country including Bihar is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Under Network Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) with lead centre at Project Directorate for Farming Systems Research (PDFSR), Modipuram, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is conducting research to develop package of practices of different crops and cropping systems under organic farming in different agro-ecological regions of the country. Presently, the project is running at 20 Co-operating centres including SAUs, spread over 16 States. Organic farming package of practices for 18 crops/cropping systems have been developed and uploaded in PDFSR website.

Crops: Durum wheat, rainfed wheat, maize, sorghum, Pigeonpea, chickpea, soybean, groundnut, mustard, cotton, potato, chilli and Isabgol.

Systems: Maize-potato-okra, Maize (cob)- mustard+radish, basmati rice-wheat, Rice-barley+mustard-summer greengram.

Besides, to facilitate organic farming, the Council in association with SAUs has developed technologies to prepare various types of organic manures such as phosphor-compost, 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 Soil biodiversity- biofertilizers. These are being popularized among the farmers through Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs), farmer's trainings, publishing extension materials in local languages.

The significant research achievements of the centres are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir. A presentation has been made on Organic Farming practices in

Karnataka State. The details regarding various components such as bio-mass production, soil and water conservation, pest management, processing centre and marketing support were presented.

(d) Government is promoting organic farming across the country through various programmes under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Network Project on Organic Farming under ICAR and National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) under Ministry of Commerce and Industry. These schemes/programmes are under implementation during Twelfth Plan.

Financial assistance is provided through State Governments for:

- (i) Organic Village adoption for manure management and biological nitrogen harvesting.
- (ii) Promotion of Organic Input production on farmer's field.
- (iii) Promotion of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification for area under organic farming.
- (iv) Promotion of NPOP certification for area under export.

Assistance is also provided for setting up of mechanized Fruit/Vegetable market waste/Agro waste compost production unit and Bio fertilizer/Bio pesticide units through NABARD.

Statement-I

State-wise Farm area (excluding Forest Area) under Organic Certification during 2013-14

Sl. No.	State Name	Organic Area (in Ha)
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	321.28
2.	Andhra Pradesh	12325.03
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	71.49
4.	Assam	2828.26
5.	Bihar	180.60
6.	Chhattisgarh	4113.25
7.	Delhi	0.83

Sl. No.	State Name	Organic Area (in Ha)
8.	Goa	12853.94
9.	Gujarat	46863.89
10.	Haryana	3835.78
11.	Himachal Pradesh	4686.05
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	10035.38
13.	Jharkhand	762.30
14.	Karnataka	30716.21
15.	Kerala	15020.23
16.	Lakshadweep	895.91
17.	Madhya Pradesh	232887.36
18.	Maharashtra	85536.66
19.	Manipur	0
20.	Meghalaya	373.13
21.	Mizoram	0
22.	Nagaland	5168.16
23.	Odisha	49813.51
24.	Puducherry	2.84
25.	Punjab	1534.39
26.	Rajasthan	66020.35
27.	Sikkim	60843.51
28.	Tamil Nadu	3640.07
29.	Tripura	203.56
30.	Uttar Pradesh	44670.10
31.	Uttarakhand	24739.46
32.	West Bengal	2095.51
TOTAL		723039.00

Source: APEDA

Statement-II*Research highlights of the Network Project on Organic Farming at various locations*

Evaluation of organic, inorganic and Integrated Management (IM) production system

- In term of cauliflower equivalent yield, all the systems registered higher yield under integrated package. Among the systems evaluated, maize-garlic was found to be better as it registered significantly higher equivalent yield of 37701 kg ha⁻¹ at Bajaura.
- At Jabalpur, the yield reduction observed in basmati rice with organic and IM practice was found to be only 41 and 82 kg ha⁻¹ respectively while, the reduction was much higher for wheat (515 and 138 kg ha⁻¹ respectively). The yield increase in vegetable pea with organic nutrient practice was found to be 12.6% compared to inorganic practice.
- At Coimbatore, the additional chilli yield obtained with organic practice was found to be 993 kg ha⁻¹ compared to inorganic practice. The drop in yield under organic practice over IM was found to be 24.3, 18, 17.5 and 11.2% for sunflower, maize, brinjal and cotton respectively.
- Mean yield of soybean in kharif was found to be higher under organic practice (1695 kg ha⁻¹) followed by inorganic (1647 kg ha⁻¹) and IM (1608 kg ha⁻¹). Among the other crops evaluated, berseem and onion registered higher yield under IM, while Isabgol and safflower performed better under inorganic practice at Raipur.
- Ginger recorded higher rhizome yield under organic practice while turmeric performed better under IM. The yield increase in ginger was found to be 27.5% and 67.2% under organic practice compared to inorganic and IM respectively at Calicut.
- At Dharwad, all the crops except cotton evaluated in five systems recorded higher yield with organic practice. The yield increase over inorganic was found to be 39, 32, 26.2, 34.8, 27.2, 42.1, 53 and 17.4% for maize, chickpea, pea, groundnut, sorghum, potato, soybean and wheat respectively.
- Rice during kharif registered significantly higher yield under inorganic practice followed by IM. The yield drop observed with organic and IM practice was found to be 16 and 3.9% respectively over inorganic practice at Karjat.

- More than 50% increase in yield under organic over inorganic was observed in cotton and turmeric during kharif at Ludhiana. Basmati rice recorded only 5.9% increase. In rabi, the results revealed that an increase in yield of gram, onion and potato by 19.3, 18.3 and 37.6% under organic over inorganic practice.
- Tomato recorded higher yield under IM (2246 kg ha⁻¹) followed by inorganic (2037 kg ha⁻¹). Organic practice in tomato recorded yield drop of only 44 kg ha⁻¹ over inorganic and 253 kg ha⁻¹ over IM at Bajaura.
- Chickpea registered significantly higher yield of 2107 kg ha⁻¹ with IM and the yield increase was found to be 62.8 and 15.7% over inorganic and organic practices at Bhopal.
- Significantly higher mean yield of basmati rice, during kharif was observed with IM as it recorded higher grain yield of 3599 kg ha⁻¹ followed by organic. The yield drop was 13.5%. Among rabi crops, wheat recorded significantly higher yield of 4168 kg ha⁻¹ under IM followed by inorganic (3770 kg ha⁻¹) and organic (3677 kg ha⁻¹) at Pantnagar.
- Rice recorded significantly higher mean grain yield of 2210 kg ha⁻¹ during kharif which is 28.1% higher than IM and 53.8% higher than inorganic practice. In rabi, it was observed that wheat recorded around 330 kg ha⁻¹ lesser yield with organic compared to inorganic practice at Ranchi.
- All the vegetables like carrot, potato, french bean and tomato grown during rabi though performed better under IM, the yield obtained with organic was at par with IM practice. Inorganic practice recorded significantly lower yield. Among the vegetable crops, carrot and tomato have recorded 65.9 and 49.9% higher yield with organic over inorganic practice at Umiam.

Evaluation of various sources of organics for nutrient source

- Application of VC + FYM + NEOF @ 1/3 N each + PG recorded higher grain yield (1652, 1538 and 50 kg of basmati rice, wheat and berseem seed ha⁻¹) followed by VC + FYM + NEOF @ 1/3 N each in rice- wheat-green manure and basmati rice-berseem systems at Jabalpur.
- FYM + NEOF @ ½ N each + PG was found to give higher yield of cotton (1693 kg ha⁻¹), maize (3159 kg ha⁻¹), chillies (6266 kg ha⁻¹) and sunflower (1344 kg ha⁻¹) which was on par with FYM + NEOF @ ½ N each alone for all the crops in cotton-maize-green manure and chillies-sunflower-green manure systems at Coimbatore.

- At Raipur, though application of biodynamic practice + EC + CDM + NEOC @ 1/3 N each + PG recorded higher yield of rice (4284 kg ha⁻¹) and chickpea (1208 kg ha⁻¹), it was at par with application of + EC + CDM + NEOC @ 1/3 N each + PG and EC + CDM + NEOC @ 1/3 N each alone in both the crops of rice-chickpea system.
- Higher ginger rhizome yield of 23525 kg ha⁻¹ was observed with FYM + NC + 2VC + PG + biodynamic + RP which is 88.6% higher than absolute control and 17% higher than the next best combination (FYM + Biodynamic practices + RP) at Calicut.
- EC + VC + GLM + biodynamic spray @ 12 g/ha with PG spray was found to be better, but it is on par with EC+ VC + GLM + PG spray or EC + VC + GLM in groundnut-sorghum, maize-chickpea and chilli + onion systems at Dharwad.
- Rice-red pumpkin and rice-cucumber systems have recorded higher yield with application of FYM + rice straw + gliricidia @ 1/3rd each of N during kharif and FYM + neem cake + vermicompost @ 1/3 each of N during rabi along with spray of PG (3927, 8530 kg ha⁻¹ of rice-red pumpkin and 3757, 6038 kg ha⁻¹ of rice-cucumber respectively) at Karjat.
- At Ludhiana, application of FYM + PG + biodynamic practices recorded higher grain yield of maize (6137 kg ha⁻¹), while in wheat FYM + PG alone recorded higher yield (2517 kg ha⁻¹). Application of only FYM was sufficient in summer moong to realize higher yield compared to combining FYM with PG or biodynamic practices at Ludhiana.
- The yield increase due to biodynamic and PG practices over organic manure alone was found to be not significant in soybean-wheat and maize-chickpea systems. However, combined application of OM+PG + BD registered higher yield in all crops and the yield increase was found to be 117, 1003, 387 and 140 kg ha⁻¹ in soybean, wheat, maize and chickpea respectively at Bhopal.
- Application of FYM + VC + NC + EC @ ¼ N each + BD + PG recorded an increase in yield to the tune of 300 kg ha⁻¹ in basmati rice compared to application of FYM + VC + NC + EC alone at Pantnagar.
- At Pantnagar, farm yard manure + vermicompost @ ½ each to meet the nitrogen requirement is found to record higher yield in rice-wheat, rice-chickpea and rice-vegetable pea systems. Organic carbon content of soil was also found to be

better with farm yard manure + vermicompost @ $\frac{1}{2}$ each or enriched compost + vermicompost + non edible oil cakes + farm yard manure @ $\frac{1}{4}$ each as nutrient source.

- At Ranchi, all the crops recorded higher yield with Vermicompost + KC + biodynamic pepparration + PG (2558, 2411 and 17200 kg ha⁻¹ in rice, wheat potato respectively).
- Application of FYM + VC + PG recorded numerically higher yield in maize for grain and green cobs (4153 and 9333 kg ha⁻¹ respectively and French bean (1426 kg ha⁻¹) but the same was on par with application of FYM + VC alone. However, in case of toria addition of PG resulted in 75% yield increase over FYM + VC alone at Umiam.

Pest and disease management under organic farming

- At Modipuram, summer ploughing and green manure treated plots recorded higher grain yield of basmati rice (2755 and 2733 kg irrespectively) chick pea (1342 and 1303kg ha⁻¹) and mustard (1008 and 986 kg ha⁻¹) at Modipuram.
- Shoot borer infestation in ginger was lower with ginger endophytic bacteria (GEB 17 and GEB 18) and ginger rhizobacteria (GRB 57) compared to absolute control. The reduction in infestation was observed to be 17.3, 19.7 and 43.7% respectively at Calicut.
- Fruit borer and fruit rot in tomato was lower in application of Karvi (*Royleacinerea*) @ 10% asceous leaf extract + cow urine (3%) + tween-80 (0.05%) as emulsifier during kharif and karvi @ 5% +cow urine (3%) during rabi (1.5 and 67.5% incidence) at Bajaura.
- Application of Derisom (3 ml/1) + PG @ 10% and cow urine 3% recorded lower incidence of Monolapta (0.40%), mylloceros (0.87%) and Epilechna (0.27%) in early stage of maize while leaf folder incidence was found to be reduced through application of Anomin 3 ml/litre or PG @ 3%. Soybean rust was found to be controlled to the level of 24.5% with the application of PG @ 3% + lantana @ 10% + vermiwash @ 10% at Umiam.

Weed management under organic farming

- Weed free recorded higher grain yield of rice (6753 kg ha⁻¹) and wheat (6235 kg ha⁻¹)

followed by combination of two hand weeding + spray at 3-4 leaf stage of weeds which recorded 44.9 and 41.3% higher grain yield of rice and wheat respectively compared to unweeded check at Jabalpur.

- In both rice and blackgram at Coimbatore, weed free condition recorded higher yield (3843 and 773 kg ha⁻¹ respectively) followed by combination of two hand weeding + spray of aqueous leaf extract at 3-4 leaf stage of weeds which recorded 113 and 9% increase yield of rice and blackgram over unweeded control.
- Use of conoweeder with square planting in rice contributed for 68% reduction while stale seed bed to mustard resulted in 71% reduction in total weed count at Raipur.
- Aqueous spray of Parthenium at 25% as pre emergent. Among the aqueous sprays, spray of cassia and *Prosopis juliflora* as post emergent was found to be more effective than pre or post emergence application of parthenium at Dharwad.
- Two hand hoeing + spray of *Chromolaena odorata* recorded the higher reduction in total dry weight of weeds (72.7%) over unweeded control at Karjat.
- High density planting + hand weeding at 25-30 DAT recorded maximum reduction of total dry weight of weeds (8.3 gm⁻²) which was on par with hand weeding at 25-30 DAT, hand weeding at 25-30 and 45-50 DAT and square planting + weeder in rice at Ludhiana.
- Grasses and sedges count during kharif and broad leaved weeds count during rabi was found to be significantly lower in all the three systems with one hand weeding at 25-30 DAT during kharif and 2 h and weeding at 25-30 and 45-50 DAS during rabi at Pantnagar.
- Spray of aqueous leaf extract alone recorded reduction in yield to the tune of 68% in rice, 30.6% in wheat and 51.4% in linseed. Keeping the field free from weeds gave maximum yield advantage of 7 times in rice at Ranchi.
- In both maize (green cobs) and mustard, mulching with fresh eupatorium ambrosia @ 10 t/ha (after earthing up) recorded higher yield followed by aqueous leaf extract spray of lantana and pine spp. at 3-4 leaf stage of weed. The increase in yield under mulching with fresh *Eupatorium/Ambrosia* was found to be 29.4 and 47.2% in maize and 73 and 93% in mustard over weed free and weedy checks respectively at Umiam.

Deterioration in soil health

2224. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether deteriorating soil health is a cause of concern;
- (b) if so, whether Government proposes to initiate a scheme to provide to every farmer a soil health card in a Mission mode; and
- (c) whether Government has prepared a blue print in this regard to ensure sufficient soil testing labs in all States, if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Soil Health Card' has been approved for implementation in Twelfth Plan to provide farmers with information on soil analysis and recommendations 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 farm holdings in the country every three years.

(c) To ensure sufficient soil testing laboratories in all States, financial assistance is provided for setting up of soil testing laboratories under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. So far 139 new soil testing laboratories have been sanctioned under the Scheme.

The States can also seek financial assistance under State Plan Scheme—Rashtriya Kisan Vikas Yojana for setting up soil testing laboratories.

Action plan to increase production of pulses and oilseeds

2225. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has chalked out any action plan to increase production of pulses and oilseeds in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government to encourage farmers to increase cultivation of pulses and oilseeds in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) To increase production of pulses, Government of India is implementing National Food Security Mission (NFSM) from 2007-08 onwards. During Eleventh Plan period, the target was to increase pulses production by 2.00 million tonnes and achievement was 2.89 million tonnes. During 2013-14, there was a record pulses production of 19.27 million tonnes. The Mission has been continued in Twelfth Plan with target of increasing pulses production by 4 million tonnes by the end of 2016-17. NFSM - Pulses are being implemented in 615 districts in 27 States during 2014-15.

For oilseeds, Government of India implemented Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) from 2004-05 to 2013-14. During 2013-14, there was a record oilseeds production of 32.89 million tonnes. From 2014-15 onwards, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) is under implementation to achieve oilseeds production of 35.51 million tonnes by the end of Twelfth Plan. The Mission is being implemented in 23 States during 2014-15.

(b) In order to encourage farmers to take up cultivation of pulses and oilseeds, financial support is provided on various need based interventions. Under NFSM, support is provided on interventions like block demonstrations, distribution of quality seeds, integrated nutrient management, integrated pest management, sprinkler sets and pipes, farm machinery and implements, etc.

Under NMOOP, financial support is provided on interventions like production and distribution of foundation, certified seeds of oilseed crops, supply of minikits, block demonstrations, farmers field school, supply of improved farm machinery and implements, sprinkler sets and pipes, bio-agents and bio-fertilizers etc.

Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Punjab are implementing both NFSM and NMOOP during 2014-15.

Crop diversification scheme

†2226. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crop diversification scheme is being run by Central Government in the States having green revolution;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States are not able to spend the funds provided by the Centre under this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government proposes to effect changes in the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), a sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), is being implemented in the Original Green Revolution States of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh from 2013-14 to diversify area from water guzzling crop like paddy to alternate crops like maize, pulses, oilseeds, cotton and agro-forestry plantation. It has been continued in 2014-15.

Under CDP, assistance is provided to the States for conducting cluster demonstrations on alternate crops, promotion of water saving technologies, distribution of farm machinery, setting up of Value addition facilities, awareness through trainings etc.

(c) and (d) The State of Punjab has fully utilized the funds released during 2013-14. However, utilization certificate for the full amount released in 2013-14 has not been received from the States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. The allocation, release and expenditure during 2013-14 and allocation and release during 2014-15 under CDP is as below:

State	(₹ in crores)				
	2013-14			2014-15	
	Allocation	Release	Expenditure	Allocation	Release*
Punjab	249.50	112.25	112.25	250.00	125.00
Haryana	110.50	49.25	43.11	124.00	58.10
U.P.	138.50	62.75	0.00	75.00	37.50

* As on 09.12.2014

(e) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation reviews implementation of the scheme from time to time.

MSP failing to serve its purpose

2227. SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of Minimum Support Price (MSP) has failed to serve its purpose particularly for crops like wheat and paddy, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government would abolish the system of MSP for wheat and paddy; 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) to (c) The Government's price policy for agricultural commodities seeks to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production, and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices.

MSP is one of the factors instrumental in increasing the production of foodgrains including rice and wheat and their availability to the consumers.

Production and distribution of milk

2228. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India had been the largest milk producing nation since 1998;

(b) whether it is also a fact that since 1951, the milk production has increased to 137 million tonnes from 20 million tonnes; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that while the per capita milk availability has gone up from 120 grams to 300 grams. The distribution is still not at the desired level, if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. As per Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, India is the largest milk producing country in the World since 1998.

(b) The milk production has increased from 17.0 million tonnes in 1950-51 to 137.7 million tonnes in 2013-14.

(c) The per-capita availability of milk has increased from 130 grams in 1950-51 to 307 grams in 2013-14. The State/UT-wise per-capita availability of milk during 2013-14 is given in Statement (*See below*). The Government has taken steps to increase milk production and improve the per-capita availability through implementation of following schemes:

- (i) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBBDD)
- (ii) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)

Statement

Per capita availability of milk during 2013-14

		(gram/day)
Sl. No.	States/UTs	Per capita availability of milk
1.	Andhra Pradesh	413
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	93
3.	Assam	69
4.	Bihar	195
5.	Chhattisgarh	130
6.	Goa	98
7.	Gujarat	506
8.	Haryana	800
9.	Himachal Pradesh	461
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	302
11.	Jharkhand	146
12.	Karnataka	272
13.	Kerala	203
14.	Madhya Pradesh	349
15.	Maharashtra	219

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Per capita availability of milk
16.	Manipur	80
17.	Meghalaya	84
18.	Mizoram	40
19.	Nagaland	95
20.	Odisha	122
21.	Punjab	980
22.	Rajasthan	572
23.	Sikkim	200
24.	Tamil Nadu	280
25.	Tripura	95
26.	Uttar Pradesh	318
27.	Uttarakhand	418
28.	West Bengal	145
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	84
30.	Chandigarh	101
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	98
32.	Daman and Diu	10
33.	Delhi	39
34.	Lakshadweep	219
35.	Puducherry	111
ALL INDIA		307

Note: Per capita availability is calculated based on State estimates of production and projected population as on 1st March, based on Census of India 2001 of RGI.

Dairy development in the country

2229. SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure proposed to be made on dairy development activities in the country during Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) the percentage of the said expenditure to the total expenditure to be made on agriculture development related activities;

(c) the amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for dairy development under National Agriculture Science Scheme during the last two years; and

(d) the amount released out of that along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DADF), Government of India, is implementing following Dairy Development schemes throughout the country:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Twelfth Five Year Plan Outlay
(i)	National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development (NPBB&DD)	₹ 1800 crore
(ii)	National Dairy Plan Phase I (NDP I)	₹ 1756 crore
(iii)	Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)	₹ 1400 crore
TOTAL		₹ 4956 crore

(b) Planning Commission, Government of India has informed that Gross Budgetary Support (GBS- excluding ₹ 63,246 crore provided under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana) for Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries during Twelfth Five Year Plan is ₹ 14,179 crore, Department of Agriculture and Cooperatives (DAC) is ₹ 71,500 crore and Department of Agriculture and Research Education (DARE) is ₹ 25,553 crore. The budgetary support for DADF is 12.74 % and for dairy development is 4.46 % of the total budgetary support on agriculture development related activities.

(c) and (d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has informed that an amount of ₹ 219.92 lakh was allocated to Uttar Pradesh on research activities for dairy development under National Agricultural Science Fund scheme during the last two years. The details are as follows:

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Project Title	Centre Name	2012-13		2013-14	
			Sanctioned	Released	Sanctioned	Released
1.	RNAi mediated comparative functional analysis of immune response genes in ruminants and fish against <i>Mycobacterium avium</i> ssp. paratuberculosis and <i>M. Fortuitum</i>	IVRI, Izatnagar	16.44	9.98	19.77	8.92
2.	Development of a bivalent marker vaccine against bovine herpesvirus-1 and brucella	IVRI, Izatnagar	67.11	67.06	26.66	20.16
3.	Development of live vaccine targeting the protein repair system(s) of Salmonella	IVRI, Izatnagar	60.60	60.60	29.35	21.89
TOTAL			144.15	137.64	75.78	50.97

There was no fund allocation for Bihar on research activities for dairy development under National Agricultural Science Fund scheme during the last two years.

Decline in sowing kharif crops

2230. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE pleased to state:

(a) whether kharif sowing has been less during this year as compared to the previous year, if so, the total deficit of kharif sowing in this year; and

(b) whether the shortfall in the sowing of coarse cereals, however, is still high at 20.89 per cent over last year and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) and (b) As per 1st Advance Estimates for 2014-15, the overall area coverage under kharif crops during the current

year has been lower by 89.82 lakh hectares (5.10%) as compared to area under kharif crops during the last year. The shortfall in area coverage under kharif coarse cereals during 2014-15 has been 18.6 lakh hectares (9.44%).

Welfare schemes for SC/ST farmers

†2231. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government is running many schemes in the country for the farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes category, under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and other schemes;

(b) if so, which of such schemes are being implemented, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of farmers of these categories benefited by these schemes during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is implementing a number of schemes *viz* Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) etc. for the welfare of farmers including those belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Out of the Budget allocation, 16.2% is earmarked for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes categories under Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and 8% for Tribal Sub Plan (TSP). Under Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM), a subsidy upto 33% is provided for farmers belonging to SC/ST categories. Further, subsidy in the range of 35% to 50% under different components of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) is provided to such farmers.

(c) The Centrally Sponsored Missions/Schemes are implemented by the States and no centralized data is maintained in DAC to assess the outcome of implementation of Missions/Schemes for the benefit of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe population.

Cost of medicines and life saving drugs

2232. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the number of PSUs and Government undertakings manufacturing medicines and life saving drugs as on date in the country along with their manufacturing capacity and marketing network, State-wise;

(b) whether such medicines and life saving drugs are cheaper than those manufactured by private sector units;

(c) whether most of hospitals and Government dispensaries purchase drugs and medicines from private sector units instead of PSUs at high cost, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government intends to prepare a policy to open PSU medical outlets at Tehsil level on the pattern of KVIC, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The following five Pharmaceutical Central Public Sector Undertakings are manufacturing medicines and life saving drugs as on date under the Department of Pharmaceuticals:-

Sl. No.	Name of PSU	Manufacturing Plants based at
1.	Karnataka Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Limited (KAPL), Bangalore	Bangalore (Karnataka)
2.	Rajasthan Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited (RDPL), Jaipur	Jaipur (Rajasthan)
3.	Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pimpri, Pune	Pimpri, Pune (Maharashtra)
4.	Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL), Kolkata	Kolkata (W.Bengal), Mumbai (Maharashtra), Kanpur (U.P.)
5.	Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL), Gurgaon	Gurgaon (Haryana), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Rishikesh (Uttarakhand)

The manufacturing installed capacity and marketing network of the above PSUs are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of PSU	Installed Capacity		Marketing network
1.	KAPL	Dry Powder Vials -	617.50 lakhs	Marketing network of KAPL is spread over in 17 States.
		Liquid parenterals -	396.00 lakhs	
		Tablets -	6000.00 lakhs	
		Capsules -	900.00 lakhs	
		Dry Syrups & Suspensions -	60 lakhs	
2.	RDPL	Tablets on 2 shift basis	- 72.00 crore	Having bonded warehouse in Jaipur, Rajasthan and 4 C&F agents in four other States
		Capsules on 1 shift basis	- 14.40 crore	
		Liquids on 1 shift basis	- 300.00 KL	
		Powder on 1 shift basis	- 226.80 M T	
		Eye Drops Vial (1 shift basis)	- 14.40 Lacs	
3.	HAL	Injectables - Cephalosporin	- 450 lac vials	HAL is having a wide network all over India. HAL has C&F agent in every capital of State apart from distributors in most of the cities.
		Injectables-Beta Lactum	- 450 lac vials	
		Capsules	- 2500 lakhs	
		Tablets	- 2400 lakhs	
		IV Fluid (bottles)	- 120 lakhs	
4.	BCPL	Tablet	- 10 crore	BCPL has 11 Sales Outlets and 10 C&F Agencies spread over across the country.
		Capsule	- 500 lakhs	
		Ointment	- 60 Metric Ton	
5.	IDPL	Tablet	- 162.30 crore	Marketing network of IDPL is spread over in 17 States.
		OCP	- 162.3 crore	
		Capsule	- 74.0 crore	
		Liquid Oral	- 696 Kilo Litre	
		Dry Syrup (bottle)	- 36 Lakhs	
		Injectible	- 2.4 crore	
		ORS	- 1.5 crore	

(b) Government has introduced Pharma Purchase Policy for 103 medicines manufactured by the Pharma CPSEs and its subsidiaries *w.e.f.* 10.12.2013 for five years, which facilitates the Government Institutions, Government Hospitals etc. to procure medicines from the Pharma CPSEs at notified prices. The prices of 103 medicines under Pharma Purchase Policy (PPP) are fixed by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) for supply of Drugs to Government Institutions by PSUs. The prices of these medicines are less as compared to reputed brands of other Companies.

(c) No study is conducted by Department of Pharmaceuticals in this regard.

(d) No Sir.

Consumption and production of urea

2233. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a gap between consumption and indigenous production of urea in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the future planning of Government to make the country self reliant in production of urea and the time schedule by which the same can be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a gap between consumption and indigenous production of urea. To bridge the gap, Department of Fertilizers imports urea on Government account. Details of consumption, production and imports of urea for the year 2013-14 and in current year 2014-15 (upto November, 2014) is as given below:-

(Figures in LMT)

Year	Consumption	Production	Imports
2014-15 (Upto Nov., 2014)	201.15	152.59	48.56
2013-14	298.03	227.15	70.88

(b) Department of Fertilizers has issued New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 on 2nd January, 2013 and its amendment thereof on 7th October, 2014 to make India self sufficient in the urea sector. In response to amendment to NIP-2012, this Department has received 12 proposals for investment for urea plants, which is expected to increase the domestic production of urea. The new capacity is expected to start materializing in 2017-18.

Compensation to victims of Bhopal gas tragedy

†2234. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

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

(a) whether the Central Government had announced in 2010, rupees one lakh as additional compensation for the Bhopal gas tragedy victims, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the additional compensation has been provided to all the victims, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Based on the recommendation of Group of Ministers on Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster, the Cabinet on 24th June, 2010, had decided payment of *ex-gratia* to Bhopal Gas Victims under the following categories:

Category	Ex-gratia
Death	₹ 10 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Permanent disability	₹ 5 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Injury of utmost severity	₹ 5 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Cancer	₹ 2 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Total Renal Failure	₹ 2 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)
Temporary disability	₹ 1 lakh (inclusive of original and pro-rata compensation already paid)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) As per the decision of the Cabinet dated 24th June, 2010, *ex-gratia* @ of ₹ 1 lakh is payable to Bhopal Gas Victims under the category of Temporary disability'. Office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims, Bhopal has informed that till 31st October, 2014, an amount of *ex-gratia* of ₹ 76.33 crore has been disbursed amongst 28,780 cases of victims under the category of 'Temporary disability'. Victims under the category of 'Minor Injury', who had earlier received original compensation @ of ₹ 25,000/- and an equal amount as pro-rata compensation, were not covered under the Cabinet decision on *ex-gratia*.

Policy to reduce prices of drugs

2235. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production cost of decontrolled medicines is manifold higher than the controlled medicines, if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(c) whether Government has formulated any policy to reduce the prices of drugs of cancer, AIDS and other life saving drugs, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The information related to production cost of medicines both controlled and decontrolled, is not maintained with NPPA.

(c) Yes, Sir. All the medicines specified in the National List of Essential Medicines 2011 (NLEM) have been included in the first schedule of DPCO, 2013 and brought under price control. Out of 680 essential medicines (628 net medicines) under scheduled category of DPCO, 2013, which also includes the drugs used for treatment of cancer, AIDS and other essential medicines, NPPA has already fixed prices of 47 medicines for cancer and 19 for AIDS.

Out of total 680 medicines (628 net medicines) under price controlled category of DPCO, 2013, NPPA has already notified the ceiling prices in respect of 489 medicines till date, under provisions of the said Order. Significant reduction in prices have been effected on the medicines notified under DPCO, 2013 as compared to the highest price which prevailed prior to the announcement of DPCO, 2013. The details of price reduction are as follows:

% reduction with respect to Highest prevailing Price to the Retailer	No. of drugs
0<= 5%	46
5< = 10%	44
10< = 15%	53
15<=20%	43
20<=25%	62
25<=30%	55
30<=35%	30
35<=40%	34
Above 40%	122
TOTAL	489

Savings by gas-based production of fertilizer

2236. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether production cost of urea will come down by using gas in place of Naphtha as fuel;
- (b) if so, to what extent the cost of production is estimated to be decreased; and
- (c) the extent to which the annual savings are assessed to be accrued following the decrease in cost of production, assuming the existing production capacity as basis thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) At present, the cost of production of urea using Naphtha as feedstock is higher than gas as feedstock. The extent of decrease in cost of production and resultant savings to be accrued will vary depending upon the prevailing gas price *vis-a-vis* Naphtha price.

The unit-wise details of cost of production of urea using gas and Naphtha as feedstock are given in Statement.

Statement*Statement showing notified Concession & Sales Tax Rate*

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit	Capacity (MT)	Cost of production (2013-14-Provisional)
		MT	₹/MT
1	2	3	4
Feed-Stock: Gas			
1.	BVFC- Namrup - III	315000	10809
2.	IFFCO-Aonla	864600	13108
3.	INDOGULF-Jagdishpur	864600	19132
4.	KRIBHCO-Hazira	1729200	12759
5.	NFL-V Pur	864600	14506
6.	RCF -Trombay-V	330000	15428
7.	NFCL-Kakinada	597300	12614
8.	CFCL-Kota	864600	19349
9.	TATA	864600	15909
10.	KSFL	864600	13859
11.	NFCL-Kakinada exp.	597300	10772
12.	IFFCO-Aonla exp.	864600	13213
13.	NFL-V Pur Exp.	864600	14981
14.	IFFCO-P, PUR	551100	28596
15.	KFCL-Kanpur	722700	36951
16.	SFC-Kota	379500	16983
17.	IFFCO-P, PUR EXP.	864600	26689
18.	CFCL-II	864600	22333
19.	GSFC-Baroda	370590	12415
20.	IFFCO-Kalol	544500	14640
21.	RCF-Thal	1706897	13843

1	2	3	4
22.	BVFC- Namrup II	240000	14208
23.	ZACL-Goa	399300	41263
24.	GNFC-Bharuch	636900	21550
25.	NFL-Nangal	478500	33335
26.	NFL-Bhatinda	511500	30436
27.	NFL-Panipat	511500	29882
SUB TOTAL		19267787	18668
Feed-Stock: other than gas			
1.	MCFL-Mangalore	379500	44836
2.	MFL-Madras	486750	47978
3.	SPIC-Tuticorin	620400	45657
TOTAL -Naphtha/ FO/LSHS		1486650	46207
GRAND TOTAL		20754437	20641

Adverse effects of monocrotophos pesticide

2237. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNFAO has asked the Government to ban the sale and use of monocrotophos organophosphorous pesticide in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) the total number of deaths of people and wildlife due to the use of this pesticide during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by Government to have less poisonous alternatives of this pesticide in agricultural use and also to ban monocrotophos which is posing a serious risk to human health and environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (d) The decision to impose restriction on sale and use of pesticides is based on assessment of risk to human and animal health. The registration of monocrotophos pesticide for use in agriculture in India was subjected to

technical reviews in 1993, 1995 and 2005. None of the Expert reviews have recommended imposition of complete ban on sale and use of this chemical in agriculture. A fresh review by an expert committee is under way for several pesticides including Monocrotophos. The Report of the Expert Committee is expected to be presented to Central Government shortly. The Registration Committee registers pesticides including alternatives to existing products, under provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 after technical examination of efficacy and safety.

As per provisions of Insecticides Act 1968 and Rules framed there under, manufacturers of pesticides are required to provide a label leaflet with each pack having details of directions for use, dose, dilution, waiting period, safety, etc. In addition to that distributors, sellers and farmers are also being trained to comply with safety in dealing with pesticides.

National knowledge network

2238. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has established National Knowledge Network (NKN);
- (b) if so, the objectives of the NKN; and
- (c) the number of institutions interconnected in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has established the National Knowledge Network (NKN). The establishment of NKN was approved in March, 2010.

(b) The objective of the NKN is to inter-connect all knowledge institutions across the country through high speed data communication network to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research. These include over 1500 Institutes comprising of Universities, Research Institutions, and Institutions of Higher Learning.

(c) As on 30th November, 2014 a total of 1354 links to Institutions have been commissioned and made operational. This includes 358 links to institutions under National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT), which have been migrated to NKN.

Assistance to ITI to make it viable

2239. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to modernize the Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) and make it competitive in the Indian and international market;
- (b) the losses incurred by this PSU so far;
- (c) how much assistance and in what form has been given by Government to ITI and how long will it take to make it viable; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to privatise this sick unit or divest shares, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) In order to modernize the ITI Limited and make it competitive the Government has approved a financial package of ₹ 4,156.79 Crore for Revival of ITI Limited. It comprises of capital grant of ₹ 2,264 Crore which is to be given in the form of equity for project implementation (CAPEX) for up grading the manufacturing infrastructure at its various units and for new projects. The balance amount of ₹ 1892.79 Crore is to be given as financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for statutory liabilities and other commitments made by ITI. As a first step, the Government has allotted ₹ 460 Crore to ITI in the form of equity infusion in the General Budget presented in July, 2014 for capital expenditure for upgrading the infrastructure of the Company.

- (b) The losses incurred by ITI since the year 2002-03 (when ITI started making (continuous losses) are shown below:

Year	Loss (₹ crore)
2002-2003	375
2003-2004	706
2004-2005	310
2005-2006	429
2006-2007	405
2007-2008	358

Year	Loss (₹ crore)
2008-2009	668
2009-2010	459
2010-2011	358
2011-2012	370
2012-2013	182
2013-2014	344

(c) Since 2004, the Government had provided financial assistance of ₹ 4,756.77 Crore to ITI Limited. This amount was utilized by ITI for cleaning of its Balance Sheet, meeting expenses for Voluntary Retirement Schemes floated by the Company, meeting Capex and Working Capital requirements, Equity infusion of ₹ 200 Crore and providing salary to its employees from time to time. As part of the implementation of the current Revival Plan, the viability of each unit is to be reviewed after assessing the effect of the upgradation of manufacturing facilities in the unit as envisaged in revival plan.

(d) No, Sir.

Eleven digit mobile numbers

†2240. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether ten digit mobile numbers are going to be converted to eleven digit numbers;

(b) if so, by when and whether this is due to the increase in the number of mobile users; and

(c) if so, the details of the number of mobile users in the country, so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No proposal for conversion of ten digit mobile numbers to eleven digit numbers is under consideration as on date.

(b) Does not arise in view of above.

(c) Total number of mobile telephone subscribers in the country as on 31.10.2014 is 935.39 million.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Electro magnetic radiations

†2241. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the environment of the country is getting polluted as a result of the electro magnetic radiations emerging from the mobile towers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is a need to make efforts on priority to stop this environmental pollution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, World Health Organization (WHO) in its Fact Sheet No. 304, May, 2006 on Electro Magnetic Fields (EMF) and Public Health (Base Stations and Wireless Technologies) has concluded that “considering the very low exposure levels and research results collected to date, there is no convincing scientific evidence that the weak Radio Frequency (RF) Signals from base stations and wireless networks cause adverse health effects”. “From all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long term health effects have been shown to occur from the RF Signals produced by base stations (mobile phone towers)”. Further, WHO has referred to approximately 25,000 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”.

WHO has recommended that ‘National authorities should adopt international standards to protect their citizens against adverse levels of RF fields.’ WHO has referred to the International Exposure Guidelines developed by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). The main conclusion from the WHO reviews is that EMF exposures below the limits recommended in the ICNIRP international guidelines do not appear to have any known consequence on health.

(c) and (d) 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. Government of India has been taking due precautions and necessary actions in respect of EMF radiation emitted

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

from mobile towers 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. 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 made stringent and reduced to 1/10th of the existing limits prescribed by International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP). The present limits/level are reproduced as detail below

Frequency Range	E-Field Strength (Volt/Meter)	H-Field Strength (Amp/Meter)	Power Density (Watt/Sq.Meter)
400 MHz to 2000 MHz	$0.434f^{1/2}$	$0.0011f^{1/2}$	$f/2000$
2GHz to 300GHz	19.29	0.05	1

(f = frequency in MHz)

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 & Monitoring (TERM) field units of DoT. 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.

Hoax calls

2242. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- whether instances of hoax calls have been on the rise in the country;
- the number of hoax calls registered by Railways, airport authorities, cinema halls and at other important public places during the last three years, State-wise;
- whether a hoax call regarding planting of a bomb in a passenger train was received by Western Railway recently, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the updated status of steps taken by Government to curb such anti-social and anti-national activity, as currently there is lack of proper mechanism for registration of callers using public telephones?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, Instances have been reported about hoax calls. The specific records like State-wise related to hoax calls are not maintained. However, the information about the hoax calls received in Railways and Airports is as follows:

States	2012	2013	2014 (upto Nov.)
Information in respect of Railways			
Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	4	5	11
Chhattisgarh	0	0	1
Delhi	3	4	6
Gujarat	4	0	1
Haryana	1	2	1
Karnataka	2	1	0
Kerala	5	5	3
Madhya Pradesh	3	0	2
Maharashtra	29	13	24
Punjab	0	1	0
Rajasthan	1	1	0
Tamil Nadu	3	14	12
Uttar Pradesh	5	7	3
West Bengal	7	6	6
TOTAL	67	59	70
Information in respect of Airports			
Jaipur Airport	1	0	1 (e-mail)
Amritsar Airport	1	0	1
Jodhpur Airport	0	0	1

States	2012	2013	2014 (up to Nov.)
Trivandrum Airport	0	2	1
Calicut Airport	1	0	0
Coimbatore Airport	0	1 (e-mail)	1
Trichy Airport	0	0	1
Madurai Airport	0	0	1
Mysore Airport	0	0	1
Dibrugarh Airport	1	0	0
Chennai	0	1	3
Kolkata	0	2	1
TOTAL	4	6	12

(c) One case each was received in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

In Maharashtra, a call from a mobile Number was received on 20.05.2014 by Chief Public Relation Officer, Western Railways on his mobile number, intimating that there is a bomb in Churchgate-Virar Mumbai local train. On receipt of above information trains leaving Church-gate Station were checked by Railway Police and Dog squad. No suspected person or material was found during the check. Thereafter, a case *vide* PNC No. 16/14 was registered against unknown person under Section 182, 505 and 507 of Indian Penal Code.

In Madhya Pradesh, a call was received on 07.07.14 in the Police Control Room at phone No. 100 from a mobile phone number stating that a bomb has been placed in last bogies of Indore-Jodhpur, Ranthambore Express. This train was searched extensively by Indore Police, Railway Police, Dog squad and bomb defusing squad. During search no suspicious person/ material was found. In this case a crime was registered *vide* no. 150/2014 under Section 177 of Indian Penal Code and Section 66(1) of Information Technology Act 2000.

(d) The deliberations were held amongst the M/o Home Affairs, Telecom Service Providers and Department of Telecommunications on the issue. After due deliberations, it has been decided that although it may be useful sometimes, if a mechanism is instituted to trace the hoax calls made from Public Call Offices (PCOs), but issuing the directions to disclose the identity by the caller, may not be appropriate as beside the privacy issue and potential misuse of documents/ information by the PCO franchisees. Such arrangement

may deprive a section of society to make a call from PCO because photo identity proof is currently not available with every citizen. By mandating such directions even general public may not be able to contact their families in emergency situations. As such mandating such instructions may create more problems to the common citizen instead of helping the security agencies to trace the hoax calls.

Internationalised domain name

2243. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched the dot(.) bharat domain name in Devanagari script f covering eight languages, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government also proposes to launch the Internationalised Domain Name (IDN) in other Indian languages, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the benefits that are likely to accrue to the general public as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir, dot(.) bharat domain name in Devanagari script was launched on 27th August, 2014 covering 8 languages (Hindi, Boro, Dogri, Konkani, Maithili, Marathi, Nepali and Sindhi- Devanagari).

(b) National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is in the process of launching. Bharat in other Indian languages namely Gujarati, Punjabi, Bengali, Manipuri, Tamil, Urdu and Telugu.

(c) Launch of dot(.) bharat in Indian languages will help the non English speaking population in rural and remote areas to type the website address in local languages and access the local language content in the respective language. This is expected to enhance the reach and relevance of Internet among the Indian population and spur the growth of content creation in multiple Indian languages.

Monitoring delivery of registered newspapers and magazines

†2244. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether postal facility is provided by Government to registered newspapers and magazines;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether UPC facility for posting newspapers and magazines has been discontinued;

(c) whether complaints from subscribers regarding regular non-receiving of newspapers and magazines are increasing;

(d) whether there is no mechanism to monitor the procedure of delivery of registered newspapers and magazines to their destination; and

(e) whether Government proposes to ensure the procedure of delivery of registered newspapers and magazines to their subscribers by post and introduce UPC service for publication houses, enabling them to prove remitting magazines to their subscribers?

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

(c) There is no increase in complaints from subscribers regarding regular non-receiving of newspapers and magazines across the country except in Delhi, where there is a minor increase.

(d) The Department has an effective mechanism to monitor the procedure of delivery of registered newspapers and magazines to their destination.

(e) No, Sir. The procedure for delivery of mails including registered newspaper and magazines is already in place. There is no proposal to re-introduce the Under Certificate of Posting (UPC) service.

One Nation One Number Plan

2245. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the specific reasons for the several postponements in the implementation of One Nation One Number plan and free national roaming facilities in the country;

(b) by when it will be implemented in the country;

(c) whether private cellular companies are not in favour of giving free roaming services and One Nation One Number plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) National Telecom Policy- 2012 provides to achieve 'One Nation - Full Mobile Number Portability' and work towards 'One Nation - Free Roaming'.

On One Nation One Number plan *i.e.* Full Mobile Number Portability in the Country, after taking into consideration the recommendations of TRAI, Department of Telecommunications on 03.11.2014 has carried out necessary amendment to the License conditions and certain instructions wherein a time period of 6 months has been given for implementation of Full Mobile Number Portability in the Country.

The Telecom Tariff is exclusively in domain of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) as per the provisions of TRAI Act, 1997 as amended in the year 2000. The issue of free national roaming was raised by TRAI in the consultation paper on 'Review of tariff for National Roaming 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 Message 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 Subscriber Identification Module (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 has 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
1	2	3
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

1	2	3
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.

Shortage of postmen

2246. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of postmen in Maharashtra and rest of the country, which has tremendously increased the workload of existing postmen, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the area to be covered by a postman has also been increased but bicycles are not being provided to them to cover their area for delivering dak, etc., if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial measures proposed by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. There is no acute shortage of Postmen in Maharashtra and rest of the country.

(b) Bicycles are not provided to the Postman, however, cycle allowances are being provided by the Department to the Postman.

(c) The remedial measures taken by the Government includes:-

- (i) Rationalization of Postman Beat is undertaken by the Department as a continuous activity.
- (ii) Filling up of vacancies is an ongoing process in the Department as per the provisions of Postman Recruitment Rules.

Dissolution of TRAI

†2247. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any measures are being taken to provide for a Regulator General for the Telecommunications and Broadcasting sector at the earliest, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry proposes to appoint a Communication Regulator;
- (c) whether it is proposed to dissolve the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI); and
- (d) whether the Ministry proposes to revive the Communication Convergence Bill, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Government is contemplating a new legislative framework to regulate the communication sector replacing the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885; Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act, 1997. An Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) comprising representatives from Department of Telecommunications, Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Information Broadcasting and Ministry of Home Affairs, has been constituted to work out details of the draft Communications Bill.

E-Governance Plan

2248. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any initiative to implement e-Governance plans in the country;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has taken steps to enroll State Governments and local bodies in these programmes, if so, the details thereof ?

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Government of India is implementing the Digital India Programme with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The scheme envisages to pull together many existing schemes including the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) and aims to implement these schemes in a synchronized manner to achieve the vision of Digital India. The NeGP was launched in 2006 with a vision to make all public services accessible to the common man in his locality, through common service delivery outlets and ensure efficiency, transparency and reliability of such services at affordable costs to realize the basic needs of the common man. 27 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) and 8 Information and Communication Technology (ICT) support components were approved in 2006 and 4 MMPs - Health, Education, PDS and Posts were added in 2011 making it 31 MMPs. Out of 31 MMPs, 24 MMPs are operational and providing services to the citizens. Remaining MMPs are at different stages of implementation.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Madam. Various MMPs under the NeGP are being implemented with full involvement of all the State Governments. Local bodies have been involved in the implementation of the e-Municipality MMP. e-Municipality is one of the state MMPs which aims to improve service delivery mechanism, achieve better information management and transparency and ensure citizens' involvement in governance.

Universal Service Obligation Fund

2249. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made a fund in the name of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to establish mobile communication in the remote areas, if so, the details of operational systems therefor; and

(b) the action taken report (ATR) thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) (i) Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) was established *w.e.f.* 01.04.2002 under the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act 2003 (further amended in 2006), to provide financial support for the provision of telecom services in commercially unviable rural and remote areas of the country. The scope of USO Fund covers all telecom services including mobile services, broadband connectivity and creation of infrastructure like Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), in

rural and remote areas. The Rules for administration of the Fund are governed by Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Rules as amended from time to time.

(ii) The financial resources for Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) are raised by way of collecting Universal Access Levy (UAL) @ 5% of the Adjusted Gross Revenue from telecom service providers except the pure value added service providers like Internet, Voice Mail, E-Mail service providers etc. It is credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and made available to the USOF after due appropriation of the Parliament. The balance to the credit of the Fund does not lapse at the end of the financial year.

(iii) The implementation of USOF schemes is carried out by the “eligible operators” i.e., the entities having valid license or registration or authorization from Central Government/Department of Telecommunications for providing telecom services or infrastructure or any other entities as may be specified in this regard by the Central Government from time to time.

(b) Various schemes are being implemented/planned with financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for expansion of telecom services in rural and remote areas of the country. USOF supported schemes for expansion of mobile services are as below:

- (i) A scheme has been implemented by USO Fund to provide subsidy support for setting up and managing 7,353 infrastructure sites/ towers spread over 27 States for provision of mobile services in villages or cluster of villages having population of 2000 or more and not having mobile coverage. As on 30.11.2013 *i.e.* till the closure of the scheme, 7,317 towers *i.e.* about 99.51% have been set up.
- (ii) On 20.08.2014, the Government approved a project to provide Mobile services in 2199 locations [1836 new sites and 363 sites already installed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)] in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas. The estimated project implementation cost is ₹ 3567.58 crore, to be funded from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). BSNL has been nominated to execute the project.
- (iii) On 10.09.2014, Government approved a proposal to implement a Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region at an estimated cost of ₹5336.18 crore to be funded from USOF. The Project envisages provision of 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.

- (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.

Unsolicited phone calls and messages

†2250. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the increasing number of unsolicited phone calls and messages inspite of clear cut guidelines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to check unsolicited commercial calls and messages in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by Government against the agencies making such calls and messages?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir, TRAI has laid down the framework for controlling Unsolicited/ Commercial Communications (UCC) through the 'Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010'. These regulations have been reviewed from time to time and so far TRAI has issued Fifteen Amendment Regulations and Directions to address implementation issues and to further tighten the regulatory framework. These regulations prohibit sending of UCC by telemarketers/ subscribers to telecom consumers, who have registered their numbers in the National Customer Preference Register (NCPR) for not receiving UCC. TRAI has been monitoring complaints lodged by consumers regarding receipt of Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC) through the TRAI portal (www.nccptrai.gov.in) set up under the framework of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2010' for controlling the menace of UCC. It has been observed from data of the complaint registered in the portal in past years that there is a decrease in numbers of UCC. The details are given in Statement, para-1 (*See below*).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) To curb the UCC, TRAI has undertaken various measures, due to which the number of such complaints have decreased. The details of the key initiatives taken by TRAI are given in Statement, para-2 (*See below*).

The TRAI takes required precautionary measures including financial disincentive through regulations and amendments as per need from time to time to address the issue of UCC. The TRAI has also taken various steps in past years to curb UCC. The details are given in Statement, para-3.

Statement

1. The details of such complaints registered in the portal from 27.9.2011, the day the regulations have come into force, till 31.10.2014 are given below:

Sl. No.	Period	No. of complaints	Average complaints per month
1.	2011-12 (27.09.2011 to 31.03.2012)	83003	13833
2.	2012-13	427041	35587
3.	2013-14	397772	33148
4.	2014-15 (upto 31.10.2014)	58446	8349

2. To curb the Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC) in the country, the details of the key initiatives taken by TRAI are given below:
- (i) Disconnection of telecom resources of the offending subscriber on receipt of a valid complaint and blacklisting of the name and the address of such subscriber.
 - (ii) Disconnection of all telecom resources of such subscriber, upon blacklisting, by all other service providers.
 - (iii) Disconnection of telecom resources of agencies or individuals for whom UCC has been solicited through unregistered telemarketers.
 - (iv) Minimum charges of 50 paisa per SMS sent beyond 100 SMS per day per SIM to discourage the misuse of bulk SMS packs by telemarketers. A restriction of 200 SMSs per hour has also been put on sending bulk SMSs through software application by unregistered telemarketers.

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 complain; 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.

3. The TRAI has also taken following steps in past years to curb UCC:

1.	Total complaints received by service providers (From 27.9.2011 to 31.10.2014)	9,90,947
2.	Number of Telephone disconnections of unregistered telemarketers (From 27.9.2011 to 31.10.2014)	5,25,104
3.	Additional disconnections on account of UCC sent (Proactive / call back numbers / Entities)	7,35,803
4.	Number of notices sent to Telemarketers with deduction in their security deposit and total amount deducted so far (From 27.9.2011 to 31.10.2014)	413, 1.80 crores
5.	No. of Telemarketers Blacklisted (From 27.9.2011 to 31.10.2014)	19
6.	No. of service providers on which financial disincentive is imposed and total amount collected so far (From 27.9.2011 to 31.10.2014)	13, 7,12,92,500/-
7.	No. of unregistered TMs blacklisted for 2 years till 31.10.2014	2,40,222

Disinvestment in MTNL and BSNL

2251. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated to disinvest MTNL and BSNL as it did with VSNL to the private sector by making the public sector undertaking (PSU) to go for natural death through consumer boycott by providing poor service; and

(b) if so, the road-map for such disinvestment and if not, the revival plan for time-bound action?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal for disinvestment in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL). Government is in the process of revival and revitalization of BSNL and MTNL through various short term, medium term and long term measures.

Government has taken several decisions to revive BSNL and MTNL and provide some financial relief so that they could undertake expansion plans and provide better services. These include:

- (i) Treatment of pensionary liabilities of Government employees absorbed in MTNL and who opted for combined service pension on parity with similar employees in BSNL.
- (ii) Waiver of Government loan to BSNL involving an amount of ₹1411 crores.
- (iii) Financial support of ₹6724.51 Crores to BSNL and ₹4533.97 crores to MTNL on surrender of Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum.
- (iv) Financial support of ₹ 492 Crores to MTNL, towards payment of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT).

BSNL and MTNL are separately preparing a revival plan for increasing revenue potential, identifying business opportunities, organizational restructuring and training to enable human resource to grow into customer-centric companies with expertise in marketing and customer services delivery and developing human resources strategy in line with restructured organizational vision. With these steps being taken, BSNL and MTNL will be able to upgrade and enhance network coverage and capacity and provide better quality of services to their customers.

BSNL is also taking several steps to enhance 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 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.

Standards for mobile and other electronic items

2252. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has notified the mandatory standards for mobile and other electronic items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the other steps taken to curb flow of low quality electronic products into the country; and
- (d) the steps taken to protect the public by making awareness about the low quality electronic products?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), Ministry of Communications and IT, has notified “Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012” mandating compliance of electronic and IT products - including mobile phone sets - to Indian Safety Standards indicated in the Gazette notification.

These Standards have been notified because electronics and IT products are of strategic importance in internal security and defence, the deployment of electronics in domains such as telecom, power, railways, civil aviation etc. can have serious consequences of disruption in service. This order also fulfils the objective of protection of human health and safety. Additionally, one of the objectives of National Policy on Electronics, 2012 is to create an institutional mechanism for developing and mandating standards and certification of electronic products and services to strengthen Quality Assessment infrastructure nationwide.

Bureau of Energy Efficiency had launched voluntary labeling program for laptops, notebooks and office equipments. However, there are no mandatory standards for mobile and other electronic items.

During the first phase of “Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012” seven awareness programmes and three advertisements in print media were released during 2012 - 13. Now during the second phase also advertisements are in the process of being released in the print media and three awareness programmes have been planned for 2014 - 15.

BIS, through advertisements, is making efforts to make public aware to buy registered electronic products notified under “Electronics and IT Goods (Requirements for Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012”.

BSNL towers

2253. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BSNL towers installed in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, till date;

(b) the number of proposals pending in the Ministry for installing BSNL towers in these two States; and

- (c) the steps taken by Government to execute the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has installed 5606 number of BTSs y (Base Transceiver Stations) in Andhra Pradesh and 4654 number of BTSs in Telangana.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is pending in the Ministry. However, BSNL has planned 2078 number of BTS in Andhra Pradesh and 1693 number of BTSs in Telangana under its Phase VII GSM Expansion project. Out of these 2063 BTSs in Andhra Pradesh and 1576 number of BTSs in Telangana have been commissioned.

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. Out of these, 43 BTSs in Andhra Pradesh and 184 BTSs in Telangana have been planned.

Procurement of crops

†2254. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agencies procure Kharif crops from the farmers through crop procurement centres; and

(b) if so, the way above centres procure crops from flood affected areas or crops affected by diseases;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Kharif crops are procured by Government agencies through procurement centres from farmers as per Government specifications and also from the flood affected areas or crops affected by disease as per relaxed specifications, if decided by the Government.

Inferior quality of packaged drinking water

2255. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of irregularities and complaints regarding inferior quality of packaged drinking water have been registered in the last three years, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the action taken by Government against guilty organisations/companies, the details thereof, State-wise and company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. States and Union Territories have reported complaints regarding inferior quality packaged drinking water. Out of total 36 States/UTs information has been received from 19 States/UTs while the rest have not furnished the information. Out of the 19 such States, 11 have reported "NIL" complaints and 8 States have reported a total of 747 complaints. State-wise details of complaints received and action taken are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

The year-wise and State-wise details of complaints relating to Packaged Drinking Water (IS 14543) received in the Bureau of Indian Standards and action taken thereon are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of complaints received during last three years

Sl. No	Name of the State/U.T.	No. of complaints	Action taken
1.	A&N Islands	Not received	
2.	Bihar	Not received	
3.	Chhattisgarh	Not received	
4.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Not received	
5.	Daman and Diu	Not received	
6.	Haryana	Not received	
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Not received	
8.	Jharkhand	Not received	
9.	Kerala	Not received	
10.	Lakshadweep	Not received	
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Not received	
12.	Manipur	Not received	
13.	Mizoram	Not received	
14.	Rajasthan	Not received	

Sl. No	Name of the State/U.T.	No. of complaints	Action taken
15.	Tamil Nadu	Not received	
16.	Tripura	Not received	
17.	Telangana	Not received	
18.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	
20.	Chandigarh	Nil	
21.	Goa	Nil	
22.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	
23.	Meghalaya	Nil	
24.	Nagaland	Nil	
25.	Puducherry	Nil	
26.	Punjab	Nil	
27.	Sikkim	Nil	
28.	Uttarakhand	Nil	
29.	Karnataka	629	153 No. of Plants seized, 358 No. of Plants voluntarily closed, action initiated on 118 cases.
30.	Maharashtra	51	Cases launched against 81 illegal units.
31.	Uttar Pradesh	31	68 cases launched, 3 jailed, 16 panelised.
32.	Gujarat	16	21 samples drawn, 10 found conforming, 11 cases launched.
33.	Odisha	13	25 units sealed.
34.	West Bengal	4	
35.	Delhi	2	
36.	Assam	1	
TOTAL		747	

Statement-II*Year-wise and State-wise details of complaints relating to packaged drinking water (IS 14543)*

Year and No. of complaints	No. of Complaints	State	Name of the licensee where complaints established	Action Taken where complaint established
1	2	3	4	5
2011-12	01	Andhra Pradesh	1. Penna Beverages, Medak, Andhra Pradesh.	Firm offered for replacement but no reply received from the complainant.
Total - 07	01	Punjab	2. Om Sai Food & Beverages, Kurali, Mohali, Punjab.	Stop marking imposed.
	02	Karnataka	3. Aqua Mineral India, Bangalore, Karnataka	The product was replaced.
	01	Madhya Pradesh	4. M/s Sri Sai Ganesh Minerals, Bangalore, Karnataka	Stop marking imposed.
			5. M/s Manikchand Food Breweries, Sagar, MP	Stop marking imposed.
	01	Tamil Nadu	6. M/s Premier Aqua Industries Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu	Stop marking imposed.
	01	Delhi	7. M/s Shree Tirupati Ji Enterprises, Mayapuri, Delhi	Stop marking imposed.
2012-13	01	Karnataka	1. M/s Mansarovar Industries, Bangalore Karnataka	Stop marking imposed.
Total - 03	01	Maharashtra	2. M/s Rajkumar Industrial Undertaking, Nagpur, Maharashtra	Stop marking imposed.
	01	Haryana	3. M/s Shri Shyam Aqua Pvt. Ltd, Gurgaon	Stop Marking imposed & later Licence expired.
2013-14				
Total - 02	01	Tamil Nadu	1. M/s S R Mineral Water Pvt. Ltd, Thiruvallure, Tamil Nadu	Stop marking imposed.

1	2	3	4	5
	01	Haryana	2.M/s Dharam Raj Product, Ballabhgarg, Faridabad	Stop Marking issued. Product replacement offered. Matter <i>sub-judice</i> as manufacturer initiated legal proceedings against the complainant.
2014-15 (till 08.12.2014) Total 09	02	Uttar Pradesh	1. M/s Kinley, Lucknow	Under investigation
			2. M/s Vestal Aqua Products, Noida	Under investigation
	01	Rajasthan	3. M/s Bisleri International Limited, Jaipur	Under investigation
	01	Haryana	4. M/s Ira Sky Packaged Drinking Water, Faridabad	Under investigation
	01	Assam	5. M/s Markande Beverage Imphal, Manipur	Under investigation
	02	Tamil Nadu	6. M/s AGMS Healthy and Purity Aqua Services and AMS Aqua Products, Chennai	Under investigation
			7. Water World, Tamil Nadu	Under investigation
	01	Kerala	8. M/s Sagara Agencies, Kerala	Under investigation
	01	Andhra Pradesh	9. Bisleri Brand, Hyderabad	Under investigation

Note : Complaints received for Packaged Natural Mineral Water (IS 13428) - Nil

Availability and requirement of foodgrains

2256. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether adequate foodgrains stocks are available in the central pool to meet the

domestic requirement and contain prices in the likely decline in production of foodgrains in the current fiscal;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the current stocks and estimated requirement of foodgrains during the ensuing year; and

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

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

(b) The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 16.11.2014 was 405.90 lakh tons *vis-a-vis* minimum buffer norms of 212 lakh tons for October-December quarter. Under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), the estimated annual requirement of foodgrains is 614.3 lakh tons for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).

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

Procurement of agricultural produce by FCI

2257. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of wheat, paddy, rice and other agricultural produces procured by the FCI along with the number of farmers benefited therefrom during each of the last five years and current year, State-wise, particularly in Telangana; and

(b) the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed by Government for agricultural produces during the last five years and current year, produce-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) For the central pool, foodgrains and coarsegrains are procured by FCI and State Agencies. The total quantum of wheat, paddy, rice procured by FCI alone during last five years and current year is given in Statement-I (*See* below). The Government do not maintain the records of farmers benefited from such procurement operations.

The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed by Government for Agriculture produce during last five years and current year are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I*Procurement of rice, wheat and coarsegrain in current and five marketing seasons*

States/UTs	2009-10			2010-11			2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15		
	Rice	Wheat	Coarse-grain	Rice	Wheat	Coarse-grain	Rice	Wheat	Coarse-grain	Rice	Wheat	Coarse-grain	Wheat Coarse-grain*	Wheat Coarse-grain*	Wheat Coarse-grain	Wheat Coarse-grain		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Andaman and Nicobar Islands																		
Andhra Pradesh	75.55	0	0.07	96.09	0	0	75.42			64.86			37.38		0.28		0.18	
Telangana	0	0	0	0	0	0							43.53		2.89		1.77	
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0												
Assam	0.08	0	0	0.16	0	0	0.23			0.2			Neg.					
Bihar	8.9	4.97	0	8.83	1.83	0	15.34	5.57		13.03	7.72		9.42		0.01			
Chandigarh	0.14	0.12	0	0.1	0.09	0	0.13	0.07		0.12	0.17		0.12	0.08		0.10	0.05	
Chhattisgarh	33.57	0	0.01	37.46	0	0.03	41.15		0.01	48.04			42.90		0.03			
Delhi	0	0	0	0	0.1	0		0.08			0.31							
Gujarat	0	0.75	0	0	0.01	0	0.04	1.05		Neg.	1.56							
Haryana	18.19	69.24	0.77	16.87	63.47	0.73	20.07	69.28	0.17	26.09	86.65		24.06	58.73		19.92	64.95	
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.01	0	0.01	0	0	0.01	0.01		0.01	0.01						Neg.	
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.01	0	0.11	0	0	0.09			0.02	0.09		Neg.					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Jharkhand	0.23	0	0	0	0	0	2.75			2.15			Neg.					
Karnataka	0.86	0	3.16	1.8	0	0.4	3.56		0.01	0.59				7.29				
Kerala	2.61	0	0	2.63	0	0	3.76			2.4			3.59			0.88		
Madhya Pradesh	2.55	19.68	0	5.16	35.39	0.09	6.35	49.65	0.17	8.98	84.93	0.08	10.40	63.55	0.87		70.94	0.60
Maharashtra	2.29	0	0.06	3.08	0	0.03	1.77		Neg.	1.92	0.02	0.64	1.61		0.96			
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0												
Odisha	24.97	0	0	24.65	0	0	28.66			36.15			28.01					
Puducherry	0.08	0	0	0.4	0	0	0.05											
Punjab	92.75	107.25	0	86.34	102.09	0	77.31	109.58		85.58	128.34		81.06	108.97		77.54	116.41	
Rajasthan	0	11.52	0	0	4.76	0		13.03			19.64			12.68			21.59	
Tamil Nadu	12.41	0	0	15.43	0	0	15.96			4.81			6.84			0.03		
Uttar Pradesh	29.01	38.82	0	25.54	16.45	0	33.57	34.61		22.86	50.63		11.27	6.83		1.44	6.28	
Uttarakhand	3.75	1.45	0	4.22	0.86	0	3.78	0.42		4.97	1.39		4.63	0.05		0.86	0.01	
West Bengal	12.4	0	0	13.1	0.09	0	20.41			17.66	0.02		13.59	0.02				
ALL INDIA TOTAL	320.34	253.82	4.07	341.98	225.14	1.28	350.41	283.35	0.36	340.44	381.48	0.72	318.40	250.92	12.31	100.78	280.23	2.55

* As on 3.12.2014

Statement-II
Minimum Support Prices

(As on 29.10.2014)										
			(# per quintal)							
Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	(#) increase in MSP 2013-14 over 2012-13	2014-15	(#) increase in MSP 2014-15 over 2013-14	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Kharif Crops										
1.	Paddy	Common	1000	1080	1250	1310	60(4.8)	1360	50(3.8)	
		Grade 'A'	1030	1110	1280	1345	65(5.1)	1400	55(4.1)	
2.	Jowar	Hybrid	880	980	1500	1500	-	1530	30(2.0)	
		Maldandi	900	1000	1520	1520	-	1550	30(2.0)	
3.	Bajra		880	980	1175	1250	75(6.4)	1250	-	
4.	Maize		880	980	1175	1310	135(11.5)	1310	-	
5.	Ragi		965	1050	1500	1500	-	1550	50(3.3)	
6.	Arhar (Tur)		3000¶	3200¶	3850	4300	450 (11.7)	4350	50 (1.2)	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	Moong		3170¶	3500¶	4400	4500	100 (2.3)	4600	100 (2.2)
8.	Urad		2900¶	3300¶	4300	4300	-	4350	50(1.2)
9.	Cotton	Medium Staple	2500a	2800a	3600	3700	100(2.8)	3750	50(1.4)
		Long Staple	3000aa	3300aa	3900	4000	100(2.6)	4050	50(1.3)
10.	Groundnut in shell		2300	2700	3700	4000	300(8.1)	4000	-
11.	Sunflower Seed		2350	2800	3700	3700	-	3750	50(1.4)
12.	Soyabean	Black	1400	1650	2200	2500	300(13.6)	2500	-
		Yellow	1440	1690	2240	2560	320(14.3)	2560	-
13.	Sesamum		2900	3400	4200	4500	300(7.1)	4600	100(2.2)
14.	Nigerseed		2450	2900	3500	3500	-	3600	100(2.9)
	Rabi Crops								
15.	Wheat		1120\$	1285	1350	1400	50(3.7)	1450	50(3.6)
16.	Barley		780	980	980	1100	120(12.2)	1150	50(4.5)
17.	Gram		2100	2800	3000	3100	100(3.3)	3175	75(2.4)
18.	Masur (Lentil)		2250	2800	2900	2950	50(1.7)	3075	125(4.2)
19.	Rapeseed/Mustard		1850	2500	3000	3050	50(1.7)	3100	50(1.6)
20.	Safflower		1800	2500	2800	3000	200(7.1)	3050	50(1.7)

Other Crops									
21.	Copra (Calendar Year)	Milling	4450	4525	5100	5250	150(2.94)	5250	-
		Ball	4700	4775	5350	5500	150(2.80)	5500	-
22.	De-Husked Coconut (Calendar Year)		1200	1200	1400	1425	25(1.79)	1425	-
23.	Jute		1575	1675	2200	2300	100(4.55)	2400	100(4.3)
24.	Sugarcane*		139.12	145.00	170	210.00	40(23.5)	220.00	10(4.8)

Figures in brackets indicate percentage increase.

\$ An additional incentive bonus of ₹ 50 per quintal was payable over the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

a Staple length (mm) of 24.5 - 25.5 and Micronaire value of 4.3 - 5.1

aa Staple length (mm) of 29.5 - 30.5 and Micronaire value of 3.5 - 4.3

¶ Additional incentive at the rate of ₹ 500 per quintal of tur, urad and moong sold to procurement agencies was payable during the harvest/arrival period of two months.

* Fair and remunerative price.

Legislation for online shopping

2258. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that according to the Google annual online shopping growth trends report, the country will have 100 million online shoppers by 2016;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to bring in a legislation to prevent online frauds and fraudulent activities in the name of online shopping;

(c) how many cases have come to the notice of Government for online fraud in the country during past three years; and

(d) how Government monitors online shopping activities and verify that the sellers are genuine and whether there is any system for registration of online sellers?

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

(a) Government is aware of media reports regarding growth of online shopping in the country. However no official data on the sector is available.

(b) Presently there is no such proposal under consideration. However, keeping in view the increased number of online fraud/cheating cases, the Government has initiated steps for incorporating sufficient provisions for protection of consumers of online shopping/e-commerce under Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(c) No such official data is available.

(d) At present there is no single set of law/regulations to govern E-commerce industry and therefore E-commerce activities including online shopping come under the purview of different laws like Information Technology Act, 2000, Contract Law and Indian Penal Code. E-commerce industry is also required to comply with other business laws like Company law, Labour law, Income Tax laws, Sales Tax law, etc.

Implementation of NFSA

2259. DR. E.M. SUDARSANANATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has got clearance from PMO for implementing National Food Security Act (NFSA); and

(b) if so, the actions taken to implement the same in co-ordination with Ministries of Agriculture, Food Processing Industries, Communications and Information Technology, Road Transport and Highways, etc. and the State Governments, State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) After passing by the Parliament, Government of India notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) on 10.09.2013. The 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. Implementation of the Act is reviewed on a regular basis and necessary advisories are issued to States/UTs, wherever required. In order to ensure proper implementation of the Act, stress is on proper identification of beneficiaries through a transparent and participative process, delivery of foodgrains by designated State agencies upto the door-steps of fair price shops, availability of adequate scientific storage facilities at various levels, end-to-end computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) operations and setting up of effective grievance redressal mechanism, among others.

Proposal to exclude taxpayers from PDS

†2260. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to exclude taxpayers and Government employees from the purview of Public Distribution System (PDS);

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

(c) whether Government has issued necessary guidelines to State Governments for implementation of the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the States which are working on this scheme at present;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) whether Government has held consultations with State Governments in this regard;

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

(g) by when Government plans to implement this scheme throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (g) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to exclude taxpayers and Government employees from the purview of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

Government of India has notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) on 10.09.2013, under which State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administrations are required to evolve the criteria for identification of priority households and conduct their actual identification, within the coverage determined for each State/UT, for receiving subsidised foodgrains under TPDS.

During a Conference of Ministers of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution of States/UTs, held on 04.07.2014 to *inter alia* review the implementation of NFSA, it was suggested that though the criteria for identification of households is to be evolved by States/UTs, while identifying the eligible households they should ensure that Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe households are included, except those in Government service, public sector undertakings or autonomous institutions or income tax payees.

Regulation on e-commerce market

2261. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fast growing e-commerce market in the country;

(b) if so, the main players in this field and the market share of their business;

(c) whether Government has any plan to bring about some kind of regulation in this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) and (b) At present no official data on e-commerce industry is being compiled/available.

(c) and (d) Presently there is no such proposal for a separate regulatory framework for e-commerce under consideration.

Payment of wages for loading and unloading

2262. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether there is any official rate for payment of wages to labourers who load and unload bags of foodgrains in FCI;

(b) if so, the details of rate at which labourers are paid wages per bag;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of total payment made to loaders/labourers in FCI for loading and unloading bags during last year and the current year along with the rate at which wages were paid per load/unload of a bag, State-wise and year-wise?

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

(b) Departmental Labour.

The pay scales of the different category of Departmental labour are as under:

Sl. No.	Designation/Category	Pay scales
I.	Sardar/Mukadum	₹ 15,600-36,800
2.	Mandal/Tindai	₹ 14,900-34,600
3.	Handling Labour/Loader	₹ 14,400-32,300
4.	Ancillary Labour/Godown Mazdoor/Modiastitcher	₹ 14,100-31600

Besides, they are also entitled to incentives on piece rate basis and OTA for working beyond office hours at double the rate of hourly wages. Their total earnings depend on the number of bags handled in a day.

Direct Payment System (DPS)

These workers earn wages as per piece rate based on Schedule of Rates (SOR%) of the respective Region or the minimum guaranteed wages whichever is higher. Their per day earning, therefore, also depends on the number of bags handled in a day.

The current daily minimum wage rates of DPS labour (*w.e.f.* 01.10.2014) are as under:

Sl. No.	Designation/Category	Daily wage
1.	Sardar/Mukadum	₹380/-
2.	Mandal/Tindal	₹367/-
3.	Handling Labour/Loader	₹362/-
4.	Ancillary Labour/Godown Mazdoor/Modiastitcher	₹332/-

Besides, they are entitled to get OTA for working beyond office hour at double the rate of hourly wages.

No Work No Pay System (NWNP)

They are also piece rated workers with guarantee of Minimum daily wage only for the days they are engaged for work in the depots. The current daily rates for NWNP system labour is as under:

Area	Rates of wages per day effective from 1.10.2014
‘A’	₹332/-
‘B’	₹276/-
‘C’	₹222/-

Besides, they are also entitled to get OTA beyond office hour at double the rate of hourly wages.

Contract Labour

The contract labourers are engaged through contractor appointed for the period of 2 years as per the tender inquiry.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Total payment made to loaders/labourers in FCI for loading/unloading bags during 2013-14 and 2014-15, State-wise and year-wise, are given in Statements-IA and B (See below).

The per bag handling cost details for the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 State-wise are given in Statements-IIA & II B.

Statement-IA

Total amount paid including incentive and OTA for 2013-14

(₹)

Name of the region	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract	Total
Karnataka	NA	140859685	17445112	354488917	512793714
Himachal Pradesh	15400695	NA	3503031	2318481	21222207
Rajasthan	404195814	NA	32038828	444173804	880408446
West Bengal	1669049840	362812198	9933430	NA	2041795468
Andhra Pradesh	82788355	720759198	11127496	704411344	1519086393
Odisha	556082366	65598655	NA	11861621	633542642
Uttar Pradesh	1168591926	309941116	42846325	5125316.33	1526504683
Madhya Pradesh	203396827	107409250	NA	134848201	445654278
Haryana	2293414437	NA	36506741	89682558	2419603736
Assam	508590000	125260000	NA	61730000	695580000
Chhattisgarh	488949000	240819000	NA	220999000	950767000
Tamil Nadu	35700000	372200000	71600000	16300000	495800000
Nagaland	177383000	NA	NA	106332	177489332
Manipur	NA	18768011	NA	18141347	36909358
Delhi	2845911113	50917053	NA	NA	2896828166
Arunachal Pradesh	NA	5048332	NA	9344000	14392332
Kerala	NA	480619079	59498740	74998275	615116094

Name of the region	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract	Total
Gujarat	664813266	18882785	NA	338673326	1022369377
Uttarakhand	48837425	62522117	23007000	2360507	136727049
Bihar	1175161223	30583529	28804226	NA	1234548978
Jharkhand	675325018	32559965	2959131	NA	710844114
Jammu and Kashmir	NA	193000000	NA	NA	193000000
Punjab	431035799	2435196239	54694758	159123675	3080050471
Maharashtra					209857942
North East Frontier					152926527
TOTAL					22623818307

Statement-IB

*Total amount paid including incentive and OTA for
2014-15 (Upto Oct. 2014)*

(₹)

Name of the region	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract	Total
Karnataka	NA	165842875	13012381	238470611	417325867
Himachal Pradesh	9903293	N/A	2294612	1440933	13638838
Rajasthan	391630287	NA	34281685	286408898	712320870
West Bengal	1317775463	280053084	511793	NA	1598340340
Andhra Pradesh	58631814	626335244	15119343	405819696	1105906097
Odisha	352524140	50195798	NA	1909565	404629503
Uttar Pradesh	707477518.9	258216985	12190695	4406262.74	982291461.6
Madhya Pradesh	169358723	73650039	NA	74986651	317995413
Haryana	1706199311	NA	20679145	54242044	1781120500
Assam	364013000	81710000	NA	37654000	483377000
Chhattisgarh	370901000	241335000	NA	124753000	736989000
Tamil Nadu	21800000	245500000	37600000	10600000	315500000
Nagaland	131405000	NA	NA	-	131405000

Name of the region	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract	Total
Manipur	NA	22383279	NA	14820830	37204109
Delhi	1225957000	36049000	NA	NA	1262006000
Arunachal Pradesh	NA	4995659	NA	5472000	10467659
Kerala	NA	296473871	44641170	46753438	387868479
Gujarat	262292053	20017936	NA	155755197	438065186
Uttarakhand	27785288	37649550	11023000	1315081	77772919
Bihar	720363317	23433636	17620405	NA	761417358
Jharkhand	352686950	22430680	2259261	NA	377376891
Jammu and Kashmir	NA	138800000	NA	NA	138800000
Punjab	302406033	229816527	32663164	109666057	674551781
Maharashtra					123239059
North East Frontier					107435097
TOTAL					13397044428

Statement-IIA*State-wise details of per bag handling cost*

(Financial Year 2013-2014)			(Cost ₹ Per Bag)	
State	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract Workers
Punjab	16.81	5.68	2.13	0.63
Haryana	19.22	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	0.00
Rajasthan	50.04	Not Applicable	4.04	1.86
Uttar Pradesh	21.16	8.50	2.09	0.17
Uttarakhand	15.89	7.22	0.75	1.18
Himachal Pradesh	10.99	Not Applicable	0.79	0.38
Jammu and Kashmir	Not Applicable	3.58	Not Applicable	2.27
Delhi	32.36	15.96	Not Applicable	0.00

State	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract Workers
Chhattisgarh	18.76	7.73	Not Applicable	2.59
Maharashtra	33.96	8.85	0.41	9.72
Madhya Pradesh	180.24	75.57	Not Applicable	2.95
Gujarat	31.96	7.78	Not Applicable	4.22
West Bengal	35.97	8.55	4.94	2.55
Jharkhand	18.42	7.30	3.91	2.49
Odisha	23.50	8.59	Not Applicable	5.87
Bihar	21.62	7.66	5.83	0.45
Karnataka	Not Applicable	10.68	6.99	4.78
Tamil Nadu	0.44	7.61	Not Applicable	5.15
Kerala	Not Applicable	6.90	8.03	5.06
Andhra Pradesh	45.33	6.08	7.60	3.40
Assam	21.54	5.89	Not Applicable	3.04
Nagaland & Manipur	17.98	3.42	Not Applicable	0.00
North East Frontier	44.10	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	6.09
Arunachal Pradesh	Not Applicable	7.63	Not Applicable	0.00

Statement-IIB*State-wise details of per Bag handling cost**[Financial year 2014-2015 (Upto Oct. 2014)]* (Cost ₹Per Bag)

	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract Workers
Punjab	26.84	7.70	0.66	0.67
Haryana	20.45	Not Applicable	0.60	0.00
Rajasthan	23.23	Not Applicable	4.32	0.00
Uttar Pradesh.	29.42	10.80	2.91	0.00
Uttarakhand	23.96	13.36	0.91	1.09
Himachal Pradesh	13.07	Not Applicable	0.80	0.42
Jammu and Kashmir	Not Applicable	4.82	Not Applicable	1.83

	Departmental	DPS	NWNP	Contract Workers
Delhi	60.97	21.28	Not Applicable	0.00
Chhattisgarh	29.36	12.88	Not Applicable	2.16
Maharashtra	37.85	12.24	4.68	9.18
Madhya Pradesh	840.66	34.51	Not Applicable	3.87
Gujarat	31.82	8.30	Not Applicable	4.30
West Bengal	38.77	4.67	7.35	0.40
Jharkhand	19.66	7.67	3.40	3.56
Odisha	32.11	12.27	Not Applicable	4.26
Bihar	23.34	9.39	8.13	0.00
Karnataka	Not Applicable	10.13	7.52	4.38
Tamil Nadu	1.73	10.56	3.10	4.94
Kerala	Not Applicable	8.43	12.70	6.61
Andhra Pradesh	58.41	7.85	3.46	3.44
Assam	26.36	6.58	Not Applicable	3.25
Nagaland & Manipur	17.81	4.65	Not Applicable	3.25
North East Frontier	22.96	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	2.81
Arunachal Pradesh	Not Applicable	8.14	Not Applicable	0.00

Procurement of wheat for marketing season 2010-11

†2263. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state whether determination of the final rate of wheat procured at the support price in Kharif marketing for the year 2010-11 along with relevant expenditures made thereon is pending with the Ministry and the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): No Sir. As wheat is not procured as a commodity of Kharif Marketing Season, no proposal for determination of final rate of wheat procured at the Minimum Support Price in the Kharif Marketing Season 2010-11 is pending with the Ministry.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Pendency of cases in consumer courts

†2264. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases are pending in consumer courts of the country and most of those are pending in district consumer courts, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is going to take special steps for quick disposal of pending cases in the consumer courts concerned with consumer disputes and 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, the details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) Government has taken the following measures to reduce pendency of cases in the consumer courts.

- (1) 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 also to avoid delay in appointments.
- (2) Circuit Benches from National Commission have been frequently visiting States.
- (3) Some State Commissions have constituted Additional Benches mainly to dispose off backlog of pending cases.
- (4) The National Commission and some of the State Commissions as well as District Fora are adopting the process of holding Lok Adalats for speedy disposal of the cases.
- (5) Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to the States/UTs for strengthening of infrastructure of Consumer Fora including computerization and networking.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Total number of consumer complaints filed/disposed since inception under consumer protection law.

(Updated on 04.12.2014)

Sl. No.	Name of Agency	Cases filed since inception	Cases disposed of since inception	Cases Pending	% of total disposal
1.	National Commission	92481	81039	11442	87.63%
2.	State Commissions	661295	570184	91111	86.22%
3.	District Forums	3482728	3213497	269231	92.27%
	TOTAL	4236504	3864720	371784	91.22%

Unrealistic rate of transportation of paddy in Odisha

2265.SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the unrealistic transport rate fixed by FCI, Odisha region, for transportation of paddy and delivery of rice made to it by State Agencies on Central Pool Account, if so, the steps taken to make it realistic; and

(b) whether Government would include a lump sum amount for transportation cost in the costing sheet for Central Pool deliveries in the current Kharif marketing season 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) *Vide* letter dated 14.03.2014, Government of Odisha has requested for providing a lump sum amount for transportation of paddy procured for Central Pool as provided for procurement under decentralized mode (DCP). They have also requested for modification of transportation rate fixed by Food Corporation of India (FCI) for Odisha to provide for 0 to 10 km slab also because FCI has fixed one single slab for 0 to 40 km. Since Government provides transportation charges for Central Pool procurement in all the States based on the principle that the amount based on the rates fixed by the District Collector of the State

or FCI, whichever is lower is paid, an exception in this regard for Odisha cannot be made. The Regional Office of FCI in Odisha has fixed its rate of transportation based on the tenders processed through a committee consisting of representatives of State Government and Odisha State Civil Supply Corporation, and, therefore, FCI has not found it feasible to revise these rates as requested by the State Government.

Fraudulent marketing strategy of automobile companies

2266. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to states:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many automobile companies are overstating vehicle fuel-economy and lie about mileage of their manufactured four wheelers or motorcycles;
- (b) if so, Government's observations on such fraudulent marketing strategy of automobile companies; and
- (c) whether Government is seriously considering to take action against such companies by applying huge fine thereon in the interest of consumers, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB DADARAO DANVE): (a) to (c) Instances of misleading advertisements and exaggerated claims made by automobile companies do come to the notice of the Government from time to time. Action is taken as per the provisions of Consumer Protection Act and other related legislations. The Advertising Standard Council of India also monitors such misleading advertisements and marketing strategy. It exerts moral persuasion over its members to refrain from such strategy/withdraw such misleading advertisements.

Consumer awareness programme

2267. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government undertook any study to assess the impact of its 'Jago Grahak Jago' campaign;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government contemplates to bring out any other effective consumer awareness programme in near future, 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) and (b) Yes Sir, the Government undertakes study from time to time to assess the impact of “Jago Grahak Jago” campaign. The latest study report by Ms/ Datamation Consultant Pvt. Ltd revealed that though the campaign is yet to reach cent per cent awareness level, however, about 90.9% of the sample respondents were aware about the “Jago Grahak Jago” campaign.

(c) To augment the campaign, the Government has decided to use new and innovative media for advertisements e.g. Digital Cinema, Community Radio, Mobile services, etc.

Food processing industries in Odisha

2268. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received from the Government of Odisha for food processing industries over the last five years;

(b) the number of such projects which have been approved and or assisted by the Central Government; and

(c) the names of projects which have been operationalized in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) Odisha Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (IDCO), Odisha has submitted a proposal for setting up a Mega Food Park Project in District Khurda at a cost of ₹116.00 crore on 200 acre of land. The project proposal is under appraisal in the Ministry along-with other proposals from various States.

Mega Food Parks in Maharashtra

2269. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mega Food Parks (MFPs) have been set up in Maharashtra under Central Scheme, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether more MFPs are proposed to be set up in the State in near future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) Yes, Sir. Two Mega Food Parks have been sanctioned by the Ministry in Maharashtra under its Central Sector Scheme of Mega Food Parks. One of these Mega Food Parks is being set up at Village Wahegoan, District Aurangabad by M/s Paithan Mega Food Park Ltd. at a total approved cost of ₹ 124.56 crore. Another Mega Food Park is being set up at Village Degaon, District Satara by M/s Satara Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. at a total approved cost of ₹ 139.33 crore. A grant-in-aid of ₹ 50.00 crore has been approved by the Ministry to each of these projects. These Mega Food Park projects are under implementation presently.

(b) and (c) Currently, there exists a vacancy of a total of 17 Mega Food Parks in the country. The Ministry had invited Expression of Interest (Eoi)/proposals on 10.02.2014 from throughout the country to fill up the existing vacancies of Mega Food Parks. The last date was 31.07.2014. In response, a total 72 proposals have been received for setting up Mega Food Parks in various parts of the country including four proposals for setting up Mega Food Parks in Maharashtra, which are being appraised in the Ministry.

Setting up of cold storage chains

2270. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of cold storage facilities in various parts of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has made any assessment of cold storage requirement for the country by 2015; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to set up more chains of cold storages at various places as well as under Public Private Partnership mode, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri Committee constituted by the Planning Commission in 2012 on Encouraging Investment in Supply Chains including Provision for Cold Storage for More Efficient Distribution of Farm Produce, citing a study conducted by National Spot Exchange Limited (NSE), has indicated cold storage requirement of 61.13 million tonnes and the present capacity of cold storage at around 32 million MT in the country. The present gap is around 29 million MT.

(c) With the objective of reducing post harvest losses and providing integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities without any break from the farm gate to the consumer, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure since 2008-09. The scheme is primarily private sector driven wherein financial assistance @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for NE Region and difficult areas (North-Eastern States, Sikkim, J&K, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of ₹ 10 crore per project is provided for setting up the cold chain infrastructure in the country. Integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure can be set up by individuals, groups of entrepreneurs, cooperative societies, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), NGOs, Central/State PSUs, etc.

Further, the Ministry has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme *i.e.* National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) during 12th Plan. For setting up of cold chain infrastructure in the country, following schemes have been included in the National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP):

- (i) Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure for Non-Horticultural Products: For setting up of cold chain projects for non-horticulture produce like dairy, meat, poultry, fish etc. the financial assistance as (a) Capital Subsidy: Grant-in-aid @35% of the bank appraised project cost for general areas, and @ 50% of the project cost for difficult areas including North- Eastern Region, subject to maximum of ₹ 5 crore, (b) Interest Subsidy: Interest subsidy @ 6% per annum subject to a maximum of ₹ 2.00 crore per project or actual interest accrued on term loan, whichever is lower, for a period of 5 year from completion of the project for general areas, and @ 7% per annum subject to a maximum of ₹ 3.00 crore per project or actual interest accrued on term loan, whichever is lower, for a period of 7 years from completion of the project for difficult areas including NER.
- (ii) Scheme for Creating Primary Processing Centres/Collection Centres in Rural Areas: For creation of primary processing facilities and Preservation Infrastructure in rural areas, grant-in-aid is provided @ 50% of the eligible project cost for the general areas and 75% in North-East, ITDP and Difficult Areas (NE States including Sikkim, notified ITDP areas and hilly States like H.P., J&K, Uttarakhand), subject to a maximum of ₹ 2.5 crore per project.

- (iii) Scheme for Reefer Vehicles: The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to standalone reefer vehicle/s and mobile pre-cooling van/s for carrying and transporting both Horticultural and Non-Horticultural produce. Credit linked back ended grants-in-aid @ 50% of the cost of New Reefer Vehicle(s)/ Mobile pre-cooling van(s) upto a maximum of ₹ 50.00 lakh is provided under the Scheme.

In addition National Horticulture Mission (NHM), National Horticulture Board (NHB), and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India are also providing assistance for setting up cold storages under their respective schemes. Various other incentives provided by the Government to promote this sector are given in Statement (*See below*).

Statement

*Details of various other incentives provided by the Government
to the cold chain sector*

1. Under Section 35-AD of the Income tax Act 1961, deduction for expenditure incurred on investment is allowed if this investment is wholly and exclusively for the purpose of (i) setting up and operating a cold chain facility; and (ii) setting up and operating warehousing facility for storage of agricultural produce. This deduction is allowed to the extent of 150% provided the taxpayer has commenced its business on or after 01.04.2012.
2. Government has extended Project Imports' benefits to Cold storage, cold room (including for farm level pre-cooling) or industrial projects for preservation, storage or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat. Consequently, all goods related to Food Processing, imported as part of the project, irrespective of their tariff classification, would be entitled to uniform assessment at concessional basic customs duty of 5%.
3. All refrigeration machineries and parts used for installation of cold storage, cold room or refrigerated vehicle, for the preservation, storage, transport or processing of agricultural, apiary, horticultural, dairy, poultry, aquatic and marine produce and meat under Tariff Head: Chapter 84 are exempted from Excise Duty.

4. Construction, Erection, Commissioning or installation of original works pertaining to post-harvest storage infrastructure for agricultural produce including cold storages for such purposes are exempted from Service tax.
5. Capital investment in the creation of modern storage capacity has been made eligible for viability gap funding scheme of the Finance Ministry. The cold chains and post-harvest storage has been recognized as an infrastructure sub-sector.

Development of food processing sector

2271. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the food processing sector is still at a nascent stage in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether inadequate infrastructural facilities, access to credit, food safety laws, etc. are the main reasons therefor; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by Government to address these issues and for developing the food processing sector to the level of other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) As per the “Vision 2015: Strategy & Action Plan for Food Processing Industries in India” prepared by Rabo India Finance in April, 2005, the level of processing in India is very low and varies from sector to sector and is estimated at 2 per cent in the case of fruits and vegetables. It is very high in developed countries (80% in USA, 70% in France) and in many developing countries as well (80% in Malaysia, 30% in Thailand). Lack of efficient supply chain infrastructure, inadequate processing capacity and access to affordable credit are some of the important causes of slow development of food processing sector in the country.

- (c) 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 & 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 Schemes included in the NMFP are (i) Technology Up-gradation/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 location 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.

A special fund of ₹ 2,000/- crore has been created in National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for providing affordable credit to entrepreneurs for setting up of food processing units in designated Food Parks.

Voting rights to NRIs

2272. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to give voting rights to Non-Resident Indians (NRIs);
- (b) whether Election Commission of India has made any recommendations to this effect;
- (c) if so, the details of the recommendation made by the Election Commission;
- (d) whether Government has examined security angle in this respect; and
- (e) whether any demand to this effect was made by NRIs during PM's visit to USA or otherwise, the details thereof?

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

(a) As per section 20A of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, every citizen of India (i) whose name is not included in the electoral roll; (ii) who has not acquired the citizenship of any other country; and (iii) who is absenting from his place of ordinary residence in India owing to his employment, education or otherwise outside India (whether temporarily or not), shall be entitled to have his name registered in the electoral roll in the constituency in which his place of residence in India as mentioned in his passport is located, and every person so registered shall, if otherwise eligible to exercise his franchise, be allowed to vote at an election in the constituency, subject to fulfillment of other conditions specified in the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960.

(b) to (e) A Committee appointed by the Election Commission has recommended (i) 'e-Postal Ballot System' which envisages electronic transmission of the blank postal paper to the registered NRI voters and thereafter return of the same by normal post and (ii) 'proxy voting' which would allow such voters to appoint a proxy after following certain formalities and exercise his franchise through the medium of the proxy so appointed. The matter is under examination.

Release of undertrials languishing in jails

2273. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over one lakh prisoners, who have served more than half of the sentence that they can get for their crimes if proved in the country, are still awaiting for their trial by the trial courts;

(b) whether some decision has been taken to release such undertrials from jails under orders of the Supreme Court; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the time-frame for their release from the prisons as also the total number of prisoners to be so released?

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

(a) The number of undertrials who have served more than half of the sentence that they can get for their crime if proved, is not available. However, as per the report published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 1,13,702 undertrials were detained in jails for more than six months at the end of the year 2013 out of which 3047 were detained in jails for more than five years.

(b) and (c) 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. Director General (Prisons)/Inspector General (Prisons) of all States/UTs have also been requested to take necessary action to comply with the order.

Digitization of subordinate courts

2274. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any steps towards digitization of subordinate courts in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) how much funds have been allotted for digitization of subordinate courts in the last three years; and

(c) the time-line within which Government proposes to implement the digitization of subordinate courts?

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

(a) The Government is implementing eCourts Mission Mode Project for computerisation of 14249 district and subordinate courts in the country by March, 2015. As on 30th November, 2014, out of 14249 courts to be computerised, sites for 14182 courts have been made ready for computerisation, out of which LAN has been installed at 13606 courts, hardware at 13436 courts and software at 13323 courts. Digitization of case records is not covered under the current phase of the project.

(b) The details of funds allotted for computerisation of District and Subordinate Courts in the last three years is as below:

(₹ in crore)			
Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Actual Expenditure
2011-12	297.00	115.00	86.4132
2012-13	233.66	90.00	72.97
2013-14	118.00	77.58	38.73

(c) The Supreme Court of India has finalised the 'Policy and Action Plan Document for Phase II of the eCourts Project' envisaging further enhancement of ICT enablement of judiciary with Digitization of case records of district and subordinate courts as one of the initiatives. The duration of the eCourt Phase II project mentioned in the Policy document is three years.

Fast Track Courts

2275. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to open a number of Fast Track Courts to speed up justice in the country:
- (b) if so, the details of such courts that are proposed to be opened, State-wise;
- (c) the number of pending court cases in the country in the Supreme Court, High Courts and lower courts; and
- (d) whether it is also proposed to open all-women courts to deal with cases relating to women prisoners in the country?

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

(a) and (b) Setting up of courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, it has been resolved that the State Governments shall, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts, take necessary steps to establish suitable number of FTCs relating to offences against women, children, differently abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of the society, and provide adequate funds for the purpose of creating and continuing them. Government has requested the State Governments and the Chief Justices of the High Courts to implement this decision.

(c) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and the High Courts. As per the information available in Court News (Vol. IX, Issue No.1), a quarterly newsletter of Supreme Court, 52,119 civil cases and 12,211 criminal cases were pending as on 31.03.2014 in the Supreme Court. 34.32 lakh civil cases and 10.23 lakh criminal cases were pending as on 31.12.2013 in various High Courts. In District and

Subordinate Courts, 82.78 lakh civil cases and 185.60 lakh criminal cases were pending as on 31.12.2013.

(d) No, Sir.

Reservation policy for appointments as Government Pleaders

2276. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing reservation policy for SC/ST and OBC candidates for appointment as Government Pleaders in all courts in the country, including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, if so, the details thereof and the present position thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when this policy would be implemented?

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

(a) and (b) Government Pleaders are empanelled from amongst the practicing advocates based on their professional competence and standing at the bar. Appointments are made on the basis of work requirement. There is no provision of reservation for SC/ST and OBC in such appointments.

Assembly Constituencies reserved for SC/ST

2277. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in some Assembly Constituencies which are reserved for SC/ST, there are either no SC/ST families or may have one or two families only;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to reconsider the reservation status of such Constituencies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c) The Election Commission has informed that seats for Scheduled Castes(SCs) and Scheduled Tribes(STs) are reserved in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies as per the provisions of articles 330 and 332 of the Constitution of India. Under the said provisions read with section 9(1) (c) and 9(1) (d) of the Delimitation Act, 2002, the seats in Legislative Assemblies of all States/Union Territories and the seats in the House of

the People were reserved for the SCs/STs by the Delimitation Commission on the basis of census figures, 2001 as ascertained by the Registrar General of India. Further, the Constituencies in which the seats are reserved for SCs were required to be distributed in different parts of the State and located, as far as practicable, in those areas where the proportion of their population to the total was comparatively large. The constituencies, which were reserved for STs, were required to be located in those areas, as far as practicable, where the proportion of their population to the total was the largest. The details of all seats including seats reserved for SCs/STs in Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies and the population of SCs/STs in those constituencies are contained in the Delimitation Order, 2008. The Commission has further informed that it has no information with regard to any of the Assembly or Parliamentary Constituencies reserved for SCs/STs where there are either no SC/ST families or may have one or two families only.

Direction of Supreme Court regarding cases against MPs/MLAs

2278. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn attention of all State Governments to a directive of the Supreme Court that cases against MPs and MLAs which attract disqualification under Section 8 (1), 8 (2) and 8 (3) of the Representation of the People Act, needed to be completed within one year of framing charges;

(b) whether as a follow up action, Government has written to all State Governments to ensure mandatory compliance of the above direction; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that those undertrials languishing in various prisons for long terms are released as per Apex Court's directives, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 10.03.2014 in W.P. No. 536 of 2011 in the matter of Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs Union of India and Anr. pending disposal before it had, *inter alia*, 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 could not conclude the trial within one year from the date of framing of charge(s), such Court would submit the report to the Chief Justice of the respective High Court indicating the 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 Hon'ble Court have been brought to the notice of Chief Justices of the High Courts and the Chief Ministers of all the States by the Government of India.

Number of women judges

†2279. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are fewer number of women judges in the Supreme Court and various High Courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the State-wise and Court-wise number of women judges in the Supreme Court and various High Courts;
- (c) whether a demand for at least 20 per cent reservation for women judges in High Courts has continued to be made, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to ensure sufficient representation of women judges in the judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details showing the number of women Judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 8.12.2014 is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) 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. 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.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

*Details showing number of women Judges in Supreme Court of India and
High Courts as on 8.12.2014*

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Number of women Judges as on 08.12.2014
1	2	3
A.	Supreme Court of India	01
B.	High Court	
1.	Allahabad	05
2.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	01
3.	Bombay	08
4.	Calcutta	05
5.	Chhattisgarh	-
6.	Delhi	08
7.	Gauhati	01
8.	Gujarat	03
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-
11.	Jharkhand	-
12.	Karnataka	02
13.	Kerala	01
14.	Madhya Pradesh	02
15.	Madras	06
16.	Manipur	-
17.	Meghalaya	-
18.	Odisha	01
19.	Patna	03
20.	Punjab and Haryana	10

1	2	3
21.	Rajasthan	03
22.	Sikkim	-
23.	Tripura	-
24.	Uttarakhand	-
TOTAL		59

Creation of All India Judicial Service

2280. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to take up a long pending proposal for creation of an All India Judicial Service to run the subordinate judiciary, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) by when it is likely to be created and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. However, there is divergence of opinion among the State Governments and High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service.

Implementation of Uniform Civil Code

†2281. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Constitution of India provides for implementation of Uniform Civil Code in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is contemplating to enact a law for implementing Uniform Civil Code in the country and if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) Article 44 of the Directive Principles of the Constitution sets / implementation of Uniform Civil Code as duty of the State. In view of the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, wide consultation with stakeholders would be required for taking further steps in this regard.

Pendency of cases in courts

2282. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases pending in courts in the country and the number of under trial prisoners are increasing every year in spite of increasing number of courts, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the procedure followed by courts is a major reason for this; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to hasten trial proceedings to dispose of cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) to (c) As per information available in Court News, a quarterly newsletter of Supreme Court of India, 2.77 crore cases were pending at the end of the year 2010 in District and Subordinate Courts throughout the country. The corresponding figure of pending cases in District and Subordinate Courts at the end of 2013 stands at 2.68 crore. However, pendency of cases in High Courts has increased from 42.49 lakh in 2010 to 44.56 lakh in 2013. As per available prison statistics compiled by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), there were 2.40 lakh under trial prisoners in different jails across the country at the end of 2010. This figure has gone up to 2.78 lakh at the end of 2013.

Increasing number of State and Central legislations, accumulation of first appeals, continuation of ordinary civil jurisdiction in some of the High Courts, vacancies of Judges, appeals against orders of *quasi-judicial* forums going to High Courts, number of revisions / appeal, adjournments, indiscriminate use of writ jurisdiction, lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing are some of the main factors responsible for pendency of cases in courts.

In order to expedite the trial of court cases, a number of legislative changes have been made in procedural laws which include provisions for limiting adjournments of court proceedings in criminal and civil matters as contained in Section 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and Order XVII of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

Closure of Fast Track Courts

2283. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Fast Track Courts set up by Government for speedy disposal of cases have been reeling under serious financial crunch, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether these courts are being closed down gradually for want of funds; and

(c) if so, the measures being taken by Government to strengthen the Fast Track Courts and make them functional?

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

(a) to (c) Setting up of courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) is the responsibility of the State Governments under the Constitution of India. Central funding to States for FTCs, established under the 11th Finance Commission Award, has been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 2011. Some States have, continued FTCs beyond 31.03.2011 with their own resources. Details indicating the number of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) earmarked by 11th Finance Commission in the year 2000, functioning as on 31/03/2005, 31/03/2011 and as per the latest available reports are given in Statement (*See below*).

The Central Government has decided to provide funds upto a maximum of ₹ 80 crore per annum on a matching basis upto 31.03.2015 from the 13th Finance Commission Award for meeting expenditure on salaries of the 10% additional positions of Judges being created in the subordinate Judiciary following the direction of Supreme Court in the case of Brij Mohan Lal Vs. Union of India. The State Governments and Chief Justices of High Courts have been requested to utilise these positions for creation of FTCs also.

In the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, it has been resolved that the State Governments shall, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts, take necessary steps to establish suitable number of FTCs relating to offences against women, children, differently abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of the society, and provide adequate funds for the purpose of creating and continuing them. Government has requested the State Governments and the Chief Justices of the High Courts to implement this decision.

Statement

Details of number of Fast Track Courts approved for 11th Finance Commission funding in 2000 and functional as on 31.3.2005, 31.3.2011 and on the date

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Approved no. of FTCs as in 2000	No. of FTCs functional as on 31.3.2005	No. of FTCs functional as on 31.3.2011	No. of FTCs functioning	As on
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	86	86	108	72	April, 14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	3	3	0	March, 14
3.	Assam	20	20	20	20	Oct.12
4.	Bihar	183	150	179	179	March,11
5.	Chhattisgarh	31	31	25	21	April,14
6.	Goa	5	5	5	5	July, 14
7.	Gujarat	166	166	61	61	Feb.,11
8.	Haryana	36	16	6	6	Dec.10
9.	Himachal Pradesh	9	9	9	0	June, 14
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	12	-	-	5	June, 14
11.	Jharkhand	89	89	39	11	March, 14
12.	Karnataka	93	93	87	39	March, 14
13.	Kerala	37	31	38	38	Aug., 13
14.	Madhya Pradesh	85	66	84	84	Dec,10
15.	Maharashtra	187	187	51	92	June, 14
16.	Manipur	3	2	2	2	Oct,12
17.	Meghalaya	3	3	3	3	June, 14
18.	Mizoram	3	3	3	3	March, 11
19.	Nagaland	3	2	2	2	Oct. 12
20.	Odisha	72	41	35	30	June, 14
21.	Punjab	29	18	15	20	March, 14
22.	Rajasthan	83	83	83	0	March,14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23.	Sikkim	3	-	-	1	March, 14
24.	Tamil Nadu	49	49	49	32	June, 14
25.	Tripura	3	3	3	2	June, 14
26.	Uttar Pradesh	242	242	153	0	March 11
27.	Uttarakhand	45	45	20	0	July, 14
28.	West Bengal	152	119	109	77	Aug., 14
29.	Delhi	-	-	-	10	March, 14
TOTAL		1734	1562	1192	815	

Complaints against members of ITAT, Kolkata

2284. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints against members of Income Tax Appellate Tribunals (ITAT), Kolkata, during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the nature of complaints received, member-wise;

(c) the action Government has taken in the matter so far;

(d) whether CBI has also warned ITAT to review the rules pertaining to “pre-judged” and “pre-written” orders under Section 263 of the Income Tax Act, 1981, so as to bring transparency in the system; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken by ITAT, Kolkata on the warning of CBI?

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

(a) to (c) An anonymous complaint dated 17.11.2014 against two members of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT), Kolkata Bench, relating to their behaviour while sitting in the Benches, was received on 1st December, 2014, which has been processed as per the extant guidelines relating to anonymous complaints.

(d) and (e) ITAT has reported that it has nothing on its records in this regard.

Foreign visits by members of ITAT, Kolkata

2285. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several members of Income Tax Appellate

Tribunal (ITAT) Kolkata have gone abroad during the last two years on personal/official visits;

(b) if so, the details of their visits abroad during the last two years and the amount spent on each visit; and

(c) whether some of the members of ITAT, Kolkata have violated the conduct rules by not seeking prior permission of the competent authority, and if so, the details thereof and action taken against such members?

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

(a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT) during the last two years only one member of the ITAT, Kolkata Bench, had gone abroad (Malaysia) on personal visit in the year 2012, with prior permission of the competent authority, and the approximate expenditure on the visit was ₹75,000/-. No member of the ITAT, Kolkata Bench, had gone abroad on official visit during this period.

Vacant technical and non-technical posts

2286. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of technical and non-technical posts are lying vacant in Railways, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action taken by Government to fill up these vacancies immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The total number of technical and Non-technical vacant posts in Zonal Railways as on 01.04.2014 (Provisional) is as under:

Technical Posts	:	154356*
Non-Technical Posts	:	71507*

* Provisional.

(b) During the Financial Year 2013-14, total 73005 persons/panels were provided to the Zonal Railways. Further, new indents for 81000 posts have been placed on the Recruitment Agencies.

Railway level crossings

2287. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned railway level crossings in West Bengal at present

and the number of accidents took place at these crossings during the last four years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to convert these level crossings in the State as manned ones to prevent accidents and create employment opportunities; 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) There are 799 unmanned level crossings in West Bengal. The number of accidents at these crossings in last four years and upto November 2014 is as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Number of consequential train accidents
1.	2010-11	04
2.	2011-12	02
3.	2012-13	03
4.	2013-14	02
5.	2014-15 (upto Nov. 14)	01
TOTAL		12

(b) and (c) It is the endeavour of Railways to eliminate all unmanned level crossings by **Manning / Closure** - Closing unmanned level crossings having NIL/negligible Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) / **Merger** - Merger of unmanned level crossing gate to nearby manned or unmanned gates or subway or Road Under Bridge (RUB) or Road Over Bridge (ROB) by construction of diversion road and **Provision of Subways/RUBs**.

In the last three years and current year (upto Oct. 2014), 411 unmanned level crossings in West Bengal have been eliminated by Railways.

Black marketing of rail tickets

2288. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the electronic and print media recently highlighted large scale connivance of railway booking clerks, touts and Railway Protection Force personnel in blackmarketing of train tickets in Delhi and other parts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action Government has taken or proposes to take on such cases to break the nexus of railway employees, touts and RPF personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Some instances of misuse of reservation system by unscrupulous elements with or without connivance of railway staff are reported in media especially during peak rush periods/festival seasons. Such instances are duly investigated and remedial action is taken, wherever required. Moreover, with a view to reducing chances of such misuse of reservation system, various steps are taken, some of which are as under:

- Regular and surprise checks are conducted in and around reservation offices as well as in trains independently as well as jointly by Commercial, Security and Vigilance Departments.
- Close Circuit Televisions have been installed at important reservation offices to monitor the activities at reservation counters.
- A close watch is kept on the working of reservation staff and strict disciplinary action is taken against the delinquent staff indulging in malpractices in reservation offices.
- For undertaking journey in reserved classes, the condition of carrying one of the prescribed proof of identity (in original) by any one of the passengers has been mandatory. In case of Tatkal ticket, the same original proof of identity as indicated on the ticket is required to be carried.
- With a view to bridging the gap between demand and supply, particularly during peak rush periods, special trains are run and load of existing trains is augmented, subject to operational feasibility.

Laying of second railway line between Banspani and Jakhpura

2289. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for slow progress of laying of the second railway line between Banspani and Jakhpura;

(b) how much of the slowing down is due to closure of iron ore mines as a result of Supreme Court directives and how much due to other factors; and

(c) the remedial measures taken or contemplated to expedite the progress of construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Banspani-Jakhpura (180 Km) doubling has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹942 crores. An expenditure of ₹161 crores has been incurred upto March, 2014 and an outlay of ₹198 crores has been provided in the current year. Track linking in 50 Km length has been completed. The reasons for slow progress include delay in acquisition of land by State Government, forestry clearance, restrictions on extraction of earth and quarry products etc. The progress of the project is not related to status of iron ore mines.

(c) Project officials are in regular touch with the State Government officials and regular meetings are conducted with them for sorting out issues on day to day basis to expedite the progress of works.

Financial position of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.

2290. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial position of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.;
- (b) the profits gained and losses incurred by Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. in the last five years;
- (c) whether any survey to construct a parallel railway line on Konkan Railway route has been made if so, how many kilometers are covered by any such survey; and
- (d) the cost incurred on the survey and estimated cost of laying second rail line on this route, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) is a Schedule - A Central Public Sector Enterprise under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways with paid up Equity Share Capital of ₹806 Cr.

Government in 2008 have carried out the financial restructuring of Konkan Railway. Loan amounting to ₹4079 crores provided by Ministry of Railways to Konkan Railway has been converted into Non-Cumulative preferential shares, redeemable after 15 /20 years.

The outstanding Bonds liability of KRCL as on 31st March 2014 is ₹1266 Cr. The Corporation has earned an operating Margin of ₹218 Cr. during 2013-14 as compared to

₹158 Cr. during 2012-13. The Corporation had earned Net Profit of ₹13 Cr during 2013-14 as compared to net loss of ₹236 Cr during the year 2012-13.

The net worth of the Corporation has gone up to ₹1353 Cr at the end of the year 2013-14.

(b) The details of profits gained and losses incurred by Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. in the last five years are as under:

(₹ in cr)					
Description	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Profit /(Loss) after Tax (PAT)	11	2	19	(236)	13

(c) No separate survey has been made to construct parallel railway line.

(d) Does not arise.

Survey for railway line

†2291. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that survey for a railway line in Chhattisgarh from Raipur to Baloda Bazar, Kasdol, Giroudpuri and Sarangarh to Odisha was proposed;

(b) whether the survey for the railway line has been completed;

(c) if so, whether the proposal is under consideration of Government; and

(d) if not, by when the survey is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Survey for new line between Raipur to Bargarh (Odisha) via Tilda Palavi, Balodabazar, Kasdol and Sarsiwan has been taken up.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A survey requires investigation of one or more routes to decide the technically feasible alignment, interaction with State Government and trade and industries for assessment of traffic projections, preparation of plans and drawings for calculation of cost etc. Since this is an extensive exercise, hence no time frame has been fixed for completion of the surveys.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Projects allotted to Kerala

2292.SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects allotted to Kerala during the last five years;
- (b) the amount of funds allotted to these projects; and
- (c) the amount of fund utilized for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Railway projects are not sanctioned State-wise. However, four major projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala *i.e.* two Doubling, one Railway Electrification and one Workshop, have been sanctioned during the last five years. An expenditure of ₹ 247 crore has been incurred upto March, 2014 on these projects, with a total outlay of ₹ 66 crore during 2014-15.

Vacancies in safety related posts

2293.SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of vacancies exist in safety related posts;
- (b) if so, the number of posts of loco running staff, driver, station master, guard, signal inspector and maintenance staff lying vacant;
- (c) since how long these posts are vacant;
- (d) the reasons for not filling up of these posts; and
- (e) the efforts being made by Railways to fill up all of these posts through regular recruitment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The details of number of vacancies as on 1.4.2014 (Provisional) in various safety related categories is given below:

Category	Vacancy*
Loco Pilots Cadre	17120
Station Masters Cadre	5623
Guard Cadre	9504

Category	Vacancy*
Signal Inspector Cadre	488
Other Safety Category (including Maintenance Staff)	80765

*Provisional.

(c) to (e) Arising of vacancies is a continuous process due to normal retirements, voluntary retirements, deaths and on account of creation of posts etc. Similarly, filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and involves issue of notification of vacancies, holding examinations, finalization of select panels and issue of appointment letters. During the Financial Year 2013-14, total 73005 persons/panels were provided to the Zonal Railways. Further, new indents for 81,000 posts have been placed on the Recruitment Agencies.

Vacancies at key posts

2294. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the key posts of Member (Electrical), four posts of General Managers and posts of several Divisional Managers were lying vacant on 1 April, 2014, if so, details thereof;

(b) the reasons for not filling up of these posts;

(c) whether this situation has affected the efficiency of Railways;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The post of Member Electrical was not vacant on 01.04.2014. The posts of General Manager, Central Organisation for Railway Electrification, Allahabad and General Manager, Metro Railway, Kolkata were lying vacant on 01.04.2014. No post of Divisional Railway Manager was lying vacant on 01.04.2014.

(b) The process of filling up of these posts is yet to be completed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Duties of these vacant posts have been assigned to General Managers of other Zonal Railways.

(e) Necessary steps have been taken to fill up vacant posts early.

World class railway stations

2295. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of establishing world class railway stations in the country, Zone-wise;
- (b) the number of stations upgraded to world-class under East Coast Railway Zone; and
- (c) whether some special facilities have been provided for women and girls at such stations to control any kind of harassment especially during intervening nights, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) It was announced in Railway Budget 2014-15, to develop at least 10 major stations of Metro Cities and important junctions to international standards. 5 stations *viz.*, Habibganj (West Central Railway), Chandigarh(Northern Railway), Bijwasan (Northern Railway), Shivaji Nagar (Pune, Central Railway) and Anand Vihar (Northern Railway) were initially entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for which Draft Master Plans and Feasibility Reports have been prepared and are under statutory approvals. In case of Habibganj, for which requisite clearances have been obtained, Request For Qualification (RFQ) for the station redevelopment contract has been invited. Surat station (Western Railway) has also been entrusted to IRSDC for redevelopment for which consultancy tenders have been opened on 8.12.2014. Mangalore and Ernakulam stations (both Southern Railway) are also identified for redevelopment for which preliminary discussions have been held. Gandhinagar station has also been taken up by Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for development and consultants have been appointed for feasibility studies. 2 stations, *viz.* Baiyyappanahalli (Bengaluru) on South Western Railway and Bhubaneswar/ New Bhubaneswar on East Coast Railway are identified for undertaking prefeasibility studies by the Chinese Railways under a Memorandum Of Understanding(MOU) dated 18.9.2014. No station has been redeveloped to international standards in East Coast Railway so far.

- (c) No such stations have been developed so far. However, separate waiting room for ladies is prescribed for 'A1' and 'A' category stations as a Desirable Amenity. Maintenance of peace and order in station premises and trains is the statutory responsibility of States

which is being discharged by them through the Government Railway Police (GRP). Besides sharing 50% of the cost on GRPs with respective States, Railways supplement efforts of States through the Railway Protection Force (RPF) to ensure security at railway stations. Measures initiated to ensure security at major stations by RPF including security of women and girls include escorting of ladies' compartments of suburban trains during peak hours, public awareness programmes with regard to security of women passengers, special squads including lady RPF Sub-Inspectors and Constables at Divisional Level for providing assistance to women passengers. To improve representation of women in the force, 10% of all posts advertised in the rank of Constable and SI are earmarked to be filled by women. 12 Manila Vahinis have been sanctioned to strengthen women security in metropolitan cities, especially in suburban sections. Creation of 4192 more posts, to be filled from women candidates, has been announced in Budget 2014-15 and proposal has been forwarded to Ministry of Finance for approval.

Dynamic fare system

2296.SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether dynamic fare in certain trains have been introduced by Railways;
- (b) if so, the details of trains and slabs of dynamic fare structure introduced; and
- (c) the response of the public to this dynamic fare structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) 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 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. The dynamic fare of the premium trains increases proportionate to the increase in Actual Demand Intensity as compared to the Normal Demand Intensity.

Upto 27.11.2014, 197 premium trains have been introduced. The total additional earnings on account of dynamic fare upto 27.11.14 after introduction of Premium trains have been ₹ 49.71 crores. Apart from this additional earnings, the response received from passengers has been encouraging going by the occupancy levels of these trains.

Number and percentage of Tatkal tickets available to passengers

2297. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and percentage of Tatkal tickets available to the passengers; and
- (b) whether their number and percentage varies from train to train, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The extent of Tatkal accommodation to be earmarked in trains is decided by Zonal Railways keeping in view the demand pattern and availability of accommodation subject to maximum limit prescribed in the scheme. On an average, approximately 12.95 lakh seats/berths are available per day for reservation out of which approximately 2.24 lakh berths/seats *i.e.* 17.31% are available for reservation under Tatkal scheme. The accommodation so earmarked can, however, in no case exceed the following limits:

Class	Number of berths to be earmarked in trains
2A	10 berths per coach
3A	16 berths per coach
Air - Conditioned Chair Car	16 seat per coach
Sleeper Coach	30% of accommodation
Reserved Second Sitting (2S)	10% of accommodation

Policy for procurement of coaches

2298. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is sharing technical know-how of coach manufacturing with private players free of cost and bought coaches from these manufacturers at higher cost than the state-owned factories;
- (b) if so, the rationale behind such policy of procurement of coaches; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to stop this policy for procurement of coaches from private players in future, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways have placed orders on private firms for manufacture and supply of Electric Multiple Unit (ACEMU) coaches and Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) coaches with the provision that drawings and technical details would be provided free of cost by Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai and Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala as these coaches were to be manufactured as per Railways' design. It is not possible to manufacture these coaches unless design and drawings are made available to the manufacturer.

In the last five years, the rates at which contracts were placed for procurement of Electric Multiple Unit (ACEMU) coaches were lower than the cost of manufacturing of similar coaches at Integral Coach Factory/Chennai. In the year 2012-13, contracts were placed for the first time, for procurement of Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) coaches from three sources. The rates (excluding taxes and duties) of two sources were lower and of one source was marginally higher (1% excluding taxes and duties) than the cost of manufacturing of similar coaches at Rail Coach Factory/Kapurthala.

(b) and (c) Procurement of coaches from other sources *i.e.* both public and private sector is done when the requirement exceeds the manufacturing capacity of Railways' own Production Units.

Utilization of railway coach factories

2299. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government favours private manufacturers to make coaches without fully utilizing the capacity of its own coach factories that were set up at a huge cost;

(b) if so, the reasons for not utilizing its own coach factories; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for maximum utilization of its coach manufacturing factories in future and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No Sir. Procurement of coaches from public sector or private sector manufacturers is done only to meet the additional requirement of coaches after fully exhausting the in-house manufacturing capacity of Indian Railways.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Restructuring and reforming Indian Railways

2300. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a committee under the chairmanship of Bibek Debroy has been constituted to examine the exercise of restructuring and reforming Indian Railways;
- (b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee and the details thereof; and
- (c) by when, the report is expected to be presented to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways have constituted a High Level Committee headed by Dr. Bibek Debroy for mobilization of resources for major railway projects and restructuring of Ministry of Railways and Railway Board. Terms of reference of the aforesaid Committee are as follows:

- (i) Reorganizing and restructuring the Railway Board and subsequently the Department so that policy making and operations are separated, the Department does not work in silos, policy making focuses on long term and medium term planning issues and operation focuses on day-to-day functioning of the Organization;
 - (ii) Promote exchange of Officers between the Railways and other departments;
 - (iii) Estimate financial needs of the Railways and ensure appropriate frameworks and policies are in place to raise resources, both internally and from outside the Government, to enable Railways to meet the demands of the future; and
 - (iv) Examine and suggest modalities for implementing the existing Cabinet decision on setting up a Rail Tariff Authority and give recommendations.
- (c) The report of the Committee is expected to be finalized by August, 2015. However, the Committee has been requested to finalize the report by June, 2015.

Late running of train no. 22405/ 22406

2301. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that train No. 22405 and 22406 running between Anand Vihar Terminus (ANVT) to Bhagalpur (BGP) and Bhagalpur to Anand Vihar Terminus respectively are often late, if so, the reasons therefor; and

- (b) the steps Government is contemplating to run the train on time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The punctuality of this train has not been upto expectation.

(b) The punctuality of Mail/Express and Passenger trains is monitored at various levels, starting from the Division to Headquarters and Railway Board. The punctuality of trains is affected due to various reasons, some of which are within the control of Railways and some due to external circumstances. The overall line capacity on the Allahabad-Mughalsarai route is saturated and any asset failure, maintenance block or external impediments, adversely affect the punctuality of passenger trains. All efforts are made to run all trains, including 22405/22406 Anand Vihar Terminus-Bhagalpur Garib Rath Express punctually.

Doubling of railway lines in Rajasthan

†2302. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts in Rajasthan in which there is a plan to double the railway lines;
- (b) whether there is a plan to double the Jaipur-Jodhpur railway track in Rajasthan, if so by when, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Railways have made any plan to double the Delhi-Jodhpur railway lines, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Railways do not plan any of its projects district-wise.

(b) and (c) There are two routes between Delhi and Jodhpur and the status of doubling on these routes is as below:

(i) Delhi-Jaipur-Phulera-Jodhpur:

On this route, Delhi-Jaipur-Phulera section has already been doubled except Alwar-Bandikui (60 Km) section. Further, survey for doubling of Phulera-Merta Road (153 Km) has been carried out and it has not been found financially viable. No survey for doubling of Merta Road-Jodhpur has been sanctioned.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(ii) Delhi-Ringus-Phulera-Jodhpur:

On this route, double line exists between Delhi and Rewari and there is no plan to double the remaining section at present.

Development of railways in desert areas of Rajasthan

†2303. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received proposals for running new trains from various State Governments and MPs;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is considering to pay special attention for development of Railways in the desert areas of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) A large number of proposals for introduction of new trains are received from various quarters including State Governments and Members of Parliament at different levels of railway administration *viz.* Railway Stations, Divisions, Zonal Headquarters, Board Level etc., and action as found feasible and justified is taken subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc. However, compendium of such proposals is not maintained by Indian Railways.

(c) There is no separate policy for development of Railways in desert area of Rajasthan.

Decline in passenger and freight traffic

2304. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have noticed decline in passenger and freight traffic in certain divisions and zones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Railway have analysed the reasons for this decline, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Out of 17 Zones, 11 Zonal Railways have booked lesser number of originating passengers during April-October, 2014 compared to the same period of last year. Four Zonal Railways have carried freight less than last year. Zone-wise number of passengers booked and freight carried is given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Zone/Rly.	No. of Originating Passengers (in millions)				Freight loading (in millions tonnes)			
	2013		2014		2013		2014	
	April to Oct.	Var.	April to Oct	% Var.	April to Oct.	Var.	April to Oct	% Var.
Central	981.81	31.28	1013.09	3.19	28.76	2.95	31.71	10.26
Eastern	711.35	-32.17	679.18	-4.52	33.87	2.61	36.48	7.71
East Central	165.18	-7.83	157.35	-4.74	59.83	0.03	59.86	0.05
East Coast	51.03	1.27	52.30	2.49	84.06	6.89	90.95	8.20
Northern	401.43	-7.47	393.96	-1.86	31.85	-0.05	31.80	-0.16
North Central	110.73	-0.71	110.02	-0.64	5.80	1.10	6.90	18.97
North Eastern	153.25	-13.31	139.94	-8.69	0.95	-0.08	0.87	-8.42
Northeast Frontier	58.17	-2.46	55.71	-4.23	6.36	0.37	6.73	5.82
North Western	103.13	0.56	103.69	0.54	10.76	0.83	11.59	7.71
Southern	487.16	-9.21	477.95	-1.89	24.15	-0.68	23.47	-2.82
South Central	229.73	-13.63	216.10	-5.93	60.21	5.15	65.36	8.55
South Eastern	152.12	-0.27	151.85	-0.18	77.15	-5.18	71.97	-6.71
South East Central	78.23	0.51	78.74	0.65	85.44	3.42	88.86	4.00
South Western	113.60	1.64	115.24	1.44	19.38	1.75	21.13	9.03
Western	961.93	18.98	980.91	1.97	42.67	6.80	49.47	15.94
West Central	86.25	-0.63	85.62	-0.73	20.09	2.73	22.82	13.59
METRO	119.90	-12.98	106.92	-10.83	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4965.00	-46.43	4918.57	-0.94	591.33	28.64	619.97	4.84

(c) The reasons for decline in passenger traffic during the current Financial Year include impact of fare rationalization, changed norms/regulations in the issue of concessional tickets, particularly in case of Izzat MSTs, closure of certain sections for gauge conversion, impact of natural disasters like floods and heavy monsoons, various other regional factors, etc.

The demand for freight loading on Indian Railways is a derived demand and is dependent on the growth in the economy, especially in the core sector since Railways is primarily a bulk carrier of freight. The Index of eight core sector industries for April-October 2014 shows a growth of 4.3% as against this the growth in freight loading has been higher at 4.79%. The slow growth rate in the originating freight loading of Indian Railways was primarily on account of relatively slow growth in core sectors of economy. This was further compounded by negative growth in Iron ore after mining restrictions were imposed in the States of Karnataka and Odisha and quantum drop in demands for exports and negative growth in loading of Fertilizer due to less demand.

Ticket booking and reservation counter at Trayambakeshwar

†2305. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken or approval granted for setting up a ticket booking and reservation counter at Trayambakeshwar to facilitate train reservation and booking of tickets for the pilgrims and tourists expected to arrive in Kumbha Mela at Nasik in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In addition to existing Passenger Reservation counters, additional counters will be operated at Nasik road and Trayambakeshwar during the upcoming Kumbha Mela in Nasik, Maharashtra.

Wages provided by contractors deployed by IRCTC

2306. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that some contractors being deployed by IRCTC are denying to pay equal wage for equal work; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has not received any cases regarding denial of equal wage for equal work.

- (b) Does not arise.

Establishment of wagon factory in Odisha

2307. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by when the Ministry will establish a wagon factory at the identified patch of land in village Sitapalli of Ganjam district and another wagon factory at Narla in Kalahandi district in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): On account of slow growth in freight traffic *vis-a-vis* the capacity for manufacture already available, work on the project of setting up a wagon manufacturing factory at Sitapalli of Ganjam district has not started.

There is no proposal, at present, to set up another wagon factory at Narla in Kalahandi district.

Revision in time-table of trains

†2308. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the schedule and procedure for revision in the time-table of trains for convenience of passengers; and

(b) the measures taken to ensure early arrival of Bandra-Amritsar (Deluxe/Western Express) at Delhi and early departure of Indore-Hazrat Nizamuddin-Indore (Intercity Express) from Hazrat Nizamuddin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Timings of trains on Indian Railways are dependent, *inter alia*, on factors like nature of service, availability of path and availability of terminal/ maintenance facilities. Indian Railways, to the extent feasible and subject to operational feasibility, endeavours to schedule trains to timings convenient to the passengers at originating/terminating stations. Every year, Indian Railways, subsequent to the announcements made in Railway Budget and after finalizing routes/timings of new trains services/extensions/increase in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

frequencies so announced, brings out public time tables incorporating such changes in timings as necessitated.

(b) 12925/12926 Bandra-Amritsar Paschim Express and 12415/12416 Indore-Nizamuddin Express are well patronized services in their present timings; change in timings of these services is not feasible at present.

Vacant safety related posts

2309. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of safety related posts are lying vacant in Railways, if so, the number of such posts; and

(b) whether Government has any intention to fill up the posts, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The total number of vacant safety related posts in Zonal Railways as on 01.04.2014 is 1,29,152 (Provisional).

(b) During the Financial Year 2013-14, total 73005 persons/panels were provided to the Zonal Railways. Further, new indents for 81000 posts have been placed on the Recruitment Agencies.

Increasing the pace of trains

2310. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways is seeking help from foreign countries to increase the pace of trains;

(b) if so, the names of such countries;

(c) the maximum speed of trains in the country; and

(d) by how much Railways intend to increase the pace of trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Increasing speed of trains is an identified area of cooperation in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) on technical cooperation in the rail sector signed with Railways/Governments of Czech Republic, China, France and Germany.

(c) At present, the maximum speed of trains is 150 kmph of the 12001/12002 New Delhi-Bhopal Habibganj Shatabdi Express on New Delhi-Agra section.

(d) Indian Railways have identified nine existing corridors for increasing the speed of passenger trains to 160/200 kmph.

MoU for super speciality hospitals in West Bengal

2311. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has signed an MoU for opening of super-speciality hospitals in West Bengal, if so, the details of such hospitals; and

(b) the progress made regarding establishment of those hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways has signed an MoU with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for opening of Super-Speciality Hospitals in different locations including West Bengal. In West Bengal, 13 locations *i.e.*, Asansol, Dankuni, Howrah, Kanchrapara, Malda Town, New Farakka, Paglachandi, Rampurhat, Rangaghat, New Jalpaiguri, Garden Reach, Haldia and Kharagpur were identified for development of tertiary level hospitals.

(b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has appointed M/s Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS) as a transaction Advisor. A meeting was arranged by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 22.08.14. A letter dated 18-11-14 has been received from Health Ministry regarding minutes of the meeting, wherein Secretary, Health, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has observed that since Health being a State subject, State Governments are important stakeholder in the process of establishing any healthcare facilities as per the felt needs of the people in the region, because it is the respective State Governments who are in the best position to take an informed decision regarding the requirement of any specific level of healthcare facilities in the State at the identified locations and reimburse cost for healthcare services rendered to the poor. He has also opined that there is need to have a fresh look at the proposed Public Private Partnership concept.

Commercial use of surplus land in West Bengal

2312. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is surplus land in the Eastern Railway, if so, the details thereof along with the total area of such surplus land in West Bengal; and

(b) whether Government has any specific guideline for commercial use of such land, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Railway has no surplus land but has vacant land which is mostly in the form of narrow strips along the tracks. The vacant land is required for servicing/maintenance of track, bridges, other infrastructure and for future expansion of the Railways. The vacant land, which is not required by Railways for its immediate operational needs, is utilized for commercial development, wherever feasible, in order to mobilize additional financial resources through Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA). RLDA has been entrusted 62 sites totalling 597 hectares which are amenable for commercial development.

Second railway bridge on Brahmaputra river in Guwahati

2313. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of progress of second railway bridge on Brahmaputra river in Guwahati in Assam; and
- (b) the details of proposal and time bound execution plan therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As per survey, cost of 2nd rail bridge at Saraighat near Guwahati over river Brahmaputra has been assessed as ₹ 300 crore at 2007-08 price level, with Rate of Return of 1.88%. Due to unremunerative nature of the project, huge throwforward of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of funds, this project could not be taken forward.

Electrification and gauge conversion of railway lines

2314. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of railway network in the country, zone-wise;
- (b) the details of railway lines electrified in the country, zone-wise;
- (c) the details of metre gauge and narrow gauge lines in the country, zone-wise;
- (d) how much metre and narrow gauge lines are still left to convert into broad gauge; and

(e) the steps taken to electrify and convert entire network into broad gauge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (c) As on 31.03.2014, the Railway network (route kilometres) zone-wise and gauge-wise is as under:

Sl. No.	Zonal Railways	B.G.	M.G.	N.G.	Total
1.	Central	3743.11	0.00	298.61	4041.72
2.	Eastern	2549.82	0.00	91.57	2641.39
3.	East Central	3344.11	363.88	0.00	3707.99
4.	East Coast	2678.87	0.00	0.00	2678.87
5.	Northern	6935.58	0.00	260.85	7196.43
6.	North Central	2915.25	11.48	288.59	3215.32
7.	North Eastern	2824.79	1006.61	0.00	3831.40
8.	Northeast Frontier	2970.02	925.85	87.48	3983.35
9.	North Western	4538.29	988.37	0.00	5526.66
10.	Southern	4550.29	528.42	0.00	5078.71
11.	South Central	5743.48	175.93	0.00	5919.41
12.	South Eastern	2716.33	0.00	0.00	2716.33
13.	South East Central	1777.62	0.00	711.01	2488.63
14.	South Western	3322.12	0.00	0.00	3322.12
15.	Western	4547.54	1333.15	558.90	6439.59
16.	West Central	2992.07	0.00	0.00	2992.07
17.	Kolkata Metro Railway	27.64	0.00	0.00	27.64
GRAND TOTAL		58176.93	5333.69	2297.01	65807.63

(b) As on 01.04.2014, Zone-wise Railway lines electrified in the country, are as under:

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	Route Kilometers Electrified as on 01.04.2014
1.	Central	2164
2.	Eastern	1604
3.	East Central	1867
4.	East Coast	1653
5.	Northern	2587
6.	North Central	1749
7.	North Eastern	567
8.	Northeast Frontier	246
9.	North Western	87
10.	Southern	2799
11.	South Central	2328
12.	South Eastern	2246
13.	South East Central	1312
14.	South Western	497
15.	Western	1607
16.	West Central	1553
17.	Kolkata Metro Railway	25
	TOTAL	24891

(d) As on 01.04.2014, 5,333.69 route kilometres of Meter Gauge and 2297.01 km of Narrow Gauge lines exist in the country. Out of these, only 2754 kilometres of Meter Gauge and 1542 kilometres of Narrow Gauge have been sanctioned for conversion.

(e) As a step to improve rail transport in the country, the pace of electrification on Indian Railways has been accelerated. During the XI Five Year Plan, 4,556 Route Kilometres have been electrified as against the target of 4,500 Route Kilometres. Further, during the first two years of XII Five Year Plan period, 2,667 Route Kilometres have also been electrified. (2012-13: 1,317 Route Kilometres, 2013-14: 1,350 Route Kilometres).

Indian Railways has a huge throwforward of ongoing projects to the tune of ₹ 1.82 Lakh Crore. With the resource crunch and limited Gross Budgetary Support, Railways

are not in a position to provide adequate funds to ongoing projects to achieve satisfactory level of progress. Against this backdrop, Railways are unable to take up conversion of entire network into Broad Gauge.

Group D and C posts in railways

2315. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Group 'D' and 'C' posts in Railways, zone-wise;
- (b) the details of posts reserved for SCs, STs and OBCs;
- (c) whether reservation policy is followed in Group 'D' and Group 'C' position; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The total number of sanctioned posts in Group 'C' and Erstwhile Group 'D' in Zonal Railways as on 01.04.2014 (Provisional) is as under:

Railway	Sanctioned Strength
Central	129844
East Coast	54924
East Central	99496
Eastern	139950
North Central	83159
North Eastern	65313
Northeast Frontier	76789
Northern	176037
North Western	62329
South Central	101839
South East Central	52184
South Eastern	99733
Southern	108397

Railway	Sanctioned Strength
South Western	42672
West Central	67144
Western	119386
TOTAL	1479196*

* Provisional.

(b) to (d) As per Government of India's reservation policy, 15%, 7½ % and 27% posts, reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) respectively is followed and ensured in every category on the Railways and shortfall, wherever existing, is made good through Special Recruitment Drives/normal Recruitments through Recruitment Agencies.

Survey of new railway tracks

2316. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway tracks taken up by the Ministry to start survey from different States from 2001 till 2014 budget;

(b) the consideration on which the Ministry decide or priorities survey of new railway link of different States;

(c) whether the Ministry considers for taking up new railway line in those States who lag behind from other States in railway network; and

(d) the proposals received by Railways from Government of Odisha, from 2001 onwards for taking up new railway links?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) A total of 757 number of surveys for new lines have been taken up from 2001 till 2014.

(b) Surveys are taken up on the basis of demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament and other public representatives. The demands received are scrutinized and, wherever feasible, surveys are taken up. Surveys are also taken up based on requirement of railways for last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines etc.

(c) Projects are taken up based on remunerativeness, missing links, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

(d) Demands for survey are received from time to time at various levels *i.e.* Railway Board, Zonal Railways and Divisional Headquarters etc. No compendium for demands received is maintained. However, between 2000-01 and 2014-15, 39 new line surveys were sanctioned in the State of Odisha out of which 18 surveys have been completed.

Kantabanji-Nabarangpur railway line

2317. SHRI A. V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey and estimate of the Kantabanji-Raj Khariar-Dharamgarh-Nabarangpur railway line have been received by the Railway Board; and

(b) if so, the action taken to accord approval and make provision of funds for its implementation in view of the area being in backward Koraput- Balangir-Kalahandi (KBK) region and naxal affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. Survey for Kantabanji-Rajkhariar-Dharamgarh-Nabarangpur railway line has been taken up as a part of Kantabanji-Nabarangpur-Jeypore, out of which Survey for Nabarangpur-Jeypore has been completed.

(b) Does not arise.

Dependence on contract workers

2318. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what will be the priority of Railways—superfast trains, doubling of rail lines, electrification, new railway lines, improvement of quality of service or safety of passengers; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Railway administration is depending on contract workers more and more instead of maintaining a trained and efficient work force, leading to an increasingly poor service to passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Transportation capacity augmentation, improvement of services including their quality and safety of passengers are all priority areas of the Railways.

(b) No, Sir. However, 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 stations have been brought under the 'Pay & Use' scheme with the participation of the private sector.

Measures taken following elephant deaths on railway tracks in North Bengal

2319. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken following the rise in deaths of elephants on railway tracks in North Bengal;

(b) the funds allocated for diversion of trains away from elephant corridors; and

(c) the time-line for completion of diverted railway tracks in vulnerable spots of elephant corridors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The measures taken to curb the elephant deaths on railway tracks in North Bengal include imposition of speed restrictions, clearance of vegetation on the side of railway track, provision of signage boards to pre-warn the train drivers, sensitizing train Drivers and Guards, keeping railway track free from food waste that attracts elephants, flow of communication from forest official to railway control, construction of under passes between Chalsa and Nagrakata station, construction of two ramps between Madarihat and Hasimara station, construction of girder bridge between Gulma and Sevok station to prevent the entry of elephants into deep cuttings, rail fencing between Sevok and Bagrakot station etc.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to divert railway tracks in vulnerable spots of elephant corridors. As such, no funds have been allocated for such purpose.

Receipt for sale of food stuff in trains

2320. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pantry car staff overcharge for food and drinking stuff provided to the sleeper class passengers in trains, especially in North East Frontier (NF) and North Eastern (NE) Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is considering to provide receipt for sale of food stuff in trains, 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) Food in trains is sold as per rates notified by the Railways. On Northeast Frontier (NF) and North Eastern (NE) Railway, about 90 cases of complaints of overcharging have been reported during the last one year (*i.e.* 01.12.2013 to 30.11.2014). Action has been taken on the licensees including imposition of fines.

(c) Instructions exist with the zonal railways to ensure issue of receipt (electronic/ printed) for sale of food to the passengers of Mail/Express trains. Monitoring is done through surprise and periodical inspections conducted by zonal railways.

Construction of another railway line from Saharanpur to Dehradun

†2321. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government considers that the frequency of trains to Dehradun has increased now;

(b) whether Government is also aware that the operation of trains to Dehradun is still being done in an old fashioned way;

(c) if so, whether Railways consider it necessary to construct another railway line from Saharanpur to Dehradun in the present context; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in construction of another railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In the last few years, train connectivity to Dehradun has increased and at present, 19 pairs of train services, including prestigious services like Shatabdi Express, AC Express and Jan Shatabdi Express etc., serve Dehradun station and connect Dehradun, *inter-alia*, with important stations like Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Varanasi, Mumbai etc.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Huge throwforward of ongoing projects and limited overall availability of resource precludes railway from taking up new projects.

Joint venture by railways and rites for development of solar and wind energy

2322. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are contemplating on the development of use of solar and wind energy to reduce the cost of electricity, fuel and diesel, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether RITES and Railways are floating a joint venture project in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Indian Railways is harnessing solar and wind energy at competitive rates and have installed solar and wind mill plants of about 20 Mega Watt (MW) capacity. Further, works of about 10 MW of solar plants at Railway stations, office buildings and level crossing (LC) gates and 157.5 MW of wind mill plants have also been planned.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Railway Energy Management Company (REMC), a Joint Venture (JV) of Ministry of Railways and RITES in the equity partnership of 49% and 51% respectively, has been incorporated mainly for harnessing green energy for Railways.

Wagon factory at Kantabanji

2323. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there exists 700 acres of unutilized land of Railways in Kantabanji in Bolangir district of Odisha;

(b) whether Government has approved construction of a wagon factory in Kantabanji, if so, the progress and other details thereof;

(c) whether any area of the land will remain unutilized even after such construction, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what does Government propose to utilize the remaining land for, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. At Kantabanji, total 540.56 acres of land is with Railway. Out of which approximately only 68.42 acres of land is presently vacant.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The vacant railway land is meant for execution of various infrastructural works for future expansion of Railways.

Expansion and upgradation of railway station

2324. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are considering to make expansion of platform at Mettupalayam railway station and laying of a pit line for maintenance of engine and coaches at the same station;

(b) whether Railways are considering upgradation of Singanallur and Peelamedu railway stations;

(c) whether expansion plans of Podanur railway station is under process; and

(d) whether Railways are considering expansion and redevelopment of Irugur railway station falling in between Coimbatore and Tirupur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) A work for extension of platform at Mettupalayam railway station to hold 24 coaches has been sanctioned in 2014-15. However, laying of pit line at Mettupalayam station is not a sanctioned work.

(b) Pilamedu is an 'E' category and Singanallur is a 'F' category (halt) station. All amenities as per norms of Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) are available at these stations. Upgradation/augmentation of amenities at station is a continuous process. However, Pilamedu railway station has been identified for development under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme.

(c) and (d) Podanur is a 'D' category and Irugur is a 'F' category (halt) station. All amenities as per norms of MEA are available at these stations. Upgradation/augmentation of amenities at station is a continuous process. However, at present, there is no proposal for expansion/redevelopment of these stations.

**Status of Railway Divisional Headquarter work at
Gulbarga, Karnataka**

2325. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status in railway divisional headquarter construction work at Gulbarga, Karnataka;
- (b) how much money has been spent so far;
- (c) by when the project would be completed; and
- (d) by when administrative work would start from Gulbarga?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The work of construction of Railway Divisional Headquarter at Gulbarga is not a sanctioned work. However, a work of 'Augmentation of administrative/ office infrastructure, Solapur Division, Gulbarga' was sanctioned in 2013-14 at a total cost of ₹5.0 crore. ₹44.88 lakhs have been spent so far for providing fencing along the land parcels transferred to Railway by Government of Karnataka for this purpose.

(c) and (d) Do not arise as the work of construction of Railway Divisional Headquarter at Gulbarga is not yet a sanctioned work.

Passenger amenities at Villupuram railway station

2326. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of passenger amenities, viz. escalators, lifts and foot over bridges proposed to be provided at Villupuram railway station;
- (b) the funds earmarked for this; and
- (c) the tentative time by which these works would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) At present, two Foot Over Bridges (FOB) are available at Villupuram Railway Station. However, there are no sanctioned works for provision of lifts/escalators and FOB at this railway station.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

High speed and semi high speed trains

2327. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALLYAWI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of high speed and semi high speed trains introduced so far; and
- (b) the sectors where such trains are proposed to be introduced in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. No high speed or semi high speed trains have been introduced so far.

(b) The first sector identified for introduction of High Speed trains/bullet trains in the country is Mumbai-Ahmedabad. For this sector, two studies, one a Joint feasibility study, co-financed by India and Japan and another a business development study by French Railways (SNCF) have been undertaken. JICA has submitted the first interim report in July, 2014 and Second interim report in November, 2014. SNCF has submitted the report in September, 2014.

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.

Other sections where pre-feasibility studies for high speed rail has been completed/ in progress are as below:

- (i) Delhi-Agra-Lucknow-Varanasi -Patna - 991 km., (ii) Howrah-Haldia - 135 km., (iii) Hyderabad-Dornakal-Vijaywada -Chennai - 664 km., (iv) Chennai-Bangalore-Coimbatore-Ernakulam-Thiruvananthapuram - 850 km., (v) Delhi-Chandigarh-Amritsar-450 km. and (vi) Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Jodhpur-591 km.

As regards Semi High Speed trains (160-200 kmph), the sections identified are Delhi-Agra; Delhi-Chandigarh; Delhi-Kanpur; Nagpur-Bilaspur; Mysore-Bengaluru-Chennai; Mumbai-Goa; Mumbai-Ahmedabad; Chennai-Hyderabad and Nagpur-Secunderabad.

All technical inputs required for running of commercial service at 160 kmph on

New Delhi-Agra corridor have been given and the corridor is ready for introduction of such service.

Technical/Financial feasibility study for Chennai- Bangalore - Mysore, is assigned to China Railway Eryuan Engineering Group at their cost, as part of cooperation with Chinese Railway in terms of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on technical cooperation in the Rail Sector.

Wi-Fi internet connectivity in superfast trains

2328. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress of providing WI-FI internet connectivity in all superfast trains in the Indian Railways;
- (b) the number of superfast trains to be covered with WI-FI by the end of the Financial Year and the details thereof;
- (c) by what time, all the trains in superfast category will be covered; and
- (d) the estimated cost to be incurred for the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Railways have provided Wi-Fi facility in Howrah-New Delhi, Howrah Rajdhani Express (3 rakes) as a pilot project in April, 2013 using satellite communication technology for continuous connectivity. A work of provision of Wi-Fi facility in 50 rakes of Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duranto category trains has been included in Works Programme 2013-14. Initially, as phase I, one Rajdhani Express train and Shatabdi Express (Total 5 rakes) are planned.

(b) By the end of current Financial Year, agency to execute the work in 5 rakes will be finalised.

(c) Currently there is no plan to provide Wi-Fi facility in all trains in Superfast category.

(d) The estimate approximate cost on providing Wi-Fi facility in 50 rakes of Rajdhani/Shatabdi and Duranto Category train is ₹98.6 crores.

FDI and PPP to modernize and restructure railways

2329. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a proposal to invite Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Public/Private-Partnerships (PPP) to modernize and restructure Railways and to deal with acute financial crunch in Railway Finance, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the proposals received, if any, in this regard; and
- (c) the progress of Western and Eastern legs of dedicated freight corridor, with details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is encouraging investments through Public Private Partnership (PPP) and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for generating financing to build/strengthen rail infrastructure and for modernising the same. A Participative policy was notified in December, 2012 and Sectoral guidelines for Domestic/ Foreign Direct Investment have been notified in November, 2014.

Financial commitments of approximately ₹ 10,000 crore have been received for 17 rail connectivity projects under the Participative Models Policy of December, 2012.

(c) 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. Award of over 9000 Hectare of land has been declared under section 20F of Railway Amendment Act (RRA) 2008 and compensation award of ₹ 6512 crore has been declared as per provision of Railway Amendment Act (RRA) 2008.

Railway coach manufacturing units

2330. SHRI D. RAJA:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of railway coach manufacturing units under various stages of construction at present and the production capacity of each of them; and
- (b) by when they are expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Rail Coach Factory, Raebareli with production capacity of 1000 coaches is under construction at present.

(b) Rail Coach Factory, Raebareli has been commissioned for phase I and production has commenced. Left over balance works in phase II are underway. Completion date depends on the materialization of the balance facilities including Machinery and Plant.

Sectors identified for FDI in railways

2331. 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 identified 17 sectors in its operations to allow 100 per cent foreign/private investment, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Railways in November, 2014 have issued Sectoral guidelines which includes 17 sectors which permits 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in construction, operation and maintenance in the following identified areas:

- (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 terminals;
- (viii) Passenger terminals;
- (ix) Testing facilities and laboratories;
- (x) Non- Conventional Sources of Energy;
- (xi) Railway Technical Training Institutes;
- (xii) Concessioning of standalone passenger corridors (branch lines, hill railways etc.);
- (xiii) Mechanized Laundry;
- (xiv) Rolling stock procurement;
- (xv) Bio-toilets;
- (xvi) Technological solutions for manned and unmanned level crossings;
- (xvii) Technological solutions to improve Safety and reduce accidents.

(b) The Sectoral guidelines include permitted activity, salient features and limit to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in each of the above identified sectors. The salient feature pertains to project development, support from the Government and appropriate models of implementation.

Fare of Tatkal tickets

2332. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has increased the fare of 50 per cent Tatkal tickets and these are now available on auction basis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government would review the fare and bring it down as price of diesel/crude oil has been reduced by around 30 per cent in the international market, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons and rationale for increasing the Tatkal fares even after reduction in oil prices in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) In order to improve the earnings, *w.e.f.* 01.10.2014, in some of the selected trains by Zonal Railways which are most in demand, 50% of the existing accommodation under Tatkal Quota has been earmarked as Premium Tatkal Quota and is being booked on dynamic pricing.

This is a distance-slab based fare scheme where the fare increases by 20% after each slab of 10% berths are sold subject to a cap (maximum fare chargeable).

(c) and (d) Review of newly introduced schemes on the basis of feedback received is a continuous and ongoing process. The passenger fares are highly subsidised. In order to improve the earnings, on select high demand trains 50% of the existing accommodation under Tatkal fare is booked on dynamic fare.

As announced in the Railway Budget 2013-14, fare and freight revision linked to fuel cost are being done twice a year, in sync with movement in fuel cost, in either direction. The last Fuel Adjustment Component (FAC) linked revision was done in June 2014.

Nuapada - Bargarh railway line

2333. SHRI A. V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey and estimate report of the Nuapada-Bargarh railway line has been received by the Railway Board; and

(b) if so, the action taken to accord approval and make provision of funds for implementation in view of the area being in backward Koraput-Balangir-Kalahandi (KBK) region and naxal affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been shelved due to huge shelf of ongoing projects and the limited overall availability of funds.

Premium trains in Telangana

2334. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to introduce Premium Trains in Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Indian Railways do not introduce new train services on State-wise basis as Railway network and operations run across State boundaries. However, introduction of a new Premium Express train *viz.* 22703/22704 Secunderabad-Hazrat Nizamuddin Premium AC Express, on originating and terminating basis, serving Telangana has been announced in Railway Budget 2014-15 (July).

(c) Does not arise.

Favouring private manufacturers of coaches

2335. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reason for favouring private manufacturers of coaches, when the capacity of departmental factories has not been fully utilized;

(b) whether departmental production units were ordered to share designs for sub-urban and express trains at free of cost to private manufacturers;

(c) the difference in cost of procuring coaches from private manufacturers and departmental factories; and

(d) whether it is a fact that many positions in the newly set up coach factory at Raebareli have not been made operational on account of insufficient production orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Procurement of coaches is done from other sources *i.e* both public and private sector when the requirement exceeds the manufacturing capacity of Railways own Production Units.

(b) Indian Railways have placed orders on private firms for manufacture and supply of Electric Multiple Unit (ACEMU) coaches and Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) coaches with the provision that drawings and technical details would be provided free of cost by Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai and Rail Coach Factory

(RCF), Kapurthala as these coaches were to be manufactured as per Railways' design. It is not possible to manufacture these coaches unless design and drawings are made available to the manufacturer.

(c) The difference in cost of MEMU coaches in the order on three private manufacturers *vis-a-vis* RCF, Kapurthala, is as detailed below:

Year	Contract Rates (excluding taxes and duties and free supply items) per rake	Cost of equivalent rake of RCF at that time	Difference (₹ in crores)
2011-12	₹ 6.16 crore per rake	₹ 6.09 crore per rake	0.07
	₹ 5.53 crore per rake		-0.56
	₹ 5.23 crore per rake		-0.86

The difference in cost of Electric Multiple Unit (ACEMU) coaches in the last order on two private manufacturers *vis-a-vis* ICF, Chennai., is as detailed below:

Year	Contract Rates (excluding taxes and duties and free supply items) per rake	Cost of equivalent rake of ICF at that time	Difference (₹ in crores)
2012-13	₹ 9.69 crore per rake	₹ 10.47 crore per rake	-0.78
	₹ 8.57 crore per rake		-1.90

(d) The Raebareli factory is in the project stage. The positions in the factory are made operational commensurate to the facilities commissioned.

Replacement of sleeper coaches with chair cars

2336. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to replace AC and non-AC sleeper coaches with chair cars in short distance trains to increase passenger carrying capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of trains which have been selected for such replacement; and

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no such proposal.

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

Construction of Rishikesh-Karanprayag railway line

†2337. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of construction of Rishikesh-Karanprayag railway line undertaken in the last financial year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the fund allocation for the under construction Rishikesh-Karanprayag railway line in Uttarakhand in financial year 2013-14 was not sufficient as per its length; and
- (c) if so, whether it is expected to allocate more funds in the next financial year for the construction of the said railway line, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Work of Rishikesh-Karanprayag new railway line (125 Km.) has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹4295 crores and an expenditure of ₹11.6 crores has been incurred upto March, 2014. The project is passing through a very challenging terrain in young Himalayas involving unique geological and geophysical features and it is necessary to finalise the alignment after detailed studies of these features, before taking up the physical execution of the project at site.

Accordingly, an outlay of ₹5 crores was provided for the project in the year 2013-14 for these activities. An outlay of ₹20 crores has been provided in the current year to take up detailed geological mapping, geological studies and staking of alignment etc. which are prerequisite for starting of physical execution at site for the projects of such nature. The outlays provided so far were sufficient as per the present level of activities.

- (c) Allocation of funds in the next financial year cannot be committed at this stage, as there is no system of assured funding for Railway Projects.

Income of divisions under West and Central Zones from passenger fare

2338. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number and names of divisions under Western and Central Zone of Railways; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of income from passenger fare of each division under both the Zones during financial year 2012-13 and 2013-14?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table.

Statement

(a) and (b) The number and names of divisions under Central and Western Railways alongwith details of income from passenger fare of the divisions under these two Zonal Railways during the financial years 2012-13 and 2013-14, are given below:

Zonal Railway	Number of Divisions	Divisions	Earning from Passenger Fare (₹ in cr.)	
			2012-13	2013-14
Central	5	Mumbai	2075.05	2418.19
		Bhusawal	442.59	500.06
		Nagpur	334.82	394.59
		Solapur	247.27	284.94
		Pune	533.42	611.39
Western	6	Mumbai	1836.30	2116.24
		Vadodara	276.92	323.01
		Ratlam	359.92	417.46
		Ahmedabad	624.00	723.24
		Rajkot	153.86	179.83
		Bhavnagar	96.15	112.82

Cleanliness and sanitation in railways

2339. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CAG report on Railways has observed that cleanliness and sanitation of Railways is far from satisfactory;

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve cleanliness and sanitation in trains and at railway stations;

(c) whether Government has taken a time-bound Action Plan for ensuring

sanitation and cleanliness in coaches, platforms and stations as pointed in the CAG Report;

(d) the mechanism adopted by Railways to dispose the garbage produced in trains and at railway stations; and

(e) the time-line within which bio-toilets will be installed in Indian Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To improve upon the effectiveness of housekeeping schemes for trains viz. On Board Housekeeping Services (OBHS), Clean Train Stations (CTS) and Mechanised Coach Cleaning in coaching depots, Zonal Railways have been advised for close monitoring of cleaning operations, use of Biometric attendance system for OBHS staff and evolve an evaluation system for CTS functioning. During the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 till date, 13 additional mechanized laundries have also been set up. Mechanized cleaning, rag picking and garbage disposal contracts are being awarded for ensuring cleaning of stations including platforms. More and more toilets are being brought under 'pay & use' scheme.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Garbage from trains is cleared by On Board Housekeeping Services (OBHS) staff and at nominated enroute stations. Garbage disposal contracts are being awarded regularly for disposal of garbage at stations.

(e) Indian Railways are working to eliminate direct discharge toilet system by providing bio-toilets in the entire fleet of passenger coaches by 2021-22.

Nagpur-Nagbhid broad gauge conversion

2340. SHRI AVINASH PANDEY: Will The Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Nagpur-Nagbhid broad gauge conversion project sanctioned in the Railway Budget 2013-14 has been completed, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): The Gauge Conversion Project of Nagpur- Nagbhid Section was included in the Railway Budget 2013-14, subject to obtaining of approvals from Planning Commission,

Ministry of Finance and Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. The project could not be taken forward as requisite approvals were not granted in view of its negative rate of return of 22.94%.

Incidents of crime in running trains

2341. SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI:

SHRI K.C. TYAGI:

SHRI VIJAYA JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents involving robbery, theft, murder, harassment of children and women reported in running trains during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(b) whether Railways have put any comprehensive mechanism to ensure safety and security of passengers particularly women passengers in the trains;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the responsibilities assigned to the State Authorities and Railways; and

(d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by Railways to improve safety and security of passengers and also prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The number of cases of robbery, theft, murder, harassment of children and women reported in trains over Indian Railway during the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 (Upto October) is as under:

Year	Robbery	Theft	Murder	Harassment of women and children
2011	225	9230	27	106
2012	448	8225	29	165
2013	532	9191	32	242
2014 (Upto Oct.)	276	7741	17	245

(b) and (c) At present, a three tier security mechanism of Government Railway Police (GRP), Railway Protection Force (RPF) and District Police is in place over Indian Railways in which prevention and detection of crime, including crime against women

passengers and children, in Railway premises and running trains are the responsibility of States through their GRPs. Accordingly, the cases of crime on Railways are reported, registered and investigated by the GRP. RPF supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying its staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations. The concerned District Police are responsible for security of tracks, bridges and tunnels.

(d) The other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Railways to improve safety and security of passengers and also to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future are as under:-

1. All the ladies special trains running in Metropolitan cities are being escorted by lady RPF constables.
2. The ladies compartments in local trains are being escorted by RPF and GRP during peak/non-peak hours. Staff deployment is made during late night and early morning local trains to ensure proper security to the lady passengers.
3. On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, 1300 trains (on an average) are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily, in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
4. Out of actual deployed strength 55820 RPF personnel, there are 1444 lady personnel in service out of which 759 are deployed for escorting of trains.
5. In addition, 08 Mahila Vahinis consisting of 1056 lady RPF personnel have been sanctioned.
6. Creation of 4192 posts of lady RPF personnel have been announced in Railway Budget 2014-15. The proposal is at present under consideration of Ministry of Finance.
7. An Integrated Security System consisting of electronic surveillance of vulnerable stations through Close Circuit Television Camera Network, access control, Anti-sabotage checks has been finalized to strengthen surveillance mechanism over 202 sensitive Railway stations.
8. An All India Security Helpline '1800-111-322' has been operational at Railway Board to enable passengers to seek security related assistance round the clock.

9. To create a more effective security mechanism over Indian Railways, a proposal for amendment in the RPF Act has been moved by the Ministry of Railways with the approval of the Ministries of Law and Justice and Home Affairs. This will empower the RPF to deal with serious crimes in passenger areas.
10. RPF holds regular coordination meetings with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police (GRP).

Enhancing passenger facilities

†2342. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have relaxed rules to increase passenger facilities, if so, details thereof;
- (b) whether a person or institution can donate resources to Railways voluntarily;
- (c) if so, number of persons and institutions along with details of donated resources and estimated value/cost prices thereof;
- (d) whether Government proposes to provide chairs at railway stations under MPLAD fund;
- (e) if so, whether Railways have invited proposals from the MPs; and
- (f) the details of special efforts of Government to enhance passenger facilities particularly hygiene and sanitation, drinking water, construction and repairing of toilets and for sitting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Guidelines have been issued in September, 2014 to enable participation of individuals, NGOs, Trusts, Charitable Institutions, Corporations, etc. in Railway's efforts for provision/improvement/upgradation/renovation of amenities at railway stations. Such offers are being received at divisional level and compendium of such offers is not maintained.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Zonal Railways have been directed to seek sponsorship from Hon'ble Members of Parliament for provision of additional chairs/seating arrangements at railway stations under MPLAD Scheme.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(f) The above initiatives are the special efforts of the Government to enhance passenger amenities. Further, provision/maintenance/augmentation of amenities including drinking water, toilet facility and seating arrangements, at railway stations is a continuous process and is undertaken subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. With a view to improve the standard of cleanliness, Railways have planned multi pronged action by synergizing technology, education of users, provision of mechanized equipments and penalty provisions.

Protection of cotton farming

2343. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the domestic and international prices of cotton in the last five years and the current year, year-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that prices of cotton have fallen in the last few months;
- (c) if so, the remedial measures Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has taken to protect the cotton farmers in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and
- (d) whether CCI has set up any procurement centres in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The details of domestic and international prices of cotton in the last five years and the current cotton year, year-wise are given below:

Year	Yearly Average Price of S-6 (Domestic Price)		Yearly Average Cotlook A (CFR) (International Price)		Diff. S-6 vis-a-vis Cotlook A	
	₹/candy	Conv. in US C/lb	In US C/lb	Conv in ₹/candy	₹/ candy	In US C/lb
	2	3	4	5	6	7
2009-10	28416	78.51	77.99	28226	190	0.52
2010-11	44988	127.73	165.13	58162	-13174	-37.40
2011-12	35691	86.52	99.85	41189	-5498	-13.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2012-13	38321	86.39	87.98	39024	-703	-1.59
2013-14	41366	86.45	91.02	43555	-2189	-4.57
2014-15	33101	68.62	71.70	34588	-1487	-3.08

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The market prices of cotton have declined in the last few months. For the Cotton Season 2014-15, Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) is operating more than 340 procurement centres in 92 districts across 11 Cotton growing States in the country.

As on date in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana 12,07,568 bales have been procured under MSP out of 17,64,118 bales total arrival. A total of 81 centres are being operated in the State of Telangana and 29 in Andhra Pradesh by the CCI. The details of State-wise number of procurement centres being operated by CCI during Cotton Season 2014-15 is as under:

Sl. No.	State	No. of Districts	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.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	29
8.	Telangana	9	81
9.	West Bengal	1	1
10.	Odisha	3	6
11.	Karnataka	9	15
TOTAL		92	343

Cotton purchase centres of CCI

2344. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of centres opened in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) to purchase cotton from farmers;
- (b) the details of cotton purchased by each of the above centres, district-wise in the current season;
- (c) the reasons that CCI has not yet opened its centres in Warangal and opening of other centres like Karimnagar and Nalgonda as formality; and
- (d) the manner in which Government would ensure that CCI buys cotton from farmers of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The details of centres opened in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana by Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) and details of cotton purchased by them district-wise are given in the Statement (*See below*)

(c) CCI has so far opened 11 centres in the District of Warangal and has purchased 1.54 lakh bales of cotton as against the arrivals of 2.60 lakh bales. A total of 9 centres have been opened in Karimnagar in which 1.6 lakh bales of cotton has been purchased as against 2.14 lakh bales of arrivals and in 10 centres opened in Nalgonda, 1.42 lakh bales have been purchased against 1.80 lakh bales arrivals.

(d) CCI has been advised to buy cotton from farmers of all cotton growing States including Andhra Pradesh and Telangana whenever the cotton price touches the MSP level for which adequate number of cotton procurement centres are being operationalised in consultation with the State Government.

Statement

*District-wise procurement of cotton under MSP operations
during current cotton season (as on 04.12.2014)*

(1 Bale = 170 Kg.)			
Sl. No.	Name of District	Total No. of Centres	Purchase (in bales)
Branch - Warangal (Telangana)			
1.	Warangal	11	145539
2.	Karimnagar	9	154138
3.	Medak	7	35057

Sl. No.	Name of District	Total No. of Centres	Purchase (in bales)
4.	Mahabubnagar	3	65931
5.	Ranga Reddy	5	41950
6.	Khammam	6	63089
7.	Nalgonda	10	133850
	TOTAL	51	639554
Branch - Adilabad (Telangana)			
1.	Adilabad	23	301839
2.	Nizamabad	1	7211
	TOTAL	24	309050
Branch - Guntur (Andhra Pradesh)			
1.	Guntur	10	35508
2.	Prakasam	6	53357
3.	Krishna	7	136817
4.	West Godavari	2	8652
5.	East Godavari	1	250
6.	Kurnool	3	24380
	TOTAL	(27+2) 29	258964

Welfare measures for weavers/ artisans

2345. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the weavers and artisans are facing problems on account of funds not being made available to them and also on account of less marketing facilities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has got any welfare measures for weavers/artisans, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the monitoring system to ensure proper implementation of welfare measures for them; and

- (d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The Offices of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms) and Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India are implementing Weavers' Credit Card and Artisans Credit Card scheme respectively for providing credit by the Banks.

Handloom and Handicraft sectors are unorganized, therefore the Government of India organize marketing exhibitions/events at District/State/National level and also, set up Haats in various parts of the country for participation by weavers/artisans and handlooms/handicraft agencies to market their products.

(b) The Offices of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms) and Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) are implementing following schemes for development of the handlooms/handicrafts and welfare of weavers/artisans:

Handloom Schemes

1. National Handloom Development Programme
2. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
3. Yarn Supply Scheme
4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

Handicraft Schemes

1. Rajive Gandhi Shilipi Swasthya Bima Yojana (RGSSBY).
2. Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) for Handicrafts artisans.
3. Support to artisans in indigent circumstance.
4. Credit Guarantee Scheme.
5. Interest Subvention.
6. ID Card and data base creations.

(c) and (d) Monitoring of the Schemes of handlooms and handicrafts is done by the respective office directly and also, through their field/regional offices. Also, officers from time to time visit the handloom/handicraft pockets to review the progress. Further, meetings are also held by the Ministry to review the progress.

Promotion of muga silk

2346. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any assessment for the best variety of muga silk in the world, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is aware of any problem faced by muga silk growers in the country, if so, the details thereof and the remedial action taken by Government;
- (c) whether Government has identified potentially good new areas for growing muga silk in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of measures taken by Government to promote muga silk for increased production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Muga is wild eco race available only in India inhabiting Brahmaputra valley covering mainly Assam and parts of Meghalaya and Nagaland bordering Assam. In order to produce better quality silk and increase the yield, 8 best muga silkworm races have been isolated and assessed by the Central Muga Research Institute, Ladoigarh, Jorhat of the Central Silk Board (CSB).

(b) Yes. The major problem identified is lack of systematic plantation and silkworm seed supply. The Government has taken remedial steps to improve silkworm breed, evolve better host plants along with development of appropriate package of practices through the Central Silk Board (CSB)'s main Research Institute; CMER&TI located at Ladoigarh in Jorhat, Assam. Under Centrally sponsored Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) support to farmers are provided for (i) Raising muga food plant nursery (ii) Augmentation and maintenance of muga food plants with start up tools, (iii) Assistance for maintenance of existing muga food plantation (iv) Assistance to muga adopted seed rearers, (v) Assistance to muga private grainures and (vi) Assistance to existing muga private grainures for up gradation of seed production capacity as well as assistance for strengthening and up gradation of their seed infrastructure to the State.

(c) The Government has identified new potential muga seed zones in West Bengal (Cooch Behar District, Kalimpong, Darjeeling District), Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand. These isolated seed zones help to augment commercial seed production in Assam.

(d) The Government through Central Silk Board (CSB) has taken the following measures for increasing production of muga silk:

- (1) Established Regional Office of CSB at Guwahati to coordinate sericulture development activities with State and other agencies in Assam and NE Region.
- (2) Regional Muga Research Station at Boko to provide R&D and extension support for Muga sericulture.
- (3) Muga Silkworm Seed Organization in Guwahati with a network of one Muga SSPC at Kaliabari and one P3 Unit at Hahim (both in Kamrup Districts) for production and supply of muga basic seed for further multiplication by Government, of Assam and private graineurs to produce quality silkworm seed.
- (4) Regional Silk Technological Research Station, Khanapara, Guwahati to provide required R&D support in post cocoon activities.
- (5) A Muga Raw Material Bank (MRMB) is functioning at Sibsagar in Assam with 3 Sub-Depots, at Dhakukhana, Sualkuchi (Assam) and Coochbehar (W.B) with the objective of ensuring economic and fair price to the actual muga cocoon producers.
- (6) During XI Plan, ₹33.26 crores has been exclusively spent for development of muga sector under CDP scheme. For the development of post cocoon sector, assistance is provided for reeling/ spinning machines, handloom up gradation, pneumatic lifting mechanism, yarn dyeing units, effluent treatment plants, CATD, Common Facility Centres (CFCs) etc.

New textile policy

2347. SHRI A. W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has finalized the new textile policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the new policy is expected to be based on the Textile Vision document prepared by the Ajay Shankar panel and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Panel under Shri Ajay Shanker has been

requested to submit their report on Handloom, Handicrafts and Technical Textiles for taking further action on the New Textile Policy.

Welfare of handloom weavers

2348. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any schemes for improvement in financial condition of handloom weavers and to provide them adequate employment in Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes being implemented for the welfare of weavers in both the States and the number of weavers covered under those schemes;

(c) the funds released for implementation of such schemes during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) whether Government has received any representation from weavers' associations in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles through Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms is implementing following schemes for overall development of the Handloom sector, including improvement in the financial conditions of Handloom Weavers and to provide them adequate employment across the country, including Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh States:

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme
 - (i) Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme
 - (ii) Revival, Reform and Restructuring Package
- (2) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- (3) Yarn Supply Scheme.

Details of funds released and beneficiaries covered under Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme in the States of Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year (till November, 2014), are as under:

Name of the State	Funds Released	Beneficiaries Covered
Chhattisgarh	₹ 7.51 crore	14,206
Uttar Pradesh	₹ 65.63 crore	4,22,199

Details of funds released through NABARD and total coverage under Revival, Reform and Restructuring Package in the States of Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year (till November, 2014), are as under:

Name of the State	Funds Released	Total Coverage
Chhattisgarh	₹ 12.42 crore	1 Apex, 154 PWCs and 194 individuals weavers
Uttar Pradesh	₹ 108.83 crore	14 Apex, 1876 PWCs, 1150 SHGs and 21,964 individuals weavers

Details of claims settled under Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme in the States of Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year (till November, 2014), are as under:

Name of the State	Claims settled
Chhattisgarh	₹ 0.49 crore
Uttar Pradesh	₹ 18.57 crore

Details of Yarn supply under Yarn Supply Scheme in the States of Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the current year (till November, 2014), are as under:

Name of the State	Yarn Supply	
	Quantity	Value
Chhattisgarh	66.02 lakh Kg.	₹ 145.67 crore
Uttar Pradesh	139.37 lakh Kg.	₹ 374.42 crore

(d) The Government of India has not received any representation from weavers' associations in this regard.

Employment to workers of closed textile mills

2349. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of closed textiles mills in Maharashtra and Gujarat, respectively;
- (b) the number of closed units restarted by Government in the last five years;
- (c) the number of workers belonging to closed textile mills in both the States as on 31 March, 2004; and
- (d) the action proposed to provide employment to above workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) In Maharashtra 25 textiles mills and in Gujarat 10 textiles mills of National Textile Corporation are closed.

(b) In the last five years, two mills were restarted by relocation, one each in Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(c) and (d) As on 31.3.2004 in Maharashtra, there were 2049 workers in closed textiles mill, out of which 1733 relieved on MVRS, 73 retired and remaining 243 were re-deployed to other mill. In Gujarat, there were 2032 workers in closed textiles mill, out of which 2009 relieved on MVRS and 23 retired.

Apparel Training and Design Centres

2350. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to establish Apparel Training and Design Centres at some places in the country;
- (b) if so, the places identified for the purpose in Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to impart training to unskilled youths in order to meet the shortage of skilled manpower in textiles sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) Government has introduced Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) with an objective to address the skilled manpower needs of textiles and related segments during Twelfth Five Year Plan to train 15 lakh persons including unskilled youths.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Mechanism to provide satisfactory selling prices to farmers

3. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry, in consultation with State Governments, is going to initiate a special mechanism for proper marketing system to provide satisfactory prices to farmers for selling of fruits and vegetables; and

(b) if so, whether Government has conducted any study in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) A Committee of Ministers in-charge of Agricultural Marketing from 10 States was constituted in March, 2010 to promote reforms in agriculture marketing sector. The Committee, in its report presented on 2nd July, 2013, made several policy recommendations for improving the agricultural marketing systems, including recommendations for development of proper marketing system for fruits and vegetables.

In keeping with the recommendations of the Committee, advisories have been issued to all States/Union Territories (UTs) to deregulate marketing of fruits and vegetables so as to encourage development of alternative channels of marketing such as private markets and allow direct marketing of produce by farmers/Farmer's Producers Organisations (FPOs)/ Growers' Associations to consumers, bulk buyers, processors, exporters, etc. These measures would increase competition and minimise non value adding intermediaries in the supply chain thus ensuring better prices to the farmers and affordable prices to the consumers.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया : सर, कृषि उत्पादन और मानवीय जरूरत ये दोनों एक दूसरे के पूरक हैं। कृषक अपने यहां फ्रूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स पैदा करते हैं और जब उनके यहां उत्पादन

1.00 P.M.

ज्यादा होता है वैसी स्थिति में मार्केट में उसका भाव गिर जाता है। जब किसान के यहां उत्पादन कम होता है तो उस स्थिति में मार्केट में उसका भाव बढ़ जाता है। Fruits and vegetables are perishable items.

श्री सभापति : प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया : फ्रूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स पैरिशेबल उत्पादन होने के नाते जब मार्केट में उनका भाव बढ़ जाता है, वैसी स्थिति में भी लोगों में यह भावना होती है कि भाव बढ़ गया, भाव बढ़ गया। तो भी किसानों को सही भाव नहीं मिलता।

श्री सभापति : प्रश्न क्या है आपका?

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया : और जब किसान के यहां उत्पादन ज्यादा हो जाता है तो वैसी स्थिति में भी भाव कम मिलता है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ जिससे किसानों को अच्छा भाव मिल सके और मार्केट में फ्रूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स उपलब्ध भी रहें, उनके लिए क्या आपने कोई ऐसा मेकेनिज्म तैयार किया है जिससे दोनों के हित में काम हो सके?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति जी, इस संबंध में लगातार सबसे बड़ी जो मुख्य बात थी, 2003 में केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा सरकार द्वारा प्रदेश सरकारों को ए.पी.एम.सी. एक्ट में सुझाव दिए गए थे कि इसमें संशोधन किया जाए। उसके संबंध में 2010 में एक कमेटी का गठन हुआ था जिसमें एग्रीकल्चरल मार्केटिंग के मिनिस्टर शामिल थे, उस कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट 2013 में दी। सभी प्रदेश सरकारों को एडवाइजरी जारी दी गई थी, क्योंकि एग्रीकल्चरल मार्केटिंग प्रदेश सरकार का विषय है, यह केन्द्र सरकार का विषय नहीं है। उसमें जब प्रदेश सरकारों की तरफ से कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई तो माननीय कृषि मंत्री द्वारा माननीय प्रधानमंत्री को एक पत्र लिखा गया है कि इस पर एक एक्शन ग्रुप बनाया जाए, जिससे प्रदेश सरकारों के साथ बैठकर इस समस्या का निदान हो सके। दूसरी बात, जो इसमें महत्वपूर्ण है, लगातार कृषि मंत्रालय की तरफ से नेशनल हॉर्टिकल्चर मिशन के तहत कोल्ड चेन डेवलपमेंट और कोल्ड स्टोरेज के लिए सहायता प्रदेश सरकारों को दी जा रही है। इसके साथ-साथ APEDA जो कॉमर्स मिनिस्ट्री के तहत है और एक और मिनिस्ट्री फूड प्रोसेसिंग टेक्नॉलोजी भी इस मामले में कोल्ड चेन और कोल्ड स्टोरेज बनाने में प्रदेश सरकारों की मदद करती है।

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया : सर, ऐसा होता है कि किसान फ्रूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स पैदा करते हैं तथा सब्जी मंडी में लेकर जाते हैं और सब्जी मंडी के बाद छोटे-छोटे व्यापारी उसे लेकर उपभोक्ताओं के पास जाएंगे। मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रश्न है कि किसानों को डॉयरेक्ट मार्केट मिले और वे अपने यहां उत्पादित फ्रूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स स्वयं मार्केट में बेच सकें और बिचौलिया सिस्टम खत्म हो जाए, उनके लिए भारत सरकार ने क्या कुछ कदम उठाए हैं?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : माननीय सभापति जी, इस संबंध में कई कदम उठाए गए हैं। करीब दस प्रदेश सरकारें इस बात पर सहमत हो चुकी हैं कि ए.पी.एम.सी. एक्ट में सुधार के बाद फल और सब्जियों को मंडी टैक्स से मुक्त किया जाए और किसानों को यह सुविधा दी जाए कि वे

कहीं भी बेच सकें। इसी संबंध में कृषि मंत्रालय द्वारा दिल्ली में एक मंडी में ए.पी.एम.सी. में सुधार किया गया है और किसान खुद किसान मंडी के नाम से अपना माल वहां लाकर बेच सकेंगे और मंडी में किसानों को कोल्ड स्टोरेज और अन्य सुविधाएं दी जाएंगी, इसके लिए FPOs, फॉर्मस प्रोड्यूसर्स ऑर्गनाइजेशन के द्वारा उनको स्थान अलॉट किए जाएंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri K. N. Balagopal.

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, the question is about the Government's initiative to have a special mechanism for a proper marketing system to provide satisfactory prices to farmers for selling of fruits and vegetables.

Sir, marketing is related to the development of products, processing, storage, transportation, etc. of fruits and vegetables. Is the Government initiating some modern kind of market, refrigerated marketing and processing of the production? That was, basically, the question. That answer has not been given. The Ministry is talking about deregulating the marketing. I wish to know if there is any regulation about the marketing of fruits and vegetables in the country. What do you mean by deregulating the marketing of agricultural products like fruits and vegetables? What do you mean by deregulation of the marketing? That is what I would like to know from the Minister.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : माननीय सभापति जी, रेगुलेटरी का मतलब बहुत साफ है कि जब किसान मंडी में आता है, तो बिचौलिए वहां रहते हैं। मंडी कानून में पहले ऐसा रहा है कि फल, सब्जी पर भी उनको टैक्स देना है। हमने फल और सब्जियों को मंडी कानून के टैक्स से मुक्त करने के लिए राज्यों से आग्रह किया। बारह राज्यों ने इस बात को मान भी लिया है और इससे मुक्त कर दिया है, किसान वहां मार्केटिंग एक्ट से बाहर कहीं भी बेच सकते हैं। दूसरा, जैसी पहले प्रश्न के जवाब में चर्चा हुई, लघु कृषि व्यापार संघ, किसानों का एक समूह बनाकर उस इलाके में मंडी स्थापना हो, इसके लिए भी हम राज्य सरकारों से बात कर रहे हैं। हमने इसका एक प्रयोग दिल्ली में किया है। अभी तक लगभग साढ़े चार सौ एफ.पी.ओ., फार्मर प्रोड्यूसर्स ऑर्गनाइजेशन का गठन हो चुका है और नमूने के तौर पर दिल्ली में एक किसान मंडी भी प्रारंभ की गई है। हर राज्य को इसके लिए कहा गया है और एक बैठक भी हमने बुलाई थी, जिसमें 20 राज्यों के अधिकारी आए थे और राज्य मंत्री भी आए थे। हम इसमें राज्यों को मदद करने के लिए भी तैयार हैं और मंडी कानून से मुक्त कर सीधे उन्हें अपनी फल-सब्जी मार्केट तक ले जाने के लिए कर रहे हैं, ताकि बिचौलिए बीच में न आए।

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल : सभापति महोदय, खेत से जब सब्जी या फल आते हैं, तो 30 प्रतिशत उसमें नुकसान हो जाता है। यह बहुत विरोधाभास की बात है कि हम चप्पल और जूते लेने के लिए जाते हैं, तो वे एअर कंडीशंड शो-रूम में मिलते हैं, लेकिन सब्जियां और फल नदी के किनारे या किसी नाले के किनारे धूल खाते हुए मिलते हैं। क्या कृषि मंत्रालय ने कोई ऐसी योजना बनाई है कि बिचौलियों को दूर करके डायरेक्ट फल और सब्जियों के लिए कोई स्पेशल मॉल्स बनें और ऐसी कोई विपणन की व्यवस्था हो?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : सभापति जी, आपके दो विषय हैं, एक तो किसान को ठीक से दाम मिलें, उसका उत्तर हमने पहले दे दिया है। जहां तक स्टोरेज का सवाल है, स्टोरेज के लिए हम आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहते हैं कि बड़े पैमाने पर देश में कोल्ड-चेन शुरू किए गए हैं। कोल्ड स्टोरेज का जहां तक सवाल है, 2009 तक यह ढाई करोड़ मीट्रिक टन क्षमता के कोल्ड स्टोरेज के निर्माण हुए थे, 2009 से लेकर अभी तक तीन करोड़ अठारह लाख मीट्रिक क्षमता के कोल्ड स्टोरेज के निर्माण हो चुके हैं और कोल्ड-चेन के माध्यम से इस गति को हम और तेज कर रहे हैं।

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, actually the question sought to ensure satisfactory price for food and vegetables. But, Sir, most of the fruits like apple, mango, etc., are imported from different countries. Our Government has entered into Free Trade Agreement with different countries. Now the Government is going to sign the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). My question is: Has the Government conducted any specific review of the Free Trade Agreement with different countries and its impact on the price of food and other agricultural products? If so, what are the findings?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह : सभापति जी, इस बीच में कई देशों के साथ हमारी बातचीत हुई है, कई नए समझौते भी हुए हैं। इसमें सबसे ज्यादा दिक्कत, जो हम आम का निर्यात करते थे, जो वर्षों से यू.के. में बंद पड़ा हुआ है, उसके लिए हमारी दो-तीन बार बैठक हो चुकी है और जो मानक उन्होंने बताए थे, उसी के अनुसार हमने लगभग तैयार कर लिए हैं और मुझे उम्मीद है कि निकट भविष्य में हमारा वह निर्यात भी शुरू हो जाएगा।

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, my question is: Has the Government conducted any review of this Free Trade Agreement? It is a very specific question; it is not a question on mango. My question is on Free Trade Agreement. I seek your protection. I want a specific answer for that. Has the Government conducted any review of the Free Trade Agreement, specifically the impact on the price of food and other agricultural products? If so, what are the details? This is my question. I am not asking any question on mango and other things.

MR. CHAIRMAN: is this the appropriate Ministry for answering this question?

डा. संजीव कुमार बालियान : सभापति जी, मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह बताना चाहता हूं कि फ्री ट्रेड एग्रीमेंट ऐसा नहीं है कि ज्यादातर फल और सब्जियों पर हम इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी लगाते हैं, अगर हमारे यहां आती हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सुनिए। चूंकि एग्रीकल्चर का इंपोर्ट और एक्सपोर्ट डायरेक्ट 'एपीडा' के थ्रू है, जो कि कॉमर्स मिनिस्ट्री के तहत है, इसलिए ज्यादातर फ्री ट्रेड एग्रीमेंट कॉमर्स मिनिस्ट्री के थ्रू होते हैं। यह बात माननीय सदस्य अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन, चूंकि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. No discussion on this. The House is adjourned till 2.30 P.M.

*The House then adjourned for lunch at ten minutes past one of the clock.
The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty three minutes past two of the clock,*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PRIVATE MEMBERS BILLS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will not take up Private Members' Legislative Business. Bills for Introduction, Shri Prabhat Jha.

The Accident Affected Persons (Equal Compensation) Bill, 2014

श्री प्रभात झा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि समुचित सरकार द्वारा दुर्घटनाओं में प्रभावित होने वाले व्यक्तियों के लिए समान क्षतिपूर्ति का प्रावधान करने और तत्संसक्त तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री प्रभात झा : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

**The National Himalayan Region Environment Protection
and Development Bill, 2014**

श्री प्रभात झा (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय हिमालयी क्षेत्र पर्यावरण संरक्षण और विकास संस्थान की स्थापना और देश के हिमालयी क्षेत्र में पर्यावरण संरक्षण और विकास कार्य करने के लिए निधि की स्थापना और तत्संसक्त तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री प्रभात झा : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Tiruchi Siva has to catch a flight. So, I am calling his name. Shri Tiruchi Siva to move.

The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive national policy

for ensuring overall development of the transgender persons and for their welfare to be undertaken by the State and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

**The Compulsory Gender Sensitisation Curriculum in Educational
Institutions Bill, 2014**

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the compulsory incorporation of gender sensitisation curriculum in educational institutions from primary to secondary level in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Amendment of Article 275)

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Jute Growers and Workers (Welfare) Bill, 2014

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the remunerative prices for the raw jute to the jute growers fixed on the basis of cost of production of jute under the Minimum Support Price Scheme of the Government, compulsory purchase of raw jute by Government, agencies, compulsory insurance of jute crops free of cost by the Central Government and certain welfare measures to be undertaken by the Central and concerned Governments of the States for the jute growers and jute workers engaged in jute related works and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Amendment of Section 9)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Citizenship Act, 1955.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Amendment of Tenth Schedule)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Quoting of Source of Law Bill, 2014

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Goa): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the quoting of source of law while publishing notifications, orders, circulars, tenders for bringing in transparency in government functioning and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Amendment of Article 39)

डा. संजय सिंह (असम) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

डा. संजय सिंह : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Amendment of Article 214)

डा. संजय सिंह (असम) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

डा. संजय सिंह : महोदय मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूं।

The Drugs (Price Control) Bill, 2014

डा. संजय सिंह (असम) : महोदय मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि औषधियों के मूल्य को नियत करने के लिए समिति के गठन तथा उससे संबंधित या उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

डा. संजय सिंह : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूं।

The Girl Child and Adolescent Girls (Protection from Malnutrition, Anaemia Diseases and Welfare) Bill, 2014

श्री अहमद पटेल (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि बालिका और किशोरियों को कुपोषण, रक्ताल्पता और गुजरात एवं देश के अन्य भागों में उन्हें रोगग्रस्त करने वाले विभिन्न रोगों से बचाने के लिए केन्द्रीय एवं राज्य सरकारों द्वारा संरक्षण एवं अन्य उपाय किए जाने तथा फोलिक एसिड एवं मल्टी विटामिन गोलियों युक्त पोषक भोजन, सामयिक स्वास्थ्य जांच और निःशुल्क औषध के लिए विशेष प्रावधान करने और बालिकाओं और किशोरियों के लिए राज्य द्वारा किए जाने वाले कतिपय कल्याणकारी उपाय किए जाने तथा तत्संसक्त और उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री अहमद पटेल : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूं।

The Farmers of Arid and Desert Areas (Welfare and Other Special Provisions) Bill, 2014

श्री अहमद पटेल (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं कि फसलों, पशुधन इत्यादि को नुकसान पहुंचाने वाली प्राकृतिक आपदाओं से अक्सर प्रभावित होने वाले शुष्क, मरुस्थलीय और सूखा प्रवण क्षेत्रों के किसानों, जो ऋणग्रस्तता, बीमारी और शारीरिक दुर्बलता से ग्रस्त रहते हैं, साहूकारों और अन्यो के शोषण का शिकार हो जाते हैं, के लिए केन्द्रीय और राज्य सरकारों द्वारा उपलब्ध कराए गए कल्याण उपायों को करने, कल्याण निधि की स्थापना करने, ऋणग्रस्तता से मुक्ति दिलाने, उनकी उपज के लिए लाभकारी मूल्य दिलाने, बैंकों से सुलभ ऋण दिलाने, पानी की कम खपत करने वाली फसलों की वैज्ञानिक पद्धतियों से खेती के तरीकों में सुधार लाने, फसल और पशुधन के अनिवार्य बीमा और अन्य ऐसे उपायों के साथ सुरक्षात्मक उपायों और विशेष सुविधाओं तथा तत्संसक्त एवं आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री अहमद पटेल : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

The Salt Workers (Protection and Welfare) Bill, 2014

श्री अहमद पटेल (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि गुजरात और देश के अन्य भागों में नमक कर्मकारों के शोषण से संरक्षण और न्यूनतम मजदूरी, वृद्धावस्था पेंशन के संदाय, स्वास्थ्य देखभाल, महिला कर्मकारों के लिए प्रसूति सुविधा और उनके बच्चों के लिए शैक्षिक सुविधाओं हेतु कल्याण निधि की स्थापना कर राज्य द्वारा कल्याणकारी उपाय किए जाने और उससे संबंधित तथा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री अहमद पटेल : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Narendra Kumar Kashyap; not present.

The Working Women (Basic Facilities and Welfare) Bill, 2014

SHRI K.C. TYAGI (Bihar): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection of women from discrimination and for the basic facilities like creche, recreational facilities, maternity benefits, hostel and transport facilities, etc., and for the welfare measures to be taken by the employers and the State for the women employees working in government establishments; public sector enterprises including banks and ports, educational institutions including universities, colleges and schools; factories, mines, plantations, agricultural fields, orchards and such other places and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI K.C. TYAGI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Indian Penal Code and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2014

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal code, 1860, the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 and the Army Act, 1950.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Vivek Gupta; not present.

The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2014

SHRI AVINASH PANDE (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda; not present.

The Fertilizer (Price Control) Bill, 2013

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri C.P. Narayanan had not concluded his speech. Shri C. P. Narayanan can conclude his speech by speaking briefly.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, I have to add only one more point to what I said last time. It is regarding the fertilizers being produced in our country. We have a number of public sector companies producing fertilizers. In the last one decade and more, various kinds of restrictions were imposed on these companies. Most of these companies were making profit. Then they become loss-making companies. I am specifically citing the instance of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore (FACT) in Kerala. It was producing various kinds of fertilizers. It was a profitable company. The Government imposed restrictions on importing raw material required to produce fertilizers. The Government levied various kinds of import duties whereas for fertilizers, which were directly imported. These import duties were lifted so much so that the fertilizers produced by a facility became more expensive than the imported fertilizers. This was a result of faulty policy implemented by the Government. It is affecting not only FACT and its workers and the Government exchequer but also those who are using the fertilizers -- the millions of farmers all over India.

So, I request that the policy of the Government has to take that into consideration. Yesterday, we discussed the agrarian crisis in the country and in Question Hour also, we were discussing these things. While the Government and all of us say that we support the cause of peasantry and the cause of agriculture, in practice, when we implement policies and take decisions, we do just the opposite. The example of FACT is a good example. Not only the farmers are affected, but also the workers, working in FACT are affected. So, it is necessary to amend the restrictions. The Bill is regarding introducing control on prices of fertilisers. For doing that, we have to see to it that the public sector fertiliser factories are run profitably and the policies and restrictions on them are so modified that the factories

run profitably and the peasants get the necessary fertilisers at reasonable prices. This also is required. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this Bill is for restoring the earlier position of retail price fixed on the basis of the entire consumption by the farmers. But, subsequently, there was a Government decision to specify it according to the need of the farmers and find out the deficiency as to whether they need nitrogen or phosphate or potash. By nutrient content base, the price can be fixed. That was the way in which the Government started to do that. We could even see that from 2007 onwards, the Government has come forward with a very transparent method of finding out where subsidized fertilisers are moving, even up to the level of district consumption by way of having a separate website in the name of www.urvarak.co.in for fertilisers monitoring system. This system is making the consumer or the agriculturist understand what the price is, what quantity they need, how the State Government is demanding from the Central Government, how the Central Government is allotting to various needy areas and how they are fulfilling their demands. This way of looking at the issue is very useful for stabilising the price at the retail level. More so, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that three decades ago, we brought in more fertilisers and urea for agricultural purposes. But, at the same time, the capacity of earth to produce its natural manure is also decreasing. The natural manure is very much needed for enrichment of soil of the country. We are benefited in an excellent way by having various types of soils in various parts of the country. We can even have a vision to that effect. In 2025 or after, there is a possibility of food crisis throughout the world. When there is a food crisis, India is going to be the food bowl for the entire world. If we think like that and make a policy accordingly, we have to enhance our vision of increasing the GDP through agriculture. It should not be at four per cent but at ten per cent so that the Government is interested in agriculture and various types of agricultural produce. Whatever variety you need, whatever soil you need, whatever climatic condition you need and whatever type of skill you need, it is available in India. You need not go to Europe or America for purposes of getting agricultural produce. But unfortunately we are now lifting that control on the inflow of the food grains, fruits and produce from other countries. How are we going to face that situation? In the earlier discussion also we were drawing the Government's attention to it. Now when the Trade Facilitation Treaty is going to be signed and when it is enforced, naturally, we have to create an electronic method clearances for inward flow and outward flow of food grains or any material which is coming into India. Are we prepared for that? I want to know whether our agriculturists have been trained and educated to produce agricultural products so that they can withstand the competition of inflow from

[Dr. E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

various countries. For example, even though they are our own sister countries, the food grains which are going to be dumped into India from Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand how are we going to face that situation? Similarly, subsidised food material like wheat is going to be dumped from Western countries and the United States into India. The European countries are going to dump it here. Our own agriculturists are going to be crushed by that competition in the market. Knowingly or unknowingly we are now in the globalised economy. We can't blame ourselves for certain obligations. But we have to stand up to the occasion in the globalised economy. Now, we have to foresee how best our agricultural mechanism which was built up for centuries by our own civilisation, how best we have built up our agricultural system on the basis of organic manure could be sustained. The Government is also aware of it. They came forward with a scheme of the National Sustainable Agriculture, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, Integrated Development of Horticulture, Network Project on Organic Farming, National Programme on Organic Production and other things. On the one side we have to see how much we can gradually reduce the utilisation of chemicals and fertilizers. On the other side we have to see how we are going to bring in the organic manure farming system. The European countries and Japan are keen to have Indian products whether it is a leather product or the agriculture product or fruits which are based on the organic manure farming. It is having a very good market in foreign countries. Therefore, it is high time for us to bring a total vision on our agricultural system. The Minister concerned is a very dynamic person. He can very easily think about how best we are going to compensate this type of overutilisation of our own soil with chemical and fertilizers. How to replace it by organic methods? At the same time, we should have a clear vision. I know very well that our Minister comes from Karnataka. Both Maharashtra and Karnataka are utilising the opportunities provided by the international market produce. They have already got a good networking as per the demand of the European market. They can bring the produce to the international parameters. From the cold chain storage system they can bring it. From the farm gate they can take any fruit or agricultural produce or flower or any such thing to the market. They can take it by cold chain storage system or they can air lift it to the European market on the same day. That is the way Karnataka and Maharashtra are competing in the world market. That is the way U.P., Bihar, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu and Kerala should come forward to bring up their natural system of agriculture by various means.

I want to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that how South India, especially Tamil Nadu and Kerala is suffering. We are depending more on coconut trees. Coconut production in Kerala has come down by 30 per cent. Kerala once used to

be a beautiful place because of its coconut trees. It was dominating in the area of coconut production. Now, it has gone down. In the same way, the coastal regions of Tamil Nadu have been suffering. Therefore, we should find out ways to reduce our dependence on chemical fertilizers that are used for increasing production and making money quickly. We should think of ways of making more investment in the use of organic methods. Therefore, we congratulate our hon. colleague, Shri Vivek Gupta, who has brought forward this Bill, and welcome his thinking. At the same time, I would like to say that it is time that we communicated with the Government, especially when they are talking about 'Make in India'. This concept of 'Make in India' should be supported even in the area of agricultural production. We should not simply depend upon parts being imported and, then, assembled here. That should not happen. Then, we would end up having the same kind of an economy that Thailand or Taiwan has. We must produce everything in our country. We should be a manufacturing country, not an assembling country. We should not focus too much on making investment for assembling purposes, whether it is defence production or anything else. I feel we have been allowing land to be occupied by various foreign companies for industrial assembling, but we are not allowing the same for manufacturing. Our own corporates are not much interested in manufacturing. There are only some business houses which have been in the manufacturing sector traditionally; others are going into trading. We know very well that for the past two decades, people were putting all their investment in China. They brought manufactured goods from China, re-branded them, and pushed them into our market as our own Indian brands. Similarly, many countries would now come into India because they have scarcities in their own countries, or they do not have skilled people and they have huge populations of elderly people, whereas we have a huge population of young people. Also, we are quick learners of any kind of skills. That is why, India is attracting the entire world, because of the availability of vast land, vast natural resources, vast human resources and also because of the advanced thinking of our people in so far as technology is concerned. Now, the Prime Minister is marketing India everywhere, wherever he goes, by inviting investors to come in and invest their money. Investments in the agricultural sector should also go hand in hand with investment in the manufacturing sector. We should see to it that the technology which was developed by Western countries should come into India by way of investment. Then, on the agricultural side, we should try and be in a situation where we are prepared to feed the whole world, whenever there is a scarcity, in the next thirty-forty years, the period about which many scientists have warned that the world would suffer from acute water and food scarcity, when even oil and other similar things would be easily available, but not food and water. India must be prepared for that.

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3.00 P.M.

Therefore, Sir, I want to make a request to the hon. Minister, who has got a reputation of putting his heart and soul into any effort, to kindly look into the issue and see to it that the whole of India gets enough agricultural produce. This should be one of the main issues to be considered. By the way we would like to say, since the hon. Minister comes from Karnataka, that the people of Tamil Nadu are suffering because of Cauvery water scarcity. You are a very vocal person. You people are the ones who are constructing dams and want to have dams at many places. But we have to see that Cauvery water ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Just a minute. It is a totally different issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. The Cauvery water issue is a totally different issue. I think it doesn't...

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: I will justify it, Sir. I will justify why I am bringing in this issue.

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Sir, you should not allow this discussion. This discussion is about Fertiliser Control.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Bill is not on agriculture...

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: I will justify it, Sir. For agriculture, you need fertilizers. He is the Minister of Fertilisers and...

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: Sir, I request you not to allow this averment of the hon. Member. He is an esteemed friend of mine but there is the Inter-State River Water Dispute going on, and if they are speaking about the Mekadatu Dam in Karnataka, then, the people of Karnataka also will raise about the Hogenakkal Dam in Tamil Nadu. It is a different issue altogether...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: And it is a disputed matter.

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: The Cauvery River Water issue is a disputed matter.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Dr. Natchiappan, this is not the subject. Try to avoid it.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: This is the subject, Sir. Actually, we are speaking on fertilizers. Now fertilizer is used for agriculture. And for agriculture, water is necessary. Without water, you cannot utilize the fertilizers. Therefore, I am requesting the Minister, please do not climb on the Hogenakkal...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is only his request. You may or may not consider it.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were a part of the erstwhile Madras Presidency. So, we have got our right on that. Don't divide the country. Don't divide States by way of small links. We are now allowing the Chinese to occupy Indian cities. Why are you thinking about lines between our own brothers? What I am saying is that when we are utilizing fertilizers, it should also have compensated water facilities. Therefore, what I am requesting is, as a Minister, who is in charge of the Fertilizers Ministry, he should also think about how best our agriculturists, all over the country, whether Karnataka or Tamil Nadu, can have an equity in water facilities. And he has to see to it that every peasant and every agriculturist is happy with more and more production in India. Our products should be able to go for competition at the international level, and we have to enjoy these facilities so as to have development at such a level that ten per cent of GDP would come from the agriculture itself. Thank you, Sir.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात) : सर, आज फर्टिलाइज़र (प्राइस कंट्रोल) बिल, 2013 को सदन में चर्चा के लिए रखा गया है, इसमें मैं भी अपने कुछ सुझावों को जोड़ना चाहता हूँ।

हिन्दुस्तान में कैमिकल फर्टिलाइज़र आजादी के बाद ही आया, लेकिन आजादी से पहले हिन्दुस्तान में जो खेती होती थी, वह ट्रेडिशनल खेती थी। बाद के वर्षों में खेती में modernization हुआ और modernization सरकार की नीतियों पर ही निर्भर होती है। आजादी के बाद हिन्दुस्तान में सरकार के द्वारा जो नीतियाँ बनीं, उन नीतियों का ही परिणाम है कि आज हमारी स्थिति इस स्तर पर आकर पहुँच गई है। हमारे देश में ट्रेडिशनल साइंस थी। उस समय हमारे यहां ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइज़र इस्तेमाल करने की परम्परा थी। हमारी पूरी फार्मिंग ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइज़र के आधार पर ही होती थी।

आज हम प्रतिदिन सुनते हैं, सदन में भी इस बात पर बहुत चिन्ता की जाती है कि देश में किसान आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं, किसान आत्मनिर्भर नहीं हैं, किसान अपनी आजीविका नहीं चला पर रहे हैं। आखिर ऐसी स्थिति का निर्माण कैसे हुआ? मुझे लगता है कि किसान भी वही है और हिन्दुस्तान भी वही है। हजारों साल से हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में किसान खेती का काम करते आ रहे हैं और उसी से उनको इतनी आय होती रही कि सुगमता से वे अपना जीवन निर्वाह करते रहे हैं। हजारों साल में हिन्दुस्तान में किसान को कभी सुसाइड नहीं करना पड़ा। आज उसे क्यों सुसाइड करना पड़ रहा है? ऐसी स्थिति क्यों आ गई? सर, हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी के बाद हमारी जो नीति बनी, उसके कारण ऐसी स्थिति आई। जैसे, हम इस सदन में भी बात करते हैं कि देसी गाय होनी चाहिए। देसी गाय का मिल्क पीना चाहिए, क्योंकि देसी गाय का मिल्क अच्छा होता है और उसकी न्यूट्रिशन वैल्यू अच्छी होती है। आजादी के बाद ऐसा हुआ कि हमने देसी गाय में मॉडर्नाइजेशन नहीं किया। देसी गाय में जो बदलाव करना था, वह नहीं किया। हमने यहां जर्सी गाय ला दी, जो

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

कि अमेरिका के जर्सी क्षेत्र से आई। हमने क्रॉस ब्रीड तैयार कर दी। हिन्दुस्तान में यहां पर एटमॉस्फेयर, यहां की ऋतु, यहां के सीजन के अनुरूप उनकी लाइफस्टाल नहीं थी, इसलिए वह गाय यहां ज्यादातर जी नहीं सकी और अगर जी भी सकी, तो उसके जो प्रॉडक्शन हमें मिलना चाहिए था, जो मिल्क का प्रॉडक्शन मिलना चाहिए था, वह एक बार, दो बार या तीन बार ही ठीक से होता था और बाद में वह इसके काबिल नहीं रह जाती थी।

इसी तरह हिन्दुस्तान में एक बार फर्टिलाइजर्स पर बात चली थी। जब मैं स्टूडेंट था और प्राइमरी में पढ़ता था, तो गांव में पोडियम लगा कर हमारे साइंटिस्ट्स आते थे और कहते थे कि केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर डालो और खेती में उत्पादन बढ़ाओ। उसी केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर ने आज देश में बड़ी समस्या खड़ी कर दी है। केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर डालो और खेती में उत्पादन बढ़ाओ, ऐसा कहने वाले वही लोग, वही ऑफिसस अभी सेवानिवृत्त नहीं हुए हैं और वे ही अब गांवों में जाकर कहते हैं कि केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर नहीं, आर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर डालो और खेती में उत्पादन बढ़ाओ। हम तो पहले ही आर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर डालते थे, केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर नहीं डालते थे। आज ग्रोथ रेट के मामले में पंजाब की जो स्थिति हुई और अन्य राज्यों की स्थिति हुई, तो ऐसी स्थिति का निर्माण हुआ कि हमारी ग्रोथ रेट एक बार तो बढ़ी, लेकिन जमीन की हालत ऐसी हो गयी कि वह बंजर होने लगी और बाद में हमें उससे पीछे हटना पड़ा। वैसे ही वे हमें कहते थे कि केमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स का उपयोग करो और खेती में उत्पादन बढ़ाओ। किसान अपनी खेती का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए यहां जो कहा गया, साइंटिस्ट्स ने जो कहा, लोगों ने जो कहा या सरकार ने जो कहा, वैसा किसान करने लगे। अब किसान बेचारा क्या करे? उसको जो बताया गया, वैसा उसने किया। तो किसान केमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स डालने लगे। ये जहरीली दवाएं खेत में जाने लगीं। धीरे-धीरे वह खाद्य में आने लगीं। केमिकल वाली पेस्टिसाइड्स डालने के बाद पैदा हुई वनस्पति पशु भी खाने लगे। पशुओं द्वारा इन्हें खाने के बाद उनके मिल्क में भी ये आने लगे। जमीन पर भी उनका इफेक्ट हुआ। अभी जो समस्या खड़ी हुई है, व्यक्ति को जो दर्द होता है या जो बीमारियां होती हैं, तो बहुत सी बीमारियां हैं। जैसे-मेनिनजाइटिस हुआ, उसका कोई उपाय नहीं है, एड्स हुआ, उसका कोई उपाय नहीं है, कैंसर हुआ, उसका कोई उपाय नहीं है, और अस्थमा हुआ, उसका भी कोई उपाय नहीं है। क्या हिन्दुस्तान में उनका उपाय नहीं था? हिन्दुस्तान में उनका उपाय था। तो इन बीमारियों को किसने आमंत्रित किया? मुझे लगता है कि हमने ऐसे पेस्टिसाइड्स खा लिये कि ऐसी बीमारियों के शिकार बनने लगे। अब फिर एक हवा उठी। वही कहने वाले ऑफिसस अभी भी सर्विस कर रहे हैं। वे पहले कहते थे कि आप केमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स डालो और आज वही यह कह रहे हैं कि आप जैविक पेस्टिसाइड्स डालो या नीम के तेल का उपयोग करो और अपनी खेती बचाओ। समय बदल रहा है। लेकिन हमारा जो पुराना समय था, अगर उस समय इन सब में मॉडर्नाइजेशन हुआ होता, तो आज ऐसी स्थिति नहीं होती। हम विदेशों से यूक्लिप्टस लाए। अब कह रहे हैं कि यूक्लिप्टस तो जमीन से न्यूट्रिशन ले लेते हैं और जमीन को बंजर बना देते हैं। तो यूक्लिप्टस क्यों लाए, ऐसे पेड़ क्यों लगाए? हम जंगली बबूल लाए। सारे देश में, जहां देखों, वहां जंगली बबूल लगा है। जब मैं छोटा था और प्राइमरी में पढ़ता था, तो इसमें भी वैसी ही स्थिति थी। वैसी स्थिति में कैसी नीति बनी होगी कि एक सरकारी

ऑफिसर गांव में आकर कहते थे जंगल बढ़ाओ। अरे भाई! जंगल बढ़ाना है, तो उसके और भी कई रास्ते हैं, और भी कई पेड़ हैं। नीम का पेड़ लगाओ। अगर वैसी बात हुई होती, तो अच्छा होता। हमारा ट्रेडिशनल साइंस भी बचता और हमारा पर्यावरण भी बचता, लेकिन जंगली बबूल लगाने की बात हुई, तो सारे देश में जंगली बबूल लगा दिए गए। ये जंगली बबूल लग जाने के बाद, अब प्रदेश की सरकारें उसी जंगली बबूल के पेड़ों को उखड़ने के लिए बजट दे रही हैं। वह तो पहले यहां नहीं था, क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान का पेड़ नहीं है। वह बाहर से आया है। उसे बाहर से क्यों लाया गया? वैसी स्थिति में हमें जो नुकसान हुआ है, उसका उपाय क्या हो सकता है? अभी बात हुई कि जो केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर है, और जो फर्टिलाइजर्स हैं, उनका भाव कंट्रोल होना चाहिए और किसानों के हित में होना चाहिए, लेकिन उनके उपर भी अच्छी तरह से निगरानी रखने की आवश्यकता है। अभी एक बात सरकार ने कही और सभी प्रादेशिक सरकारें भी एक्टिव हो रही हैं कि आप ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर का उपयोग करो। तो ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर कैसा है, उसका भाव कैसा होना चाहिए और उसकी उत्पादन कॉस्ट क्या है? इसमें बहुत सी कम्पनीज़ निकल पड़ीं। लेकिन, उसमें तो कोई टेस्ट नहीं हो सकता, क्योंकि वह तो कोई खाने की चीज़ नहीं है। उसमें कैसा न्यूट्रिशन है, क्या है, क्या नहीं है। वह किसानों को देने लगी। किसानों को भी लगा कि यह केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर है, यह नुकसान कर रहा है, इसलिए ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर डाला जाए। किसान अपने खेत में ऑर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर डालने लगा। इसके लिए soil की testing की व्यवस्था की जो बात है, इस दिशा में गुजरात की सरकार ने पहल की है। यहां दो दिन पहले ही सदन में बात हो रही थी कि आज मैंने अपने खेत में एक बैग यूरिया डाल दिया, तो हमारे पड़ोस वाले खेत के किसान ने देखा कि उन्होंने एक हेक्टेयर में एक बैग यूरिया डाला है, इसलिए अगर हमें अपना उत्पादन बढ़ाना है, तो हमें खेत में डेढ़ बैग यूरिया डालना होगा। इसी तरह हमारा कंपीटिशन चलता रहता है। हमें अपने किसानों को एजुकेट करना होगा। आज किसानों को समझाने की आवश्यकता है। हमें soil health card पर विचार करना चाहिए। सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने इस दिशा में जो initiative लिया है, वह अच्छा है। मैं इसके लिए सरकार को बधाई देना चाहता हूं। गुजरात में पूरे राज्य के सभी किसानों ने अपने-अपने खेत का soil testing करवाया है और किसान को soil health card दिया गया है। उस soil health card से उसको मालूम होता है, उसके खेत की जो soil है, उसकी न्यूट्रिशनल वेल्यू क्या है, उसमें कौन-कौन तत्व मौजूद हैं और कौन-कौन से तत्व की आवश्यकता है। अगर उसमें लौह तत्व मौजूद है, तो लौह तत्व की आवश्यकता नहीं है। अगर उसमें फॉस्फेटिक तत्व मौजूद है, तो फॉस्फेटिक तत्व की आवश्यकता नहीं है, इसलिए उसमें डी.ए.पी. लगाने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। अगर ये सब बातें किसानों को मालूम होंगी, तो इससे किसानों को यह फायदा होगा कि उनके खेत में जिस तत्व की जरूरत है, वे उसी तरह का फर्टिलाइजर अपने खेत में डालेंगे। उसका soil health card इस बात को बताएगा कि आपको यहां यूरिया डालने की आवश्यकता नहीं है, क्योंकि आपने यहां जो फसल लगाई थी, उससे जमीन को नाइट्रोजन मिल चुका है, इसलिए अब इसमें यूरिया डालने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। इससे यह होगा कि जिस खेत में जैसी फर्टिलाइजर की आवश्यकता होगी, वैसी ही फर्टिलाइजर डाला जाएगा। इससे किसानों का पैसा बच जाएगा और इस तरह से किसानों को फायदा हो सकता है।

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

अभी यहां वेस्टर्न स्टाइल की बात हो रही थी, वेस्टर्न स्टाइल वहां के लिए अनुकूल होगा, लेकिन हमारा सीजन, हमारा भू-भाग, हमारा भूगोल, हमारा atmosphere, हमारे देश के किसानों का ट्रेडिशन अलग है, वह अपनी तरह से काम करता है। सर, पहले हमारा साइंस कितना आगे था, एक जमाना था, अभी हम घर में अनाज लाते हैं, तो उसमें हम दो-तीन गोली डाल देते हैं कि इस तरह से उसको चार-छः महीने के लिए सुरक्षित रखने की व्यवस्था करते हैं। तीन-चार महीने में ही उसमें चींटी लग जाती है और वह अच्छा नहीं रहता है। हमारी जो ट्रेडिशनल साइंस है, अगर हम उसकी ओर जाएं, तो हमें कहीं और जाने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। जब मैं छोटा था, तब मेरे गांव में मेरे घर पर एक अनाज की कोठी थी, अनाज की कोठी में अनाज भर दिया जाता था, अनाज भरने के बाद उस कोठी में नीम का पत्ता डाल दिया, नीम का पत्ता लगाने के बाद गाय के घी की धूप जला दी जाती थी और उसको चारों ओर से पैक कर दिया जाता था। चारों ओर से पैक कर देने के बाद उसमें एक साल नहीं, दो साल या तीन साल तक के लिए अनाज सुरक्षित रहता था। सिर्फ नीचे से कोठी खोली जाती थी, उसमें कुछ धनिया-वनिया नहीं होता था, उसमें कुछ कीटक भी नहीं होता था, वह अच्छा रहता था। उसको हम उपयोग करते थे। देखिए, हमारा साइंस कितना आगे था, लेकिन हमने अभी तक उस दिशा में क्यों नहीं सोचा है, उस दिशा में हमने एक्शन क्यों नहीं लिया है, हमारा साइंटिस्ट, जो हमको यह रास्ता दिखाता है, वह हमें ऐसा रास्ता क्यों नहीं दिखाता है? यह हमारा ट्रेडिशनल साइंस था और अभी का साइंस कहता है कि केमिकल गोली डाल कर उसको सुरक्षित रखें। इससे अनाज सुरक्षित भी नहीं रहता है और अनाज का इफेक्ट भी केमिकल वाला हो जाता है। उससे भी हमें नुकसान होता है। इसलिए मेरा यह सुझाव है कि हम उस पर तो नियंत्रण करें ही, लेकिन इसके साथ ही जो हमारा ट्रेडिशनल साइंस है, उसको भी उजागर करें। अगर एक बार हमारा ट्रेडिशनल साइंस उजागर हो जाएगा, तो मुझे लगता है कि अभी जो समस्या देश में पैदा हुई है, अभी जो किसान के साथ हो रहा है, वह दूर हो सकता है। हमारे किसानों का मैनेजमेंट कैसा था? खेती की डेफिनेशन क्या होती है? तीन क्षेत्र जुड़ते हैं, तब खेती बनती है। पहले कृषि, पशुपालन और सहकारिता, ये तीनों एक रिदम से हिन्दुस्तान में चलती थीं। कृषि भी चलती थी, पशुपालन भी ऐसा ही चलता था क्योंकि पशुपालन खेती का पूरक व्यवसाय है। किसान अपने यहां अनाज उगाते हैं, अनाज का जो खास चारा बनता था, वह फॉडर बनता था, वह फॉडर एनिमल खाते थे। एनिमल भी प्रॉडक्शन करते थे, मिल्क देते थे, मिल्क से घी मिलता था। दूध, घी अपने बच्चे खाते-पीते थे और आनंद करते-करते वे बड़े होते थे और अपने-अपने काम में लगते थे। ऐसी हमारी व्यवस्था थी। उस समय एक मैनेजमेंट था। किसान भी इतना मैनेजमेंट करके अपनी लाइफस्टाइल बनाए रखता था। आज के किसान को हमने इस दिशा में प्रेरित किया है कि वे कल की चिंता नहीं करते हैं। आज के आधार पर तुरंत उनको आय कैसे मिले, वैसी फसल वे अपने यहां लेते थे। पहले यह सिस्टम था कि जब एक बार फॉडर पैदा हो जाता था, तो लोग खेत के एक कोने में उसको बड़ी अच्छी तरह से सेपरेट रख देते थे और जब सूखा पड़ता था तो उसमें से निकालकर वे अपने पशुओं को खिलाते थे। इससे उनके पशु भी जिन्दा रह जाते थे और किसान की आजीविका भी चलती रहती थी। हिन्दुस्तान की ऐसी तासीर है कि यहां किसी न किसी क्षेत्र में सूखा पड़ता रहता है। उस सूखे से हमें कैसे लड़ना है? यह ठीक है कि जब सूखा हो तो उनके कर्जे माफ कर दिए जाएं। ऐसा पहले भी राजा-रजवाड़े

के समय में होता था और अंग्रेजों के समय में भी शायद ऐसा होता था, लेकिन यह उपाय नहीं है। किसान के यहां जब कुछ पैदा नहीं होता था, तो उसके लिए उसका मैनेजमेंट अपनी ओर से था। जब सूखा पड़ता था, फसल नहीं हुई, तो कोई दिक्कत नहीं थी। सर, वे दो साल के लिए अपने खेत के एक क्षेत्र में फॉडर स्टोरेज कर देते थे। जब सूखा पड़ता था, तो वे उस स्टोरेज में से निकालकर अपने पशुओं को खाने के लिए देते थे। वे पशुओं के रूप में गाय और भैंस रखते थे, जो कि सूखे में भी मिल्क देती थीं। जब वे सूखे में भी मिल्क देती थीं, तो वे थोड़ा मिल्क बेच देते थे। इस प्रकार उनकी कुछ न कुछ इनकम जरूर रहती थी। इसलिए हिन्दुस्तान के इतिहास में उस वक्त किसान को कभी भी सुसाइड नहीं करना पड़ा था। अभी कितनी ही टेक्नोलॉजी क्यों न डेवलप हो जाए और हम यह सोचें कि हमारा विकास हुआ है, डेवलपमेंट हुआ है, लेकिन यह कैसा डेवलपमेंट हुआ है? हमारा वही सच्चा रास्ता था जो हमारा ट्रेडिशनल साइंस था, हमारी वही सही दिशा थी जिस दिशा में चलते-चलते किसान सुखी होते थे, किसान समृद्ध होते थे। लेकिन, अब बदलते समय में हमारी जो स्थिति निर्मित हुई, उससे निपटने के लिए हम अभी कई रास्तों का सहारा ले रहे हैं। सरकार ने अभी जितने भी रास्ते लिए हैं, वे सही रास्ते लिए हैं ताकि किसान को अपनी फसल का अच्छा दाम मिले। उनके लिए कोल्ड चेन कैसे मैनेज हो, उसकी व्यवस्था हो रही है। यह व्यवस्था भी हो रही है कि उनके लिए कोल्ड चेन को मैनेज करके उनको विश्व का मार्केट कैसे मिले। अभी अमेरिका, फ्रांस और ब्रिटेन वाले कहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान से जो माल आता है, उसकी इर्रेडिएशन ट्रीटमेंट नहीं होती है। वे यह कहकर हमको धमकाते हैं कि वे हमारे यहां से फ्रूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स इम्पोर्ट नहीं करेंगे। हम ऑर्गेनिक फ्रूट्स और वेजिटेबल्स यहीं पैदा करते थे। उनको दुनिया के लोग खा सकें, यहां से ये दुनिया भर में एक्सपोर्ट हो सकें, वही दुनिया वाले लोग हमें क्यों बोलें कि हम आपका फ्रूट्स-वेजिटेबल्स नहीं लेंगे? यूरोप कहता है कि हम आपके यहां के पके हुए अलफान्सों मेंगो इसलिए नहीं लेंगे, क्योंकि इसमें पेस्टिसाइड्स रेसिड्यू आ रही है। हमारे यहां यह पेस्टिसाइड्स रेसिड्यू पेस्टिसाइड्स से आई। हमने क्यों नहीं उसमें गोमूत्र से तैयार बायो-पेस्टिसाइड्स का उपयोग किया? अगर हम उसमें बायो-पेस्टिसाइड्स का उपयोग करते तो स्वाभाविक रूप से कभी किसी को ऐसा बोलने का मौका नहीं मिलता। वे ऐसा बोलते हैं, तो यह साइंस किसने दिया? यह साइंस तो उन लोगों ने ही दिया। जब वे अपने यहां इस साइंस का उपयोग करते हैं तो उनको कोई दिक्कत नहीं है, लेकिन जब उस साइंस का उपयोग हमारे यहां हो तो हमें वे धमकाते हैं कि हम आपकी चीजें नहीं लेंगे। अगर वे नहीं लेंगे तो कोई बात नहीं, हमें भी पैदा करना आता है और हमें इसी तरह से पैदा करना चाहिए। हमारी ऐसी नीति बननी चाहिए कि हमारे किसानों को वापस रास्ते पर लाया जाए। हमारा किसान जिस रास्ते पर 30-40 सालों तक चला है, वह रास्ता कहां जाकर रुका? वह रास्ता वहां जाकर रुका जहां किसानों को सुसाइड करना पड़ा, किसानों को अपनी जान देनी पड़ी। वह रास्ता ठीक नहीं है। आखिर कौन सा रास्ता सही है? सही रास्ता वह है जो हमने ट्रेडिशनल साइंस के बारे में बताया था। सही रास्ता यह है कि हमारी ट्रेडिशनल फार्मिंग में मॉडिफिकेशन हो। जैसा यूरोप दिखाता है, वैसा साइंस नहीं। यूरोप ने जो दिखाया, उसको हम मॉडर्न साइंस मानकर चलें। यूरोप जो कहता है, क्या हमें उनकी नकल करना आवश्यक है? क्या उन्होंने जो कह दिया, वही अच्छा है? क्या हमारे पास कुछ अच्छा है ही नहीं? हमारे पास बहुत ही अच्छा है, लेकिन हमारे पास जो अच्छा है, वह सब सभी यूरोप वाले ले रहे हैं। हमारे पास जो अच्छी चीज़ है, उसमें हमारे यहां संस्कृत जैसी अच्छी भाषा

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

है, जो कि विश्व की कई भाषाओं की जननी है। हमारे यहां कितनी संस्कृत यूनिवर्सिटीज़ चलती हैं, यह मुझे मालूम नहीं है, लेकिन यूरोप में संस्कृत यूनिवर्सिटी खुलने लगी है, अमरेरिका में भी संस्कृत यूनिवर्सिटी शुरू हो गई है और ऑर्गेनिक फार्मिंग की बात वे लोग करने लगे। केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर्स एंड पेस्टिसाइड्स की बात करने वाले लोग ही अब ऑर्गेनिक फूड की बात करने लगे हैं। जिस शाकाहार की बात हम यहां करते थे, इसी शाकाहार की बात अब वे लोग करने लगे हैं। हमारे पास पहले से ही ट्रेडिशनल साइंस था। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारा जो मूलतः फॉर्मिंग सिस्टम था उस फॉर्मिंग सिस्टम के प्रति हमारी जो जागरूकता बढ़ेगी तो मुझे लगता है कि अब कौन सा विषय है प्राइसेज का? केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर, आर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर, हम अपने घर पर ही फर्टिलाइजर बनाते थे। हमारे घर पर ही फर्टिलाइजर पैदा होता था। हमारे सभी फॉर्मर्स के पास पशु थे, गायें थीं, भैंसे थीं। वह ट्रेडिशनल उसका सिस्टम था। अपने पशु से पैदा हुए animal dung को एक साल तक रहने देते थे अपने खेत के एक कोने में और एक साल के बाद वह इतना अच्छा आर्गेनिक फर्टिलाइजर बन जाता था। उससे फसल भी बढ़ती थी और खेत उत्पादन की क्षमता भी उस खेत में ही बढ़ती थी। ऐसा साइंस, ऐसा फर्टिलाइजर कहीं किसी से भी लेने जाने की आवश्यकता नहीं होती थी, अपने ही खेत में पैदा होता था, अपने ही खेत में उसकी व्यवस्था थी। लेकिन अब हमने वह रास्ता छोड़ दिया, हमने वह रास्ता छुड़वा दिया, हमने उसको और सलाह दी, हमने उसको और बढ़ावा दिया, हमारे agriculture graduates भी वैसा ही साइंस पढ़ने लगे। तो यह स्थिति आकर निर्माण हो गई है। माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपसे और माननीय मंत्री जी से विनती करता हूं कि ट्रेडिशनल साइंस को बढ़ावा दें, केमिकल पेस्टिसाइड्स, केमिकल फर्टिलाइजर के ऊपर रोक लगे। उसका भाव नियंत्रण तो होना ही है और सरकार कर भी रही है। उसके प्रति ध्यान देते हुए हमारा किसान, हमारी फसल और हम अपने राष्ट्र को समृद्धि की ओर ले जाएं, इसी अपेक्षा के साथ मैं अपनी बात पूर्ण करता हूं। वन्दे मातरम्।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Thank you very much. I am calling Shri Bhupinder Singh since he has to catch his flight. Your time is four minutes.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha) : Sir, thank you very much. महोदय, मि. गुप्ता बड़ा स्पेसिफिक बिल लाए हैं, मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूं और आपसे निवेदन करता हूं कि सवाल विस्तार से जाने का नहीं है, क्योंकि यह बजट डिस्कशन नहीं है। फर्टिलाइजर के ऊपर आज बहुत तर्क चल रहा है, एन्वॉयरमेंटल पॉल्यूशन हो रहा है, उसमें जहर आ रहा है, केमिकल जितना ज्यादा यूज हो रहा है, मैं उसमें नहीं जाना चाहता। मेरी स्थिति आज यह है कि कल हमने prevailing agrarian crisis के जो किसान आज फेस कर रहे हैं, उसके ऊपर चर्चा की और आज यही मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे पास, अकबर इलाहाबादी ने जैसा कहा था कि किचन से बहुत जोर से आवाज आ रही है लेकिन खाना नहीं आ रहा है। खाना है, वैसे ही आपके पास फर्टिलाइजर्स हैं। यह हाथ की पांच अंगुलियां एक जैसी नहीं हैं। इस हिन्दुस्तान के जो सारे

किसान हैं और वहां पर जो पैडी एग्रीकल्चर ऑपरेशन जब स्टार्ट होता है, पहले नहीं होता है। Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the first rain of south west monsoon comes to you in Kerala. मंत्री जी, 15 दिन के बाद हमारे यहां ओडिशा में आता है और कोरापुट डिस्ट्रिक्ट में, यह साउथ वेस्ट में है, वहां से 15 दिन के बाद कालाहांडी वेस्टर्न ओडिशा में आता है। उसके एक महीने के बाद कोस्टल ओडिशा में आता है, एग्रीकल्चर का ऑपरेशन स्टार्ट होता है। उसी तरीके से you are a good manager to manage things. Things are available with you. I have said last time also that you need coordination immediately with the Railways. अब शिपिंग का तो जो है वह पोर्ट से जब आता है। Fertilizers should reach on time. 15th August can't be celebrated on the 16th. The Republic Day celebrations on the 26th January can't be celebrated on the 27th January. Similarly, farmers have their own schedule. That schedule can't wait for anyone. That is why my request is हम भी टाइम देने के लिए तैयार हैं आपको, आप एक बार चिंता कीजिए कि आपकी मिनिस्ट्री ने यह पांच-दस साल में कभी बैठकर सोचा है कि किस प्रांत में कब यूरिया की जरूरत है, कब फास्फेट की जरूरत है, नाइट्रोजन की कब व किस समय जरूरत है और उस हिसाब से हमारा साल का जो कलेंडर बनता है रबी और खरीफ के लिए, उसको हम किस तरीके से मैनेज करते हैं? इसकी बहुत बड़ी कमी हमारे पास है। हमारा दुख यही है कि हमारे पास खाना रहते हुए भी, होते हुए भी हम टाइमली लोगों को नहीं दे पाते हैं। तो इसका मतलब क्या है कि सर, आप देखते होंगे कि लॉ एंड एंड आर्डर की सिचुएशन आती है। हम लोग जो पब्लिक लाइफ में हैं और ज्यादा करके असेंबलियों जो भाई लोग हमारे हैं, वहां फेस करते हैं, रास्ता रोको होता है फॉर्मर्स को लेकर और एक मौका मिलता है कि वहां फर्टिलाइजर्स की ब्लैकमार्केटिंग होनी शुरू हो जाती है जब टाइमली न मिले। रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री के बजट के समय भी मैंने रेलवे मिनिस्टर से कहा था कि What should be the priority of Railways? Any PDS related food product, agriculture-related product should go on priority basis, non-stop. हम लोग क्या कर रहे हैं? हम लोग कारपोरेट हाउस का जो आयरन-ओर है, उसे पहले ले जाते हैं, लेकिन यहां फर्टिलाइजर्स जाना होता है, सीड्स जाना होता है, उनको रोक देते हैं। यहां लोगों के लिए पी.डी.एस. का चावल जाना होता है, उसको हम रोक लेते हैं, और कारपोरेट हाउस को प्रायोरिटी देते हैं। यह मैं कोई नई बात नहीं कह रहा हूँ, यह सबको मालूम है। दुख की बात यह है कि सब जानते हुए और यहां आकर भी हम इसका समाधान नहीं कर सकते। अगर हम यहां आकर समाधान नहीं कर सकते, तो कौन करेगा? कौन इसके लिए जवाबदार हो सकता है? इसलिए मैं आपसे निवेदन करता हूँ कि आप इसका टाइमली समाधान कराइए। आपके साथ बहुत अच्छे सेक्रेटरी हैं, जो हमारी स्टेट के चीफ सेक्रेटरी थे, Mr. Mohapatra is there; your team is a very good team और जब मैंने आपसे कहा, तो you also responded immediately, लेकिन आपकी कोशिश के बावजूद भी वहां पर पोर्ट वाले स्ट्राइक कर देते हैं, वहां लोग ट्रेन की बोगी के लिए जो डेट देते हैं उस समय ट्रेन नहीं पहुंचती है और सामान नहीं पहुंच पाता है। आप फर्टिलाइजर्स का वर्कआउट कराकर कुछ कीजिए, मेरी आपसे रिक्वेस्ट है। आज एग्रीकल्चर सेक्टर विदआउट फर्टिलाइजर कुछ भी नहीं कर सकता। हमारे मनसुख भाई जो बात कह रहे थे, वह ऑर्गेनिक की बात ठीक है। पापुलेशन बढ़ गई, जमीन कम हो गई, खाद्य उत्पादन हमें ज्यादा

[Shri Bhupinder Singh]

चाहिए, उसको और कैसे बढ़ाना है? Now, we have to accept it, whether we may like it or not, Mr. Mansukh ji. We have to go beyond technology. Now, we have to think about bio-technology. We have to produce more from the land. Every day, every second, we are losing land; every second, our population is growing. We are adding every year a new Australia to our population. इसलिए, सर, जब क्रूड ऑयल का दाम कम हो गया, तो कंपनियां फर्टिलाइजर्स के दामों में मन-मर्जी क्यों करती हैं? दया करके सब्सिडी का बता दीजिए, मैं तो अभी यहां नहीं रह पाऊंगा, आप बता देंगे कि फर्टिलाइजर्स में हम कितनी ज्यादा सब्सिडी दे रहे हैं? मेरा यही आग्रह था कि किसानों के खाते में फर्टिलाइजर्स की सब्सिडी डाल दीजिए, उनके एकाउंट में दे दीजिए।

सर, क्रूड ऑयल का प्राइस कम हुआ है, उसको लेकर बस का किराया कम करने के लिए स्ट्राइक कर रहे हैं। जब क्रूड ऑयल का प्राइस कम हुआ है तो फर्टिलाइजर्स का दाम क्यों कम नहीं होगा? फर्टिलाइजर्स की कंपनियों द्वारा फर्टिलाइजर्स के दाम कैसे बढ़ेंगे, जबकि 115 डॉलर की जगह उन्हें आज 64 डॉलर में क्रूड ऑयल मिल गया? तो इसके साथ रिलेटेड सब्जेक्ट है, उसके ऊपर मंत्री जी ध्यान देंगे। मैं इतना निवेदन करते हुए बैठता हूं। धन्यवाद, सर।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपको धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा, जो इस विषय पर आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया। हमारे साथी ने उर्वरक (मूल्य नियंत्रण) विधेयक पेश किया है और इस पर अभी हमारे तमाम साथियों ने चर्चा भी की। मुझसे पहले हमारे जो माननीय साथी बोल रहे थे, उनकी बात से मैं बिल्कुल अपने को संबद्ध करते हुए कहना चाहूंगा कि निश्चित रूप से हमारे देश की आबादी दिन-प्रति-दिन बढ़ रही है और कृषि योग्य जमीन दिन-प्रति-दिन घटती चली जा रही है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) पीठासीन हुए।]

महोदय, बढ़ती हुई आबादी को खाद्यान्न मुहैया कराने के लिए निश्चित रूप से हमें तकनीक स्वीकार करनी पड़ेगी। सन 60 के दशक में खाद्यान्न की कमी थी, लेकिन सिंचाई सुविधाओं, रासायनिक खाद और नई तकनीकी के प्रयोग से आज हम खाद्यान्न के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर हो गए हैं। आज हमारी आबादी 125 करोड़ के लगभग है और 263 मिलियन टन हम खाद्यान्न पैदा कर रहे हैं। आने वाले समय में 2020-2021 में हमारी आबादी 130 करोड़ के लगभग होगी और उस समय हमें 310 मिलियन टन खाद्यान्न की आवश्यकता होगी। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमें खाद्यान्न का उत्पादन बढ़ाना पड़ेगा। खेती योग्य जमीन के बढ़ने की कहीं कोई गुंजाइश नहीं दिख रही है। इन परिस्थितियों में बहुत आवश्यक है कि हमें उत्पादकता बढ़ानी पड़ेगी। यह सही है कि आजादी के बाद खेती की तकनीक में बहुत परिवर्तन आया है। धान के उत्पादन में हमने लगभग तीन गुना वृद्धि की है। वहीं गेहूं में हमारा उत्पादन लगभग पांच गुना बढ़ा है।

मान्यवर, कहा जाता है कि हम रासायनिक खादों का ज्यादा प्रयोग कर रहे हैं। अगर दुनिया के पैमाने पर हम देखें, तो चीन में 399.8 किलोग्राम प्रति हैक्टेयर NPK फर्टिलाइजर की खपत

होती है। बांग्लादेश में 228.5 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर NPK फर्टिलाइजर की खपत होती है। पाकिस्तान भी हमसे ज्यादा खपत करता है। वहां 179.5 किलोग्राम NPK फर्टिलाइजर की खपत होती है, जबकि हिन्दुस्तान में औसत रासायनिक फर्टिलाइजर की खपत 164.8 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर है। हिन्दुस्तान में भी पंजाब में सबसे ज्यादा खपत होती है। पंजाब में 250.3 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर, हरियाणा में 207 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर, उत्तर प्रदेश में 183 किलोग्राम, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में 179.3 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर और तमिलनाडु में 164.6 किलोग्राम प्रति हेक्टेयर की खपत होती है।

मान्यवर, खाद की पोषक तत्वों के आधार पर जो कमी है, हम उस बात को स्वीकार कर रहे हैं, जिसके बारे में हमारे साथी अभी बोल रहे थे। पोषक तत्वों के आधार पर हमें खाद का प्रयोग करना है, लेकिन अकेले जैविक खाद का प्रयोग कर के हम 310 मिलियन टन उत्पादन कर पाएं, शायद यह संभव नहीं है। हम चाहते हैं कि जैविक खाद का प्रयोग हो, कंपोस्ट खाद का प्रयोग हो, लेकिन जैविक और कंपोस्ट खाद के प्रयोग के साथ-साथ रासायनिक खादों का भी प्रयोग करना पड़ेगा।

मान्यवर, आज मूल्य नियंत्रण करने की बात आई है। उसके बारे में विधेयक है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहूंगा कि मूल्य नियंत्रण होगा तथा रासायनिक खाद की उपलब्धता होगी, तभी उनका प्रयोग होगा और यदि रासायनिक खाद की उपलब्धता करनी है, तो इसके लिए हमें फर्टिलाइजर इंडस्ट्री की तरफ देखना होगा। हम देख रहे हैं कि आज फर्टिलाइजर के कारखाने दिन-प्रति-दिन बन्द होते जा रहे हैं। आज फर्टिलाइजर कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया पूरी तरह से बन्द हो गया। आज HFC पूरी तरह से बन्द हो गया। तमाम कारखाने थे, वे सब बन्द हो गए। फर्टिलाइजर का उत्पादन मान्यवर दिन-प्रति-दिन कम होता चला जा रहा है। इसका कारण क्या है? इसका कारण यह है कि जो लोग अब तक सरकार में थे, उन्होंने जो नीति बनाई, उस नीति के तहत जिन निवेशकों को इस क्षेत्र में आना चाहिए, फर्टिलाइजर के क्षेत्र में निवेश करना चाहिए, वे निवेशक हमारी तरफ नहीं आए।

मान्यवर, वर्ष 1977 में RPS की नीति लागू की गई थी। उसके बाद वर्ष 2001 के आसपास एक मौका ऐसा अवश्य आया था कि जितने फर्टिलाइजर की हमें आवश्यकता थी, उतना फर्टिलाइजर उपलब्ध हो जाता था। हम फर्टिलाइजर के मामले पूरी तरह से आत्मनिर्भर हो गए थे। हम अपने देश में उतना फर्टिलाइजर पैदा करने लगे थे। इसके बाद वर्ष 2003 में जो नई फर्टिलाइजर पालिसी आई। उसके अन्तर्गत लोगों पर जिस तरह के बन्धन लगाए गए, उसके कारण दिन-प्रति-दिन कारखाने बन्द होते चले गए और यूरिया तथा फास्फेटिक फर्टिलाइजर का उत्पादन कम होता चला गया।

मान्यवर, कम लागत पर अच्छा यूरिया उत्पादन करने वालों से नई नीति के तहत रिकवरी होने लगी, जिसके कारण जिसकी जितनी क्षमता थी, उसके अनुसार उन्होंने यूरिया का उत्पादन कम करना शुरू कर दिया, क्योंकि यदि पूरी कैपेसिटी पर प्लांट चलाएंगे, तो उतना ही ज्यादा नुकसान होगा। अगर कम लागत है, तो निश्चित रूप से उसकी रिकवरी होती थी। इन

[डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव]

परिस्थितियों में फर्टिलाइजर फैक्ट्रियों ने कम उत्पादन करना शुरू कर दिया। मान्यवर, यह जो नीति आई, उस नीति के चलते हिन्दुस्तान में एक अनोखी बात है कि बीस साल में, मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि बीस वर्ष में एक भी फर्टिलाइजर का प्लांट हिन्दुस्तान में नहीं लगा, जबकि लगना चाहिए था। नई-नई तकनीकें आ रही हैं, नए-नए तरीकों से फर्टिलाइजर बनाने के काम हो रहे हैं, लेकिन बीस साल में हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में फर्टिलाइजर का कोई प्लांट नहीं लगा। मान्यवर, आज परिस्थितियाँ हैं। आज हमारा जितना स्वदेशी उत्पादन है, लगभग 220 लाख टन यूरिया का उत्पादन हम हिन्दुस्तान में कर रहे हैं और लगभग 80,000 से लेकर 1 लाख टन हम विदेशों से यूरिया को आयात करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं और जो मूल्य है, वह पूरे तरीके से नियंत्रित मूल्य हैं।

मान्यवर, इसी तरीके से हम लगभग 35 लाख टन फॉस्फेटिक फर्टिलाइजर हिन्दुस्तान में बना रहे हैं और 45 लाख टन हम विदेशों से लाने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। हम सब लोग इस बात को अच्छे तरीके से जानते हैं कि चाहे फॉस्फेटिक फर्टिलाइजर बनाना हो, फॉस्फेटिक फर्टिलाइजर का जो रॉ मैटीरियल है, वह पूरे तरीके से आयात होता है। रॉ फॉस्फेट हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में बहुत कम है। 80 परसेंट रॉ मैटीरियल हम बाहर से खरीद कर लाते हैं। फॉस्फोरिक एसिड, सल्फ्यूरिक एसिड, अमोनिया - तमाम जिस प्रकार से हम डी.ए.पी. और एन.पी. को बनाने का काम करते हैं, वह सारा का सारा विदेशों से खरीदकर लाते हैं। जब इंटरनेशनल मार्केट में रेट बढ़ेगा, तो निश्चित रूप से लागत भी बढ़ेगी। **...(समय की घंटी)...** इसी तरीके से मान्यवर, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज इस बात की बहुत आवश्यकता है कि हमारी फर्टिलाइजर इंडस्ट्री बंद न हो। हमारी फर्टिलाइजर इंडस्ट्री बंद न हो, इसके लिए पूरे तरीके से हमें इस बात का प्रयास करना होगा कि जो रॉ मैटीरियल है, भले ही हमारा रॉ मैटीरियल यूरिया बनाने में लगता है, तो यूरिया बनाने में नैचुरल गैस की आवश्यकता होती है। ईंधन के रूप में, रॉ मैटीरियल के रूप में, दोनों तरीके से हमें गैस की आवश्यकता होती है और उस गैस की कीमत दिन-प्रतिदिन लगातार बढ़ती जा रही है। मान्यवर, अगर गैस की कीमत बढ़ेगी और हम सस्ता फर्टिलाइजर देने का प्रयास करेंगे तो निश्चित रूप से हमें सब्सिडी का प्रायोजन बढ़ाना पड़ेगा। हम अगर चाहें कि हम सस्ती दरों पर किसानों को फर्टिलाइजर उपलब्ध कराएं और गैस की कीमत बढ़ती जाए, हम सब्सिडी न बढ़ाएं, तो मान्यवर, यह नहीं हो सकता। या तो कारखाने बंद हो जाएंगे या किसानों को फर्टिलाइजर सस्ती दरों पर उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाएगा।

मान्यवर, एन.बी.एस. की पॉलिसी लागू की गई फॉस्फेटिक फर्टिलाइजर में, nutrient based fertilizer में और निश्चित रूप से हम इस बात को स्वीकार करने के लिए तैयार हैं कि जहां एम.आर.पी. 11,500 रुपए था, वह आज 22,500 रुपए हो गया है। यह सही बात है कि लेकिन हमने कहा कि जब इंटरनेशनल मार्केट में रॉ मैटीरियल की कीमत बढ़ेगी, तो निश्चित रूप से कीमतें बढ़ेंगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : समाप्त कीजिए।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव : इसलिए हम आज आपको कुछ सुझाव देना चाहते हैं। मान्यवर, आपसे हम आज के मौके पर यही अनुरोध करना चाहते हैं कि सरकार को ऐसी नई पॉलिसी लानी चाहिए जिसके तहत तमाम निवेशक, जो दुनिया भर के निवेशक हैं, वे हिन्दुस्तान में आकर फर्टिलाइजर के कारखाने लगाएं, जिससे कि हम यूरिया और फॉस्फेटिक फर्टिलाइजर में पूरी तरह से आत्मनिर्भर बन सकें।

मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. के दबाव में जो प्रयास हो रहा है कि किसानों से सब्सिडी वापस कर ली जाए, उसमें निश्चित रूप से माननीय मंत्री जी, उनके दबाव में आने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। आप विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में दस-दस हजार करोड़ रुपए की सब्सिडी दे रहे हैं। अगर किसान को एक लाख करोड़ या डेढ़ लाख करोड़ रुपए की सब्सिडी देनी पड़ेगी, तो कोई बड़ी बात नहीं है कि इससे हिन्दुस्तान के किसान का कार्याकल्प हो जाएगा, हिन्दुस्तान के किसान की हालत सुधर जाएगी।

मान्यवर, हम आपसे आज एक और अनुरोध करना चाहते हैं कि एन.बी.एस. की पॉलिसी जिस तरीके से फॉस्फेटिक फर्टिलाइजर पर लागू की, आप ला सकते हैं **...(समय की घंटी)...** लेकिन जो हमारे साथी ने कहा, चाहे उनकी सब्सिडी आप किसानों के खाते में सीधी दे दें, चाहे जो दे दें, लेकिन सब्सिडी पर बोझ बढ़ेगा, क्योंकि राँ की कीमत बढ़ रही है, इसलिए सब्सिडी पर बोझ बढ़ेगा। आपको गैस उपलब्ध करानी पड़ेगी। माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी **...(व्यवधान)...**

श्री उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : श्री अच्युतन जी **...(व्यवधान)...**

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव : सर, मैं एक मिनट और लूंगा। वे आस-पास के देशों में यात्रा कर रहे हैं, आस-पास के देशों में चाहे बंगलादेश हो, चाहे पाकिस्तान हो या विभिन्न देशों में, जहां गैस की उपलब्धता है, उनसे गैस लेकर हमें निश्चित रूप से यहां प्लांट लगाना चाहिए। हमने ओमान में प्लांट लगाया था, जब आपकी ही सरकार थी। एन.डी.ए. की सरकार थी, उस समय हमने ओमान में इफको, कृभको ने मिलकर प्लांट लगाया था। आज हम वहां से 20 लाख टन उत्पादन हिन्दुस्तान में लाकर देने का काम कर रहे हैं। मान्यवर, दस साल में हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार को 20 हजार करोड़ रुपए का सब्सिडी में फायदा हुआ है क्योंकि हमें वहां पर गैस सस्ती मिल रही थी। इसलिए मैं आज इस अवसर पर आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि निश्चित रूप से हमें ये प्रयास करने चाहिए।

मान्यवर, मैं आपसे एक और निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि यूरिया का प्रयोग विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में होता है। किसान के अलावा तमाम प्रकार के फर्टिलाइजर में भी उसका प्रयोग होता है और लोग दो-दो बार उस पर सब्सिडी ले लेते हैं। एक तो सब्सिडाइज्ड रेट पर यूरिया मिल जाता है और दूसरा जब फर्टिलाइजर तैयार करके बाजार में बेचते हैं, उसमें भी वे सब्सिडी लेने का काम करते हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि किसी भी व्यक्ति को दो तरीके की सब्सिडी नहीं मिलनी चाहिए। अगर किसान यूरिया खरीदता है तो उसको आप सब्सिडी वाले रेट पर, नियंत्रित रेट पर दीजिए और अगर कोई उसे बाजार में किसी दूसरे काम के लिए खरीदता है तो उसे पूरे दाम पर उपलब्ध होना चाहिए। **...(समय की घंटी)...** मान्यवर, उत्पादन, बढ़ाने के लिए इंडस्ट्री चलाना बहुत जरूरी है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव : इसलिए इसे राष्ट्रीय महत्व की इंडस्ट्री के रूप में घोषित करना चाहिए। मैं आज इस अवसर पर आपसे यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान का किसान इससे ज्यादा रेट पर फर्टिलाइजर खरीदने की पोजिशन में नहीं है क्योंकि उसमें खेती की ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : अच्युतन जी आप, बोलिए।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव : लागत बहुत ज्यादा आ रही है और उसे एम.एस.पी. कम मिल रहा है। हमें पूरी उम्मीद है कि माननीय मंत्री जी और इस देश की सरकार निश्चित रूप से फर्टिलाइजर पर ऐसी पॉलिसी लाएगी, ऐसी नीति लागू करेगी, जहां एक ओर किसानों का फायदा होगा, वहीं देश पूरे तरीके से रासायनिक खादों के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर बनेगा। महोदय, मैं चलते-चलते एक निवेदन और करना चाहता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : बस, अब हो गया।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव : मान्यवर, मिट्टी का परीक्षण कराना बहुत जरूरी है क्योंकि अगर मिट्टी का परीक्षण हो जाएगा तो निश्चित रूप से पोषक तत्वों के आधार पर हम फर्टिलाइजर तय कर सकेंगे। मान्यवर, एक निवेदन और करना चाहता हूँ, मुझे जानकारी है, इसलिए मैं यह बात कह रहा हूँ। आज एक फर्टिलाइजर आ रहा है जो वाटर सॉल्युबल फर्टिलाइजर है। जैसे हम ड्रिप इरिगेशन के माध्यम से पानी देते हैं, उसी तरीके से फर्टिलाइजर आ रहा है कि हम सीधे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : आप कृपया समय का ध्यान रखें। आपके सुझाव अच्छे हैं।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव : कतार बनाकर ड्रिप इरिगेशन के माध्यम से उन पौधों की जड़ों तक पहुंचाएं जिससे उसका उत्पादन बढ़ जाए। इससे किसानों के यहां खुशहाली आएगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : अच्युतन जी, आप शुरू करें। यादव जी, आप बहुत अच्छा बोले।

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव : मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि सरकार निश्चित रूप से हमारे सुझावों की ओर ध्यान देगी। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Yesterday, we had discussed about one of the main crisis in the agricultural sector, that is, price rise of fertilizers. For the last several years, the Governments, as a policy, have been cutting down the subsidy on the fertilizers. This has created a very peculiar situation in our agricultural sector. The prices of fertilizers are increasing and because of that our peasants are in great distress. I do not know whether the Government has any alternate programme to help the peasants by providing them

subsidy on the fertilizers.

Comrade C.P. Narayanan dealt with one more issue with regard to FACT. As you know, the FACT is a premier public sector organization in Kerala. It is in crisis for the last many years. The last UPA Government had announced a financial package also for it. But it did not materialize. The new Minister, after taking charge, also visited there. It has aroused very good sentiments among the workers of the FACT. The approach of the hon. Minister was very positive. We appreciate that. A Financial package of ₹ 991 crore was also declared by the Government. I hope that there will be some announcement, today itself, by the Minister that this package will be implemented. It is not only the issue of saving the FACT, but it is also a matter of saving the peasantry in Kerala. So, take such a view and help out the FACT with the revival package.

Not only in FACT but also in most of the public sector fertilizer companies, we have seen that, formerly, naphtha was used. Since its price has increased, now, there is a chance of natural gas being used for fertilizer production. Here also, there is one problem. The prices are not uniform all over India. In Kerala, we get it at a higher price. I do not know but it is nearly ₹22 per unit. But in Uttar Pradesh, it may be of ₹5 or ₹6 per unit. It is being said; I don't know. Anyway, there is no uniformity. So, the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has to take a holistic view and have a uniform pricing policy of LNG all over India, for the fertilizer companies. Then only we can control the prices. That is another means to control the prices and revive the public sector fertilizer companies also. I hope the hon. Minister will give ample attention to these two issues. For FACT, I request and hope that you will make a positive announcement today itself. Thank you very much.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, actually, I won't like to take more time. This is the extension of the discussion which we had yesterday, on the agrarian crisis. Around 2.96 lakh farmers have committed suicide since 1995, as per the answer given to this august House by the Minister of Home Affairs. The main reason was that these farmers were in debt trap. This debt trap is because the production cost has increased drastically. It is rocketing and there is a fall in the price of crops. For the first factor, that is, the production cost, the main component is the price rise in fertilizer. Already, my colleague, Shri M.P. Achuthan, has mentioned about the change in the subsidy perspective of the continuous Governments after 1991. They have mentioned two reasons. One is the World Trade Organisation's commitment. But the United States of America is still giving subsidy to their farmers including exporting their products to other countries, for dumping into the developing countries.

[Shri P. Rajeeve]

Sir, second reason is the fiscal deficit. Our learned Minister of State, Shri Jayant Sinha, the new dynamic Minister, is with us. Actually, they are trying to reduce this subsidy component in the cost of fiscal deficit, but they never touched the revenue component. Revenue foregone is about ₹5.76 lakh crores. Plus, there are uncollected taxes of about ₹4.76 lakh crores. But they are not touching that side. They are only taking the expenditure side and cutting the subsidies. That is one major reason. You should revisit the policy of the Government.

Then, Sir, I have raised several times in this House, through a question, that what is the status of the public expenditure in fertilizer industry. There is no improvement in public investment in fertilizer industry. In the last year of the second UPA Government, they had changed the policy and started two new urea plants in the country. I do not know what is the present status, but Kerala did not get the benefit of that decision also. I request the Government should increase public investment. If the slogan of this Government and also of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, 'Make in India' is sincere, then, you should concentrate on the agriculture sector. About 51 per cent of the population still depends, for their livelihood, on the agriculture sector. But this sector contributes only 12 per cent to the GDP. Then, public expenditure to this sector should be increased. For 'Make in India' the first attempt should be to construct plants for fertilizer production in this country and there should be revamping and restructuring of the existing plants. Then, Sir, the issue regarding FACT has already been mentioned by Mr. Achuthan and Mr. C.P. Narayanan. Sir, the FACT is in a serious crisis primarily because of the price of natural gas. Earlier, we had used naphtha which is costly. Then, the price of 1 MMBTU of natural gas is around 23-24 dollars. But, in the North-East, the price of 1 MMBTU is only 4 dollars or 4.5 dollars. In Gujarat, the price of 1 MMBTU of natural gas is only 4.5 dollars. But if FACT has paid 23-24 dollars for 1 MMBTU, then how can it be competitive *vis-a-vis* the other fertilizer companies? The price is uniform. FACT sells urea or factomphos at the same price at which these factories in Gujarat and other States sell. It is at the same price. So, it is a very difficult situation.

Then, there is a recommendation by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers of ₹ 991.9 crores relief package. Our Minister is already aware of this. Actually, the workers -- irrespective of political affiliations -- have been on continuous hunger strike for several months. Only on the basis of the assurance given by the hon. Minister, they have stopped that agitation. They are very grateful to you. You came there and visited the plant and gave this assurance to the trade unions, and, on the basis of that, they have withdrawn the agitation. But still it is in the same position. Yes, it is true that you have taken the initiative

to defer the BIFR sitting on the issue of FACT but I request you to please intervene in this matter. Your Ministry is in favour of that. But you have to get clearance from the Finance Ministry and from the Cabinet. Today you have discussed this with the CMD. We also had some discussion. I request you to please take up this issue on an urgent basis and clear this pending package of ₹ 991.9 crores and invest more money to strengthen the FACT. It is for the diversification of the production process of this Company. That is not for the State of Kerala. It is for the benefit of the country.

I would not like to take more time, Sir. I request the hon. Minister to give an assurance on this issue. Thank you.

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे उर्वरक (मूल्य नियंत्रण) विधेयक, 2013 पर बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया, मैं इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद अदा करता हूँ। मान्यवर, आज हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है। कृषि क्षेत्र में रासायनिक उर्वरक काफी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाता है। देश की आजादी से पहले हमारे देश में अनाज का उत्पादन बहुत ही कम था, किन्तु जब से खेती में रासायनिक खाद व फर्टिलाइजर का प्रयोग शुरू हुआ है, तब से उत्पादन काफी मात्रा में बढ़ा है। उत्पादन तो काफी मात्रा में बढ़ा है, इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं हैं, किन्तु उत्पादन के साथ-साथ रासायनिक खाद का ज्यादा प्रयोग करने से हमारे देश में बहुत बड़ी समस्या बढ़ती जा रही है। जो जमीन है, मिट्टी है, वह इतनी चटोरी होती चली जा रही है कि कभी-कभी जब रासायनिक खाद नहीं मिलती है, तो ठीक से फसल ही नहीं उगती है। ऐसा तमाम बार हुआ है जब रासायनिक खाद की कमी रही है और किसानों को खाद उपलब्ध नहीं हुई है, तो उस समय उपज बहुत की कम हुई है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन) पीठासीन हुए]

हमारी सरकार को इस ओर भी ध्यान देना होगा और इसके उपाय सोचने होंगे। जैसे-जैसे उत्पादन बढ़ा, वैसे-वैसे जमीन कमजोर होती चली गई तथा अब उत्पादन भी घटता चला जा रहा है। जब से रासायनिक खाद, केमिकल, फर्टिलाइजर का प्रयोग हुआ है, तब से तमाम तरह की बीमारियां भी पनप रही हैं। आज फसल को इस प्रकार से तैयार करना पड़ता है, जैसे बच्चे को पाला जाता है। फसल में इतने कीटाणु होते हैं, उसमें इतनी बीमारियां लगती हैं कि उस पर कई-कई बार स्प्रे करने पड़ते हैं। चाहे धान की फसल हो, गेहूं की हो या सब्जियां हो, उन पर कई-कई बार स्प्रे करना पड़ता है। उस पर इतने जहरीले कीटनाशक का छिड़काव किया जाता है कि उसको खाने से तमाम तरह की बीमारियां भी बढ़ रही हैं। आपने अभी अखबारों में पढ़ा होगा, देखा भी होगा कि आज हम सब्जियों में जिन केमिकल, रसायन और कीटनाशक दवाइयों का प्रयोग कर रहे हैं, लौकी, करेला, तरबूज या खरबूजे की फसल को बढ़ाने के लिए, उसको जल्दी तैयार करने के लिए, वे उपयुक्त नहीं हैं। यहां तक भी देखा गया है, सुना भी गया है कि अगर लौकी के डंठल में इंजेक्शन लगा देते हैं, तो जो लौकी एक हफ्ते में तैयार होती है, वह लौकी दो दिन में तैयार हो जाती है। इसी प्रकार के तरबूज के बारे में भी है। ऐसी सब्जियों को खाकर तमाम बीमारियां पनप रही हैं।

इसके साथ-साथ जैसे पशुओं का चारा है, जैसे बरसी है, जई है, हम उन पर रासायनिक

[श्री वीर सिंह]

4.00 P.M.

खाद ज्यादा डालते हैं। यह चारा तैयार तो बहुत जल्दी हो जाता है, पर जब उस चारे को पशु को, गाय और भैंस को खिलाते हैं और उनसे जो दूध मिलता है, उस दूध में वह बात नहीं होती, जो पहले बिनौला या गुड़ खाकर दूध प्राप्त करने में होती थी। आज जैसा चारा खिलाया जाता है, उससे भी काफी नुकसान हो रहा है।

इसके साथ-साथ आपने पहले देखा होगा कि तमाम ऐसी जड़ी-बूटियां उगती थीं, जिनसे देसी इलाज होता था। उन जड़ी-बूटियों से तमाम इलाज होते थे। इस रासायनिक उर्वरक के उधर भी थोड़ा नुकसान हुआ है, हमारी जड़ी-बूटियां भी समाप्त हुई हैं। हां, रसायन मिलना चाहिए, इसकी कीमतें भी बढ़ती चली जा रही हैं, लेकिन जो उत्पादन की लागत आती है, उसके अनुरूप कीमतें ज्यादा बढ़ रही हैं। किसान को उसका उतना मूल्य नहीं मिलता है। कल सदन में इस पर बड़े पैमाने पर चर्चा हुई थी कि इन उर्वरकों की कीमतें इतनी बढ़ती चली जा रही हैं। यूरिया, एम.पी. और डाई की कीमतें तो बढ़ रही हैं, किंतु उसके साथ-साथ जो अनाज उत्पन्न होता है, उत्पादन लागत के हिसाब से हम उधर उसकी कीमत नहीं बढ़ा रहे हैं, जिससे कि किसान बहुत अधिक नुकसान में हैं। इसीलिए हमारे देश में महाराष्ट्र, कर्णाटक, तेलंगाना, और अन्य प्रदेशों में किसान आत्महत्याएं कर रहे हैं। मैं चाहूंगा कि हमें उस ओर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए कि हम कीमतें तो बढ़ा रहे हैं, लेकिन हमें उसके हिसाब से फसल के भी दाम बढ़ाने चाहिए। उर्वरक तैयार हों, उनसे उत्पादन अवश्य बढ़े, लेकिन इसका दूसरी तरफ जो कुप्रभाव पड़ रहा है, हमें उस ओर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए। पहले देसी खाद का प्रयोग होता था, कम्पोज खाद बनाई जाती थी, खेत में हरी खाद तैयार की जाती थी और जब उनसे अनाज पैदा होता था, तो उस अनाज में सबसे ज्यादा प्रोटीन होते थे, लेकिन आज हरी खाद, कम्पोज खाद का चलन ही खत्म हो गया है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Please try to conclude.

श्री वीर सिंह : हमें केमिकल के इस पहलू की ओर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए। आज हमारी जो जमीन, मिट्टी बेकार होती चली जा रही है, उसका निरीक्षण करना चाहिए। उसका यह निरीक्षण करना चाहिए कि इसमें जो बीमारियां बढ़ी हैं, उन बीमारियों को दूर करने के लिए कैसे रासायनिक खाद का प्रयोग करना चाहिए। सरकार को इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, एक बहुत अच्छे विषय पर चर्चा प्रारम्भ की गई है। यह हमारा संयोग है कि हमारे दोनों मंत्री, माननीय कृषि मंत्री और रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री, सदन में विराजमान हैं। देश विकास की ओर प्रगति करे, हमने इसकी सारी कोशिशें की हैं। हर चीज ज्यादा चाहिए, जल्दी चाहिए, तैयार चाहिए, यह बेतहाशा दौड़ सब क्षेत्रों में जारी है। उसके कारण हम देख रहे हैं कि जो उत्प्रेरक है, उसका उपयोग हर जगह ज्यादा हो गया है। रासायनिक खाद भी जमीन की जो स्वाभाविक उर्वरक क्षमता है, उसको डिस्टर्ब करती है, उसको बढ़ा देती है, पौधे के आकार को बढ़ा देती है, फसल की मात्रा को बढ़ा देती है। परंतु, हम जानते हैं कि जब फसल की मात्रा बढ़ेगी, तो उसकी गुणात्मकता का ह्रास

होगा, कमी होगी। यह तो होना ही है। हमारी जरूरतें ज्यादा हो गई हैं। एक समय था, जब हम खाद्यान्न का आयात किया करते थे। हमने इसको आत्मनिर्भर बनाने का काम किया। जैसे हम कल किसान के बारे में बात कर रहे थे, हमने कहा था कि हम तेजी से काम कर रहे हैं। कुछ प्रदेशों ने इस संबंध में बढ़-चढ़कर काम किया है। हमने मध्य प्रदेश का भी जिक्र किया था, जहां हमने सिंचाई की क्षमता बढ़ाने का अद्भुत काम किया है। हमने एक ट्रांस बेसिन, नदियों का पानी लाने के लिए उनका अंतरण करने का काम किया है। हमने वहां पर किसानों को सुविधा देने का काम किया है, वहां की सरकार को कृषि-कर्मण पुरस्कार देने का काम किया है। यह ठीक है कि बहुत अच्छा हो गया, किन्तु बाकी के प्रदेशों में इस तरह से सारी बातों को करने के लिए जब तक मौका नहीं होगा तब तक इन सारी बातों को करने में बड़ी मुश्किल होगी।

आज चिन्ता इस बात की है कि खेती के लायक जमीन अब धीरे-धीरे खत्म होती जा रही है और कृषि की उर्वरक क्षमता भी खत्म होती जा रही है। जैसा अभी एक माननीय सदस्य, जो कि यहां अभी नहीं हैं, ने एक शब्द इस्तेमाल किया था कि खाद को प्राप्त करके जमीन अब चटोरी हो गई है। अब यह चटोरी हो गई है, इसका मतलब अब हर समय इसमें ज्यादा खाद लगने वाली है। जब इसमें ज्यादा खाद लगने वाली है, तो इसका मतलब यह है कि अब जमीन ऊसर होने की तरफ बढ़ रही है, बंजर होने की तरफ बढ़ रही है, बेकार होने की तरफ बढ़ रही है। जमीन की यदि उर्वरक क्षमता खराब हो रही है और हम खादों का इस्तेमाल कम नहीं कर रहे हैं तो हमें दूसरे उपायों के बारे में भी जरूर सोचना होगा, उसके वैकल्पिक उपायों के बारे में सोचना होगा।

मैं अभी एक रिपोर्ट पढ़ रहा था, जिसमें कहा गया है कि कृषि मंत्रालय की ताजा रिपोर्ट कहती है कि देश में कृषि-योग्य जमीन का रकबा लगातार कम होता जा रहा है। कृषि मंत्रालय की सन् 2012-2013 की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, पिछले 30 वर्षों में कृषि-योग्य जमीन में 54 लाख हेक्टेयर की कमी आई है। अब यदि 54 लाख हेक्टेयर की कमी आई है तो इसकी पूर्ति नहीं हो सकती, इसका कोई वैकल्पिक उपाय नहीं है। जो कम हो गया, वह तो कम हो गया और यदि यह निरंतर कम होता चला जाएगा तो फिर हमारी अपनी जरूरतों का क्या होगा, यह समस्या हमारे सामने है।

अभी जब हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं, तो निश्चित रूप से यह चर्चा रासायनिक उर्वरकों के ऊपर है। यह जो विधेयक लाने की बात हुई है और इसके लिए जो कारण बताया गया है, उसमें कहा गया है कि रासायनिक उर्वरक देश के कृषि-क्षेत्र को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाते हैं। जैसा कि योजना आयोग के कार्य समूह ने उचित ही कहा है कि कृषि गत उत्पादकता अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण रूप से प्राथमिक और सूक्ष्म पोषक तत्वों के इष्टतम इस्तेमाल पर निर्भर करती है, इसीलिए सरकार की भूमिका किसान को उचित समय और वहनीय कीमतों पर सभी प्रकार के पोषक तत्व उपलब्ध कराने में और भी अधिक महत्वपूर्ण हो जाती है। आगे यह कहा गया है कि इन सारी बातों के बीच यह प्रश्न है कि यूरिया तो सरकार के नियंत्रण में है और उसमें कहा गया है कि भारतवर्ष ने 1992 तक सभी उर्वरकों के लिए नियंत्रित मूल्य की प्रणाली अपनाई थी। इसके बाद सरकार ने फॉस्फेट और पोटैश आधारित (पी. एंड के.) उर्वरकों के मूल्य को नियंत्रण मुक्त कर दिया। अब नियंत्रण मूल्य पर मिलने वाला एकमात्र उर्वरक केवल यूरिया ही है, जिसे

[डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया]

सांविधिक अधिसूचित एक समान विक्रय मूल्य पर बेचा जाता है। मुश्किल यह है कि फॉस्फेट और पोटाश आधारित जो फर्टिलाइजर्स हैं, इनके मूल्यों के बारे में बाज़ार में कुछ भी तय नहीं है। जब ये बाज़ार में उपलब्ध नहीं होते, तो इनके भावों को बढ़ाने का काम होने लगता है। आज किसान यूरिया का इस्तेमाल करने के लिए बाध्य हैं, जिससे चाहे अनचाहे यूरिया का उपयोग बहुत अधिक बढ़ गया है। आज पोटाश और फॉस्फेट आधारित खाद का इस्तेमाल निरंतर कम होता जा रहा है, जिसके कारण धरती के अन्दर जो आवश्यक तत्व, नाइट्रोजन, पोटाश और फॉस्फेट होने चाहिए, वे निरंतर कम होते चले जा रहे हैं, जिनकी पूर्ति करना असम्भव है।

खेत में जिस प्रकार की फसल होती है, उसी प्रकार की खाद की जरूरत होती है। यदि हर चीज़ में यूरिया का इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा, तो निश्चित रूप से भूमि का सारा संतुलन बिगड़ जाएगा। यूरिया की खपत प्रति वर्ष और अधिक बढ़ानी पड़ती है, जिससे फसल का उत्पादन प्रभावित होता है। जिस प्रकार की फसल की गुणवत्ता होनी चाहिए, वह भी नहीं आ पाती है। आज समस्या यह है कि नाइट्रोजन, फॉस्फेट और पोटाश जैसे पोषक तत्वों का प्रयोग न हो पाने के कारण मिट्टी की उत्पादकता में असंतुलन पैदा हो गया है। उर्वरकों की खपत में हुए असंतुलन को दूर करने के लिए सरकार ने कुछ उपाय भी किए थे, किन्तु वे उपाय भी कारगर साबित नहीं हो सके। आज उर्वरकों का मूल्य निर्धारण एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण कार्य है। इसके लिए जो निर्णय लिए जाएंगे, उनका प्रभाव कृषि क्षेत्र की दीर्घकालीन उत्पादन क्षमता पर पड़ सकता है। इसके लिए मांग की गई है कि सरकार पोषक तत्व आधारित राजसहायता नीति को वापस ले तथा उर्वरकों के अधिकतम खुदरा मूल्य तय करे।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि किसान को जिन आवश्यक वस्तुओं की जरूरत होती है, उनकी उचित कीमत नहीं ली जा रही है। कई बार यह देखा गया है कि जो खाद विक्रेता हैं, वे अपनी दुकानों के बाहर यह लगा देते हैं कि यूरिया उपलब्ध नहीं है। जब किसान उस दुकान पर यूरिया खरीदने के लिए जाता है और जब उसे दुकान के ऊपर वह लिखा हुआ मिलता है, तो वही दुकानदार उस किसान से अधिक कीमत लेकर वह यूरिया उपलब्ध करवा देता है। अन्य उर्वरकों के मूल्यों का नियन्त्रण भी नहीं हो पा रहा है। किसानों से उनका ज्यादा मूल्य मांगा जाता है और वह ज्यादा मूल्य देने के लिए बाध्य होता है।

आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि फर्टिलाइजर्स की आवश्यकता और भूमि संरक्षण से उसके सम्बन्ध को ध्यान में रखते हुए इन उर्वरकों को किसानों के लिए सही मूल्यों पर उपलब्ध करवाने के बारे में सरकार विचार करे। यहां पर केवल यूरिया के मूल्य नियन्त्रण के बारे में कहा गया है, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि अन्य फर्टिलाइजर्स के मूल्यों पर भी नियन्त्रण किया जाए। फर्टिलाइजर्स के ऊपर एम.आर.पी. लिखा जाए और उनमें क्या-क्या कंटेंट हैं, इसका टैस्ट करवाया जाए।

विदेशों से जो खाद मंगवाई जाती है, उसके बारे में कहा गया है कि जब बाहर से उसका लदान आता है, तभी उसका टैस्ट करवाया जाता है। मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूं कि किसानों तक

पहुँचने के लिए उसको बहुत से स्थानों से गुजरना पड़ता है, जिसमें कई बार काफी समय लग जाता है। यदि उर्वरक में गुणवत्ता नहीं होगी, तो निश्चित रूप से फसलों में भी वह गुणवत्ता पैदा नहीं हो पाएगी, जो होनी चाहिए। कई बार यह देखा जाता है कि गलत खाद, गलत बीज और गलत कीटनाशकों के उपयोग के कारण पूरी फसलें बरबाद होती जाती हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में किसानों के पास इस तरह बरबाद हुई फसलों की भरपाई करने का कोई उपाय नहीं रह जाता।

हम सभी यह चाहते हैं कि किसान को इस प्रकार की मार न झेलनी पड़े, उसे इस प्रकार की कठिनाइयों का सामना न करना पड़े। आज उत्पादन के हित में, किसानों के हित में, देश के हित में यह बहुत ज़रूरी है कि सरकार उर्वरकों के मूल्यों पर नियंत्रण करने का काम करे।

किसान को कितनी खाद चाहिए, यह उसके खेत के रकबे पर निर्भर करता है, साथ ही किसान के पास कितनी सिंचित भूमि है, इसका भी महत्व है। जिस प्रकार से हम खाद्यान्न के वितरण का काम करते हैं, उसी प्रकार से किसान को उसकी आवश्यकता के अनुसार खुदरा मूल्य पर खाद देने का काम भी किया जाना चाहिए। जिस प्रकार राशन की दुकान पर राशन दिया जाता है, उसी प्रकार से हम किसानों को खुदरा मूल्य पर खाद देने का काम कर सकते हैं। इससे किसानों को सही समय पर, सही खाद, सही मूल्य पर मिलने का काम हो सकेगा, जिससे किसान अपना उत्पादन सही तरीके से कर सकेगा। किसानों की जो सबसे बड़ी परेशानी थी, जिस पर हम कल यहां चर्चा कर रहे थे, उसमें यह था कि किसान आत्महत्या कर रहा है। उसके द्वारा आत्महत्या करने का कारण यह है कि वह अपने सारे कर्जों को चुका नहीं पा रहा है। उस पर कर्ज हो रहा है और यदि वह कर्जा नहीं चुका पा रहा है, तब या तो वह उस कर्ज के मर्ज के कारण परेशान है या फिर मरने के लिए तैयार हो रहा है। इसलिए, ये बहुविध प्रकार की बातें जुड़ी हुई हैं। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि सरकार एक लोक कल्याणकारी सरकार है। हमने कहा है कि उन सारी बातों को करने के लिए, जैसे अभी सुझाव आए कि यदि हम 'मेक इन इंडिया' करना चाहते हैं, तो खाद के क्षेत्र में भी हमें 'मेक इन इंडिया' करने का काम करना चाहिए, जिसके कारण हम अपना उत्पादन, जितनी हमारी जरूरत है, उस प्रकार की जरूरत को पूरा करने के लिए काम करें। इसके साथ ही, खेतों में किस प्रकार की मिट्टी का परीक्षण करना है, उसको किस चीज़ की कितनी जरूरत है, इस प्रकार के प्रयोग करने के लिए किसान को सुविधा उपलब्ध करायी जानी चाहिए या ऐसे किट उपलब्ध कराने चाहिए, जिनसे उसको पता लगे कि उसके खेत में किस तत्व की कमी है, किस प्रकार के मिनरल की कमी है और उसकी पूर्ति करने के लिए कौन सी खाद की जरूरत पड़ने वाली है। हम यह जरूर कहते हैं कि इस प्रकार की सारी प्रणाली स्थापित की गई है, किन्तु वह सफल नहीं है। उसको और ज्यादा प्रभावी करने की आवश्यकता है। हम किसान के लिए इस प्रकार की जांच करने की सुविधा उपलब्ध करा दें या मोबाइल लैबोरेटरी बना कर दें, जिस प्रकार से हम मोबाइल व्यवस्थाएं स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में दे सकते हैं, वैसे ही खेती के स्वास्थ्य की दृष्टि से भी यह ज्यादा जरूरी होगा कि हम किसान को इस प्रकार के परीक्षण की सुविधा उसके खेत पर ही उपलब्ध कराएं, क्योंकि हम जानते हैं कि जब तक हम विज्ञान को खेतों तक नहीं ले जाएंगे, तब तक अच्छी गुणवत्ता का अनाज पैदा करना हमारे लिए निश्चित रूप से

[डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया]

मुश्किल होगा। जब हमारे लिए अच्छी गुणवत्ता का अनाज पैदा करना मुश्किल होगा, तो निश्चित रूप से स्वास्थ्य पर भी उसका असर पड़ने वाला है। हम देखते हैं कि जब सब्जियां खरीदी जाती हैं, फल खरीदे जाते हैं या अनाज खरीदे जाते हैं, तो उनमें कीटनाशक की बदबू रहती है, उसकी दुर्गंध आती रहती है। इसके कारण उसका स्वास्थ्य पर निश्चित रूप से विपरीत असर पड़ता है। इसलिए, इसको शुद्ध और सात्विक बनाने की दृष्टि से भी कम से कम कीटनाशक का उपयोग हो। कम से कम कीटनाशक का उपयोग तभी होगा, जब उर्वरक के कारण हम पैदावार करते चले जा रहे हैं, उसमें जो खर-पतवार होती है और उसके ऊपर जो नये-नये कीड़े उत्पन्न होते हैं, उनके कारण आज कीटनाशकों की मात्रा बढ़ती चली जाती है, उसके कारण से भी मुश्किल पैदा हो रही है। मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि इसमें जो व्यावहारिक कठिनाई है, सरकार उस पर ध्यान देते हुए जिस प्रकार से यूरिया की उपलब्धता के लिए उपाय किए गए हैं, बाकी की सारे खादों को उपलब्ध कराने की दृष्टि से भी इस प्रकार के उपाय करेगी और देशहित में, किसानों के हित में तथा उत्पादन के हित में इस प्रकार के निर्णय करके किसानों को राहत देने का काम करेगी। इतना ही बोलते हुए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Thank you. Now, hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR): Thank you very much, Sir, for providing me the opportunity to reply to the debate on the Fertilizer (Price Control) Bill, 2013, Private Members' Bill, moved by Shri Vivek Gupta.

Sir, I heard the speeches of all the hon. Members with great attention and I thank all of them for their valuable suggestions. Sir, I feel that as the subject matter is very, very important, a great deal of attention has been given to this debate.

At the outset, I want to clear the misgiving that our Government, led by Narendrabhai Modi, is thinking of doing away with any subsidy; the subsidy directed towards the fertilizers, the subsidy which is given to the farmers for the use of fertilizers indirectly or the subsidy that is given to protect the food security of India. Sir, through you, I would like to share some figures with this hon. House. In 2004-05, the actual expenditure on subsidy, both P&K fertilizers as well as urea, was ₹ 16,127 crore. In 2013-14, this was ₹ 71,251 crore. For the benefit of the hon. Members, I want to say that the estimated figures of 2014-15 Budget for the expenditure on subsidy on fertilizers is more than the last year's total expenditure, that is, ₹ 72,070.30 crore. Therefore, our Government, led by Narendra Bhai Modi, is with the farmers, with the well-being of the farmers, with the food security of India. I also want to give a good news. Many of the hon. Members raised the question: What is going to happen to the three Southern fertilizer companies based on naphtha -- Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., Madras Fertilizers Limited and

SPIC-Tuticorin? The day before yesterday, on 10th, we had a Cabinet Committee meeting on Economic Affairs. Under the Chairmanship of hon. Prime Minister, the CCEA decided to provide subsidy and to continue subsidy for all these three naphtha-based fertilizer companies so that they can again start functioning. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Sir, what about the FACT?

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: I have not completed my speech. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Let the Minister complete it and then you can raise your question.

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: I have not completed my speech. I am starting it.

In 2010, the then UPA Government had taken a decision that all these three naphtha-based fertilizer companies should convert themselves into gas-based companies so that their subsidy can continue up to 2014, June 30th. As soon as we came in, in the last week of May, we considered this issue and gave three months' extension, that is, July, August and September, and now again a hundred days' extension has been given. We are trying various options as to how to convert these naphtha-based fertilizer companies into gas-based companies. The basic reason, Sir, is, if we manufacture one ton of urea through naphtha, it is going to cost us to the tune of 43,000 rupees whereas the imported urea and the domestically-manufactured urea will cost us 19,000-20,000 rupees. Therefore, there will be a huge burden of 23,000 rupees per ton extra on the national exchequer. But we are trying to find out the ways and means to convert them. I also understand that it is the responsibility of GAIL to lay the gas pipeline. Many of our hon. MPs from Kerala are here. I had two meetings with the hon. Chief Minister of Kerala on this issue, but, unfortunately, the Kerala Government is unable to give the right of way for us to lay the pipeline from Cochin Terminal to Mangalore and further. These are the issues involved. Therefore, the same thing is applicable to MFL as well as SPIC-Tuticorin. Despite all these things, today I want to announce that we have taken a decision to continue the subsidy for re-opening of these three Southern naphtha-based companies. At the same time, it is pre-conditional that the respective State Governments will wave their VAT on the naphtha. I have spoken to the Chief Ministers of Karnataka as well as Tamil Nadu on this issue. I think the respective hon. MPs also should persuade. I request your kind indulgence also in this regard.

Secondly, the issue that has been raised is very vexatious. How much chemical fertilizers we should be using and what are the alternatives to it? Are organic fertilizers,

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bio-fertilizers, micronutrients necessary or not? If they are necessary, what should be the mix? How to slowly migrate from a complete chemical fertilizer regime to a comprehensive fertilizer regime? These are all very important issues. Sir, I request that one day, both the Houses of Parliament should deliberate on this issue and throw light on it for the benefit of the entire country and the farmers of this country. I also want to place it on record that the imbalanced fertilisation of the country is really detrimental to the health of the soil. Actually, we need to create more awareness. We need to have soil testing across the country. I want to thank our hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi for his unveiling a programme of soil testing and providing soil health cost to all the farmers of the country to the tune of sixteen crores of rupees. There is also a programme that has been announced in the Budget and there will be more than one thousand soil testing laboratories across the country which will be prescribing the farmers what type of the mix of fertilizers to use. But, at the same time, I want to take the entire House into confidence, through you, Sir, that we should formulate a comprehensive fertilizer policy. We have been dabbling with urea policy. We have been dabbling with new investment policy. We have been dabbling with nutrient-based subsidy policy. Rather than doing these things, we need to take urea, NPK fertilizers, organic fertilizers, bio-fertilizers and micronutrients into consideration. We need to formulate a comprehensive fertilizer policy for the country. I assure this House, through you, Sir, that our Government is going to attempt this policy so that we can take a balanced view about the entire production and distribution. It is not just distribution, there is an issue of fertilization of soil across the country. There are many issues that have been raised.

One of the major issues is as to what is happening to the indigenous manufacturing of urea. Again, there is a misconception that over the years, manufacturing and production of urea has reduced. It is not a fact, Sir. Actually, over the years, we have increased manufacturing of indigenous urea to the tune of 22.7 million tonnes per year. Our Government has decided to increase this by reviving more and more sick companies. I say more and more sick companies because my dear friend Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadavji very rightly said that during the last fifteen years, many of the fertilizer corporations were closed. The Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited was closed and the National Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited was also closed. I am happy to give this information to the hon. Parliament, through you, Sir, that the Government of India led by Shri Narendrabhai Modi has decided to revive the fertilizer plant in Gorakhpur. We have decided to revive the fertilizer plant in Talcher. We have decided to revive the fertilizer plant in Ramagundam also.

Regarding FACT, I visited FACT about five months back and I also know that FACT is the first fertilizer company in the country. As far as FACT is concerned, we have already moved a Cabinet note for ₹981 crore for its revival. But that will not be sufficient. We require two things from the Government of Kerala. I have already spoken to the hon. Chief Minister of Kerala, the Industry Minister and various other important functionaries of the Government of Kerala about waiving VAT on naphtha.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: That has already been done.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Let the Minister complete his reply.

SHRI ANANTHKUMAR: When I suggested this, they responded immediately. I thank the State Government of Kerala for that. They have already waived VAT on naphtha. FACT has 2,000 acres of land with it. Out of 2,000 acres of land, nearly 127 acres of land is on lease and the remaining land is freehold. But there is a condition. Whenever we want to go for Joint Venture, or, we want to go for modernisation, or, we want to monetise the land, we require permission of the Government of Kerala. If we do not get it, the land will revert back to the Government of Kerala. I have already started discussion with hon. Chief Minister of Kerala. The Government of India is ready to consider revival of FACT, and not just naphtha, provided we are allowed to freehold the land without any conditionality. Regarding that also, I have already started discussion with the hon. Chief Minister. My request to all the hon. Members of Parliament from Kerala is that in the coming week, we can have a meeting with hon. Finance Minister so that we can come out with a solution to FACT problem. I feel that FACT should be revived. But the question is this. It is not just about cleaning of books of accounts of FACT. At the same time, it should be viable in the coming days. If it has to be viable in the coming days, we have to take a lot of steps beyond cleaning up of the balance sheet. We need to attempt that. The Government of India is more than eager to do that as far as FACT is concerned. In the last five months, I took many steps which have given strength to FACT.

Sir, the other important thing is providing direct subsidy to farmers. It is a huge issue. First of all, we need to identify the landholders. We know that the landholders may not be the tillers. If you want to create a direct benefit transfer scheme, it has to be scientific, it has to be equitable and it has to be foolproof. There should be a lot of consideration. I would request both the Houses of Parliament to think about it. You are all welcome to give me suggestions on this.

I don't want to dabble in controlling and de-controlling of fertilizers. As on today,

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urea is controlled. Urea price is controlled at ₹5,360 per tonne. There is a tremendous use of urea whereas the prices of NPK fertilizers are de-controlled to an extent. I don't say that they are totally de-controlled, because we are also providing NBS to them. We are also monitoring their price line. What we need is regulation. What we need is the middle path. At the same time, we are committed not to raise the MRP of urea. We are not going to raise the MRP of urea.

हम यूरिया के दाम नहीं बढ़ाने वाले हैं और यूरिया के ऊपर जो सब्सिडी है वह हम कंटीन्यू करेंगे, उसमें कोई संदेश नहीं है, कोई प्रश्नचिन्ह नहीं है। लेकिन एन.पी.के. के बारे में, उसका दाम कैसे कम करना और एन.बी.एस. रिजिम को वैज्ञानिक तौर-तरीके से कैसे करना हमको लगता है कि इसके बारे में सोचना पड़ेगा। हमें लगता है कि इस बारे में सोचना पड़ेगा कि पूरा कंट्रोल करें, या पूरा डीकंट्रोल करें, या उसकी बजाय जो फर्टिलाइजर का पूरा सिस्टम है, उसको रेगुलेट कैसे करें। जब रेगुलेट करेंगे, तो उसमें हमें दोनों के हितों को सामने रखना पड़ेगा। किसानों का हित सर्वोपरि है और किसानों के हितों के साथ ही इंडस्ट्री को भी सस्टेनेबल बनाना पड़ेगा। It should be a win-win situation. इसलिए किसानों के हित को सर्वोपरि रखते हुए इंडस्ट्री को सस्टेनेबल कैसे बनाएं, इसके बारे में भी भारत सरकार सोचेगी। मुझे लगता है कि समग्रता के साथ इसके बारे में सोचना पड़ेगा, नीति बनानी पड़ेगी और वह नीति बनाने के लिए हमें जो कदम उठाने पड़ेंगे, वे कदम हम उठाएंगे। इसलिए मैं आपके द्वारा विवेक गुप्ता जी से निवेदन करता हूँ कि भारत सरकार की मंशा यह है कि इसके बारे में एक कंप्रेहेंसिव फर्टिलाइजर पॉलिसी, यानी उर्वरक पॉलिसी हम बनाएं और किसानों के हित में इस मार्केट को रेगुलेट करें। यह भारत सरकार की मंशा है। तो उनका जो फर्टिलाइजर प्राइसेज़ कंट्रोल करने का बिल है, उसे कृपया वे वापस लें। यही मैं निवेदन करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Thank you very much. Now, Shri Vivek Gupta. He is absent. Since Shri Vivek Gupta, the mover of the Bill, is not present in the House, I am now putting the motion for consideration of the Bill to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the fixing of maximum retail price of all fertilizers by the Central Government and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.

The motion was negatived.

The Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2014

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA (Karnataka): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Now, we will take up the next Bill, that is, the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2013. Shri K.N. Balagopal.

The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2013

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I move:

That the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860, be taken into consideration.

Sir, before starting my speech, I would say that it is already 4.30 p.m. So, if the Chair and the House is not allowing it to continue on the next day, the discussion could not be concluded and the reply could not take place.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): According to the rules, it will be done. But, you can continue.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Okay. It will continue. I asked it because it will go to the next Session.

Sir, this is related to the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2013. The intention of this Bill is to curb corruption and make proper amendment in the existing law to recover the properties acquired by the people as part of penalty clause.

Sir, we have plenty of laws dealing with corruption and financial offences. Though prosecution is initiated against them, there is no effective mechanism to deal with the seizure of ill-gotten money or proceeds of corruption. We know that corruption is a major issue in India which is adversely affecting the economy. A study conducted by Transparency International in the year 2005 found that more than 62 per cent of Indians had first hand experience of paying bribes or influence peddling to get jobs in public offices successfully.

Sir, in 2014 India ranked 85th out of 175 countries in Transparency International Corruption Perception Index compared to the neighbouring countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh and others. So, in view of that position our picture about transparency in life, corruption free society is very bleak.

The present Government which came to power gave a lot of assurances to the people. Corruption was a major campaign point for the Government. They said, "If we

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come back to power black money menace, huge money stashed away in Swiss Banks and other banks would be brought into the country within 100 days. Fifteen lakh rupees per family will be given." That was the assurance. They have not yet done anything. I hope that they will do something.

Sir, this Bill is a Private Member Bill. I hope that the Government will take it as an official Bill because this is a Bill for fulfilling their promise or slogan. For controlling corruption and bringing back the money there should be some provision in the Indian Penal Code. Now, what is the situation?

I know that the Chair is a veteran lawyer. The Chair knows about the provisions in the I.P.C. Even though I gave two specific amendments on Sections 206 and 207, there are many other provisions in the I.P.C. relating to corruption. For example, Section 405 deals with criminal breach of trust. Sections 406, 407 408 deal with criminal breach of trust. There is a provision in Sections 410 and 411 dealing with stolen property. If some kind of corruption is there and some hiding of property is there the punishment may extend to two years or with a fine or with both. This is the provision for punishment as per Section 206. In Section 207 also the punishment is only up to two years and a small fine. If you go to the criminal breach of trust provision, it is very clear in Sections 405 to 408. I will not go into the details. But there also the punishment is very less. It is some three years or like that. Then, punishment for criminal beach of trust is extendable up to three years or fine or both. This is the punishment.

Sir, about cheating also the punishment is only one year or with a fine. Sir, I am not going into the other details of the IPC. What I want to say before this august House is about the situation prevailing in the country.

Sir, two days back there was a judgement about a very serious case, Maytas; and Satyam. Maytas cheated the people of ₹5,000 crores by inflating their assets. It is a very clear case. The CEO was in jail. About ₹5,000 crores was cheated. It was taken back. Four Chartered Accountants were also involved in this case. Just because PWG I have to say it because it has invested in public works. Pricewaterhouse Cooper was the auditor. They were also punished. What is the punishment? The former Chairman of the Satyam Computers was in jail only for one year. He has already completed one year in jail. For others it is six months or like that. What is the fine? It is only ₹5 lakh. It is ₹ 5,000 crores. Finally, what will happen -- they would come out with the money. It may be in some *benami hands*. They would come and do business. This is the latest case, Sir.

Now, Saradha scam is there. The hon. Finance Minister, in his reply in this House, had said that around ₹ 90,000 crores were collected in the last three years by non-banking financial institutions. In Bengal, there was the Saradha scam. In fact, investigation into that case, arrest and inquiry, is still in progress.

Sir, the hon. Finance Minister spoke about the Rose Valley Company, a chit fund-like institution. They collected ₹ 15,000 crores in the last three years from the people of Bengal. The Finance Minister himself had said in the House that this was only the tip of an iceberg and there was much more. This is just about Bengal.

Sir, we know about many such cases. We know about the Saradha chit fund case. We know about the Sahara case. Even the CEO, the main man, is in jail. We hear that the Tihar Jail authorities are providing him with some telephonic and video-conferencing facilities, under the supervision of the Supreme Court. He is in touch with others, collecting ₹ 10,000 crores and paying his debt back. Sir, how is it possible that an AC chamber was given to him and just ₹ 10,000 crores was asked to be paid back? An amount of ₹ 28,000 crores was collected from the people. After some time, he would also come out. As per the provision, the maximum punishment is three years. If it is a case of cheating, the punishment is only one year. If it is a case of breach of trust, the punishment may be for three years. So, he would come out after that and money would come too. That is why, the money may be not only in Swiss Banks but in other places as well. There may be *benami* transactions. I can give an example about Kerala. When we were school students, there was a big scam. It was not as big a scam as this, but it was a scam of about ₹ 50 crores or ₹ 100 crores. A pauper suit was filed in the case of a film-maker; he was arrested. He came out and the very next month, he bought a very big Five Star hotel. Now he is running air-catering services. I am not naming the company, because you would expunge it, but what we eat in flights is served by his company; we get a slip with the name of the air-caterers' company. So, that was in those days, when they collected ₹ 100-200 crores and cheated the people. That is intact. Now, recently, we read about a case in Noida where an Engineer was arrested with ₹ 900 crores. Such cases are coming up. What is the provision to deal with such cases? I am not saying that there are political differences between the Ruling and Opposition Benches. We must correct this menace. To do that, there must be some provision in our laws.

Sir, I talked about the case in Bengal. Shri Jaitley had given a reply on chit funds. In the Southern part, there were some goat, teak and mangium companies. The hon. Chair might remember about that. It was there in Kanyakumari too. So, they collected money. They said that after 20 years, आप हमें कुछ पैसा दे दो, हम goat, teak and

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mangium ग्रो करेंगे। अगर आप एक लाख रुपए देंगे तो दस साल, बीस साल के बाद हम एक लाख के लिए 50 lakhs देंगे। ऐसी कुछ कंपनी थी, जिसने hundreds of crores cheat किया। ये सब अभी भी बिजनेस करते हैं।

Therefore, Sir, we need to make some amendment in the rules. What I am proposing is, instead of this three-year, five-year or seven-year term and some penalty, we must make a provision to recover that money. That is my amendment. It is a simple amendment. All these provisions must be added with the existing punishment. The words, "and the properties concealed or transferred or delivered shall be recovered from the person to whom it has been transferred" must be added.

If we make that provision, then, this cannot be continued. Such a provision is there in two laws of the country. Sir, I hope the Law Minister is taking note of all these things. Two important laws are there in India. One is the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976. It is also called, in short, the SAFEMA. In the Preamble itself, it says: "This is an Act to provide for the forfeiture of illegally acquired properties of smugglers and foreign exchange manipulators and for matters connected herewith or incidental thereto." That is the first sentence of the Preamble. So, this is meant for taking back the manipulated and ill-gotten money. Now there are two important provisions in this. One relates to relatives of the persons. Sir, for the purpose of this Act, if some money has been earned out of smuggling or the FEMA, -- it was earlier called as FERA -- if some foreign exchange violations are there, if money is with somebody, how will this money be taken back? It is only in this Act that there is a provision for collecting it back, firstly, from relatives and, secondly, from associates. Relatives include (i) spouse of the person; (ii) brother or sister of the person; (iii) brother or sister of the spouse of the person; (iv) any lineal ascendant or descendant of the person; and (v) spouse of a person referred to in clause (ii), clause (iii), clause (iv) or clause (v). So, all close relatives come under this provision. Secondly, -- this is an interesting part of this Act -- for the purpose of clause 'Associate', it refers to the associates of this wrong-doer, that is, the person who is having the illicit money. Associate means (i) any individual who had been or is residing in the residential premises (including the outhouses) of such a person; (ii) any individual who had been or is managing the affairs or keeping the accounts of such person; etc. There are others also who are included as Associate and I am not reading out the entire thing. In the Explanations 1, 2 and 3, in the SAFEMA, 1976, all these associates and relatives have been defined. So, if we add this provision in the present IPC, then, we can, easily, take back this ill-gotten money.

उनकी पत्नी और रेलेटिव्स ही नहीं, अगर उनका कोई पीए या other officers कनेक्टिड हैं, उनके पास भी पैसा है, तो सर्च करेंगे और रिकवरी करेंगे। ऐसा एक प्रोविजन होना चाहिए। If we are catching smugglers and foreign exchange violators, what is wrong in arresting and seizing the money from them? Sir, there should be a provision in our law to make every person responsible to answer about their illegal wealth. I shall conclude in a minute, Sir. Others are also going to speak. I hope that when the discussion is continued some other day, more points will come up and that the Government also will come with a positive note.

Sir, about a recent incident, I can give an example. In Andhra Pradesh, -- I am not naming the person; he is the son of a former Chief Minister -- that person paid ₹540 crores as income-tax. From where did he get this wealth? That was not reported. And by paying ₹540 crores as income-tax, it is clear that three times of that was the illegal money that was converted into legal money. He is a powerful political leader even now. So, how are these people creating so much wealth? He is a former M.P., the son of a former Chief Minister and he had also been in jail. It must be very clear who that person is. So, in respect of such people, who are making so much money, there is no provision in our law to see how they are making this money and where it is coming from. The people should be answerable about their wealth and their gains. I am requesting the Government to take this Amendment very seriously. There are experiences in our Parliamentary history when these kinds of amendments have been taken into account by the Government and the Government has come out with Bills in support of these Amendments. If Narendra Modi's Government is serious about black money, if they want to curb corruption in the country, then, they have to make these amendments in the present laws. Otherwise, we cannot curb corruption which is a very serious menace in this country. I hope that the Government will accept this Amendment and that this will be passed.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

The question was proposed.

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, भाई बालगोपाल जी का बिल विधि, कानून और वकालत से संबंधित है। भारतीय समाज सेवा में जो लोग काम करते हैं, उनके लिए भी इस बिल की बड़ी अहमियत है। 1860 में इससे संबंधित धारा 206 और 207 बनी थी कपटपूर्वक सम्पत्ति इकट्ठा करने वालों के लिए। भाई बालगोपाल जी चाहते हैं और हम लोग चाहते हैं कि उसमें तब्दीली आनी चाहिए। 1860 में रहा होगा, हमारे नैतिक मूल्य इतने ऊपर रहे होंगे कि दो वर्ष की सजा भी समाज में जिसको हो जाती होगी, वह लाखों करोड़ों और अरबों रुपये से ज्यादा अपनी तौहीन महसूस करता होगा। लेकिन धीरे-धीरे दुनिया में और हिन्दुस्तान में नैतिक

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मूल्यों का पतन हुआ है। हमारी हिन्दी डिक्शनरी में छल और कपट दोनों शब्द बड़ी नफरत की निगाह से देखे जाते हैं। यह बिल कपटपूर्वक, छलपूर्वक इकट्ठा की गई सम्पत्ति पर आधारित बिल है।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, कपट का ताल्लुक धोखे से है और धोखे का ताल्लुक समाज के उस घृणास्पद अमल से है, जिसको समाज में कोई स्थान नहीं है। बात यह है कि आज़ाद हिन्दुस्तान में बेरोजगारी है, जमीन प्यासी है, लोग बेघर हैं, इलाज के लिए पैसा नहीं है, अच्छे अस्पताल नहीं हैं। हमारे यहां दो तरह के हिन्दुस्तान हैं। एक हिन्दुस्तान तो वह है जहां मेम साहब के कुत्ते को भी डाक्टर मुहैया है और एक हिन्दुस्तान वह है जहां मुझ जैसे गरीब की बेटी प्रसव पीड़ा में कराहती रहती है, उसे दाई भी नहीं मिलती है। इस हिन्दुस्तान को सक्षम बनाने के लिए जैसा कि वर्तमान भारत के प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने चुनाव से पहले नारा दिया था कि हम काला धन लाएंगे। अगर धन होगा, तो देश सम्पन्न होगा और देश सम्पन्न होगा, तो देश की वह गरीब जनता जिसके लिए भारत सरकार का प्लानिंग कमीशन कहता है कि अभी भी हिन्दुस्तान में ऐसे लोगों की तादाद तकरीबन 43 करोड़ है, यह इसी सदन में मेरे सवाल के जबाब में कहा गया, जिनकी रोज की आमदनी सिर्फ 28 रुपये रोज है। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज 28 रुपये में एक जानवर का पेट नहीं भरता है, लेकिन सरकार के अनुसार इस मुल्क में 43 करोड़ लोग ऐसे हैं, जो 28 रुपये में अपना जीवन-यापन करते हैं। इनको कैसे ऊपर ले जाओगे? माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने बड़ा अच्छा फार्मूला दिया था। उन्होंने फार्मूला दिया है कि काला धन लाएंगे, काश वह फार्मूला कामयाब हो जाता और हर आदमी की जेब में 15 लाख रुपये पहुंच जाते, तो कपटपूर्वक इकट्ठा की गई सम्पत्ति वापस आ जाती और मेरे भाई बालगोपाल जी की मंशा पूरी हो जाती, फिर इस बिल को नहीं लाना पड़ता।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हिन्दुस्तान में कराहती हुई जनता को अगर इन्साफ देना है, तो जो कर्ज का इंतजाम किया जा रहा है एफ.डी.आई के जरिए, डंकल के जरिए, पेटेंट के जरिए, खुली बाजार व्यवस्था के जरिए, वह अच्छा नहीं है। यह स्वदेशी मंच की इच्छा नहीं है। माननीय गृह राज्य मंत्री जी यहां पर बैठे हैं, वे बहुत बुद्धिमान हैं, मैं उनको यहां पर रोज सुनता हूं, लेकिन स्वदेशी मंच की मंशा और भावना वह नहीं है। जो लोग आने वाले हैं, वे मां के गर्भ में पलने वाले बच्चों को भी कर्जदार बना देंगे और मेरे नेता डा. लोहिया ने 1947 में मुल्क की आजादी के बाद कहा था कि उपनिवेशवाद से तुम्हारी जंग हो चुकी है, तुम जीत चुके हो और अब नव-उपनिवेशवाद, आर्थिक पुल पर सवाल होकर आएगा और तुम्हें आर्थिक गुलामी में जकड़ लेगा। उस आर्थिक गुलामी के साठ साल बाद जकड़ रहा है, इसलिए मैं कहता हूं कि हिन्दुस्तान का सबसे बड़ा भविष्य डा. लोहिया थे। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि इस बिल का हिन्दुस्तान के उस कराहते हुए आदमी से ताल्लुक है, जिसकी हिस्सेदारी की पूंजी स्विस् बैंक में जमा थी और अब जिसे खाली कर दिया गया।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर स्विस् बैंक तक हमारा धन पहुंचा, तो वह इसलिए पहुंचा कि हमारे कानून कमजोर थे। वरना उसको हिन्दुस्तान की सरहद पार करते वक्त, ऐसा जवान गृह राज्य मंत्री होता और एक मजबूत डंडा होता, तो वह स्विस् तक नहीं पहुंच सकता था। अगर हिन्दुस्तान का काला धन स्विस् बैंक तक पहुंच गया, तो उन सारी सरकारों की भी जवाबदेही बनती है, जिनके जमाने में वह धन स्विस् तक पहुंचा। यह बिल सिर्फ बिल नहीं है, यह सोशल रेवोल्यूशन है, इसलिए मैं बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं। बात यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान में 24 घंटे मेहनत करने वाला किसान, जो मौसम से लड़ता है, जो मां के गर्भ से गोरा पैदा होता है और काला हो जाता है, उसकी बेटी गोरी पैदा होती है और काली हो जाती है। वह किसान, मजलूम शख्स जो पूरे दिन मेहनत करता है और रात को थक कर सो जाता है। इसके लिए एक शायर ने कहा है-

“सो जाते हैं फुटपाथ पर अखबार बिछा के,
मजदूर कभी नींद की गोली नहीं खाते हैं।”

वह कितना थक जाता है, उसकी जिंदगी कौन संवारेगा? सरकार में बैठे हुए लोगों, हो सकता है कि आज आपको मेरी बात ऐसी लगती हो कि न होने वाली बात है, लेकिन आपकी मंशा इतनी ही पवित्र होनी चाहिए कि वे 43 करोड़ लोग, जो 28 रुपए में रोज अपना पेट भरते हैं और एक दौलतमंद आदमी एक जानवर या कुत्ते को दिन में इतने रुपए का दूध पिला देता है। माननीय मंत्री जी, जानवर से भी कमजारे जिंदगी गुजारने वालों को सक्षम बनाने के लिए ही यह कानून एक हथियार है। अगर उस कराहते हुए हिन्दुस्तानी पर आपने छतरी लगाने के बारे में नहीं सोचा, जिसने हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी में अपने आपको फना किया है, तो फिर समान आचार संहिता भी बेकार है, फिर मस्जिद भी बेकार है और मंदिर भी बेकार है। यूं कहता है निदा फ़जली-

“घर से मस्जिदें बहुत दूर, चलो यूं कर लें।
किसी रोते हुए बच्चे को हंसाया जाए।”

यूं कहता है कि निदा फ़जली,

“बच्चा बोला देख कर मस्जिद आलीशान।
अल्लाह तेरे एक तो इतना बड़ा मकान।
अंदर मंदिर में चढ़े घी, पूड़ी, मिष्ठान।
मंदिर के बाहर खड़ा ईश्वर मांगे दान।”

ईश्वर दान क्यों मांग रहा है? इस मुल्क में उसकी हिस्सेदारी है, इस मुल्क का वह असली हिस्सेदार है। वह हम फकीरों को अपने वोट से बादशाह बनाता है। इसके बाद भी वह दो वक्त के खाने से महरूम है। वह इसलिए महरूम है कि इस बिल में जिन लोगों को पकड़ने की कोशिश की

[चौधरी मुनवर सलीम]

5.00 P.M.

गई है, जिन्हें सिर्फ दो वर्ष की सजा है और उनकी सम्पत्ति बच जाती है, वे लोग उसको लूट कर ले जाते हैं। मैं यहां किसी एक चिट फंड का नाम नहीं लेना चाहता, हिन्दुस्तान की 11 हजार ऐसी चिट फंड निकलेंगी, जो हम जैसे गरीबों को लूट कर ले गई। घर आए, घंटी बजाई, हम नहीं थे, हमारी अपढ़ पत्नी थी, हमारी बेटी थी। उससे कहा सौ के एक हजार मिलेंगे, एक हजार के पांच हजार मिलेंगे। उसे लगा कि मेरे घर की छत डल जाएगी और उसने दे दिये। इसमें उसका सब कुछ चला गया। माननीय गृह राज्य मंत्री जी, उन्हें कैसे पकड़ोगे? माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, अगर देश के गरीब आवाम को यह पता लग जाए कि छल-कपट करके लाने वाली सम्पत्ति में सिर्फ दो साल की सजा है, तो हिन्दुस्तान के करोड़ों लोग, जिन्हें इस कानून का पता नहीं है, अपने आप को दो साल के लिए जेल में बंद कर लेंगे और अपने बच्चों का पेट भर देंगे, हिन्दुस्तान इतनी गरीबी से जूझ रहा है। इस देश में एक वर्ग तो ऐसा है, जिसके कुत्ते के गले में सोने की चेन है और एक वर्ग ऐसा है, जिसकी बेटी के हाथ में लोहे की अंगूठी भी नहीं है। आज असमानता की खाई बहुत बड़ी है। माननीय गृह मंत्री जी, आर्थिक असमानता की खाई अगर और बढ़ जाएगी, तो आतंकवाद, माओवाद, नक्सलवाद, ये तमाम वाद आर्थिक असमानता की वजह से हैं। अगर सारे वादों को कंट्रोल करना है, तो न मंदिर बनाने से कंट्रोल होगा, न मस्जिद बनाने में कंट्रोल होगा,

न ताजमहल को मकबरे और मंदिर में तब्दील करने से कंट्रोल होगा। न समान आचार संहिता से कंट्रोल होगा, अगर होता तो आर्थिक असमानता की खाई को पाट देने से होगा।
...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Okay; the time is over.

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम : आज आर्थिक असमानता की खाई को पाटने के लिए उन दौलतमंदों के गिरेबानों पर हाथ जाना चाहिए, जिन दौलतमंदों ने गरीब की पूंजी लूटकर अपने आपको दौलतमंद बना लिया है और इतनी बड़ी खाई पाट दी है कि अगर वह गरीब उनके सिर को देखता है, उनकी बिल्डिंग्स को देखता है तो उसके सिर की टोपी गिर जाती है। मैं चाहूंगा कि यह कानून उन्हें पकड़ पाए।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय श्री बालगोपाल जी के दर्द के लिए मैं यह कह सकता हूं कि उन्होंने यह कहना चाहा है कि-

“मैं चाहता हूं कि निजामेकौम बदल डालूं, मगर यह बात फखत मेरे बस की बात नहीं है। उठो, बढ़ो, मेरे दुनिया में आम इंसानों, यह सबकी बात है कोई चार, दस की बात नहीं।” ...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Okay; the time is over.

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम : मेरे ख्याल से पांच बज गए हैं, आप मुझे इशारा कर रहे हैं, वरना मेरा बोलने का मन था। आज गृह राज्य मंत्री जी भी छुट्टी पर थे, मेरा मन था कि मैं अपने दिल के सारे फफोले फोड़ लेता। मैं अपने आपको यहीं विराम देता हूँ और मेरी दुआ है कि यह बिल कंटीन्यू रहे, पास हो। मैं आपसे यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल में आखिरी आदमी का जो दर्द है, उसको माननीय गृह मंत्री जी आपके माध्यम से समझ सकें। मुझे लगता है कि ये हिन्दुस्तान के करोड़ों चोरों को पकड़वाएंगे जिससे करोड़ों गरीब, मजलूम और मजदूरों की तकदीर संवर जाएगी। आपका बहुत शुक्रिया कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, हिन्दुस्तान जिंदाबाद।

† **چودھری منور سلیم (اثر پردیش) :** اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، بھائی بال گوپال جی کا بل ودھی، قانون اور وکالت سے سمبندھت ہے۔ بھارتی سماج سیوا میں جو لوگ کام کرتے ہیں، ان کے لئے اس بل کی بڑی اہمیت ہے۔ 1860 میں اس سے سمبندھت دھارا 206 اور 207 بنی تھی کپٹ۔ پوروک سمپٹی اکٹھا کرنے والوں کے لئے۔ بھائی بال گوپال جی چاہتے ہیں اور ہم لوگ چاہتے ہیں کہ اس میں تبدیلی آئی جائے۔ 1860 میں رہا ہوگا، ہمارے نیتک مولنے اتنے اوپر رہے ہوں گے کہ دو سال کی سزا بھی سماج میں جس کو ہو جاتی ہوگی، وہ لاکھوں، کروڑوں اور اربوں روپوں سے زیادہ اپنی توہین محسوس کرتا ہوگا۔ لیکن دھیرے دھیرے دنیا میں اور ہندوستان میں نیتک مولیوں کا زوال ہوا ہے۔ ہماری ہندی ٹکشنری میں چھل اور کپٹ دونوں شبد بڑی نفرت کی نگاہ سے دیکھے جاتے ہیں۔ یہ بل کپٹ-پوروک، چھل-پوروک اکٹھا کی گئی سمپٹی پر ادھارت بل ہے۔

مائلے اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، کپٹ کا تعلق دھوکے سے ہے اور دھوکے کا تعلق سماج کے اس گھناؤنے عمل سے ہے، جس کی سماج میں کوئی جگہ نہیں ہے۔ بات یہ ہے کہ آزاد ہندوستان میں بے روزگاری ہے، زمین پیاسی ہے، لوگ بے گھر ہیں، علاج کے لئے پیسہ نہیں ہے، اچھے اسپتال نہیں ہیں۔ ہمارے یہاں دو طرح کے ہندوستان ہیں۔ ایک ہندوستان تو وہ ہے جہاں میم صاحب کے کتے کو

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

بھی ڈاکٹر مہتا ہے اور ایک ہندوستان وہ ہے جہاں مجھ جیسے غریب کی بیٹی پر سو پیڑا میں کراہتی رہتی ہے، اسے دائی بھی نہیں ملتی ہے۔ اس ہندوستان کو سکشم بنانے کے لئے جیسا کہ ورتمان بھارت کے پردھان منتری نریندر مودی جی نے چناؤ سے پہلے نعرہ دیا تھا کہ ہم کالا دھن لائیں گے۔ اگر دھن ہوگا تو دیش سمین ہوگا اور دیش سمین ہوگا تو دیش کی وہ غریب جنتا جس کے لئے بھارت سرکار کا پلاننگ کمیشن کہتا ہے کہ ابھی بھی ہندوستان میں ایسے لوگوں کی تعداد تقریباً 43 کروڑ ہے، یہ اسی سدن میں میرے سوال کے جواب میں کہا گیا، جنکی روز کی آمدنی صرف اٹھائیس روپے روز ہے۔ ماننے آپ سبھا دھیکش مہودے، آج اٹھائیس روپے میں ایک جانور کا پیٹ نہیں بھرتا ہے، لیکن سرکار کے مطابق اس ملک میں 43 کروڑ لوگ ایسے ہیں جو اٹھائیس روپے میں اپنی زندگی گزارتے ہیں۔ ان کو کیسے اوپر لے جاؤ گے؟ ماننے نریندر مودی جی نے بڑا اچھا فارمولہ دیا تھا۔ انہوں نے فارمولہ دیا ہے کہ کالا دھن لائیں گے، کاش وہ فارمولہ کامیاب ہو جاتا اور ہر آدمی کی جیب میں پندرہ لاکھ روپے پہنچ جاتے، تو کپٹ پوروک اکٹھا کی گئی سمیٹی واپس آجاتی اور میرے بھائی بالگوبال جی کی منشا پوری ہو جاتی، پھر اس بل کو نہیں لانا پڑتا۔

ماننے آپ سبھا مہودے، ہندوستان میں کراہتی ہوئی جنتا کو اگر انصاف دینا ہے، تو جو قرض کا انتظام کیا جا رہا ہے ایف ڈی آئی کے ذریعہ، ٹنکل کے ذریعہ، پیپٹینٹ کے ذریعہ، کھلی بازار ویوستھا کے ذریعہ، وہ اچھا نہیں ہے۔ یہ سودیشی منچ کی خواہش نہیں ہے۔ ماننے گرہ منتری جی یہاں پر بیٹھے ہیں، وہ بہت بدھمان ہیں، میں ان کو یہاں پر روز سنتا ہوں، لیکن سودیشی منچ کی منشا اور بھاؤنا وہ نہیں ہے۔ جو لوگ آنے والے ہیں، وہ ماں کے گریہ میں پلنے والے بچے کو بھی قرض دار بنادیں گے۔ میرے نینا ڈاکٹر لوہیا نے 1947 میں ملک کی

آزادی کے بعد کہا تھا کہ آپ نویش واد، آرتھک پل پر سوار ہوکر آنے گا اور تمہیں آرتھک غلامی میں جکڑ لیگا۔ اس آرتھک غلامی کے ساٹھ سال بعد جکڑ رہا ہے، اس لئے میں کہتا ہوں کہ ہندستان کا سب سے بڑا بھوشنے ڈاکٹر لوہیا تھے۔ میں کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ اس بل کا ہندستان کے اس کراہتے ہوئے آدمی سے تعلق ہے، جس کی حصہ داری کی پونجی سوئیز بینک میں جمع تھی اور اب جسے خالی کر دیا گیا۔

مائنے آپ سبھا ادھیشکس مہودے، اگر سوئیز بینک تک ہمارا دھن پہنچا، تو وہ اس لئے پہنچا کہ ہمارے قانون کمزور تھے۔ ورنہ اس کو ہندستان کی سرحد پار کرتے وقت، ایسا جوان گرہ راجیہ منتری ہوتا اور ایک مضبوط ٹنڈا ہوتا، تو وہ سوئیز تک نہیں پہنچ سکتا تھا۔ اگر ہندوستان کا کالا دھن سوئیز بینک تک پہنچ گیا، تو ان ساری سرکاروں کی بھی جواب دہی بنتی ہے، جن کے زمانے میں وہ دھن سوئیز تک پہنچا۔ یہ بل صرف بل نہیں ہے، یہ سوشل ریولوشن ہے، اس لئے میں بولنے کے لئے کھڑا ہوا ہوں۔ بات یہ ہے کہ ہندستان میں چوبیس گھنٹے محنت کرنے والا کسان، جو موسم سے لڑتا ہے، جو ماں کے گریب سے گورا پیدا ہوتا ہے اور کالا ہوجاتا ہے، اس کی بیٹی گوری پیدا ہوتی ہے اور کالی ہوجاتی ہے۔ وہ کسان، وہ مظلوم شخص جو پورے دن محنت کرتا ہے اور راج کو تھک کر سوجاتا ہے اس کے لئے ایک شاعر نے کہا ہے ۔

سوجاتے ہیں فٹ پاتھ پر اخبار بچھا کے

کہ مزدور کبھی نیند کی گولی نہیں کھاتے

وہ کتنا تھک جاتا ہے، اس کی زندگی کون سنوارے گا؟ سرکار میں بیٹھے ہوئے لوگوں، ہو سکتا ہے کہ آج آپ کو میری بات ایسی لگتی ہو کہ نہ ہونے والی بات ہے، لیکن آپ کی منشا اتنی ہی پاک ہونی چاہئے کہ وہ 43 کروڑ لوگ، جو 28

روپے میں روز اپنا پیٹ بھرتے ہیں اور ایک دولتمند آدمی ایک جانور یا کتے کو دن میں اتنے روپے کا دودھ پلا دیتا ہے۔ مائٹے منتری جی، جانور سے بھی کمزور زندگی گزارنے والوں کو سکشم بنانے کے لئے ہی یہ قانون ایک ہتھیار ہے۔ اگر اس کراہتے ہوئے ہندوستانی پر آپ نے چھتری لگانے کے بارے میں نہیں سوچا، جس نے ہندوستان کی آزادی میں اپنے آپ کو فنا کیا ہے، تو پھر یکساں سول کوڈ بھی بیکار ہے، پھر مسجد بھی بیکار ہے اور مندر بھی بیکار ہے۔ یوں کہتا ہے ندا فاضلی۔

گھر سے مسجد بہت دور، چلو یوں کر لیں

کسی روئے ہوئے بجے کو ہنسایا جائے

یوں کہتا ہے ندا فاضلی۔

بچہ بولا دیکھ کر مسجد عالیشان

اللہ تیرے ایک تو اتنا بڑا مکال

اندر مندر میں چڑھے گھی، پوڑی، مشٹھان

مندر کے باہر کھڑا ایشور مانگے دان

ایشور دان کیوں مانگ رہا ہے؟ اس ملک میں اس کی حصہ داری ہے، اس ملک کا وہ اصلی حصہ دار ہے۔ وہ ہم فقیروں کو اپنے ووٹ سے بادشاہ بناتا ہے۔ اس کے بعد بھی وہ دو وقت کے کھانے سے محروم ہے۔ وہ اس لئے محروم ہے کہ اس بل میں جن لوگوں کو پکڑنے کی کوشش کی گئی ہے، جنہیں صرف دو سال کی سزا ہے اور ان کی سمپتی بچ جاتی ہے، وہ لوگ اس کو لوٹ کر لے جاتے ہیں۔ میں یہاں کسی ایک چٹ فنڈ کا نام نہیں لینا چاہتا، ہندوستان کی 11 ہزار ایسی چٹ فنڈ نکلیں گی، جو ہم پیسے غریبوں کو لوٹ کر لے گئی۔ گھر آئے، گھنٹی بجائی، ہم نہیں تھے، ہماری ان پڑھ بیوی تھی، ہماری بیٹی تھی۔ اس سے کہا سو کے ایک

ہزار ملیں گے، ایک ہزار کے پانچ ہزار ملیں گے۔ اسے لگا کہ میرے گھر کی چھت ڈل جائے گی اور اس نے دے دئے۔ اس میں اس کا سب کچھ چلا گیا۔ مائٹے گرہ منتری جی، انہیں کیسے پکڑو گے؟

مائٹے اپ سبھا ادھیش مہودے، اگر دیش کی غریب عوام کو یہ پتہ لگ جائے کہ چھل-کپٹ کر کے لانے والی سمپٹی میں صرف دو سال کی سزا ہے، تو ہندوستان کے کروڑوں لوگ، جنہیں اس قانون کا پتہ نہیں ہے، اپنے آپ کو دو سال کے لئے جیل میں بند کر لیں گے اور اپنے بچوں کا پیٹ بھریں دیں گے، ہندوستان اتنی غریبی سے جوجھ رہا ہے۔ اس دیش میں ایک طبقہ تو ایسا ہے، جس کے کٹے کے گلے میں سونے کی چین ہے اور ایک طبقہ ایسا ہے، جس کی بیٹی کے ہاتھ میں لوہے کی انگوٹھی بھی نہیں ہے۔ آج اسمانتا کی کھائی بہت بڑی ہے۔ مائٹے گرہ منتری جی، آرٹھک اسمانتا کی کھائی اگر اور بڑھ جائے گی، تو آتھک-واد، ماؤواد، نکسلواد، یہ تمام واد آرٹھک اسمانتا کی وجہ سے ہیں۔ اگر سارے وعدوں کو کنٹرول کرنا ہے، تو نہ مندر بنائے سے کنٹرول ہوگا، نہ مسجد بنائے سے کنٹرول ہوگا، نہ تاج محل کو مقبرے اور مندر میں تبدیل کرنے سے ہوگا۔ نہ یکساں سول کوڈ سے کنٹرول ہوگا، اگر ہوگا تو آرٹھک اسمانتا کی کھائی کو پاٹ دینے سے ہوگا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

Okay; the time is over.

چودھری منور سلیم : آج آرٹھک اسمانتا کی کھائی کو پاٹنے کے لئے ان دولتمندوں کے گریبانوں پر ہاتھ جانا چاہئے، جن دولتمندوں نے غریب کی پونجی لوٹ کر اپنے آپ کو دولتمند بنا لیا ہے اور اتنی بڑی کھائی پاٹ دی ہے کہ اگر وہ غریب ان

کے سر کو دیکھتا ہے، ان کی بلٹنگس کو دیکھتا ہے تو اس کے سر کی ٹوپی گر جاتی ہے۔ میں چاہوں گا کہ یہ قانون انہیں پکڑ لائے۔

مائنے اپ سبھا ادھیکش جی، مائنے شری بال گوپال جی کے درد کے لئے یہ کہہ سکتا ہوں کہ انہوں نے یہ کہنا چاہا ہے کہ

میں چاہتا ہوں کہ نظام قوم بدل ڈالوں

مگر یہ بات فقط میرے بس کی بات نہیں ہے

اٹھو، بڑھو، میرے دنیا کے عام انسانوں

یہ سب کی بات ہے، کوئی چار-دس کی بات نہیں۔ (مداخلت)۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

Okay; the time is over.

چودھری منور سلیم : میرے خیال سے پانچ بج گئے ہیں، آپ مجھے اشارہ کر رہے ہیں، ورنہ میرا بولنے کا من تھا۔ آج گرہ راجہ منتری جی بھی چھٹی پر تھے، میرا من تھا کہ میں اپنے من کے سارے بھپھولے پھوڑ لیتا۔ میں اپنے آپ کو یہیں ورام دیتا ہوں اور میری دعا ہے کہ یہ بل کٹینیو رہے، پاس ہو۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN):

Okay, thank you, Time is over.

چودھری منور سلیم : میں آپ سے یہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ اس بل میں آخری آدمی کا جو درد ہے، اس کو مائنے گرہ منتری جی آپ کے مادھیم ے سمجھ سکیں۔ مجھے لگتا ہے کہ یہ ہندوستان کے کروڑوں چوروں کو پکڑاؤں گے جس سے کروڑوں غریب، مظلوم اور مزدوروں کی تقدیر سنور جائے گی۔ آپ کا بہت شکریہ کہ آپ نے مجھے بولنے کا موقع دیا، ہندوستان زندہ باد۔ (ختم شد)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : Okay, thank you. Now, Shri Mohd. Ali Khan.

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया कि आप मुझे “इंडियन पीनल कोड बिल”, जिसको श्री बालगोपाल जी ने रखा है, पर बोलने का मौका दे रहे हैं। आज वाकई यह बिल इस हाउस के सामने है। मुमलिकते वजीरे दाखिला, एक नौजवान हैं और हमें ऐसी उम्मीद है कि आज की ज़रूरियात को देखते हुए इस बिल की ताईद होगी और इस पीनल कोड में changes के लिए मरकजी वरीरे दाखिला पहल करेंगे। मैं भाई सलीम साहब को सुन रहा था, यह पीनल कोड सिर्फ एक कानून की हद तक नहीं, बल्कि इस देश की उस गरीब अवाम की, इस देश के हर तबके की यह उम्मीद है कि हमारी जो नरत्ने काम करती हैं, हमारे मां-बाप जो काम करते हैं, जिससे यह उम्मीदें लगाए बैठे हैं कि इस पैसे को अच्छे ढंग से अपने लिए, अपने मुल्क के लिए, अपनी रियासत के लिए, अपने मंडल के लिए काम करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

† **شری محمد علی خان (آندھراپردیش) :** آپ سبھاادھیش مہودے، آپ کا بہت بہت شکریہ کہ آپ نے مجھے “انڈیان پینل کوڈ بل”، جس کو شری بالاگوپال جی نے رکھا ہے، پر بولنے کا موقع دے رہے ہیں۔ آج واقعی یہ بل اس ہاؤس کے سامنے ہے۔ مملکت وزیرداخلہ ایک نوجوان ہیں اور ہمیں ایسی امید ہے کہ آج کی ضروریات کو دیکھتے ہوئے اس بل کی تائید ہوگی اور اس پینل کوڈ میں تبدیلیوں کے لئے مرکزی وزیرداخلہ پہل کریں گے۔ میں بھائی سلیم صاحب کو سن رہا تھا، یہ پینل کوڈ صرف ایک قانون کی حد تک نہیں، بلکہ اس دیش کی اس غریب عوام کی، اس دیش کے ہر طبقے کی یہ امید ہے کہ ہماری جو نسلیں کام کرتی ہیں، ہمارے ماں باپ جو کام کرتے ہیں، جس سے یہ امیدیں لگاتے بیٹھے ہیں کہ ہم اس پیسے کو اچھے ڈھنگ سے اپنے لئے، اپنے ملک کے لئے، اپنی ریاست کے لئے، اپنے منڈل کے لئے کام کریں۔۔۔**(مداخلت)**۔۔۔

[ختم شد]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Mr. Khan, you can continue your speech in the next sitting, on next listed day. As the time for the Private Members' Bill is over, we take up the admitted Special Mentions listed for today. Shri Majeed Memon.

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

SPECIAL MENTIONS**Demand for implementation of Justice Usha Mehra Commission's recommendations regarding policing in public transport**

SHRI MAJEED MEMON (Maharashtra): Nirbhaya's incident which happened in a transport bus was hardly forgotten by the people and another incident of rape in a cab has shaken the nation. Report on post-Nirbhaya's Commission to zero in on lapses in transport and policing, headed by Justice Usha Mehra is available and has remained unimplemented. Sir, I would like to urge the Government through this august House that Government should examine and ensure implementation of policing in public transport.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Thank you. Shri A.K. Selvaraj, not present; Shri Avinash Pande, not present; Prof. Jogen Chowdhury, not present; Shri Ahamed Hassan, not present; Shrimati Kanak Lata Singh.

Demand for restoring old system of monitoring standards of ITIs without imposing any fee on students in the country

श्रीमती कनक लता सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, केन्द्रीय सरकार के मुखिया बार-बार कहते सुने गए हैं कि कौशल विकास पर कार्य करना होगा। इसे औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्था (ITI's) करती रही हैं और नौजवानों की विभिन्न ट्रेडों जैसे इलेक्ट्रिशियन, फिटर, प्लम्बर वगैरह के काम से निपुण बनाती रही है।

महोदय, ITI's के सभी मानकों को सितम्बर 2012 से पहले केन्द्रीय श्रम मंत्रालय और राज्य सरकारों द्वारा पूरा करवाया जाता था, जिसके एवज में नाममात्र का चार्ज लिया जाता था। कुछ राज्य 7,500 रुपये वसूलते थे और कुछ राज्य तो मानकों और जांच पड़ताल को पूरा करवाने के लिए निःशुल्क तरीके से ITIs के संचालनकर्ता संस्थाओं से पूर्ण करवा लेते थे। सितम्बर 2012 से इस कार्य की एवज में गुणवत्ता लाने के नाम पर 65,000 रुपया वसूला जा रहा है, क्योंकि इस कार्य को तीन निजी औद्योगिक संघों को दे दिया गया है। इसका परिणाम यह हुआ है कि जो विद्यार्थी ITIs के किसी भी ट्रेड में दाखिला लेते हैं, तो उनसे भारी-भरकम रकम वसूली जाती है, क्योंकि बिना विद्यार्थियों से रकम वसूले इन संघों द्वारा थोपे गए 65,000 रुपये को कोई भी ITIs संचालनकर्ता संस्थाएं देने की स्थिति में नहीं है। मजे की बात यह है कि बिना राज्यों की सहमति के यह कार्य राज्यों से छीन लिया गया है, जिसे राज्य निःशुल्क करते थे। आर्थिक दबाव में आकर विद्यार्थी ITI's संस्थानों में कम दाखिला ले रहे हैं।

इस कार्य को करने वाली तीनों संस्थाएं गुणवत्ता सुधारने के नाम पर अपना आर्थिक लक्ष्य सुधार रही हैं। मेरी मांग है कि इस पर थोपी गई राशि को अविलम्ब वापस लेना चाहिए और पूर्व की भांति ITIs का संचालन सरकार स्वयं सुनिश्चित करवाए, जिससे विद्यार्थियों पर अनावश्यक आर्थिक दबाव न पड़े। धन्यवाद।

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इनके विशेष उल्लेख से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

† شری محمد علی خان (آندھراپردیش) : سر، میں ان کے وشیش الیکھ سے خود کو سمبڈ کرتا ہوں۔

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं भी इनके विशेष उल्लेख से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं भी इनके विशेष उल्लेख से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

† چودھری منور سلیم (اترپردیش) : سر، میں بھی ان کے وشیش الیکھ سے خود کو سمبڈ کرتا ہوں۔ (ختم شد)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda, not present; Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya, not present; Shri Parimal Nathwani, not present; Shri Motilal Vora, not present; Shri Vivek Gupta, not present; Shri A.U. Singh Deo, not present; Shri K.R. Arjunan, not present.

The House stands adjourned to meet on Monday, the 15th December, 2014 at 1100 hours.

*The House then adjourned at eight minutes past five of the clock
till eleven of the clock on Monday, the
15th December, 2014.*