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Friday

13 March, 2015

22 Phalguna, 1936 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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NEW DELHI

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Website	:	http://rajyasabha.nic.in http://parliamentofindia.nic.in
E-mail	:	rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, 13th March, 2015/22nd Phalguna, 1936 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

- I. Notification of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology**
- II. Reports and Accounts (2013-14) of various authority and organisation and related papers**
- III. Outcome Budget (2015-16) of the Department of Posts**

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications) Notification No. G.S.R. 18, dated the 8th February, 2014, publishing the Indian Telegraph (1st Amendment of 2014) Rules, 2014, under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT1877/16/15]
- II. (i) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 and sub-section (3) of Section 24 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 :—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), 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 Authority.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT1931/16/15]
- (ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Media Lab Asia, 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 Organisation.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

III. Outcome Budget, for the year 2015-16, in respect of the Department of Posts.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT1876/16/15]

Outcome Budget (2015-16) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget, for the year 2015-16, in respect of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2047/16/15]

I. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of the Textiles Committee, Mumbai and related papers

II. Report and Accounts (2012-13) of BIC, Kanpur and related papers

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

I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 41 of the Textiles Committee Act, 1963:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Textiles Committee, 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 Committee.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT1634/16/15]

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

- (a) Ninety-third Annual Report and Accounts of the British India Corporation Limited (BIC), Kanpur, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT1944/16/15]

Outcome Budget (2015-16) of the Ministry of AYUSH

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Sir, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Outcome Budget, for the year 2015-16, in respect of the Ministry of AYUSH.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT1990/16/15]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture

II. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of NOVOD, Gurgaon and related papers

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहनभाई कल्याणजीभाई कुंदरिया): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation), under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—
 - (1) S.O. 3254 (E), dated the 23rd December, 2014, publishing the Fertiliser (Control) Fifth Amendment Order, 2014.
 - (2) S.O. 298 (E), dated the 31st January, 2015, amending Notification No. S.O. 3058 (E), dated the 8th October, 2013, to substitute/insert certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (3) S.O. 299 (E), dated the 31st January, 2015, amending Notification No. S.O. 1909 (E), dated the 28th July, 2014, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (4) S.O. 301 (E), dated the 31st January, 2015, amending Notification No. S.O. 1535 (E), dated the 9th July, 2012, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
 - (5) S.O. 306 (E), dated the 31st January, 2015, amending Notification No. S.O. 2592 (E), dated the 18th November, 2011, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. LT1854/16/15]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 14 and 16 of the National Oilseed and Vegetable Oils Development Board Act, 1983:—

- (a) Thirtieth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD), Gurgaon, 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.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT1855/16/15]

Notification of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर): महोदय, मैं आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम, 1955 की धारा 3 की उप-धारा (6) के अधीन यूरिया के घरेलू उत्पादकों द्वारा रबी मौसम 2014-15 के दौरान इस अधिसूचना के जारी किए जाने की तारीख से 31 मार्च, 2015 तक इसकी अनुसूची में विनिर्दिष्ट राज्यों और संघ शासित क्षेत्रों को यूरिया की आपूर्ति दर्शाने वाले आदेश के संबंध में रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय (उर्वरक विभाग) की अधिसूचना सं.का.आ.3267 (अ), दिनांक 24 दिसम्बर, 2014 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।
[Placed in Library. See No. LT2243/16/15]

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

II. Report and Accounts (2012-13) of RLDA, New Delhi and related papers

III. Report and Accounts (2013-14) of RSPB, New Delhi and related papers

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

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—
- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Braithwaite and Company Limited (BCL), Kolkata, for the year 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. LT2000/16/15]
 - (ii) (a) Twenty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Konkan Railway

Corporation Limited (KRCL), Belapur, 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.

(2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT1919/16/15]

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

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), New Delhi, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (II) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT1920/16/15]

III. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB), 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 Board.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (III) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 2001/16/15]

Report and Accounts (2013-14) of LDCL, Kavaratti, Lakshadweep and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

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

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited (LDCL), Kavaratti, Lakshadweep, for the year

2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and comments of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India thereon.

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

- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT1868/16/15]

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT - RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2014-15):—

- (i) Seventh Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirty-ninth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Implementation of schemes for Welfare of Senior Citizens" pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment);
- (ii) Eighth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Forty-fifth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Review of the functioning of National Institutes working in the field of disability" pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities);
- (iii) Ninth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Forty-fourth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Working of Ashram Schools in Tribal Areas" pertaining to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs; and
- (iv) Tenth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Forty-sixth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Implementation of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme" pertaining to the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Statement by Minister, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad; not there. Statement regarding Government Business, Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi.

STATEMENT REGARDING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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 सोमवार, 16 मार्च, 2015 से आरंभ होने वाले सप्ताह के दौरान निम्नलिखित सरकारी कार्य लिए जाएंगे :-

1. आज की कार्यसूची में से बकाया सरकारी कार्य की किसी मद पर विचार।
 2. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात निम्नलिखित मांगों से संबंधित विनियोग विधेयकों पर विचार और लौटाना :-
 - (क) वर्ष 2015-16 के लिए लेखानुदानों की मांगें (रेल); और
 - (ख) वर्ष 2014-15 के लिए अनुदानों की अनुपूरक मांगें (रेल)
 3. वर्ष 2015-16 के लिए बजट (सामान्य) पर सामान्य चर्चा।
 4. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए जाने के पश्चात निम्नलिखित मांगों से संबंधित विनियोग विधेयकों पर विचार और लौटाना :-
 - (क) वर्ष 2015-16 के लिए लेखानुदानों की मांगें (सामान्य); और
 - (ख) वर्ष 2014-15 के लिए अनुदानों की अनुपूरक मांगें (सामान्य)
 5. लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में निम्नलिखित विधेयकों पर विचार और पारित करना:-
 - (क) कंपनी (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015; और
 - (ख) क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंक (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2014
 6. भूमि अर्जन, पुनर्वास और पुनर्व्यवस्थापन में उचित प्रतिकर और पारदर्शिता का अधिकार (संशोधन) अध्यादेश, 2014 (2014 का अध्यादेश संख्यांक 9) का निरनुमोदन चाहने वाले सांविधिक संकल्प पर चर्चा तथा लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में भूमि अर्जन, पुनर्वास और पुनर्व्यवस्थापन में उचित प्रतिकर और पारदर्शिता का अधिकार (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार और पारित करना।
 7. राज्य सभा की प्रवर समिति द्वारा यथा प्रतिवेदित और लोक सभा द्वारा पारित किए गए रूप में निरसन और संशोधन विधेयक, 2014 पर विचार और पारित करना।
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RE. DEPICTING LARGE PARTS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR AS PART OF PAKISTAN IN A MAP OF SOUTH ASIA BY RSS MOUTHPIECE ORGANISER

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

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, I want ...*(Interruptions)*...

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): माननीय डिप्टी चैयरमैन साहब, जम्मू और कश्मीर हमारे देश का सिर का ताज है और हर भारतीय को यह गौरव है कि यह ताज हर सूरत में बना रहे। चाहे देश को, देशवासियों को, हमारी सिक्थोरिटी फोर्सेज़ को या जम्मू और कश्मीर के लोगों को कितनी भी कुर्बानी देनी हो, लेकिन यह जम्मू और कश्मीर हमारे देश भारत का ताज बना रहे। जब कभी भी जम्मू और कश्मीर के कुछ हिस्से को या पाक occupied हिस्से को किसी भी विदेशी मैगजीन ने छपा है, यह पाकिस्तान का हिस्सा है, तो चाहे हमारी सरकार हो या इनकी सरकार हो, कांग्रेस पार्टी हो या बीजेपी हो या आरएसएस हो, उस पर सबसे ज्यादा शोर आरएसएस और बीजेपी ने उठाया है, हमने भी उठाया है, सभी पार्टीज़ ने उठाया है, लेकिन यह क्या वजह है कि पहली दफा यहां जो बीजेपी आरएसएस की सरकार बनी है, उसके चलते ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बताइए यहां आरएसएस वाले कौन नहीं हैं? नहीं तो मैं आपको बता दूंगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

† قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : ماننے ڈپٹی چیئرمین صاحب، جموں اور کشمیر ہمارے دیش کا سر کا تاج ہے اور ہر بھارتی کو یہ گورو ہے کہ یہ تاج ہر صورت میں بنا رہے۔ چاہے دیش کو، دیش-واسیوں کو، ہماری سیکورٹی فورسز کو یا جموں و کشمیر کے لوگوں کو کتنی بھی قربانی دینی ہو، لیکن یہ جموں اور کشمیر ہمارے دیش بھارت کا تاج بنا رہے۔ جب کبھی بھی جموں و کشمیر کے کچھ حصے کو یا پاک مقبوضہ حصے کو کسی بھی ویشی میگزین میں چھپا ہے، یہ پاکستان کا حصہ ہے، تو چاہے ہماری سرکار ہو یا ان کی سرکار ہو، کانگریس پارٹی ہو یا بی جے پی ہو یا آر۔ایس۔ایس۔ ہو، اس پر سب سے زیادہ شور آر۔ایس۔ایس۔ اور بی جے پی نے اٹھایا ہے، ہم نے بھی اٹھایا ہے، سبھی پارٹیز نے اٹھایا ہے، لیکن یہ کیا وجہ ہے کہ پہلی دفعہ یہاں جو بی جے پی، آر۔ایس۔ایس۔ کی سرکار بنی ہے، اس کے چلنے ...*(مداخلت)*... آپ بتائیے یہاں آر۔ایس۔ایس۔ والے کون نہیں ہیں؟ نہیں تو میں آپ کو بتا دوں گا ...*(مداخلت)*...

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

श्री अनिल माधव दवे (मध्य प्रदेश): एक भी आरएसएस वाला नहीं है।

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद : यह तो बहुत अच्छा हो गया। ..(व्यवधान).. चलो, देश को तो यह मालूम हो गया। ...(व्यवधान)...

† شری غلام نبی آزاد : یہ تو بہت اچھا ہو گیا۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ چلو ، دیش کو تو یہ معلوم ہو گیا۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(Interruptions)... No; please. Sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद : यदि आज के बाद कोई परेड में शामिल होगा, तो हम पूछेंगे कि जब आप आरएसएस में नहीं हैं, तो फिर परेड में कैसे डंडा लेकर खड़े हैं और क्यों खड़े हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... मदर आर्गनाइजेशन तो है। इसमें शर्म की बात नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

† شری غلام نبی آزاد : اگر آج کے بعد کوئی پریڈ میں شامل ہوگا، تو ہم پوچھیں گے کہ جب آپ آر ایس ایس میں نہیں ہیں، تو پھر پریڈ میں کیسے ڈنڈا لیکر کھڑے ہیں اور کیوں کھڑے ہیں؟۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ مدر آرگنائزیشن تو ہے۔ اس میں شرم کی بات نہیں ہے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उस दिन वेंकैया जी के घर पर सब लोग खड़े थे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र) : प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी कहा था कि हमें आरएसएस पर गर्व है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद : मैंने कभी भी यह नहीं बताया कि बीजेपी के लिए untouchable है, बिल्कुल नहीं बताया है, इसीलिए तो आपने कहा है कि बीजेपी को गौरव है कि हम आरएसएस के हैं, इसलिए तो मैंने बीजेपी आरएसएस बताया है। आपको इसमें शर्माने की जरूरत नहीं है। यह अच्छी बात है, मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि आरएसएस का जो mouthpiece है organizer, ...(व्यवधान)... रहा है? आपका mouthpiece आरएसएस का है। पहली दफा उसने जम्मू और कश्मीर के कुछ हिस्से को पाकिस्तान का हिस्सा बताया है। ...(व्यवधान)... यह कल से टेलीविजन में चल रहा है, इकनॉमिक टॉइम्स में लिखा गया और ऑनलाइन में तो यह कल तक था, कल से ऑन लाइन ने इसको निकाल दिया है। यह रात को भी टेलीविजन के कई चैनल्स पर चल रहा था और यह कल सुबह से ही चल रहा

है। मैं इस सरकार से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आरएसएस के mouthpiece organizer ने, जो जम्मू और कश्मीर के कुछ हिस्से को पाकिस्तान का हिस्सा बताया, क्या भारतीय जनता पार्टी उसका सहयोग करती है, उसको मानती है, क्योंकि इनका mouthpiece है।

†श्री ग़लाम नबी आज़ाद : میں نے کبھی بھی یہ نہیں بتایا کہ بی جے پی کے لئے untouchable ہے، بلکل نہیں بتایا ہے، اسی لئے تو آپ نے کہا ہے کہ بی جے پی کو گورو ہے کہ ہم آریس ایس کے ہیں، اس لئے تو میں نے بی جے پی آریس ایس بتایا ہے۔ آپ کو اس میں شرمائے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے۔ یہ اچھی بات ہے، میں یہ بتانا چاہتا ہوں کہ آریس ایس کا جو mouthpiece ہے organizer، (مداخلت)۔۔۔ رہا ہے؟ آپ کا mouthpiece آریس ایس کا ہے۔ پہلی دفعہ اس نے جموں اور کشمیر کے کچھ حصے کو پاکستان کا حصہ بتایا ہے۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ کل سے ٹیلی ویژن میں چل رہا ہے، اکانامک ٹائمز میں لکھا گیا اور آن لائن میں تو یہ کل تک تھا، کل سے آن لائن نے اس کو نکال دیا ہے۔ یہ رات کو بھی ٹیلی ویژن کے کئی چینلوں پر چل رہا تھا اور یہ کل صبح سے بی جے پی چل رہا ہے میں اس سرکار سے یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آریس ایس کے mouthpiece آرگنائزر نے، جو جموں و کشمیر کے کچھ حصے کو پاکستان کا حصہ بتایا، کیا بھارتیہ جنتا پارٹی اس کا سپیوگ کرتی ہے، اس کو مانتی ہے، کیوں کہ ان کا mouthpiece ہے۔

SHRI TARUN VIJAY(Uttarakhand): Sir, I was a ... (Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad. ... (Interruptions)... No, please. ... (Interruptions)... Mr. Tarun, sit down. ... (Interruptions)... One second. ... (Interruptions)... I am allowing Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad to make the statement. ... (Interruptions)... You do that. ... (Interruptions)... You want to react also. ... (Interruptions)... Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad. I allow you. ... (Interruptions)...

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad. ... (Interruptions)... Sit down. ... (Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, जो सम्माननीय विपक्ष के नेता ने कहा है, मैं बहुत जिम्मेवारी से कहना चाहूंगा कि जम्मू और कश्मीर भारत का अभिन्न अंग है और रहेगा। संसद का एक रिजोल्यूशन भी है, हम सब उससे बंधे हुए हैं ... (व्यवधान)...

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, please. Your Minister is there.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : जिस organizer के लेख की बात कही गई है, हम उसकी तहकीकात करेंगे। यह न संघ का व्यू है, न भाजपा का व्यू है, न हमारे कार्यकर्ताओं का व्यू है और न सरकार का व्यू है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is very clear. ...(Interruptions)... Now, you can lay your statement. I am allowing you to lay the statement. ...(Interruptions)...

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifty third report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fifty-third Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology (2013-14) on “Norms for the setting up of telecom towers, its harmful effects and setting up of security standards in expansion of telecom facilities” pertaining to the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

...(Interruptions)...

RE. DEPICTING LARGE PARTS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR AS PART OF PAKISTAN IN A MAP OF SOUTH ASIA BY RSS MOUTHPIECE ORGANISER - Contd.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)... What more you want? The Minister has very categorically said in the reply. Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... You want to say something more again. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Your own Minister has said. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)... No; Zero Hour. ...(Interruptions)... Not on that issue. ...(Interruptions)... That issue is over. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, we have given a notice under Rule 267. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. ...*(Interruptions)*... Your notice is on suspension of rules. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, सवाल यह है कि रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने जो कहा है, उसे हम तब मानें, जब पहले सरकार यह बताए कि जिसने यह मैप छापा है, या जो उसका ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसके खिलाफ आपकी ओर से क्या कार्रवाई होगी? ...*(व्यवधान)*... सरकार क्या कार्रवाई करने जा रही है? आप हमें जवाब दीजिए, तब यह माना जाएगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Chaturvedi, I am not allowing. ...*(Interruptions)*... Because the Minister has made it very clear that J&K is part of India; it will remain part of our country; and nobody can change it. What more do you want? ...*(Interruptions)*... You sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister has made it very clear. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: सर, सरकार की तरफ से यह जवाब आना चाहिए कि इस मामले में जो दोषी है, उसके खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई होगी?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Chaturvediji, I have not allowed you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: क्या सरकार कोई कार्रवाई करने जा रही है, कोई जाँच कराने जा रही है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह राष्ट्रीय मसला है। इतनी आसानी से इसे उठा कर आप यह नहीं कह सकते कि रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी ने एक जवाब दे दिया कि हम इसे मंजूर नहीं करते। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Satyavrat Chaturvediji, do you know the meaning of 'Satyavrat'? 'Satya' means truth and 'vrata' means you are sticking to that. So, remember, Satyavrat Chaturvediji, that the Minister has made it categorically clear. ...*(Interruptions)*... What more do you want? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: What has he said? He said कि जो छपा है, वह हमारा व्यू नहीं है, हम उसको मंजूर नहीं करते। सवाल यह नहीं है, मैं दूसरा सवाल उठा रहा हूँ कि जो छपा है, अगर आप उसको गलत मानते हैं, तो जो छापने वाला व्यक्ति है, उसके खिलाफ आप क्या कार्रवाई करने जा रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सर, मिनिस्टर ने मान लिया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give a notice. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : आप इस हाउस को यह बताइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give a notice. ...(Interruptions)... Give a notice. ...(Interruptions)... Let him give a notice. ...(Interruptions)...

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, let the Government come forward and say that they are going to take action against that magazine. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let them give a notice. ...(Interruptions)...

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: That is his demand. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him give a notice. ...(Interruptions)...

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV: That is his demand. ...(Interruptions)... His demand is that let the Government come forward. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Satyavrat Chaturvedi, if you have an additional point about that, then give a notice. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : सरकार उस मैगजीन के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करे। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am asking you to give a notice. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)... I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यह तो जीरो ऑवर है, जीरो ऑवर में नोटिस जरूरी नहीं है।

श्री उपसभापति : नहीं, जीरो ऑवर के लिए नोटिस दे सकते हैं।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यह कहीं नहीं लिखा है कि जीरो ऑवर के लिए नोटिस दीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am allowing Mr. P. Rajeeve. ...(Interruptions)... His notice is relating to suspension of rules. ...(Interruptions)... Let me listen to him. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Tiwariji, please listen to me. Mr. P. Rajeeve has given a notice under Rule 267. Let me deal with that. Then I will call you. What is

your notice? ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are your own party Members creating a problem?
...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, Mr. Balagopal and I have given a notice under Rule 267.
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is why I am allowing you. What is the point?

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Sir, the most * Government in the country ...*(Interruptions)*...
the State Government, which is trying to defeat ...*(Interruptions)*... the second UPA
Government in Kerala ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Actually they are trying to utilise the Budget as a
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing this. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not
allowing it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing this. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not
allowing this. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... What happened in Kerala
Assembly or any other Assembly, you cannot raise it here. ...*(Interruptions)*... We cannot
discuss it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Budget is a constitutional provision.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: The Government tried to make it as a new avenue for *
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is what I am saying. I don't know who has
objected to placing of Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't know who has obstructed it.
...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot raise it here. ...*(Interruptions)*... If somebody has done it...
(Interruptions)... It is not allowed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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, we cannot discuss the working of an Assembly
or a State Government in this august House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

* Expuged as ordered by the Chair.

Yes. ...(Interruptions)... I am not allowing it. ...(Interruptions)... It is not allowed. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI: Sir, we cannot discuss the working of an Assembly or a State Government in this august House. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is ruled out. Your suspension notice is ruled out. I am not allowing it. ...(Interruptions)... We cannot discuss the proceedings of an Assembly here, whether it is Kerala or any other Assembly. ...(Interruptions)... I am going to next subject. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Rajeeve, you know the rules. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. ...(Interruptions)... You know the rules. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I gave the notice. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Where is the notice? ...(Interruptions)... Let me see. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Rajeeve, you sit down. ...(Interruptions)... You let your people raise it in the Assembly, not here. ...(Interruptions)... You contest the Assembly election next time and go to that Assembly and raise it there and not here. ...(Interruptions)... The notice is from Mr. Balagopal. ...(Interruptions)... You should have told me. ...(Interruptions)... It is a notice from Mr. Balagopal. ...(Interruptions)... You said that it is your notice. ...(Interruptions)... No, no. ...(Interruptions)... Anyhow, I am not allowing it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मैंने भी नोटिस दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मेरा भी नोटिस है।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tiwari, what is your point of order? ...(Interruptions)... Tell me your point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, I will tell you. ...(Interruptions)... मुम्बई हमले में 450 लोग मारे गए। ...(व्यवधान)... If a criminal incident takes place inside the country, then the legal case should be inside the country, within the boundary of the Indian Sub-Continent. Lakhvi is arrested in Pakistan. He has been released on bail. This is a complete failure. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is the point of order? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, I am telling you the point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The point of order should be relating to some violation of the rule here. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are speaking about Pakistan. ...*(Interruptions)*... Give notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: Sir, I am coming to the point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Give notice on that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Tiwariji, the point of order should be relating to some violation of rule in this House. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are talking of something which happened in Pakistan. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have no problem, but please give notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am telling you to give notice. It will be considered. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी : सर, यह देश के हित से जुड़ा हुआ मामला है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक आतंकवादी ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह इनकी विदेश नीति का फेल्योर है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. A.U. Singh Deo. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have already disallowed it. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is disallowed. ...*(Interruptions)*... I know. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing anything. ...*(Interruptions)*... No suspension notice is allowed today. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is his notice? ...*(Interruptions)*... You give notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why don't you give notice? ...*(Interruptions)*... I can't do that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Balagopal, I have seen your notice and I am disallowing it. ...*(Interruptions)*... The same matter was raised here. I am disallowing it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. A.U. Singh Deo. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल : सर, मेरा भी एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why and under what rule? ...*(Interruptions)*... You show me the rule. You know the rules. Give me the book. Show me the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... Under what rule? ...*(Interruptions)*... Tell me the rule. What rule is violated here? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not allowing you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, as Mr. Naresh Agrawal pointed out, it is not necessary to give notice in Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why am I saying this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Today, at 10 o'clock, Lakhvi has been granted bail. How can we give notice? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I told him to give notice not for today, but for tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: It is something which is very important. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are saying that it cannot be raised in the House because notice has to be given by 10 o'clock. ...*(Interruptions)*... If this issue is important and Lakhvi has been granted bail at 10 o'clock, how can we give notice? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rajeev Shukla, I told him to give notice for the next day. ...*(Interruptions)*... In Zero Hour, you cannot say that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, it is a matter of national importance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Give notice. It will be considered. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी : यह मसरत की रिहाई का नतीजा है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: If he has been granted bail today after 10 o'clock, how can we give notice? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How can you raise it under a point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सत्यव्रत चतुर्वेदी: सर, मैंने नोटिस दिया हुआ है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, I am calling the names of Members who have given notices for Zero Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... All notices that were allowed, I will read out. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will read out. I will call when his turn comes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are you trying to increase my Blood Pressure? Why are you doing that? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Tiwari, I am only saying that this issue can't be raised as a point of order. I never said that it is an unimportant issue. I said only you give a notice, and the Chairman will consider it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Repeat it for the next day. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mrs. Rajani Patil can repeat it for the next day.

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI: The incident has taken place after 10.00 a.m.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can give notice for Zero Hour, or, under any other rule. Please give a notice. Mrs. Rajani Patil's notice is late; you repeat your notice for the next day. Please note that the Chair wants to accommodate maximum number of Members. Shri A.U. Singh Deo. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is why you raised it. You have already raised it. Tiwariji has already raised it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You were a Minister, you know all the parliamentary rules. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Mr. Shukla, I have not expunged what he has said. He raised it. It is already on record. I have not expunged it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down.

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Suppose something happens today after 10.00 a.m. how could it be raised? This is what I want to know.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not Einstein to back on time and do it. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. Shri A.U. Singh Deo.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Exploitation of migrant labourers

SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO (Odisha): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I draw your attention to the plight of migrant labourers' conditions in the country, which continue to exist. Under the deception of jobs and fixed pays these poor people are taken to work in other States, mostly made to work in brick kilns, etc. They are subjected to torture and inhuman conditions. सर, मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि कभी स्टेट्स में बाढ़ आ जाती है या कभी famine conditions आ जाती हैं, तो लोगों को काम करने के लिए बाहर जाना पड़ता है। इसके रेग्युलेशन के लिए कई लॉज स्टेट्स ने भी बनाये हैं, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने भी बनाये हैं, परन्तु उनके इम्प्लीमेंटेशन में बड़ा lax है। हम सदियों से सुनते आ रहे हैं कि लोग दूसरे स्टेट्स में चले जाते हैं, हमारे स्टेट्स से भी जाते हैं और वहाँ उन्हें बंदी बना लिया जाता है, उनके साथ जबरदस्ती की जाती है, उनसे जबरदस्ती काम लिया जाता है। ऐसा एक केस ओडिशा में हुआ था, जहाँ दयालु और नीलम्बर नाम के दो लेबरर्स, जिन्होंने काम करने से इनकार किया था, उनके हाथ काट दिये गये थे। इस तरह से 600, 700 या 800 लोग अन्य स्टेट्स से रेस्क्यु होकर आते हैं, परन्तु जितने रेस्क्यु होते हैं, उनसे 100 गुना ज्यादा लोग brick kilns में दूसरे-दूसरे स्टेट्स में बंदी बनाकर रखे जाते हैं। तो केवल एक legal framework बनाने से काम नहीं चलेगा, बल्कि हमें इसका अच्छी तरह से इम्प्लीमेंटेशन करना पड़ेगा, accountability mechanisms रखने पड़ेंगे, जिनमें ये bounded situations जो हमारे

स्टेट्स में आती हैं या अन्य-अन्य स्टेट्स में आती हैं, वे न आयें। सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को मेरा एक ही सुझाव है कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स मिलकर इसमें अच्छे से कार्रवाई करें, higher penalties लगायें, middlemen और brick kiln operators के against strict action लें। यह चलता ही रहेगा, कभी बाढ़, कभी famine, लोग जाते ही रहेंगे। इसके लिए कोशिश करनी पड़ेगी और इसको स्टेटों में करने के वास्ते, देखने के वास्ते एक strict legal mechanism और implementation होना चाहिए, जिससे वे जबर्दस्ती बांध कर रखे न जाएं।

महोदय, मैं यही अर्ज करूंगा कि इसमें केन्द्र सरकार और राज्य सरकार मिल कर अच्छी कार्रवाई करें। धन्यवाद।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सर, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करते हुए कहना चाहती हूँ कि कुछ दिनों पहले एक मामला ...(व्यवधान)... जिसमें 15 लेबर्स को bounded labour से रिहा किया गया।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You just associate yourself.

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. T. S. TULSI (Nominated): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

Problems being faced by Gulf returnees

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, I want to draw the attention of this august House to the problems faced by NRIs in Gulf countries. When we talk about NRIs, we generally think that they are rich people getting a lot of money. But a vast majority of the people working in Gulf countries is poor labourers, low income labourers, and staying in labour camps. But they are remitting millions of rupees to our country. The total remittances by NRIs last year amounted to 75 billion dollars. We can imagine the contribution of NRIs to our foreign exchange. But our Government and the society, as a whole, are taking a negative attitude towards them. There are many problems being faced by them. I would only confine myself to two problems. One is rehabilitation of workers coming back to India. Due to the Localisation Policy of Gulf countries, we cannot blame them for that. For instance, because of the Nitaqat Act of Saudi Arabia, lakhs of people have to come back. But there is no rehabilitation programme for them. Yesterday I got a reply from the hon. Minister that it is the responsibility of State Governments. The Central Government has no concern or programme for their rehabilitation. I humbly

[Shri M.P. Achuthan]

request to Government that a fund of ₹1,000 crores must be allotted for the rehabilitation of people coming back...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister should listen.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Sir, the people are in distress. The Kerala Government tried to implement a programme. More than 40,000 applications were received but only 200 people got the subsidy from the State Government. This is because the State Government cannot bear it. It is the responsibility of the Central Government because we are getting billions of dollars as foreign exchange.

Sir, another thing is the exorbitant rate of air fare...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I myself have commented on that.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: The summer vacation is coming soon, and the Airlines, including the Air India, have increased the air fares by three or four times. The Government of India must instruct the Air India to reduce the exorbitant rate and ensure that the normal fares are enforced. So, these are the two important issues. Every day we talk about NRIs and their contribution to our country but we are just neglecting them. So, the Government should kindly take action in this regard.

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

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

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

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

SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU (Mizoram): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Use of Aadhaar Cards as proof of address for procuring new SIM cards

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, आपके और चेयरमैन साहब के साथ कई माननीय सदस्यों ने अपनी चिंता व्यक्त की कि जीरो आवर में जो सवाल उठाए जाते हैं, कई महत्वपूर्ण

मंत्रियों की अनुपस्थिति के कारण उनके सही जवाब नहीं मिल पाते हैं या फिर उनके लिखित जवाब नहीं मिल पाते हैं। ऐसा ही एक राष्ट्रीय महत्व का सवाल आज मैं आपके सामने उठाना चाहता हूँ। सर, एक Dutch कंपनी है, जो सिम कार्ड बनाती है, उसका नाम Gemalto है। अमेरिका और यूरोप के मुल्कों के जो स्पाई एजेंसीज़ हैं, उन्होंने पिछले कुछ दिनों पहले Gemalto के data base को hack किया और उसके बाद अभी हमारे पीएमओ ने सिम कार्ड और आधार कार्ड को जोड़ने के लिए प्रोजेक्ट को हरी झंडी दी है। सर, इस संबंध में आईबी की अलर्ट रिपोर्ट है, I.B. red flag over ADHAR based SIM card. सर, मैं इस सवाल को आपकी जानकारी में लाना चाहता हूँ कि विशेषज्ञों का ऐसा मानना है, जो इसके एक्सपर्ट हैं, – I am not one of them – Gemalto दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी SIM manufacturer है। इसके डाटाबेस पर ऐक्सेस पाने का मतलब है कि अब अमेरिका और यूरोप पूरी दुनिया के लोगों पर spying कर सकेंगे। सर, Gemalto का नेटवर्क इंडिया में भी मौजूद है और लाखों लोग इसके द्वारा सप्लाई किए गए सिम कार्ड को यूज कर रहे हैं। यानी, हमारी ब्यूरोक्रेसी, हमारा लेजिस्लेशन as I am talking to you at the moment और डिफेंस के भी कई महत्वपूर्ण लोग इस समय Gemalto के सिम कार्ड का प्रयोग कर रहे हैं। सर, उन पर भी इस तरह की जासूसी हो रही होगी, इस संभावना से आप इनकार नहीं कर सकते। सिम कार्ड्स को आधार कार्ड्स से जोड़ने का यही मतलब होता है कि जासूसों को जासूसी करने के लिए खुला न्योता देना।

सर, 23 सितम्बर 2013, 26 नवम्बर 2013 और 24 मार्च 2014 का सुप्रीम कोर्ट का आदेश है कि इस कार्ड को अनिवार्य करने से रोका जाए। सर, आधार कार्ड के लिए, आप नाम को एक्सपंज करेंगे तो मुझे कोई दिक्कत नहीं है, श्री नंदन नीलेकणि जी ने एक प्रस्ताव रखा था और उस पर 60 हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च हो चुके हैं। उसका क्या उद्देश्य था, वह प्रस्ताव पत्र कहाँ है? मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह प्रस्ताव पत्र सदन में पेश हो। यह पहली बात हुई।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे नागरिकों के सभी जरूरी डॉक्यूमेंट्स और हमारे strategic documents, including Defence, उनके आगे खोलकर रख दिए जाएँगे। न केवल जासूसी, बल्कि बड़ी कम्पनियाँ आधार कार्ड को सिम कार्ड से जोड़ने के अपने फायदे के लिए सरकारी लोगों और डिफेंस personnel को hack कर सकती हैं। सर, हाल की पेट्रोलियम मंत्रालय की जासूसी और कल की कॉर्पोरेट फर्म्स द्वारा जासूसी इसका सबूत है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: सर, मेरा आपसे निवेदन है कि यह नेशनल सिक्योरिटी के लिए थ्रेट है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार के कोई जिम्मेदार मंत्री *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. It is not going on record. Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: *

* Not recorded.

श्री उपसभापति: आपका टाइम खत्म हो गया।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: *

श्री उपसभापति: त्यागी जी, टाइम खत्म हो गया। Now Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey.

श्री के.सी. त्यागी: *

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the concern expressed by Shri K. C. Tyagi.

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): Sir, it is a very serious matter. Kindly give us some time to discuss this matter in the House as a Short Duration Discussion and I associate myself with him.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You give a notice. Now, Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey.

Opening of a Central Tribal University in Odisha

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House and the Government to a very important issue regarding tribals. Sir, the tribals are around nine per cent in the population of the country. In Odisha, tribal community constitutes more than 22 per cent of the State's population. But there are no avenues for them for higher education. Still, secondary Ashram Schools do impart education to the tribal students, but after passing out from those Ashram Schools, these talented and meritorious tribal students are forced to stop studies due to their poverty and lack of any Governmental assistance. Without higher education they are not able to get good jobs and most of them return to their villages. Therefore, in order to bring the neglected tribal community in the mainstream, it is imperative that a branch of Central Tribal University is opened in Odisha and free higher education is made available to the tribals. Sir, tribal youth are not only strong physically and mentally, but tribal culture is also very rich. A Central Tribal University will go a long way in harnessing the full potential of tribal community and connect them to the national mainstream. Along with this, I also demand that Ashram Schools should be upgraded till graduation and their focus should also be on vocational education so that tribal students passing out from those Ashram Schools do not remain jobless. Thank you.

SHRI TARUN VIJAY (Uttarakhand): Sir, I associate myself with the concern expressed by Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey.

* Not recorded.

**Need to stop primary teachers from being engaged in
other Government assignments**

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मेरा जीरो-ऑवर का विषय भारत के प्राइमरी स्कूलों की स्थिति के संबंध में है। हमारा देश ग्रामीण अंचलों में बसने वाला देश है, इसलिए देश की अधिकांश आबादी का शिक्षा ग्रहण करने का माध्यम केवल सरकारी स्कूल ही हैं। देश में प्राइमरी स्कूल, मिडिल स्कूल कक्षा एक से आठ तक शिक्षा प्रदान करते हैं, जिसमें छह से चौदह साल तक के बच्चे शिक्षा प्राप्त करते हैं। देश में लगभग 13 लाख प्राइमरी स्कूल हैं, जिनमें लगभग 23 करोड़ बच्चे पढ़ रहे हैं। इन सरकारी स्कूलों में ज्यादातर गरीब परिवारों के बच्चे ही पढ़ते हैं। इन स्कूलों में, विशेषकर ग्रामीण अंचल के लगभग 2.6 लाख स्कूलों में पीने के पानी की सुविधा नहीं है, लगभग 4 लाख स्कूलों में टॉयलेट की सुविधा नहीं है, लगभग 6 लाख स्कूलों में खेल के मैदान नहीं हैं।

महोदय, आज सरकारी स्कूलों के अलावा प्राइवेट स्कूल भी खुले हैं, किन्तु उन प्राइवेट स्कूलों में गरीब लोग अपने बच्चों को नहीं पढ़ा सकते हैं, क्योंकि उनकी फीस इतनी होती है कि उस फीस को वहन करने में वे सक्षम नहीं होते हैं। इसलिए हमारे देश में जितने भी प्राइमरी स्कूल हैं, वे एक अभिशाप जैसे बन कर रह गए हैं। आज इन प्राइमरी स्कूलों में पढ़ने वाले बच्चे कुछ नहीं कर सकते, न उनकी नौकरी लग सकती है, न कहीं कोई ऐसा एग्जाम पास कर सकते हैं, क्योंकि उन स्कूलों में पूरी पढ़ाई नहीं होती है, न उन विद्यालयों में अध्यापक होते हैं, न कोई सुविधा होती है। वहां बच्चों के बैठने के लिए फर्श भी नहीं होता है। यहां तक कि प्राइमरी स्कूलों के बच्चों को स्कूल में बैठने के लिए घर से कोई कपड़ा या टाट की पट्टी ले जानी पड़ती है। ऐसी दयनीय हालत आज हमारे देश के प्राइमरी स्कूलों की है।

महोदय, इसके साथ-साथ जब भी कोई सरकारी कार्यक्रम आता है, चाहे जनगणना का हो, पल्स पोलियो का हो, चुनाव का हो, सभी जगह प्राइमरी टीचर्स की ड्यूटी लगाई जाती है। जब उधर उनकी ड्यूटी लगती है, तो स्कूलों में जो गरीबों के बच्चे पढ़ते हैं, उनकी शिक्षा बाधित होती है। इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि ये सरकारी कार्यक्रम, राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम चलें, किन्तु इनके लिए प्रदेश सरकारें, केन्द्र सरकार अलग से व्यवस्था करें।

श्री उपसभापति: टाइम हो गया। श्री डी. राजा।

श्री वीर सिंह: मान्यवर, अंत में मैं निवेदन करूंगा। *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record. वीर सिंह जी, रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रहा है, फिर बोलने से क्या फायदा है? बैठिए, वीर सिंह जी। यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रहा है। तीन मिनट में बोलने के लिए प्रीपेयर करना है।

* Not recorded.

Attack on Puthiya Thalaimurai, a Tamil T.V. Channel

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu) : Sir, I stand to raise an issue which has paramount public importance. Great historians like Romila Thapar have expressed their serious concern on this issue. It is not an issue pertaining to one State, it is not an issue pertaining to one political party, it is not an issue pertaining to one State Government, but it is an issue pertaining to the whole nation.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What 'it' stands for? I don't know even now.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the right-wing extremist forces have become very aggressive and offensive. They are attacking the freedom of expression, freedom of creation and freedom of media in the country. And, we know the grave experience of Maharashtra where Dr. Dhabolkar was murdered. But, so far, nobody has been arrested. Communist leader, Gobind Pansare, was shot dead. But, so far, no arrest has been made.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your subject?

SHRI D. RAJA: I am coming to that. I am explaining the problem. It is a serious issue. It is pertaining to you, me and everybody. The right-wing political and certain extremist forces which claim...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What your 'it' stands for? I don't know even now. You are saying only 'it', 'it' and 'it.' What is that 'it' stands for? Tell me.

SHRI D. RAJA: The issue is that the right-wing extremist forces are launching attack on freedom of expression. Recently, there was a bomb attack on a media house in Tamil Nadu...*(Interruptions)*...It is on the Puthiya Thalainurai TV channel...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is totally wrong. ...*(Interruptions)*...Sir, I deny it...*(Interruptions)*...He must know the facts...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not against you...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: It is not a bomb attack. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Navaneethakrishnan, it is not against you...*(Interruptions)*... It is not against you...*(Interruptions)*... What happened?

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, it needs to be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not against you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, it is not against you. ...*(Interruptions)*... What happened? What is the problem? ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Raja, you may continue.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, there was an attack ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, please sit down. If there is anything against you or against the State Government, I will expunge. Please listen to him. You can understand English. If he says anything against you or against the State Government, I will expunge it. I will go through it and expunge it. Please sit down ...*(Interruptions)*... He is simply speaking on general things. He has not said anything against the State Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kanimozhi, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you want to create problems? ...*(Interruptions)*...

Mr. Raja, don't make any aspersion against the State Government or any individual. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Who is responsible for the law and order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: He is speaking on the State issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the point is...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, I am requesting you to please sit down. If there is anything against you or the State Government, I will expunge it; please sit down.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, it is a fact that some bombs were thrown at the Puthiya Thalaimurai, a media channel in Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*... I understand that the State Government has acted promptly arresting six persons.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now Mrs. Kanimozhi may have objections! I believe, 'no'! ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, it is not an isolated issue in Tamil Nadu. Earlier, there was an attack on a writer. In agony, he declared that he would not write further. Such is the attack

[Shri D. Raja]

against the freedom of expression! In such a situation, no writing can claim monopoly ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI D. RAJA: We condemn this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is speaking on a general issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN (West Bengal): Sir, Mr. D. Raja took so much time just to give a feel of the issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I understand that. Attack on the freedom of the Press and media, is a general issue. That everybody condemns. It is not a State subject.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You associate yourself with Mr. Navaneethakrishnan or with Mr. Raja? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: With both of them I associate myself because Puthiya Thalaimurai is a channel in Tamil Nadu that is run by the new young generation. Anchors and everybody else are neutral. They relay most modern methods of telecast. That is why we need to support their efforts. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**Need to make cooking of non-vegetarian food in hotel
management course optional**

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Chhattisgarh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am raising a very important issue, that steps should be taken by the Government to solve unemployment problems. The subject-matter is cooking of non-vegetarian food in hotel management courses should be optional. Various Indian universities and institutions run Government-approved degrees and diploma courses in hotel management and catering. A look at their syllabus reveals that there is a mandatory coverage of preparation of non-vegetarian food. It shall be appreciated that a substantial number of vegetarians from the Indian population cannot opt for this course in view of the aforesaid mandate of learning non-vegetarian food preparation. Thus, there is a significant number of aspiring students who have a

miss-out on the opportunity of pursuing a career in Hotel Management and Catering due to the sheer inability to take up the aforesaid course. It is imperative that such courses, whether leading to a degree or diploma, should have an option of not having to take up the subject of learning preparation of non-vegetarian food. Maybe, India and the world could then have the finest chefs in the realm of vegetarian cuisines, who are presently shying away from the course. I, therefore, very strongly appeal to your honour to consider this change in curriculum. Sir, it will solve the problem of a number of students who are not opting for this course. I hope the Government will accept this thing.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Punjab): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI (Rajasthan): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All the names of the hon. Members, who have associated themselves with it, may be included.

**Need to expedite the process of granting patents for various
research projects of DRDO**

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, हमारे देश में डी.आर.डी.ओ. डिफेंस के क्षेत्र में रिसर्च करने वाला सबसे महत्वपूर्ण इंस्टीट्यूट है। डी.आर.डी.ओ. में हमारे युवा साइंटिस्ट्स रिसर्च करते हैं और पिछले दो दशकों में इस संस्था के माध्यम से हमारी रिसर्च का काम बहुत आगे बढ़ा है। इसकी वजह से हम विदेशी टेक्नोलॉजी, आविष्कार और विदेशी अनुसंधान में धीरे-धीरे आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। देश के इस महत्वपूर्ण इंस्टीट्यूट में हमारे साइंटिस्ट्स अपनी रिसर्च करते हैं। विश्व के साइंटिस्ट्स भी अपने-अपने देशों में रिसर्च करते हैं।

महोदय, मैंने दो दिन पहले, 'इंडिया टुडे' में छपी एक रिपोर्ट पढ़ी। उसमें बताया गया था कि विश्व के सभी देशों में डिफेंस और अन्य क्षेत्रों में रिसर्च होती रहती है। उन देशों में रिसर्च होने के बाद वहां के साइंटिस्ट्स उन देशों के पेटेंट के सिस्टम के तहत अपनी रिसर्च का पेटेंट करा लेते हैं, लेकिन हमारे देश में पेटेंट कराने का सिस्टम बहुत लम्बा है। हमारे साइंटिस्ट्स रिसर्च करते हैं, मेहनत करते हैं और पुरुषार्थ करते हैं, लेकिन जब वे उसे पेटेंट कराने की कार्रवाई करते हैं, तो उसमें बहुत समय

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

लग जाता है। संभवतः 10 और 15 साल तक पेटेंट कराने में लग जाते हैं। इस प्रकार हमारे यहां जो रिसर्च हुई या जिस टेक्नोलॉजी का आविष्कार हुआ, उसके इम्प्लीमेंटेशन में बहुत देर हो जाती है। इससे हमारे देश के साइंटिस्ट्स का मॉरेल डाउन होता है। हमारे देश में पेटेंट कराने में जितना समय लगता है, शायद उतना समय विश्व के किसी देश में नहीं लगता होगा। उन देशों के साइंटिस्ट्स अपनी रिसर्च को शीघ्र पेटेंट करा लेते हैं, जबकि हमारे देश में उन्हें 10-15 वर्षों तक इंतजार करना पड़ता है।

महोदय, जब 10 या 15 साल के बाद हमारे देश के साइंटिस्ट की रिसर्च को पेटेंट मिलता है, तब तक उसी रिसर्च को अन्य देशों के अनेक साइंटिस्ट्स पहले ही पेटेंट करा चुके होते हैं। इस प्रकार हमारे देश के युवा साइंटिस्ट का हौसला डाउन होता है। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि साइंटिस्ट्स का हौसला बढ़ाने, उन्हें रिसर्च की रॉयल्टी दिलाने और उनका महत्व बढ़ाने के लिए हमारे देश में पेटेंट की जो लम्बी प्रक्रिया है, उसमें सुधार लाया जाए। पेटेंट की लंबी प्रक्रिया के कारण ही हमारे देश के डी.आर.डी.ओ. के साइंटिस्ट जो आविष्कार करते हैं, उनका हमारे देश को फायदा नहीं मिल रहा है।

महोदय, हम विश्व के अनेक देशों, चाहे फ्रांस हो, ब्रिटेन हो, इटली या अमरीका हो, वहां से टेक्नोलॉजी लाते हैं। उस टेक्नोलॉजी के विकल्प में हमारे देश के साइंटिस्ट्स बहुत बड़ा काम कर रहे हैं। यदि उन्हें उनकी रिसर्च का तुरन्त पेटेंट मिल जाए, तो मुझे लगता है कि इससे उनका हौसला बढ़ेगा। इसलिए मैं सरकार से विनती करता हूँ कि हमारे देश में पेटेंट के सिस्टम का सरलीकरण किया जाए।

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है। I agree with you. Mr. Naqvi, if what he said is true, it is a serious matter. It is a serious matter that our scientists conduct research, do their findings, but for getting a patent, it takes years. By that time, in other countries, other scientists get patents and our scientists become demoralised. I request you to take it up with the Minister of Science and Technology. It is a very serious matter.

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): Definitely, Sir. माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस विषय में माननीय सदस्य ने जो कहा है उसके संबंध में संबंधित मंत्रालय से बात करूंगा।

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री मेघराज जैन (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राम नारायण डूडी (राजस्थान): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री चुनीभाई कानजीभाई गोहेल (गुजरात): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री परिमल नथवानी (झारखंड): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया (राजस्थान): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री दिलीपभाई पंडया (गुजरात): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कर्णाटक) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रंगासायी रामाकृष्णा (कर्णाटक): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी ने जो विषय सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है, हम भी अपने आपको उससे सम्बद्ध करते हैं।

Medium of teaching in primary schools

DR. C.P. THAKUR (Bihar): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am going to raise a very important aspect of primary education, which is happening in our country, and more particularly in Bihar. There are two types of primary education systems developing in all States of India, including Bihar. In one type, children of rich people are going to English medium schools, which are very expensive, and not affordable by general masses. The students are taught in English in these schools. In the other type, in Government schools, there are less number of teachers, the education is in Hindi medium. These two types of education are creating a big divide in the society. After matriculation, students from a Hindi medium school have to face difficulties in writing any competitive examination.

[Dr. C.P. Thakur]

It is because they have to compete with English medium students. Some time it has come to my knowledge that they know the answers, but fail to understand the essence of the questions and write wrong answers. It is because the questions are in English. This issue has been raised before me by many social organizations, intellectuals and school principals.

Sir, previously in Bihar, from the very beginning, the students were taught both in English and Hindi. So, they were good both in English and Hindi. But, now the students start with Hindi, and in higher classes, they are taught in English medium. I would like to cite the earlier practice in Bihar, where both English and Hindi were taught at the primary level, and the performance of the students was commendable. But, now the practice has changed, and only one language is being taught at primary level, which has an adverse impact on the career of the students coming from the poor community. I think creating two worlds is harmful and detrimental. It is necessary to introduce both languages, Hindi and English, at primary level from the very beginning all over the country. English is becoming an international language. All students when they go out have to compete in English. Even the French people, who were previously very averse to speak in English, now speak in English because English has become an international language. So, the Government should take a serious note of this subject.

SHRI DEREK OBRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, they also have to compete with English medium students. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I associate myself with this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. अनिल कुमार साहनी (बिहार) : सर, मैं इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, मैं इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The names of all those who associate may be added. Yes, Mr. Husain Dalwai.

Alleged threat to the life of a NCP leader

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र) : सर, महाराष्ट्र में बहुत सारे नेताओं और कार्यकर्ताओं पर हमले होने लगे हैं। अभी वहां एन.सी.पी. के एक विधायक, श्री जितेन्द्र आव्हाड, जो मंत्री भी थे, को मारने की धमकी दी गई है। नथूराम विचार मंच के ज़रिए उनको एक पत्र आया है और पत्र में उन्होंने कहा है कि दामोदर और पानसरे के बाद अब आपका नंबर है। आप हमारे खिलाफ जो बोलते हो, वह बंद करो। पत्र में उन्होंने यह लिखा है। महोदय, यह पत्र नहीं है, यह प्रतिज्ञा पत्र है और यह नाथूरामचक्र है, यह महाराष्ट्र नाथूराम गोडसे के विचारों का है, ऐसा उनका कहना है और उनकी हमारी कमिटमेंट है। यह बात उन्होंने डायरेक्ट कही है और एक विधायक के बारे में कही है। अभी तक कोई पकड़ा नहीं गया है। न दामोदर का खूनी पकड़ा गया है, न पानसरे का खूनी पकड़ा गया है। तो यह धमकी आई है। महाराष्ट्र के जो बड़े चिंतक हैं, उनको भी इस तरह की धमकी आई है, जिस पर पुलिस ने कोई कार्यवाही शुरू की है, ऐसा मैंने सुना है, लेकिन महाराष्ट्र में इस तरह से होने लगा है। 'टीवी 9' के रिपोर्टर, गणेश जाधव के ऊपर महाराष्ट्र के जालना डिस्ट्रिक्ट में सैंड माफिया के लोगों ने हमला किया, इसका मतलब यह है कि सारे अखबारों के फ्रीडम ऑफ एक्सप्रेसन पर हमले हो रहे हैं, लेकिन महाराष्ट्र सरकार इसके बारे में कुछ नहीं कर रही है। मैं केंद्र सरकार से विनती करता हूँ, खासकर होम मिनिस्टर से, कि आप इसमें इंटरवीन कीजिए और किसी भी हालत में आदमी की विचार प्रक्रिया को बंद करने की कोशिश करने वाले लोगों को कड़ी से कड़ी सज़ा दीजिए, यह मेरी मांग है, थैंक यू।

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार) : सर, मैं इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आंध्र प्रदेश) : सर, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।
†جناب محمد علی خان (اثرپردیش) : مہودے، میں مائتے سدسے کے بیان سے خود کو سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔

SHRI AVINASH PANDE (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu) Sir, I associate myself with this issue.
 ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The names of all those who associate may be added.
 Yes, Mr. Jesudasu Seelam.

Non-release of funds to Polavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I rise to mention in this House the injustice done to Andhra Pradesh because of non-implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. Sir, with regard to Polavaram Project, a national project,

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

[Shri Jesudasu Seelam]

capital building and other promises pertaining to both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, we have given a notice—all four of us have given a notice—that this should be discussed in the form of a Short Duration Discussion. Chairperson has agreed. You have been kind enough to agree, but unfortunately in yesterday's BAC, this could not be included.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You say only about Polavaram Project, which is your demand.

SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Polavaram Project is included in the entire package, Sir. This Government promised that they would implement and release the money. This money is to the tune of ₹16,000 crores, which has to be released. Sir, this is only the tip of the iceberg. All the provisions of the AP Reorganisation Act have to be implemented. This Government lacks commitment. This is where we are hurt. That is why the House should discuss. If the House permits, this should be included in the next week's Business because it cannot be postponed. I will come separately on it when we discuss the Budget and tell you about the meagre allocation and tokenism that they have shown. That is a different thing. On the other hand, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh says, "My wings are cut. How can I fly?" So, this is an allegation against one another. The State Government says that the Centre is not cooperating and the Central Government says that the State Government has not given proposals. Sir, there is a fix because of which people of Andhra Pradesh are suffering. People are antagonised, they are agonised. I seek the protection from the Chair that this subject should be included for discussion. Why I am saying this is that four of us have given in writing. You said, "We will give time." The Chairperson also said that he would give time. Unfortunately, in yesterday's BAC meeting, it did not find place. I urge this House to include. There is a provision that with consensus this can be included in the next week's schedule. Sir, I want you to kindly take the sense of the House and discuss the AP Reorganisation Bill because the Government has failed. *(Time-bell rings)* I have thirty seconds more. Sir, you made a commitment. You told that it would be done. I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am insisting that you should include it, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have to include it because people of both of the States, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, want justice. The provisions incorporated in the Act should be implemented as promised by all the leaders on 20th February, 2014. Sir, we want that it should be included. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... Allow Shri K. N. Balagopal. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please allow Shri Balagopal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Don't encroach on his time. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Hanumantha Rao, you sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Only what Mr. Balagopal says will go on record; nothing else will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री अविनाश पांडे (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री पी.एल.पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रंजीब बिस्वाल (ओडिशा) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

† جناب محمد علی خان (اترپردیش) : مہودے، میں ماننے سدے کے بیان سے خود کو سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔

चौधरी मुनवर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य के वक्तव्य से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

† چودھری منور سلیم (اترپردیش) : مہودے، میں ماننے سدے کے بیان سے خود کو سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we also associate.

Recent Issue of Drug Trafficking in Kerala

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I am referring to a very unfortunate situation taking place in the State of Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't encroach upon his time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing else will go on record except what Balagopal says. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: The culprit was arrested. ...*(Interruptions)*... He murdered a security guard by hitting his car. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now when cases are coming that he paid money to a senior official. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hanumantha Rao, it is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: *

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Now there are some vigilance cases against the Chief Minister, vigilance cases against the Finance Minister of the State of Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*... *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Reference to Kerala Assembly will not go on record. It is expunged. Whatever reference is to Kerala Assembly, it is expunged. That has been expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*... It has been expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The Zero Hour is over.

12.00 Noon

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour. Question No. 166.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

New projects to boost train services in Jharkhand

*166. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have initiated any new projects to boost train services in Jharkhand after its creation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated and spent thereon during the above period; and

(c) the progress made in implementation of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) To boost train services in the State of Jharkhand, Railways have taken up 29 major projects comprising 6 New Lines and 23 Doublings falling fully/partly in Jharkhand since its creation in November, 2000. The latest anticipated cost of these projects is ₹16361 crores and an expenditure of ₹1013 crores has been incurred till March' 2014. For these projects, an outlay of ₹337 crore have been provided in 2014-15 and a provision of ₹1113 crores has been made in Budget 2015-16. Out of these 4 Doubling projects (i) Barharwa-Tinpahar (16 km) doubling (ii) Barbil-Barajamda (10 km) doubling, (iii) Padapahar-Banspani (32 km) and (iv) Muri-North Outer Cabin have been completed at a cost of ₹ 334 crore and all the remaining projects are in various stages of completion.

श्री धीरज प्रसाद साहू: माननीय सभापति जी, मेरा पहला पूरक प्रश्न माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से यह है कि झारखंड दूसरा ऐसा राज्य है जो रेलवे को सबसे ज्यादा राजस्व देता है, लेकिन झारखंड रेलवे सुविधा के मामले में बहुत पीछे है। जैसे टोरी, चतरा, बोधगया होते हुए गया तक नई रेल लाइन का विस्तारीकरण होना है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि किन कारणों से अभी तक यह निर्माण कार्य प्रारम्भ नहीं हो सका है तथा इसके मुख्य कारण क्या हैं?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: माननीय सभापति जी, वर्ष 2000 में झारखंड राज्य बना, उसके बाद से कुल 29 रेलवे के प्रोजेक्ट्स उस राज्य के लिए सैंक्शन किए गए हैं। उनमें से कुछ प्रोजेक्ट्स राज्य सरकार की सहभागिता के आधार पर भी स्वीकृत किए गए। उनमें से चार प्रोजेक्ट्स हमने पूरे किए हैं और बाकी की प्रगति क्या है इसका विवरण उपलब्ध है। माननीय सदस्य ने गया-बोधगया-चतरा रेल लाइन के बारे में जानकारी मांगी है, यह 2008-09 में स्वीकृत हुई थी और उस समय 550 करोड़ रुपये इसकी लागत थी। अभी इसका प्राथमिक स्टेज में कार्य है और इस वर्ष रेल मंत्री जी ने झारखंड का allocation

[श्री मनोज सिन्हा]

पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में बढ़ाकर के तीन गुणा ज्यादा कर दिया है। हम आने वाले समय में कोशिश करेंगे कि शीघ्रातिशीघ्र इन कामों को पूरा किया जाए।

श्री धीरज प्रसाद साहू: सभापति महोदय, मेरा दूसरा पूरक प्रश्न माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से यह है कि झारखंड के लोहरदगा से छत्तीसगढ़ के कोरबा तक रेल लाइन के निर्माण की वर्ष 2010 के बजट में घोषणा के बावजूद भी अभी तक कार्य प्रारम्भ नहीं होने का क्या कारण है? इस रेल बजट में भी झारखंड के साथ न्याय नहीं हुआ है, क्या इसी तरह से हमेशा झारखंड के साथ अन्याय होता रहेगा?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात झारखंड के साथ जो अन्याय की बात कही है, मैं उसे पूरी तरह से खारिज करता हूं क्योंकि पिछले वर्षों की तुलना में झारखंड का allocation इस बजट में तीन गुणा बढ़ा दिया गया है। जिस रेल लाइन की बात माननीय सदस्य कर रहे हैं, यह ठीक है कि भारतीय रेल के पास थ्रो फॉरवर्ड बहुत ज्यादा है, स्वीकृतियां इतनी ज्यादा हुई हैं और फंड की availability नहीं है। हम सारे काम पूरा कर सकें, यह सम्भव भी नहीं है। इसलिए इस बार पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में 52 परसेंट आउटले हमने बढ़ाया है। हम आने वाले वर्षों में कोशिश करेंगे, जैसा कि अपने बजट भाषण में रेल मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि आने वाले पांच वर्षों में साढ़े आठ लाख करोड़ रुपया रेलवे में निवेश करने वाले हैं। हम उम्मीद करेंगे कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्रोजेक्ट्स हम ले सकें।

श्री हरिवंश: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से कुछ तथ्य बताकर सरकार के कामकाज के तौर-तरीकों की सूचना रेल मंत्री जी को देना चाहता हूं। क्या इसी तरह से झारखंड में काम चलेगा झारखंड की योजनाओं के बारे में, मैं यह बताना चाहता हूं। झारखंड की छह बड़ी परियोजनाओं पर तीन एमओयू साइन हो चुके हैं। पहला एमओयू वर्ष 2002 में साइन हुआ और यह वर्ष 2007 तक पूरा होना था। इसमें कुल लगभग दो हजार करोड़ रुपये लगने थे। दुबारा इन्हीं परियोजनाओं का एमओयू 2012 में साइन हुआ और जिसे 2013 तक पूरा करने का संकल्प लिया गया। इसमें वह कुल खर्च बढ़कर 3771 करोड़ रुपये हो गया।

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल क्या है?

श्री हरिवंश: सर, मैं सवाल पर ही आ रहा हूं। तीसरी बार इन्हीं परियोजनाओं के लिए सरकार ने पुनः एमओयू साइन किया है और जिसकी लागत बढ़कर 5775 करोड़ रुपए हो गई है। इसमें 50 परसेंट केन्द्र सरकार को देना है और 50 परसेंट राज्य सरकार को देना है। सर, मैं सवाल पर ही आ रहा हूं। तीन चीजें बताई गई हैं जिसमें कई परियोजनाएं पिछले 14 वर्षों से चल रही हैं, जमीन अधिग्रहण की समस्या, फॉरेस्ट क्लियरेंस और पैसों की कमी। हालत यह है कि यहां से रांची जाने में 19 घंटे लगते हैं और कल की घटना है और मैं अखबार की खबर आपको बता रहा हूं। जो राजधानी एक्सप्रेस रांची से दिल्ली के लिए चली थी, वह आगरा में दो हिस्सों में बंट गई। ट्रेन के आगे के हिस्से को इंजन लेकर चला गया और आधा हिस्सा वहीं छूट गया। क्या हमारी रेल व्यवस्था इसी तरह से काम करेगी? क्या इसी तरह से 17 वर्षों तक छः परियोजनाओं पर लगातार लागत व्यय बढ़ता रहेगा और काम पूरा नहीं होगा? मैं आपके माध्यम से यही जानना चाहता हूं।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा : माननीय सदस्य हरिवंश जी ने जो जानकारी दी है, मैं उससे अवगत हूँ और यह सच है कि 2002 में आपने जिन परियोजनाओं का जिक्र किया था, उन पर भारतीय रेल और झारखंड सरकार की सहमति बनी थी। उस समय झारखंड सरकार ने इन परियोजनाओं पर दो-तिहाई लागत व्यय करने का निर्णय लिया था, लेकिन परियोजनाओं में व्यय बढ़ने के कारण भारतीय रेल और झारखंड राज्य ने 50-50 प्रतिशत व्यय पर सहमति जाहिर की थी। जब हजारीबाग को भारतीय रेल के नेटवर्क से जोड़ा गया, तो उस समय झारखंड और भारतीय रेल के बीच जो समझौता हुआ है, वह 2017 तक लागू रहेगा। हमने उनमें से चार परियोजनाएं पूरी की हैं और हमने एक-एक परियोजना के बारे में टाइम बाउंड मैनर में लक्ष्य तय किए हैं कि आने वाले समय में किस समय किस परियोजना को पूरा करेंगे। यह भी सच है कि फंड की availability रेलवे की समस्या बराबर रही है। नक्सलवाद से प्रभावित इलाकों में जमीन अधिग्रहण और फॉरेस्ट क्लियरेंस भी एक बड़ी समस्या रही है। हमारी सरकार लगातार झारखंड सरकार के सम्पर्क में है। चीफ सेक्रेटरी और रेलवे बोर्ड की अनेक अवसरों पर बैठकें हो चुकी हैं और भारतीय रेल का एक उच्च अधिकार प्राप्त दल रांची में बैठा हुआ है। जो राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों के सम्पर्क में है। हम इन समस्याओं से निजात दिलाने की त्वरित कार्यवाही में लगे हुए हैं।

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य : सर, मेरा इससे रिलेटिव क्वेश्चन है। मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि त्रिपुरा में जो रेल है...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is on Jharkhand, please.

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य : सर, यह झारखंड से रिलेटिव है। जैसे झारखंड में है, ऐसे ही त्रिपुरा में भी है। वहां काम चल रहा है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; Tripura is a separate subject. Please focus on that.

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य : सर, सुन लीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry; you can not expand the scope of the question.

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य : सर, मेरा क्वेश्चन यह है कि ऐसे जो काम चलते हैं। जो रेल का काम चल रहा है, झारखंड में भी है। ऐसे ही रेल का काम चल रहा है। हमने देखा है कि बहुत साल लग जाते हैं।

श्री सभापति : आप झारखंड पर सवाल पूछिए।

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य : सर, मैं झारखंड पर ही बोल रही हूँ। वहां जो काम चल रहा है, वह काम कब तक खत्म होगा और उसकी last date क्या होगी, क्या मंत्री जी यह बता सकते हैं, यह मेरा क्वेश्चन है।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा : सभापति जी, मैंने माननीय सदस्या के प्रश्न का उत्तर इससे पहले भी दिया है। जहां तक त्रिपुरा का संदर्भ है...

श्री उपसभापति : आप त्रिपुरा पर मत बताइए, आप सिर्फ झारखंड पर जवाब दीजिए।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा : सर, जो अगला सवाल है, वह नार्थ ईस्ट की स्टेट्स के बारे में है, इसलिए मैं उसमें त्रिपुरा की बात विस्तार से करूंगा। मैंने झारखंड के बारे में बताया है कि हमारे तीन constraints हैं – एक तो जितनी परियोजनाएं स्वीकृत हुई हैं, लेकिन उतने फंड्स नहीं हैं, दूसरा लॉ एंड आर्डर है और तीसरी जमीन अधिग्रहण और फॉरेस्ट क्लियरेंस है, जिनके कारण देरी होती है। समयबद्ध तरीके से परियोजनाओं को पूरा किया जाए, इसके लिए हमने अलग से एक एम्पावर ग्रुप बनाया है, जो आने वाले समय में परियोजनाओं को तेजी से पूरा करेगा।

श्री प्रेम चन्द गुप्ता : मान्यवर, मैं एक बेसिक प्रिंसिपल पर हूँ, सन् 2000 में झारखंड का निर्माण हुआ और उसके बाद वहां 29 योजनाएं मंजूर की गईं और उनकी लागत 16,361 करोड़ रुपए थी। आपने अभी तक उन पर 1,013 करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए हैं। अगर हम नार्मल इन्फ्लेशन रेट भी लेते हैं, तो यह तो जीरो होता जाएगा और ये प्रोजेक्ट्स कभी भी पूरे नहीं हो सकते। आपने 2014-15 के बजट में जो प्रावधान किया है, वह 337 करोड़ रुपए का किया है और 2015-16 में एक हजार कुछ का किया है। आप ये परियोजनाएं कैसे पूरी करेंगे, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा : सभापति जी, मैंने इस प्रश्न का उत्तर बार-बार दिया है। मैंने कहा है कि आपने जो जानकारी दी है, यह सच है कि 1,010 करोड़ रुपया इस बार 2015-16 में झारखंड को दिया गया है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति जी : गुप्ता जी प्लीज़।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा : मैं cost escalation समझ रहा हूँ, लेकिन रेलवे के पास जो फंड की availability है, उसको मैं भी जानता हूँ और आप भी जानते हैं। लेकिन यह भी सच है कि इस बार भारत सरकार ने रेलवे को बजटरी सपोर्ट भी बढ़ाया है और भारतीय रेल ने बाकी दूसरे उपाय भी किए हैं, ताकि हम इन कामों में ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा निवेश कर सकें।

Revision of rates of mobile services

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rates of mobile services are going to be revised soon;
- (b) if so, whether Government has any control on rates of mobile services;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the present rates of different operators in brief; and

(d) the action plan of Government if the consumer tariffs would become costlier?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) As per the existing tariff framework, tariff for telecommunication access services is under forbearance except for national roaming and Rural Fixed Line Services. The service providers have the flexibility to offer different tariff schemes depending on the market conditions and other commercial considerations. Most mobile operators have tariff plans on offer where local call rates are in the range of 1.2 paise per second to 2 paise per second and Subscriber's Trunk Dialing (STD) call rate in the range of 1.5 paise per second to 2.5 paise per second. The rates charged by mobile service providers for various types of calls differ from service area to service area. The rates offered by the same operator in a service area would also be different depending on the tariff plan subscribed by each individual consumer. In addition to several tariff plans on offer, there are a large number of Special Tariff Vouchers and Combo Vouchers which provide free or discounted tariff for a specified period. The call rates also vary depending on whether the calls are terminated in on network or off-network and also for peak and off-peak hours.

SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Sir, in his reply, the hon. Minister has stated that there is a flexibility to offer different tariff schemes as per the mobile services. Now, today the mobile phone is not a luxury. It is a necessity for everybody. I recall fondly the contribution of late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhiji, in bringing a revolution in the communication sector.

Now, my question to the hon. Minister is this. The total debt of the industry has gone up to ₹ 2.7 lakh crores and the break up is for Airtel, Vodafone, RIM, Idea, etc. I want to know whether these companies are going to shift the burden to the consumer and, if so, whether you have any mechanism which can assure us that the debt burden is not shifted to the consumer for the better growth of this consumer service.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I wish to inform this hon. House that against a population of 1.23 billion plus in the country, we are very happy to note that by the end of December, 2014, we have 97.9 crore mobiles in India which is very soon going

[Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad]

to touch about 100 crores. In the rise of this number, I agree, the previous Governments have also a role to play – Mr. Vajpayee Government, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and others. There have been areas of concern also, which we all know. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I am acknowledging that. But there has been a collective effort.

Sir, the second thing which the House needs to know is that as far as mobile rates in India are concerned, it is the lowest in the world, at level No.4 out of 178 countries. Therefore, sheer competition and the large size of India's market have allowed a great degree of flexibility and competition. As far as tariff management is concerned, under the TRAI Act, the power is given to TRAI. But the TRAI maintains the principle of forbearance, remaining away. If there is discrimination, if there is predatory pricing, if monopoly is sought to be exploited, then TRAI does intervene from time to time. But I am very happy to note that India is having the lowest tariff rates, I don't think the sheer size of India's market would have any burden on the consumers. As regards the loan part is concerned, I think, their books of accounts need to be seen also as to whether they are making a profit or not. That is not my job as a Telecom Minister. But, yes, I am accountable to the people of the country, and I am very happy to note that the entire mobile sector is rising.

SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Sir, my second question is, there was an order from the hon. Tripura High Court on 12 February, 2015 regarding permitting Reliance Telecom and Bharti Hexacom to make two bids for on-line and off-line for the North-East. Since I am from the North-East, I want to know as to what will be the effect of the 800 MHz band selling in the North East and how it affects the proposals therein. Does the Government have any sort of a result-oriented thinking or a scheme for the North-East in this regard?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, about the specific order of Tripura High Court, I don't think that is a matter which is related to this particular question. But since you have asked the question, I would like to inform you that we are having spectrum auction and some players intervened in certain High Courts, including in Tripura High Court, leading to a particular order. The Government of India moved the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court has got all those cases transferred. Sir, the auction is going on. I cannot make any comment, except to say that yesterday the auction's final price has risen to ₹ 1,02,057 crore, perhaps the highest ever after 49 rounds. It is still going on. Let us

await the final conclusion of the auction. But, as far as the North-East is concerned, we are taking a lot of steps to improve the conditions in the North-East.

श्री शरद यादव : माननीय सभापति जी, एक तो मैं मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहूंगा, आपने कहा कि यह जो एविएशन और मोबाल्स का टैरिफ है, इन पर ट्राई नियन्त्रण रखता है। मैं यह भी मानता हूं कि यहां पर ये दुनिया के दूसरे देशों से काफी किफायती हैं, लेकिन आपके माध्यम से मैं एक बात पूछना चाहता हूं कि एमटीएनएल के जितने फोन हैं, वे ही सबसे ज्यादा मुश्किल में क्यों रहते हैं, काम क्यों नहीं करते हैं? पार्लियामेंट की तरफ से आपने हम लोगों को जो फोन दिए हैं, एक तरह से वे कहीं भी ठीक से काम नहीं करते हैं। यह बात भी सच है कि एमटीएनएल से ज्यादा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर किसी दूसरे का नहीं है, लेकिन यह अजीब बात है कि कभी भी हम कहीं पर दौरे के लिए जाएं, तो सब कहते हैं कि एअरटेल का कनेक्शन लगाओ, कोई कहता है कि वोडाफोन का लगाओ। जो हालात हैं, उसमें जो पब्लिक सेक्टर है, वह आपके हाथ में है और उसको सक्षम एवं एफिशिएंट बनाने के लिए आपको ही कोई पहल करनी चाहिए और इन्हें दूसरी कंपनियों के कॉम्पिटिशन में लाना चाहिए। हम मान लेते हैं कि बाजार के मामले में हम आकंठ डूबे हुए हैं, लेकिन बाजार के नियमों के चलते हमारी जो इतनी पुरानी संस्थाएं हैं, उनको नीचे नहीं आने दिया जाना चाहिए, यही मेरी आपसे विनती है।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी : अगर नीचे नहीं जाएंगे, तो उनका प्राइवेटाइजेशन कैसे होगा?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद : सर, यह प्रश्न मूल प्रश्न से सम्बन्धित नहीं है, लेकिन चूंकि शरद जी जैसे वरिष्ठ सदस्य ने यह प्रश्न उठाया है, इसलिए मैं इसका उत्तर जरूर देना चाहता हूं।

यह सही है कि बीएसएनएल और एमटीएनएल का स्वास्थ्य ठीक नहीं है और जिस दिन प्रधान मंत्री जी ने मुझे इस विभाग का मंत्री बनाया, मैंने पहली घोषणा यही की थी कि इन दोनों निकायों को स्वस्थ करना हमारी प्राथमिकता होगी। मैं बहुत प्रामाणिकता से यह मानता हूं कि जब तक पब्लिक सेक्टर नहीं रहेगा, तब तक प्रतिस्पर्द्धा स्वस्थ नहीं होगी। मैं आपको स्पष्ट करना चाहता हूं कि इन दोनों संस्थाओं के निजीकरण का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है, लेकिन मैं एक बात आपसे अवश्य कहना चाहता हूं कि इनको सुधारने की मैं कोशिश कर रहा हूं।

माननीय शरद जी, यह जानना चाहिए कि बीएसएनएल 2004 तक 10,000 करोड़ रुपये के प्रॉफिट में था, लेकिन आज वह 8000 करोड़ रुपये के लॉस में क्यों है? यह सवाल कहीं न कहीं उठना चाहिए। एमटीएनएल 800-900 करोड़ रुपये के प्रॉफिट में था, लेकिन पिछले आठ-नौ सालों में वह इतना लॉस में कैसे चला गया? ऐसा इसलिए हुआ क्योंकि उनको काम नहीं करने दिया गया, एक्सचेंज नहीं करने दिया गया, उनके टेंडर को फाइनल नहीं होने दिया गया। कभी मैं इस पर विस्तार से हाउस में चर्चा करूंगा।

अब मैं यह कर रहा हूं? सातवें फेज में बीएसएनएल स्वयं के, 4,000 करोड़ रुपये के फंड से लगभग 25,000 नये टावर लगाने जा रहा है। 600 करोड़ रुपये से Next Generation Exchange की कार्यवाही शुरू हो रही है, जिसका मैं आज उद्घाटन करने जा रहा हूं। एमटीएनएल दिल्ली और

मुम्बई में 800 नये टावर लगाने जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक मिनट, एक मिनट। मैंने कभी भी इस हाउस से छिपाया नहीं है कि इन दोनों संस्थाओं का स्वास्थ्य खराब है। इनके स्वास्थ्य को ठीक करना है, लेकिन शरद जी, इनका स्वास्थ्य क्यों खराब हुआ है, इस पर कभी इस हाउस में मैं विस्तार से चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ। कहीं न कहीं ऐसी ताकतें रही हैं, जो बीएसएनएल और एमटीएनएल को अस्वस्थ कर रही थीं और उनको प्रोटेक्शन नहीं मिल रहा था। अब मैं इसको ठीक कर रहा हूँ।

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Sir, forbearance, as the Minister says, is a good regulatory practice when there is a clear and sustained evidence of true and free and fair competition.

Sir, I submit to the Minister that there is enough circumstantial evidence that given the reduced competition, there is cooperative pricing between these operators, and this circumstantial evidence comes up once in a while. Will the Minister commit to us that he will ignore this forbearance-tariff approach of the regulator, or he will direct the regulator, to intervene whenever there is evidence of cartelization or cooperation between these operators on either pricing or service quality? Sir, service quality of telecom operators in India is amongst the worst. The Government keeps saying that the tariffs are the lowest, but I will argue that the service quality of telecom operators has declined significantly. These two issues should be linked. Will he ensure that the DoT intervenes whenever there is evidence of cooperation and cartelization between operators?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, hon. Member, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, is not only very knowledgeable but also well-informed in the entire field. I respect his knowledge of this whole area. Yes, as far as governmental intervention is concerned, I am also of the view that if a proper statutory body in consequence of parliamentary law is in place, they must intervene, like in the case of electricity, there is Regulatory Commission for fixing tariff. As a Government, we need to counsel. I have publicly spoken not only about BSNL and MTNL but also about many of these private operators for also having call drop complaints and I have told my Department to counsel them. I have asked the DoT also to revisit it. But as regards that combo pricing, flexibility, etc., I want to assure this House that if the Government has the slightest apprehension that these kinds of personal arrangements are going to impact upon free market mechanism, have adverse impact on consumer interest, thirdly about cartelization and fourthly about lack of fairness, surely the TRAI would intervene and the Government would counsel them as well. As regards the issue of call drops is concerned, I want to assure this House that after becoming the Minister of this Department, I have myself taken it up and my Department has been meeting all the private operators and counselling them that they need to reinforce

their infrastructure. If there is a problem, we need to revisit it. But one thing I would like to share with this hon. House, Sir, with greatest respect that for infrastructure we need towers. If we don't have the permission to install towers they need, the infrastructure will not improve. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are encouraging sharing of towers. But, of late, there is a campaign going in the country that it emits health hazards. I have myself examined it. At some point in time, I will further come with details in this House that this entire campaign is not very substantial. There has been a proper study of the World Health Organisation; there have been thirty reports on it. I got my Committee constituted. Therefore, I want to assure the House that proper infrastructure for towers ought to be permitted.

श्री चुनीभाई कानजीभाई गोहेल: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ। पहले तो मैं इनको इस बात पर बधाई देता हूँ कि ये 25 हजार नये मोबाइल टावर्स लगाने जा रहे हैं।

सर, यह जो mobile connectivity है, शरद जी ने जो प्रश्न उठाया है, यह connectivity के हिसाब से होती है। Mostly, villages में यह होता है कि वहाँ के जो टावर्स हैं, उनमें से कुछ तो बंद हैं और कुछ में repairing की वजह से उसमें connectivity नहीं हो पा रही है। इसी वजह से मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिन इलाकों में, जहाँ हमारे टावर्स लगे हुए हैं, अगर उनकी repairing करना जरूरी है, तो क्या ये उनकी repairing करायेंगे या जो बंद हैं, उनको फिर से चालू करेंगे, तो यह connectivity वापस मिल जायेगी? क्या वे repairing कराना चाहते हैं?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, यह काम बीएसएनएल का है, एमटीएनएल का है और प्राइवेट ऑपरेटर्स का है। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने जो एक बात कही, वह बहुत सही कही है कि वे टावर्स चाहे बीएसएनएल के हों, एमटीएनएल के हों या प्राइवेट ऑपरेटर्स के हों, उनकी maintenance में कई कठिनाइयाँ आती हैं। कई जगह बिजली नहीं उपलब्ध हो पाती है, कई जगह law and order problem होती है तो कई जगह जमीन नहीं मिल पाती है। तो मैंने इन बातों की चिन्ता की है। कई जगह डीज़ल-पेट्रोल की availability नहीं हो पाती है और कई जगह maintenance poor होती है। तो हम अपनी ओर से बार-बार यह आग्रह करते हैं कि वे इसको करें। मैंने बीएसएनएल से जो एक बात का विशेष रूप से आग्रह किया है कि जहाँ solar lights से आप अपने maintenance का काम कर सकते हैं, उसकी चिन्ता करें और इस दिशा में विशेष प्रयास करना है।

Doubling of railway tracks in Assam

*168.SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for doubling of railway tracks in Assam under North East Frontier Railway;

(b) the reasons for not taking up the projects of doubling the railway tracks in Assam despite having higher line capacity utilization compared to other sections in the country; and

(c) whether Government will take up the projects in Assam on priority basis and complete the same within a definite time-frame in view of the special focus to the north-eastern region as already declared by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) On Indian Railways, there are 66 sections where line capacity utilization is more than 150%, out of which only one section *viz.* Digaru-Lumding falls in Assam. Doubling of Lumding-Hojai (45 km) has already been sanctioned in 2012-13 and that for remaining portion *viz.* Hojai-Digarua (102 km) has been included in Budget 2015-16. In addition, doubling of New Bongaigaon-Rangiya-Kamakhya (142 km) and New Bongaigaon-Goalpara-Guwahati (176 km), where capacity utilization is more than 100%, have also been included in Budget 2013-14 and 2015-16 respectively subject to requisite clearances.

(c) It is Railways endeavour to take up the projects in Assam and North Eastern Region on priority. 12 New Lines, 4 Gauge Conversion and 2 Doubling projects, having total length of 3115 km and at a total cost of ₹ 47909 crore have been taken up in Assam and North Eastern Region to improve infrastructure in this sector. In addition, two doubling projects having total length of 278 km and cost ₹ 2777 crore have been included in Budget 2015-16. An all time high outlay of ₹5215 crore has been allocated in 2014-15 and a provision of ₹ 5338 crore has been made in Budget 2015-16. However, completion of these projects depends on many factors such as land acquisition, forestry clearances, law and order situation etc. which are beyond the control of Railways.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, the rapid development of transport and communication in the remote areas of the North-Eastern Region is a declared policy of the Government. Sir, in 2013-14, some doubling of railway tracks was declared in the Railway Budget. But those railway tracks and projects are yet to be implemented rather they have not even been started. The reason shown in the answer by the hon. Minister is 'completion of these projects depends on many factors such as land acquisition, forestry clearances, law and order situation, etc.' Sir, in some of these doubling projects, these

factors are not there. For example, the New Bongaigaon-Rangiya-Kamakhya doubling project does not have these problems. Then, why has the project not been started up till now? That is my first supplementary.

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य ने जो जानकारी मांगी है, उसमें उन्होंने तीन कारणों का उल्लेख किया है, लेकिन एक चौथा कारण भी है, वह यह है कि परियोजनाओं की जितनी लागत है, उतना रेलवे उनके लिए एलोकेट नहीं कर पाती है और hilly terrain में काम करने में भी कठिनाई आती है, बावजूद इसके, पिछले दिनों में चार परियोजनाएं वहां पूरी हुई हैं और बाकी का टारगेट हमने फिक्स किया हुआ है। इस बार पिछले दो वर्षों में आप यह मानेंगे कि North-Eastern States का आउटले काफी मात्रा में बढ़ा दिया गया। जिस न्यू बोंगाईगांव-कामाख्या वाया रंगिया की बात आपने की है, अभी Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs से इसका क्लीरेंस बाकी है और इसलिए उस काम में प्रगति नहीं हो पाई है। एक बार इसका क्लीरेंस मिलने के बाद हम यह सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि कार्य तेज गति से हो।

श्री भुवनेश्वर कालिता: सर, यह हिली एरिया नहीं, बल्कि यह प्लेन एरिया है, इसलिए इस पर जल्द-से-जल्द कार्रवाई शुरू कर दिया जाए।

Now, I would like to ask my second supplementary. Is it a fact that the Railways give more priority to some other sections and implementing similar projects of doubling railway tracks, although those sections have lower line capacity utilisation, and the sections, which have got higher line capacity utilisation, have not yet been given priority? Is the Minister going to give priority to the sections where we have higher line capacity utilisation?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति जी, देश में कुल 66 ऐसे रूट्स हैं, जिन पर 150 प्रतिशत ज्यादा की क्षमता से रेल गाड़ियां चलाई जा रही हैं। उनमें एक असम में पड़ता है, जिसका जिक्र हमने उत्तर में किया है, डिगारू-लमडिंग, यह असम में है। जिसकी क्षमता 150 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा है। उसमें 43 किलोमीटर की स्वीकृति पहले हो गई थी, जो बीच का बाकी भाग, 102 किलोमीटर बचा हुआ था, इस बार के बजट में उसे स्वीकृत कर दिया गया है। दो और रेलवे लाइनें हैं, जो 100 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा घनत्व की स्थिति में हैं, उनमें से एक इस बार स्वीकृत हो गई है और एक 2013-14 में स्वीकृत कर दी गई थी। इस तरह से जिन रेल लाइनों पर ज्यादा क्षमता से गाड़ियां चलानी चाहिए, जहां घनत्व ज्यादा है, वह अब असम में या नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में कोई नहीं बची है, जिन्हें स्वीकृत नहीं कर दिया गया है।

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for noticing a Member from the North-East wanting to participate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For a question on Assam.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: The question has been raised by an hon. Member

from the North-East. Sir, unless our supplementary is followed by an explanation, the Chair may not understand the hon. Member's concern. So, to begin with, Sir, the North-East is comprised of eight States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But the question is on Assam.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, it is a body. Assam is a body and all other States are hands.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, it does not matter.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, it is comprised of eight sister States. Assam does not mean that it is North-East.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a State called Assam. The question is on that State. Please confine your question to that State.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, we cannot separate North-East from Assam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a separate matter altogether, Mr. Zhimomi.

श्री शरद यादव: सर, यह बात ठीक है, लेकिन इनको allow करना जरूरी है, क्योंकि ये एक ही सूबा था।

श्री सभापति: नहीं, नहीं, मैं इनको allow तो कर रहा हूँ, लेकिन मैं इनसे सिर्फ यह कह रहा हूँ कि दूसरों का हक न मारें।

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, with due apologies to my colleagues, we are always happy that the Members of this august House speak on our behalf, but we will be very privileged if we are given an opportunity to speak on our behalf.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask your question.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Sir, the eight North-Eastern States were very much surprised and give credit to the present Railway Minister announcing a new route for reaching the State capital of Meghalaya and Mr. Lalu Prasad, the then Union Railway Minister's dream was fulfilled. But apart from Assam, the rest of the six States are in the expectation that it may come through. Anyway, Sir, I would be very specific and ask my supplementaries. In North-East, how many projects are going on? And, in each project...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Zhimomi, please.

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: And, in each project, how much amount is being earmarked?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That information can be given to you by the hon. Minister about Railway projects in the North-East Region. Is that all right?

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: And, what is the separate allocation to each State?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में 12 नई रेल परियोजनाएँ हैं, जिनमें से चार डबलिंग के प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं।

श्री सभापति: आप इनको सब दे दीजिए। मगर, अगला क्वेश्चन पूछने दीजिए, जो लोग पूछ रहे हैं।

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: जब प्रधान मंत्री जी पिछली बार वहाँ गए थे, तो उन्होंने यह घोषणा की कि नॉर्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स हमारी सरकार की प्राथमिकता में है। इस सरकार की यह प्राथमिकता है कि नॉर्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स की सभी राजधानियों को भारतीय रेल नेटवर्क से जोड़ा जाए। हमें खुशी है कि अभी पिछले महीने प्रधान मंत्री जी ने वहाँ जाकर मेघालय में जो एक नई रेल लाइन बनी है, उसको अरुणाचल प्रदेश में जोड़ा है। आने वाले समय में हम पूरा प्रयास करेंगे कि नॉर्थ-ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स की सभी राजधानियों को भारतीय रेल के नेटवर्क से जोड़ सकें।

SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Thank you, Sir. I appreciate the move that our hon. Minister has been making for North-Eastern affairs in terms of railways' improvement. Connected to Assam railway, we have only single line railway connection to Mizoram border and from October last year, that only railway link has been totally cut off to make double laning. I would just like to know if the *Mantriji* can assure this august House, through you, Sir, that this construction is to be on time, to be completed by next year, 2016, because the way we feel and the way we see, things are moving very, very slowly. It may take twice the amount of time that has been estimated. So, I would like to know if *Mantriji* can assure us because this is very critical for us as 85 per cent of our foodgrains come through this railway. So, I would like to know if he can assure us a very timely completion. Thank you, Sir.

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति जी, कुछ लाइनों को निश्चित समयावधि में बनाने के लिए रेलवे ने टारगेट तय किया है, लेकिन उनमें विभिन्न परिस्थितियों के कारण महीने-दो महीने की देरी हो जाती है। यदि मैं सदन में निश्चित तारीख बताऊँ, तो वह सदन के लिए आश्वासन बन सकता है। लेकिन, जिस रेल लाइन की बात माननीय सदस्य ने कही है, मैं पूरे प्रभावी तौर पर यह कोशिश करूँगा कि उसका निर्माण शीघ्रतिशीघ्र हो सके।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ramdas Athawale, it is a question on Assam. आपको इस पर पूछना है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर आपको नहीं पूछना है, तो अपने दूसरे साथियों को मौका दीजिए।

श्री रामदास अठावले : चेयरमैन सर, मैं असम का तो नहीं हूँ, लेकिन असम का और नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का जो वैकवर्ड एरिया है, वहां रेल की सुविधा पूरी होनी चाहिए।....**(व्यवधान)**

श्री सभापति : नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की बात नहीं हो रही है, असम की बात हो रही है।

श्री रामदास अठावले : सर, मेरा यह कहना है कि असम और नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में 3,115 किलोमीटर लाइन का प्रस्ताव है और इसमें कम से कम 47,909 करोड़ रुपए खर्च होने वाले हैं। 47,000 करोड़ में ये लाइनें पूरी करने वाले हैं लेकिन जब वे पूरी होंगी तब तक इनमें एक-डेढ़ लाख करोड़ रुपए तक लगेंगे। मेरा निवेदन इतना ही है कि जो बड़ी-बड़ी कम्पनीज वाले हैं, जैसे, अम्बानी है, अडाणी है, टाटा है, बिरला है ऐसे लोगों से तथा नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में और असम में जो ऐसी कम्पनीज हैं, उनकी तरफ से भी कुछ पैसा लेने की आवश्यकता है। रेल लाइनें पूरी करने के लिए ऐसा कदम उठाना चाहिए।...**(व्यवधान)** नहीं-नहीं सर, ऐसे बड़े-बड़े लोगों से भी पैसा लेकर वे लाइनें पूरी होनी चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. Thank you very much. ..*(Interruptions)*.. You have made your statement. Thank you very much. Q.No.169 ..*(Interruptions)*.. I hope, hon. Members will ..*(Interruptions)*.. A fishing expedition is going on. ..*(Interruptions)*..

Procurement of foodgrains by FCI

*169. SHRI D. RAJA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that FCI has reduced procurement of foodgrains recently, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of procurement made by FCI during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that private parties are allowed to procure foodgrains; and

(d) if so, the names of private participants and the quantity of foodgrains procured by them along with the price thereof, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Sir. The details of procurement made by FCI during the last 3 years, State-wise, are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government has a policy to allow private parties to procure the foodgrains for Central Pool, however, they are not being actually engaged at the moment, as Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government Agencies are already providing adequate procurement coverage to the farmers in various States.

Statement-I

Details showing state-wise paddy procurement by FCI

(Figures in Lakh MT)

State	KMS 2011-12	KMS2012-13	KMS2013-14
Andhra Pradesh			0.00
Telangana	0.69	0.00	0.00
Assam	0.34	0.20	0.00
Bihar	0.91	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	0.19	0.18	0.17
Haryana	0.00	0.10	0.13
Odisha	0.08	0.06	0.01
Punjab	1.84	5.80	4.65
Uttar Pradesh	0.03	0.01	0.05
Uttarakhand	0.03	0.03	0.00
Other States	0.13	0.04	0.00
TOTAL	4.24	6.40	5.01

Statement-II

Details showing state-wise wheat procurement by FCI

(Figures in Lakh MT)

State	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15
Delhi	0.31	0	0
Haryana	9.48	7.25	8
Punjab	19.35	19.4	18.38

State	KMS 2012-13	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15
Rajasthan	19.64	12.13	8.4
Uttar Pradesh	0.24	0.09	0.5
Uttarakhand	0.24	0	0
Other States	0.67	0.08	0.05
TOTAL	49.93	38.95	35.33

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : चेयरमैन सर, एक...(व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : ठहर जाइए, ठहर जाइए। Mr. D. Raja, have you asked a question?

SHRI D. RAJA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the answer been given?

श्री रामविलास पासवान : जी, एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, in view of the objective of food security, the procurement of foodgrains is very important; procurement of rice, procurement of wheat for the Central pool is very important. The FCI has to play an important role in this regard in procurement. The answer says that the FCI has not reduced procurement in the previous years. But, Sir, the FCI data available on the FCI website shows a different data. If I am wrong, the Minister can correct me. During 2011-12, the rice procurement was 350.36 lakh tonnes. During 2012-13, it was 340.44 lakh tonnes. During 2013-14, it was 318.39 lakh tonnes. This is about rice. Rice procurement, actually, is down. In case of wheat procurement, during 2012-13, it was 379.17 lakh tonnes. During 2013-14, it was 250.92 lakh tonnes. What is going to happen in this year, we do not know. So, the Minister must explain whether the FCI has been doing its job in procurement of foodgrains and why there is a steady decline in procurement of rice and wheat. That will have adverse impact on food security. So, I am asking the Minister what the real position is.

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, राजा जी का जो मेन प्रश्न है, वह प्रश्न है कि क्या यह सच है कि भारतीय खाद्य निगम ने हाल में ही खाद्यान्नों की खरीद में कमी की है? आपने टोटल खरीद की बात नहीं की है। आपने कहा है कि भारतीय खाद्य निगम ने कितना खरीदा है। इसलिए मैंने कहा कि जो भारतीय खाद्य निगम ने खरीदा है, उसमें कोई कमी नहीं आई है, नम्बर-1, नम्बर-2, जो खरीद हम करते हैं, भारतीय खाद्य निगम जो खरीद करता है, वह मुश्किल से 10-12 परसेंट करता है। बाकी जो खरीद होती है वह स्टेट एजेंसीज के द्वारा खरीद होती है। बहुत सारे डी.सी.पी. स्टेट्स हैं, अगर आप

चाहेंगे तो उसकी सूची हम आपको दे सकते हैं कि वे कौन-कौन से राज्य हैं जो डी0सी0पी0 स्टेट्स हैं, वे स्वयं खरीदते हैं। हमारे पास हर राज्य की लिस्ट है, जिसको बताने में बहुत समय लग जाएगा। इसलिए मैं आपका ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगा। जो डी0सी0पी0 राज्य हैं वे स्वयं खरीदते हैं, जैसे बिहार वगैरह है, एफ0सी0आई0 वहां नहीं जा सकती है। तो उस परिस्थिति में यह होता है कि राज्य सरकारें स्वयं खरीदती हैं, अपना भंडारण करती हैं। जहां तक एफ0सी0आई0 का मामला है, यह 10 परसेंट खरीदती है। तो जहां तक प्रोक्वॉरमेंट का सवाल है, हमारे पास जो पी0डी0एस0 सिस्टम है, उस पी0डी0एस0 सिस्टम के मुताबिक जैसे जो फूड सिक्योरिटी एक्ट है, उसके मुताबिक हमको 610 लाख टन चाहिए। तो 610 लाख टन हमारे पास अवेलेबल रहता है। लेकिन जो एम0एस0पी0 प्राइस है, जो किसान का प्राइस है, उसमें जितना भी किसान बेचना चाहे, चाहे स्टेट एजेंसी हो, चाहे एफ0सी0आई0 हो और आपने निजी इकाइयों के बारे में भी क्वेश्चन किया है। उसका भी हमने बताया है, लेकिन उसमें किसान को कहीं घाटा नहीं होगा। हालांकि अभी तक जो राज्य सरकारें खरीदती हैं और जो एफसीआई खरीदती है, वह सफिशिएंट है। इन केस किसी कारण से हम नहीं खरीदते, जैसे बिहार में PACS है, या कहीं दूसरी सहकारी संस्था है, तो उसका जो एक्सट्रा पैसा होता है, कमीशन है, वह हम देते हैं, लेकिन जो एमएसपी फिक्स्ड है, उसी रेट पर किसान को पैसा मिलता है। किसान को यह पूरा का पूरा अधिकार है कि किसान जहां चाहे वहां बेच सकता है, जहां उसे सुविधा हो वहां दे सकता है।

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I did not ask the question about MSP. For the benefit of the House, I read out the question. Part (a) is, "Whether it is a fact that FCI has reduced procurement of foodgrains recently, if so, the reasons therefor;" Part (b) is, "The details of procurement made by FCI during the last three years, State-wise;" This is the question. The Minister is replying to something else which I did not ask.

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सभापति जी, मेरे जवाब के अनुबंध में सब दिया हुआ है। आप इसको पढ़िए। क्या आप खाली मेन क्वेश्चन का जवाब पढ़ रहे हैं, या उसके साथ जो एनेक्सचर है उसको भी पढ़ रहे हैं? इसमें टेबल वन है, जिसमें दिया हुआ है कि किस राज्य से कितना खरीदते हैं, जैसे आंध्र प्रदेश से कितना खरीदा गया है, तेलंगाना से कितना खरीदा गया है, पेडी कितना खरीदा गया, व्हीट कितना खरीदा गया। यह दिया हुआ है, जो आप पढ़ नहीं रहे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, my second supplementary?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I thought you had asked it.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I did not ask second question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Please do it.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the second part of the answer says that the Government has a policy to allow private parties to procure the foodgrains for Central Pool. However, they are not being actually engaged at the moment as FCI and State Government agencies are already providing adequate procurement coverage to the farmers in various States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask the question.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I am coming to the question. There are reports available in public domain attributing to some officials in FCI who are privy to decision making. These reports suggest that private companies which would like to participate in procurement operations are Adani, Cargill, ITC, etc. What is the Government's position on this?

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सभापति जी, इसमें गवर्नमेंट का ऐसा कुछ नहीं है। हमने पहले ही कह दिया है कि अभी तक हमारा किसान जो अनाज बेचता है, उसे राज्य सरकारें खरीदती हैं, हम खरीदते हैं, पंजाब में मंडी के माध्यम से खरीदा जाता है, कहीं PACS के माध्यम से खरीदा जाता है, मगर किसान को उतना ही पैसा मिलता है, जो एमएसपी का पैसा है। अगर कम पैसा होता है, तो वह केन्द्र सरकार वहन करती है। दूसरा, इन्होंने जो प्राइवेट कंपनी का नाम लिया है, उनका ऐसा नहीं है। जब भी इस तरह की सिचुएशन होगी, तो वह टेंडर के थ्रू काम होगा, किसी के आने से नहीं होगा। हम किसान को किसी भी हालत में घाटा नहीं होने देंगे। किसान को उतना ही पैसा मिलता रहेगा, जितना एमएसपी में तय होता है।

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: चेयरमैन सर, माननीय राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण पर चर्चा करते हुए मैंने इस बात का जिक्र किया था कि शांता कुमार जी की अध्यक्षता में एफसीआई की एक हाई लेवल कमेटी बनी है और उसने 67 परसेंट से 40 परसेंट रिकमेंड किया है। देश में गुरबत देखते हुए, गरीब लोगों की सहायता के लिए हमने, यूपीए गवर्नमेंट ने फूड सिक्युरिटी बिल में ऐसा किया था कि उस एमबिट में ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग आ जाएं और उसमें 67 परसेंट लोग आते थे। उस वक्त के लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस ने अपने इंटरवेंशन में कहा था कि इस एफसीआई का गवर्नमेंट से कुछ नहीं है, लेकिन जहां तक मैं जानता हूँ, एफसीआई फूड मिनिस्ट्री के अंदर ही आ सकती है, एफसीआई के लिए कोई अलग से मिनिस्ट्री नहीं है। तो मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो शांता कुमार जी की कमेटी ने रिपोर्ट दी है, क्या उस कमेटी को गवर्नमेंट ने एपायंट किया था, या एफसीआई के अध्यक्ष ने किया था? उसकी जो रिकमेंडेशन है कि फूड सिक्युरिटी बिल में जो 67 प्रतिशत लोगों को अनाज मिलता है, उसे 67 प्रतिशत

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

यह बात सही है कि उन्होंने एक सुझाव यह दिया कि 67 प्रतिशत से घटाकर 0 प्रतिशत कर दिया जाए। 67 प्रतिशत का मतलब होता है कि अभी जो फूड सिक्योरिटी एक्ट है, उसके अनुसार ग्रामों में एवरेज 100 में से 75 लोगों को सब्सिडी मिलेगी और शहरों में 50 लोगों को। इस प्रकार यदि 100 और 50 को मिलाया जाए, तो 150 हो गया। कमेटी ने सुझाव दिया है कि यह 67 प्रतिशत बनता है। इसे घटाकर 40 प्रतिशत कर दिया जाए। उसे हमने रिजेक्ट कर दिया है। उसका कोई प्रश्न नहीं उठता है। जो संस्थाएं गरीबों के लिए चल रही हैं, वे चलती रहेंगी और यहां तक कि जो होस्टल्स हैं, जिनमें दलित और आदिवासी बच्चे पढ़ते हैं, जो महिला संगठन, नारी निकेतन या जहां विकलांग बच्चे पढ़ते हैं और जहां सिर्फ चावल और गेहूं दिया जाता है, वहां अब हमने कहा है कि हम न्यूट्रीशियस फूड भी देंगे। होस्टल्स में दूध और अंडे के अलावा दाल की व्यवस्था भी हम करेंगे। इसमें कटौती का कहीं कोई प्रश्न नहीं है। हमने यह निर्णय लिया है।

सरदार सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा: चेयरमैन सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूं कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह तो कह दिया कि एफ.सी.आई. फूडग्रेन का प्रोक्योरमेंट करेगी, लेकिन मैं उनके ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूं कि एक तो एफ.सी.आई. डायरेक्ट फूडग्रेन परचेज करती है और कहीं-कहीं एफ.सी.आई. के बिहाफ पर स्टेट की एजेंसी फूडग्रेन परचेज करती हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silence please.

सरदार सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा: महोदय, मुझे मालूम हुआ है कि स्टेट एजेंसीज को इन्होंने कहा है कि वे अपने तौर पर परचेज करें और अब एफ.सी.आई. की तरफ से प्रोक्योरमेंट नहीं की जाएगी। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या वे इस हाउस को यह एश्योरेंस देंगे कि किसान का जितना भी अनाज एम.एस.पी. पर मंडियों में बिकने के लिए आएगा, उस सारे के सारे को ये खरीदेंगे?

श्री रामविलास पासवान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, शांता कुमार जी की कमेटी ने एक रिपोर्ट यह भी दी है कि देश में छः राज्य ऐसे हैं, जिनमें पंजाब, हरियाणा और आंध्र प्रदेश आदि हैं, जो विकसित राज्य हैं और जहां प्रोक्योरमेंट के पूरे के पूरे साधन हैं, वहां राज्य सरकार खरीदे। एफ.सी.आई. उन राज्यों, जैसे बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश आदि हैं, जहां किसान को बिचौलियों के हाथों अपना अनाज बेचना पड़ता है, यानी वहां राज्य सरकार की खरीद की जो एजेंसी है, उसकी सफिशिएंट व्यवस्था नहीं है, वहां एफ.सी.आई. ध्यान दे। यह अनुशंसा शांता कुमार कमेटी ने की है। कमेटी में जिन छः राज्यों का जिक्र किया गया है, उन राज्यों की सरकारों से हम मांग कर रहे हैं कि वे अपनी एजेंसी के माध्यम से अनाज प्रोक्योर करें।

महोदय, जैसे हरियाणा राज्य सरकार ने कह दिया कि हम अपने प्रदेश में अपनी एजेंसी के माध्यम से किसानों का अनाज खरीदने के लिए सफिशिएंट व्यवस्था कर देंगे। हमें एफ.सी.आई. के माध्यम से हरियाणा में प्रोक्योरमेंट नहीं कराना है। हम अपनी राज्य सरकार की एजेंसी के माध्यम से खरीद लेंगे।

महोदय, पंजाब को भी हमने लिखा है। जिन राज्यों की सरकारें कहेंगी कि हम किसानों का अनाज एम.एस.पी. पर खरीदने में सक्षम हैं, अतः जहां राज्य एजेंसियां सक्षम हैं, वहां वे राज्य सरकारें प्रोक्योरमेंट करेंगी। किसान को एम.एस.पी. रेट पर पैसा चाहिए। वहां हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं होगी। जिन राज्यों में राज्य की एजेंसियां अनाज खरीदने में सक्षम नहीं होंगी, वहां जिस प्रकार से एफ.सी.आई. अभी तक काम करती रही है, वैसे ही करती रहेगी।

सरदार सुखदेव सिंह ढिंडसा: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है, वह संतोषजनक नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: ढिंडसा जी, आप जानते हैं कि यदि मंत्री जी का जवाब सैटिस्फैक्टरी नहीं है, तो आप मंत्री जी को खत लिखिए कि जवाब सैटिस्फैक्टरी नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)* ...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, the farmers want to know. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. Minister like to amplify? क्या इस बारे में आप कुछ और कहना चाहेंगे? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, he has to give an assurance that the Government of India will pick up all that comes in the *mandi*. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर: चेयरमैन सर, लॉस की गारंटी चाहिए कि जो भी लॉस होगा, उसे सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट देगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय चेयरमैन साहब, उत्तर प्रदेश को पूरा उपेक्षित रखा गया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक प्रश्न हमारा भी है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : नरेश जी, बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मुझे रोटेट करना है, प्लीज ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, प्लीज ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : देखिए, आप हमें उन कार्यों के लिए प्रेरित मत कीजिए जो मैं नहीं करना चाहता हूं, लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश की उपेक्षा होने की वजह से मुझे एक क्वेश्चन जरूर पूछने दीजिए।

श्री सभापति : देखिए, आपकी बात से मैं इंकार नहीं कर रहा हूं मगर ज़रूरी नहीं है कि उत्तर प्रदेश से आपका ही मतलब हो। I have to rotate questions.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : नहीं श्रीमन् ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमने आपसे बहुत पहले रिक्वेस्ट की थी। मैं कम रिक्वेस्ट करता हूं, लेकिन अगर इस तरीके से उत्तर प्रदेश ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज... मंत्री जी की बात सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Let us hear the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*.. One minute please. ...*(Interruptions)*..

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : इन्होंने जो फिगर्स दिए हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़ बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... All of you please sit down. पासवान जी, ढिंडसा जी ने जो सवाल अभी पूछा है, आप उस सवाल का जवाब दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... What is the good of making noise? I do not understand. Nobody can hear anyone. ..**(Interruptions)**.. पासवान जी, ढिंडसा जी ने जो सवाल पूछा है, उसका जवाब आप दे दीजिए।

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, मैंने सीधा सा कहा, ये जो सवाल पूछ रहे हैं कि हाई पावर कमेटी ने रिकमंडेशन की है कि ऐसे राज्य, आंध्र प्रदेश, छत्तीसगढ़, हरियाणा, मध्य प्रदेश, ओडिशा और पंजाब - यहां से एफसीआई खरीदती है। राज्य सरकार भी खरीदती है और एफसीआई भी खरीदती है, तो यहां से हटकर जो राज्य हैं, जैसे ...**(व्यवधान)**... सुनिए...**(व्यवधान)**... इन राज्यों से खरीदे। हमने कहा है कि जहां राज्य सरकार कहेगी कि हम खरीदने के लिए सक्षम हैं, वहां एफसीआई नहीं खरीदेगी, जहां राज्य सरकार कहेगी कि हम सक्षम नहीं हैं खरीदने के लिए, तो जैसा पहले था, वह चलता रहेगा। इसमें कौन-सी चीज़ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : नहीं, नहीं, यह बिल्कुल गलत है। यह बयान बिल्कुल गलत है।

श्री सभापति : अगर बयान गलत है तो please give a privilege notice. There is no point in carrying on the debate like this. If a wrong answer is given, Members are entitled to give a privilege notice.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : तो हम ओरल नोटिस देते हैं।

श्री सभापति : नहीं, ओरल नोटिस नहीं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Privilege notice is a written notice. ...**(Interruptions)**... Nareshji, why are you doing this?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, लिखकर देने में समय लगेगा, इसलिए हम ओरल सूचना आपको दे रहे हैं। बाद में हम राइटिंग में भेज देंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : समय नहीं लगता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... There is only one procedure for a privilege matter. It has to be given in writing. ...**(Interruptions)**..

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो फिगर्स दिए हैं, मैं उन्हीं को ...**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : मंत्री जी ने specifically कहा ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, यह आपका अधिकार क्षेत्र है। मैं तो चाहता हूँ कि इस पर एक फुल डिस्कशन हो जाए, क्योंकि यह बहुत ही इम्पोर्टेंट मामला है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति : आप नोटिस दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : चाहे आप half-an-hour discussion करें या 193 के अंतर्गत इसे लें, हम तैयार हैं। हम इतना ही कहना चाहते हैं कि राज्य सरकार जितना खरीदेगी, जो एमएसपी है, उसका वहन केंद्र सरकार करेगी। राज्य सरकार को इसमें घाटा होने का कोई सवाल नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : माननीय मंत्री जी ने specifically कहा है कि हमने कम नहीं किया है, एफसीआई ने कम नहीं किया है...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : राज्य सरकार पैसा देकर सिर्फ खरीदेगी और रखेंगे, तो हम ही रखेंगे, जितना राज्य सरकार के पास नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आपने खुद जवाब में लिखा हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : आपने सवाल के जवाब में लिखा है कि 2012-13 में लगभग 50 लाख मीट्रिक टन और 2014-15 में लगभग 35 लाख मीट्रिक टन ...**(व्यवधान)**... तो 30 परसेंट कम कर दिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am afraid, precious time is being wasted.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : और ये कह रहे हैं कि कम नहीं कर रहे हैं...**(व्यवधान)**... It is wrong.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, टाइम वेस्ट नहीं हो रहा है, यह किसानों के हित का सवाल है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Mr. Tyagi. Let him put his supplementary.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : इसमें कुछ जवाब है और माननीय मंत्री जी उसके बिल्कुल विपरीत बात कह रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री किरनमय नन्दा : यह गलत जवाब है... गलत जवाब है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, मैं फिर एक लाइन में कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी खरीद नीति में कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है, न होगा। जो पहले से चल रहा है, वह चलता रहेगा, और क्या चाहिए? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : श्रीमन्, जो तालिका मंत्री जी ने दी है, मैं उसमें जाना चाहता हूँ। उसमें इन्होंने जो फिगस दिए हैं, मैं आपसे रिक्वेस्ट कर रहा हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं इतनी देर से अनुरोध कर रहा हूँ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक बहुत बड़े राज्य की उपेक्षा हो रही है...**(व्यवधान)**... श्रीमन्, आप भी उत्तर प्रदेश के हैं। आप देश के भी हैं और ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री किरनमय नन्दा : उत्तर प्रदेश में धान पैदा होता है, वहां से आपने...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आपने उत्तर प्रदेश को बरबाद कर दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री किरनमय नन्दा : आप उत्तर प्रदेश को बरबाद कर रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)...आप हमारी उपेक्षा कर रहे हैं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : यह इससे बिल्कुल स्पष्ट है। ...(व्यवधान)... उत्तर प्रदेश में चावल की खरीद नहीं की, उत्तर प्रदेश में गेहूँ की खरीद नहीं की। ...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य : उत्तर प्रदेश बरबाद हो गया है...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : एक मिनट, मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। Hon. Members, obviously, this is a matter on which there is a great deal of interest amongst Members. The Minister has given an answer. Some Members have said that that answer is not complete or is incorrect. If an answer is incorrect, then, the Members know very well what the procedure is for proceeding further. Now, the Minister has also offered to have a full discussion on this subject. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : वह नियम 60 में बाद में नोटिस दे देंगे...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : भाई, आप सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...सुन लीजिए, प्लीज़। You can give a notice. Any Member can give a notice for a discussion. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : चेयरमैन साहब, बिज़नेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी ने 20 तारीख तक का बिज़नेस तय कर दिया है। 20 तारीख तक वह नोटिस accept नहीं हो सकता, जिसके बारे में आप कह रहे हैं। अगर नियम 60 में हम चर्चा के लिए नोटिस देंगे तो 20 तारीख तक तो वह चर्चा होगी नहीं और उसके बाद एक महीने के लिए सदन स्थगित हो जाएगा। वही महीना तो गेहूँ की खरीद का है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : एक महीना तो सदन चलेगा नहीं। इस तरह से हमें न्याय कहां से मिलेगा? आप इस पर आज ही चर्चा करा दीजिए। हम आज चर्चा के लिए तैयार हैं...(व्यवधान)... आप आज इस पर चर्चा करा दीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have two options before me. In view of the very sharp divide in perceptions, either I can go on to the next question, or, if this noise continues, then, I will have to adjourn the House for lunch. Which of the two shall I use?

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : सर, हमारे पास दो ऑप्शंस हैं। या तो हम चिल्लाएं या बाहर चले जाएं। ...(व्यवधान)... आप जो ऑप्शन बता देंगे हम वही accept कर लेंगे।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव : सर, कृपया मेरी विनती सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरी एक ही विनती सुन लीजिए। इस प्रश्न को थोड़ा सा और बढ़ा दीजिए, इसमें बहुत से लोग बहुत सी बातें पूछना चाहते हैं,

उनको गलतफहमियां हैं। मैं समझ रहा हूं, गलतफहमियां हैं, मंत्री जी जवाब देंगे। इसलिए इस क्वेश्चन को थोड़ा सा बढ़ा दीजिए और एक-दो लोग, जो ज्यादा कन्सर्न्ड महसूस करते हैं, उनको सवाल पूछने दीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : वे बोलने तो दें। मैंने एक को पुकारा ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : आप बुलाएं, हम बोलने देंगे।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : त्यागी जी, आप अपना सवाल पूछिए, भाषण मत दीजिए।

श्री के.सी.त्यागी : सर, मैं भाषण नहीं दूंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : त्यागी जी, टाइम कम है, जल्दी से सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्री के.सी.त्यागी : सर, मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ कंज्यूमर अफेयर्स ने राइस और व्हीट प्रोड्यूसिंग स्टेट्स को वार्निंग कम एडवाइज़री जारी की है कि 200-300 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल पंजाब से लेकर छत्तीसगढ़ तक, एमएसपी के साथ अलग से जो बोनस राज्य सरकारें देती थीं, वे बोनस राज्य सरकारें न दें वरना हम प्रोक्योरमेंट नहीं करेंगे। मेरे पास राज्य सरकार को, बिहार गवर्नमेंट को जो एडवाइज़री जारी की गयी है, उसकी प्रति है। सर, यह सरासर किसानों के साथ ज्यादाती है। पंजाब में हम ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : सवाल पूछ लीजिए, समय कम है। ...(व्यवधान).... आप सवाल पूछ लीजिए।

श्री के.सी.त्यागी : सर, मेरा सवाल यह है कि जो व्हीट और गेहूं पैदा करने वाले राज्य हैं, उनको प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए जो राशि दी जाती थी, उस पर सरकार ने क्यों रोक लगायी है? सरकार किसान विरोधी है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before the Minister answers, I think, in view of the general interest, can we schedule a Half-an-Hour Discussion next week?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Be it today or tomorrow, I am prepared for a full discussion.

श्री सभापति : चलिए, आप इसका जवाब दे दीजिए क्योंकि समय खत्म हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान).... आप इस सवाल का जवाब दीजिए।

श्री रामविलास पासवान : सर, यह बात सही है कि जो बोनस का सिद्धांत है, हाई लैवल कमेटी ने भी कहा है, उसको सरकार ने नहीं माना, उन्होंने बोनस देने के सिद्धांत को गलत ...(व्यवधान).... पहले सुन लीजिए। हम आपको गलत जवाब देंगे, तब बोलिएगा। सरकार ने जो कहा है, उसका कारण यह है कि जिन राज्यों में बोनस दिया जाता है, वहां किसान को यह कहा जाता है कि ज्यादा पैसा मिलेगा, लेकिन किसान के बजाय दूसरे राज्य से बिचौलिए आकर, जैसे मध्य प्रदेश है, दूसरे राज्य हैं, वहां पर जाकर बेचना शुरू करते हैं।

1.00 P.M.

वहां भंडारण की क्षमता अधिक हो जाती है और जिन राज्यों में है, उनकी क्षमता कम हो जाती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके कारण से सरकार ने यह निर्देश दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अब आप इस विषय पर फुल डिस्कशन करवाइए।...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं इस पर जवाब देने के लिए तैयार हूं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: सभापति महोदय...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to say something because I want to adjourn the House?

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी : सभापति महोदय, निश्चित तौर से यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है और सभी माननीय सदस्यों की इस बारे में कुछ जानकारी प्राप्त करने की, जानकारी हासिल करने की इच्छा है। अगर आपकी अनुमति हो और सदन सहमत हो, तो आधे घंटे की चर्चा इस पर हो सकती है।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Information Technology Agreement with China

*170. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION Technology be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has resiled from its earlier stand against the Information Technology Agreement;

(b) if so, whether India's giving in will run counter to Prime Minister's Make in India objectives; and

(c) whether a concrete action plan has been formulated to help establish domestic manufacturing of IT and electronic hardware, before we endorse the Information Technology Agreement with china?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) India is a signatory to the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) (now also known as ITA-I), a plurilateral agreement of the WTO. As on date, there are altogether 75 member signatories, including

China, accounting for about 97 per cent of the world trade in Information Technology (IT) products. India joined the ITA on 25th March 1997. As per provisions of the agreement, India has phased out customs duties on 217 products in 2005. Since 2012, some of the developed members countries of the ITA - USA, European Union and Japan— have again proposed in the ITA Committee meetings to broaden the scope and coverage of the ITA (it is being referred as ITA-2). These proposals basically relate to increasing the coverage of IT products on which customs duty would be bound at zero.

However, in view of the measures taken by the Government to build a sound manufacturing environment in the field of Electronics and Information Technology, it was decided not to participate in ITA expansion negotiation at present. As a result, India is not participating in ITA-2 negotiations. China is participating in ITA-2 negotiations. India, not being a party to the said negotiations, has no information on China's stand on the same.

(c) The information is given in the Statement.

Statement

*Details of concrete action plan formulated to help establish domestic
manufacturing of IT and electronic hardware before we endorse
Information Technology Agreement with China*

1. Electronics manufacturing is an important part of “Make in India” effort of Government of India. The Promotion of electronics manufacturing is also one of the pillars of Digital India Program. The Government earlier notified the National Policy on Electronics on 23.11.2012 with a vision to create a globally competitive Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) industry to meet the country's needs and serve the international market.
2. Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) provides financial incentives to offset disability and attract investments in the sector.
3. Government has approved setting up of two semiconductor wafer fabrication (FAB) manufacturing facilities in India.
4. Policy for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic products in Government procurement is under implementation.

5. Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme provides financial assistance for creating world-class infrastructure for electronics manufacturing units ..
6. Mandatory compliance to safety standards has been notified for identified Electronic Products with the objective to curb import of sub-standard and unsafe electronics goods. As of now, 30 electronic products are under the ambit of this Order.
7. Approvals for all foreign direct investment up-to 100% in the electronic hardware manufacturing sector are under the automatic route.
8. Taken steps for the development and implementation of the Indian Conditional Access System (CAS) to promote indigenous manufacturing of Set Top Box (STB) for Cable / DTH TV, keeping in view. The huge indigenous requirement on account of road map for digitalization of the broadcasting sector.
9. An Electropreneur park providing incubation for development of ESDM sector which will contribute IP creation and Product Development in the sector.
10. Under the Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme, approved units are allowed duty free import of goods required by them for carrying on export activities, CST reimbursement and excise duty exemption on procurement of indigenously available goods, as per the Foreign Trade Policy.
11. Under the Focus Product Scheme of the Foreign Trade Policy, exports of listed electronic products are entitled to duty credit scrip equivalent to 2% / 5% of FOB value of exports.
12. Tariff Structure has been rationalized to promote indigenous manufacturing of electronic items.
13. The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) provides funding under several schemes for promotion of R&D, including support for International Patents in Electronics & IT (SIP-EIT); Multiplier Grants Scheme and Scheme for Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) in the area of Electronics, ICT and Management.
14. The 'Scheme to enhance the number of PhDs in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (ITES) sectors has been approved. 3000 PhDs are proposed to be supported under the Scheme.

15. A Scheme for skill development of 90,000 persons in the ESDM sector has been approved to provide human resource for ESDM industry.
16. A new initiative has been taken to recognize the achievements of successful industry by presentation of National Awards in the Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector, to encourage entrepreneurs and to encourage new investments and innovation in the sector.
17. The Policy for setting up of the Electronics Development Fund (EDF) has been approved by Union Cabinet on 10-12-2014. The objective of the EDF policy is to support Daughter Funds including Early Stage Angel Funds and Venture Funds in the area of ESDM, Nano-electronics and IT.
18. To promote Innovation, IP, R&D and commercialization of products, etc. in the ESDM sector by providing funding support to an Industry, for doing collaborative research with an Academic Institute in the priority areas with a timeline of not more than two years, a proposal submitted by Global Innovation and Technology Alliance (GITA) has been approved.
19. To promote scientific and technological research in Medical Electronics sector in India a proposal submitted by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) has been approved with the aim to fund a portfolio of Indian led pilot projects that seems to target innovations in the multi-disciplinary areas comprising of electronics, engineering, medical devices, healthcare, software, algorithms and information technology.
20. National Centre of Excellence in Large Area Flexible Electronics is being set up in IIT Kanpur with the objectives to promote R&D; Manufacturing; Ecosystems; Entrepreneurship; International Partnerships and Human Resources and develop prototypes in collaboration with industry for commercialization.
21. A project for setting up of incubation center for development of ESDM industry at a total estimated cost of ₹ 47.10 crore including a Grant In- Aid of ₹ 22.10 Crore from Department of Electronics and Information Technology and contribution of ₹ 25 crore by State Govt. of Bihar has been approved and administrative approval issued on 11-12-14. The project will be implemented by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-Patna), for Development of Product and JP creation in the ESDM sector especially in the Medical electronics.

Post-harvest infrastructure

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

(a) whether Government is aware that more than 30 per cent fruits and vegetables get wasted every year due to unavailability of post-harvest infrastructure and facilities; and

(b) if so, whether Government has any plan or programme to improve post-harvest infrastructure, including storage, transportation and marketing of fruits, vegetables and flowers, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) A Study published in 2012 by Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (CIPHET), Ludhiana, estimated overall quantitative losses in fruits and vegetables during operations such as harvesting, cleaning, sorting/grading, packaging, transportation, storage channels, weight loss in storage etc. to be in the range of 5.8 to 18%.

Under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), assistance is available for post harvest management including cold chain, refrigerated transport, processing and marketing infrastructure for which credit linked assistance of the admissible cost is available at the rate of 35% in general areas and 50% in hilly and scheduled areas.

Compensation for kin of farmers committed suicide

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

(a) whether Government is aware that the kin of 50 per cent of farmers who committed suicide in Maharashtra have been denied relief of compensation of ₹ 1 lakh each due to loopholes in Government rules;

(b) if so, the reasons for the failure of Government to compensate these bereaved families living in distressed socio-economic conditions;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government to remove such impediments, enhance amount of compensation and ensure that the kin of such farmers are promptly and adequately compensated and if so, the details thereof; and

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH) : (a) to (d) Agriculture is a State subject under the Constitution and therefore, State Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector and welfare of farmers, including payment of compensation to the bereaved families of farmers affected by suicide.

Government of Maharashtra has reported that they provide compensation of ₹ one lakh in eligible cases *i.e.* to the family of those farmers who commit suicide due to crop failure, debt and inability to repay loan. Compensation is provided to the bereaved families after scrutiny of cases by a district level committee headed by the District Collector and comprising of Chief Executive Officer of Zila Parishad, Superintendent of Police, a representative of farmers and a non-government member of a social organization. Government of Maharashtra has also informed that there is no proposal under consideration for enhancement of amount of compensation.

Setting up of washing plant (laundry) for washing bedrolls

†*173. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the High Court of Madhya Pradesh has directed all railway divisions to set up their own washing plant (laundry) within six months for washing bedrolls, if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction;

(b) whether Railways also propose to use disposable bedrolls; and

(c) if so, whether Government would also formulate policy to dispose such disposable bedrolls so that they could not be reused and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In the Railway Budget speech 2015-16, it has been announced that facility of online booking of disposable bed roll is being extended to all passengers through Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) portal on payment basis.

(c) Formulation of policy for disposal of disposable bed rolls to preclude its probable reuse would depend upon the terms and conditions for sale.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Jan Aushadhi Scheme

*174. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts in which Jan Aushadhi Scheme (JAS) is being implemented along with the details of generic medicines available under JAS at present;
- (b) whether Government has decided to implement the Scheme on a large scale, covering all the districts of the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to open Jan Aushadhi outlet in every District Hospital across the country for providing drugs to the poor at affordable rates?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) At present, 98 Jan Aushadhi Stores (JAS) are functional in the States of Punjab (21), Haryana (02), Delhi (03), Odisha (23), Chandigarh (03), Jammu & Kashmir (11), Himachal Pradesh (10), Jharkhand (11), Tripura (03), Maharashtra (01), Madhya Pradesh (05), Uttarakhand (04) & Uttar Pradesh (01). The details are given in the Statement (*See below*). At present 202 number of medicines are available in the Central Warehouse of BPPI for supplying to Super stockists/ JAS. The availability position at Jan Aushadhi Stores does not remain static. Further the Scheme is being revisited to expand its reach out across the country.

(b) and (c) The new business plan on Jan Aushadhi scheme approved by the Department of Pharmaceuticals provided for opening of 3000 JAS during the 12th Plan period. So far, only 178 could be opened and out of which 98 are functional. All efforts are being made to open more JAS with the co-operation of State Governments and NGOs/ Trusts/Societies / Pharmacists/Doctors.

Statement*Details of functional Jan Aushadhi Stores in the States; districtwise*

State	District	Date of Opening
Punjab (21)	Amritsar	25.11.08
	Mohali	23.02.09
	Bhatinda	02.03.09
	Ludhiana	17.06-09/08.09.11
	Jalandhar	17.06-09

State	District	Date of Opening
	Patiala	29.06.09
	Moga	30.06.09
	Faridkot	30.06.09
	Ferozpur	04.09.09
	Mansa	12.09.09
	Sangrur	01.10.09
	Barnala	01.10.09
	Nava sahar (Sahid Bhagat Singh Nagar)	03.12.09
	Hoshiarpur	11.12.09
	Taran Taran	13.12.09
	Muktsar	18.12.09/re-opened on 05.09.2011
	Gurdaspur	29.12.09
	Civil Hospital, Pathankot	09.05.11
	Abohar	30.11.11
	Civil Hospital, Nabha, District Patiala	03.04.12
	Civil Hospital, Jalalabad	31.05.13
Haryana (2)	Panchkula	23.02.09
	Faridabad (Private)	07.02.15
Delhi (4)	Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi	05.02.09
	Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Shahdara	13.11.09
	Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Hari Nagar	11.02.10
	Delhi Consumer Cooperative Store, Moti Nagar #	04.06.13
Odisha (23)	Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar	06.03.10
	Red Cross Bhavan, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar	06.03.10

State	District	Date of Opening
	District HQ Hospital, Khordha	06.03.10
	District HQ Hospital, Dhenkanal	25.03.10
	District HQ Hospital, Koraput	11.06.10
	District HQ Hospital, Angul	09.07.10
	District HQ Hospital, Nabrangpur	15.08.10
	District HQ Hospital, Baragarh	03.10.10
	District HQ Hospital, Nayagarh	26.03.11
	District HQ Hospital, Berhampur	11.04.11
	District HQ Hospital, Jajpur	13.04.11
	District HQ Hospital, Puri	19.04.11
	District HQ Hospital, Naupada	30.04.11
	District HQ Hospital, Baripada Mayurbhanj	12.05.11
	District HQ Hospital, Balasore	28.04.12
	District HQ Hospital, Jeypore	15.09.12
	District HQ Hospital, Bhawanipatana	01.12.12
	District HQ Hospital, Phulbani	22.02.13
	District HQ Hospital, Bhadrak	08.03.13
	District HQ Hospital, Keonjhar	19.03.13
	District HQ Hospital, Malkangiri	01.06.13
	District HQ Hospital Peralakhemundi/ Gajapati	21.12.13
	Boudh (Private)	02.02.15
Chandigarh (3)	PGIMER, Chandigarh	16.11.09
	Govt. Medical College Hospital, Sector 32	04.08.10
	Multi Specialty Hospital, Sector -16	02.02.11
Jammu and Kashmir (11)	Red Cross Building, Exchange Road, Srinagar	09.05.11

State	District	Date of Opening
Himachal Pradesh (10)	District Hospital, Leh	09.01.12
	MMAB hospital, Anantnag	01.05.12
	Udhampur	14.11.13
	District Hospital, Doda	15.11.13
	Reasi, Jammu,	3.3.14
	District Hospital, Pulwama	15.04.14
	District Hospital, Kargil	17.05.14
	GMCH, Jammu	11.12.14
	SMGS, Jammu	01.02.15
	District Hospital, Ramban, Jammu	04.03.15
	Zonal Hospital, Mandi	18.06.11
	Zonal Hospital, Tanda	19.08.11
	Zonal Hospital, Dharamshala	30.08.11
	Regional Hospital, Chamba	18.11.11
	Regional Hospital, Hamirpur	01.04.12
	IGMC Shimla	27.12.13
	Una	9.1.14
	DDU, Shimla	07.12.2011/ Re-opened on 07.03.2014
	Regional Hospital, Kullu	Re-opened in July, 2014
	Civil Hospital, Solan	Re-opened in October, 2014
Jharkhand (19)	District Hospital, Sahibganj	15.08.2012
	District Hospital, Latehar	15.08.2012

State	District	Date of Opening
	District Hospital, Jamtara # #	15.08.2012
	District Hospital, RIIMS Ranchi	22.08.2012
	District Hospital, Simdega	23.08.2012
	District Hospital, Gumla	29.08.2012
	District Hospital, Chatra	15.08.2012
	District Hospital, Godda # #	16.08.2012
	District Hospital, Ranchi	22.08.2012
	District Hospital, Dhanbad	31.08.2012
	District Hospital, Bokaro # #	15.08.2012
	Saraikela # #	15.08.2012
	District Hospital, Lohardaga	31.08.2012
	District Hospital, Chaibasa	25.09.2012
	District Hospital, Giridih # #	09.09.2012
	District Hospital, Khuti # #	28.08.2012
	District Hospital, Hazaribagh # #	31.08.2012
	District Hospital, Garhwa	15.10.2012
	District Hospital, Koderma # #	09.01.2013
Tripura (3)	GBP Hospital, Agartala	20.03.2014
	IGM Hospital, Agartala	28.09.2014
	TMC, Agartala	06.12.2014
Maharashtra (1)	HA Campus, Pimpri, Pune	26.07.2014
Madhya Pradesh (5)	AIIMS, Bhopal	30.07.2014
	Old Palasia, Indore	13.09.2014
	Near Civil Hospital, Chhindwara	25.09.2014
	Near Civil Hospital, Narsinghpur	27.09.2014

State	District	Date of Opening
Uttarakhand (4)	Near Medical College, Sagar	02.02.2015
	Doon Hospital, Dehradun \$	09.11.2009
	Rishikesh \$	07.03.2013
	Vikasnagar \$	07.03.2013
Uttar Pradesh (1)	Sahaspur \$	07.03.2013
	Sultanpur	13.12.2014

Non-functional as reported by Nodal Officer, Delhi. Efforts are being made to make it functional.

The Nodal Officer of Jharkhand who has recently joined has reported closure of these stores. However efforts are being made to get them reopened.

\$ Jan Aushadhi stores at Sl. No. 103 to 106 are functional. However medicines are not being procured from BPPI and are being locally procured. Health Department of the State Govt. is being persuaded to procure the medicines from BPPI.

Consumption of foodgrains

*175. SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of record production of 264 million tonnes of foodgrains in 2013-14, foodgrains consumed per head, directly as food, is actually lower today than a decade ago, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government's policy of export-led development has anything to do with this, resulting in denying foodgrains to the local population?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH) : (a) and (b) As per the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (various rounds) carried out by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), between 2004-05 and 2011-12 the per annum per capita consumption of rice and its products has shown a slight decline in both rural and urban households. However, there has been a slight increase in case of wheat and its products for rural households and there is an increase in consumption of pulses and pulse products in both rural and urban households. Per annum per capita consumption of fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs, chicken etc. have also increased both in rural and urban households in the same period. Details indicating their per annum per capita consumption between 2004-05 and 2011-12 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Consumption of specific items of foodgrains, varies from place to place and within different sections of people depending upon income levels, preferences of the consumers, their cultural values, etc.

In addition, the Government also provides subsidized foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) which aims at enhancing the consumption of food and ensuring food security for the poor.

Statement

Details showing per annum per capita consumption of fruits, vegetables, milk etc. between 2004-05 and 2011-12

(Quantity in Kgs. per annum per capita)

Commodity	2004-05		2011-12	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Rice & Rice Products	77.62	57.31	74.62	56.73
Wheat & Wheat Products	50.98	53.05	53.85	52.57
Pulses & Pulse Products	8.64	9.98	9.53	10.96
Banana*	28.84	50.37	50.86	81.40
Apple	0.37	1.40	0.71	2.32
Vegetables	35.53	38.57	52.71	52.61
Milk #	47.09	62.17	52.72	65.97
Eggs *	12.29	20.93	23.60	38.69
Chicken	0.61	1.03	2.17	2.91

Source: National Sample Survey Office (various Rounds).

* in Nos.

in Litres

Indebtedness among farmers

*176. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the recent survey report of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), more than 50 per cent of agricultural households are in debt, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether failure of Government to make agriculture profitable is the main reason for farmers' indebtedness;

(c) if so, the fresh steps Government would take in the light of report of NSSO, to make unprofitable agriculture profitable; and

(d) if not, the reasons identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH) :

(a) National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households during its 70th Round (January, 2013- December, 2013) in the rural areas of the country for the reference period of the agricultural year July 2012 to June 2013. According to the survey, about 51.9 per cent of the estimated 90.2 million agricultural households in the country were indebted. State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) to (d) At all-India level, the NSSO survey shows that the average monthly receipts from crop production, per agricultural household, exceeded their average monthly paid out expenses by ₹ 3350, for selected crops. Profitability of agriculture however, is an area of concern for tackling indebtedness of farmers.

Agriculture as a State subject is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. Union Government supplements their efforts through various schemes for increasing production, productivity and profitability. Government of India has 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. For focused intervention, Government has decided to rationalize the existing schemes into three major schemes: a) Krishonnati Yojana; b) National Crop Insurance Programme (NCIP) and; c) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY). Through these schemes Government would focus on: i) land, water, livestock and fisheries related asset reforms; ii) credit; iii) insurance to protect farmers from both yield and price losses; iv) price control through price stabilization fund; v) promotion of organic farming, issue of soil health card for improvement of soil health and; vi) improving support services related to science & technology, agro-meteorology, farm inputs and services, cooperatives, extension training and knowledge, marketing and trade.

In the Budget of 2015-16, a provision of ₹ 12,023 crore has been made under Krishonnati Yojana, ₹ 2,823 crore for National Crop Insurance Programme and ₹ 1,800 crore under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana.

Statement

*Estimated number of indebted Agricultural Households for
each State/ Group of UTs*

State/ Group of UTs*	Estimated number of agricultural households (00)	Estimated number of indebted agricultural households (00)	Proportion of agricultural households with outstanding loan**
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	35968	33421	92.9
Arunachal Pradesh	1080	206	19.1
Assam	34230	5995	17.5
Bihar	70943	30156	42.5
Chhattisgarh	25608	9538	37.2
Gujarat	39305	16743	42.6
Haryana	15693	6645	42.3
Himachal Pradesh	8811	2457	27.9
Jammu and Kashmir	11283	3463	30.7
Jharkhand	22336	6464	28.9
Karnataka	42421	32775	77.3
Kerala	14043	10908	77.7
Madhya Pradesh	59950	27414	45.7
Maharashtra	70970	40672	57.3
Manipur	1762	421	23.9
Meghalaya	3544	84	2.4
Mizoram	758	47	6.2
Nagaland	2621	65	2.5
Odisha	44935	25830	57.5
Punjab	14083	7499	53.2

1	2	3	4
Rajasthan	64835	40055	61.8
Sikkim	674	97	14.3
Tamil Nadu	32443	26780	82.5
Telangana	25389	22628	89.1
Tripura	2445	559	22.9
Uttarakhand	10608	5387	50.8
Uttar Pradesh	180486	79081	43.8
West Bengal	63624	32787	51.5
Group of UTs	718	267	37.2
ALL-INDIA	902011	468481	51.9

Source: Key Indicators of Situation of Agricultural Households in India based on Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households, NSS 70th round.

* Figures in respect of States with negligible sample size are not presented. Due to the same reason, a single estimate is provided for Group of UTs.

** Relates to all kinds of outstanding loan irrespective of the purpose for which taken.

Cyber security capabilities of the country

*177. SHRI ANIL DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has a robust cyber security system in operation at par with other developed countries in the world;

(b) if so, whether the provisions of the National Cyber Security Policy-2013 have fully been implemented; and

(c) whether our present laws have capabilities to prevent any cyber breaches/attacks on our ever increasing public services being delivered through internet, e-governance and computer system?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Government is aware of the nature of the threats in Cyber Space. Accordingly, in line with the provisions of National Cyber Security Policy 2013, Government is following an integrated approach with a series of legal, technical and administrative steps to ensure that necessary systems are

in place to address the growing threat of cyber attacks in the country. Specific steps in this regard relate to actions such as periodic scanning of cyber space and a close watch on critical infrastructure networks to detect variety of - threats and imminent attacks; training of manpower engaged in operation of critical networks to protect their systems and networks; carrying out periodic security audits on sample basis; conducting mock cyber security drills involving critical sector organizations and providing a platform for the personnel of critical sector organizations to share their experience.

In tune with the dynamic nature of Information Technology, continuous efforts are required to be made to prevent and recover from cyber attacks. As such, like elsewhere in the world, the protection of India's IT infrastructure in general and critical information infrastructure in particular is a dynamic activity and continuing process. In this direction, Government has taken steps to put in place a Framework for Enhancing Cyber Security, with a multi-layered approach for ensuring defence-in-depth and clear demarcation of responsibilities among the stakeholder organizations in the country. Further, actions have been initiated to establish: -

- (i) National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) generate necessary situational scenario of existing and potential cyber security threats and enable timely information sharing for proactive, preventive and protective actions by individual entities.
- (ii) Botnet cleaning and malware analysis centre to detect and clean infected systems in the country.
- (iii) National certification body for security testing and certification of IT products in the country as per ISO 15408 common criteria standards, under the international Common Criteria Recognition Arrangement (CCRA).
- (iv) National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) as per the provisions of Section 70A of the Information Technology Act 2000, for protection of Critical Information Infrastructure in the country.
- (v) Crypto Module Evaluation Centre for evaluation of crypto modules for applications in civilian domain.

(b) The stated mission of National Cyber Security Policy of 2013 is "to protect information and information infrastructure in cyber space, build capabilities to prevent and respond to cyber threats, reduce vulnerabilities and minimize damage from cyber

incidents through a combination of institutional structures, people, processes, technology and cooperation”. Implementing the provisions of the policy is a continuing process in keeping with the dynamic nature of cyber space environment. The actions for implementation of the components of the Policy are to be taken by Government, Public and Private sector. Accordingly, steps have been taken up for prioritized implementation of the policy and creation of national level systems, processes, structures and mechanisms to understand and deal with the existing and potential cyber security threats.

(c) There are number of provisions in the Information Technology Act 2000 which deal with various aspects of actions in the cyber space. Section 43, Section 43A and Section 72A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides a legal framework for protection of privacy and Security of data in digital form. Section 70 provides for declaration of any computer resource which directly or indirectly affects the facility of Critical Information Infrastructure, to be a protected system. Section 70A provides for establishment of a National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) as a national nodal agency in respect of Critical Information Infrastructure Protection. Section 65, 66, 66A, 66B, 66C, 66D, 66E, 66F, 67, 67A and 67B contain provisions for deterrent punishment against host of cyber related offences; In addition, Section 70B and Section 69B of the IT Act provide for seeking information and collection of data/information related to cyber incidents. These provisions help in security incidents prevention and prediction. Section 84A allows for prescription of suitable modes or methods of encryption for promotion of secure e-commerce and e-governance in the country. Separate rules for cyber cafes help in regulating the malicious activities that can be carried out in cyber cafes and provide a mechanism to prevent and deal with instances of cyber crime in an effective manner.

Easing FDI norms in pharma sector

*178. KUMARI SELJA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is largely dependent on China for bulk drugs, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether, with a view to attract investment into pharma sector, Government is planning to ease the norms for FDI in pharma sector, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Department of Pharmaceuticals does not maintain data regarding production of bulk drugs by indigenous drug manufacturing companies in the country

and bulk drugs imported. However, as per the Boston Consulting Group report of 2013, the estimated production of bulk drugs by indigenous drug manufacturing companies in 2013 was US \$ 10.4 billion and import for the period was US \$ 3.5 billion which came primarily from China.

(b) Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion in November, 2011 revised the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy which at present provides that 100 Per cent FDI in pharmaceutical sector is permissible through automatic route for greenfield investment and through Government approval route for brownfield investment. Further in brownfield investment 'non-compete' clause is not allowed except in special circumstances with the approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB). Also, FDI upto 100% through automatic route for manufacturing of medical devices has been allowed.

Sale of 500 drugs through Jan Aushadhi and local drug stores

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

(a) whether Government is planning to sell 500 low-cost drugs through Jan Aushadhi Stores and local drug stores;

(b) if so, the details of the drugs and the price at which each drug is proposed to be sold;

(c) whether the 500 drugs are going to be procured from public sector units or private pharma companies or from both; and

(d) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to take doctors on board to prescribe low cost and generic medicines, so as to expand its plan to provide low-cost drugs to the poor and the needy?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Government has launched 'Jan Aushadhi Scheme' to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all, especially the poor, throughout the country, through outlets known as Jan Aushadhi Drug Stores (JASs). 178 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened since the inception of the scheme in November, 2008. Out of this 98 are presently functional as on date. The Jan Aushadhi Scheme is being implemented through Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI), which is a society under Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers. The medicines are procured by BPPI from CPSUs and also from private manufacturers.

The scheme is being revisited to expand its reach across the country. Details are being worked out by Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI) in consultation with Department of Pharmaceuticals.

(d) Wherever Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened, the concerned State Governments are issuing instructions/guidelines to their Doctors in the Government Hospitals to prescribe generic medicines. Similar instructions are also reported to have been issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to the Doctors to prescribe medicines in generic names. In addition BPPI is engaging Indian Medical Association and other Doctors in the initiative.

Storage capacity of FCI

*180. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of foodgrains is allowed to rot or go waste due to shortage of adequate storage space;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the storage capacity required, available and hired by FCI along with the quantum of foodgrains produced, procured, stored and damaged during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken for proper storage and management of foodgrains to check damage and ensure proper utilization of foodgrains under welfare schemes?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir. There is no case of damage to foodgrains due to shortage of adequate storage space. However, foodgrains being perishable become damaged/non-issuable during normal storage in godowns due to various reasons like damages during transit in wagons/trucks, natural calamities and negligence of officials/officers.

Presently, the total covered storage capacity with FCI is 338 LMT. In addition, the State agencies also have a covered storage capacities of 221 LMT. Therefore, against total availability of 559 LMT of covered storage capacity, the Central Food Stock levels at present are 356 LMT. The average utilization of FCI's capacity in the last three years has been 73 to 82% and currently it is 69%. Thus, there is sufficient storage capacity available for Central Food Stocks. Moreover, presently there are no stocks more than 2 years old.

During peak procurement season, due to enhanced arrival of foodgrains, some stocks are kept under Cover and Plinth (CAP) arrangement, which is also a scientific form of storage. It has been decided to evacuate stocks in CAP storage in priority basis.

(c) For proper storage and management of foodgrains, FCI maintains a close and regular liaison with the State Governments, Railways and other agencies for effective coordination in procurement, stocking, transportation and distribution of the foodgrains. This helps avoid excessive stocking at any particular place. Present inventory management practices of FCI ensures that foodgrains are not stocked for more than two years.

Normal precautions and procedures followed for proper storage and quality control of foodgrains are:-

(A) Cover and Plinth (CAP) facilities :-

- (i) The site is so selected that it is above the adjoining ground and away from drains/ streams to prevent any flooding during rainy season.
- (ii) Adequate dunnage is provided for all stacks and is disinfected either by fumigation or by treating with contact insecticides such as DDVP.
- (iii) In the CAP, stacks are built in the form of dome (inverted 'U') to facilitate easy flow of rain water and prevent accumulation of water on the top.
- (iv) Each stack is covered with a polythene cover, especially made for this purpose, and properly lashed by nylon ropes vertically to prevent damage to the covers due to high velocity winds, rains, dusts, storms etc.
- (v) Rodent control measures are also taken by fumigating the rat burrows with aluminium phosphide or by poisoning the rodents with Zinc Phosphide. Anti-termite measures are also taken.
- (vi) Stocks held in CAP are generally issued/moved on priority based on the principle of "First In First Out" (FIFO).

(B) Covered Godowns:-

- (i) Godowns are so designed and constructed that they are rodent proof and damp proof with pucca floor.
- (ii) Before the stocks are stored, the godown is properly cleaned and cobwebs etc., if any, are removed.

- (iii) Floor and walls are treated with chemicals such as air charging with Malathion and DDVP (insecticide) to make them pest free.
- (iv) Foodgrain bags are properly stored on dunnages and arranged as per the stack plan.
- (v) Prophylactic spraying of insecticides and curative measures like fumigation are carried out regularly for the control of insects, pests and rodents.
- (vi) Fortnightly inspection of stocks is done on 100% basis to check the quality of foodgrains.
- (vii) Further surveillance inspections of sample stocks at monthly and quarterly intervals are also done to ensure compliance with stipulated procedures and to take action against defaulting officials.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Organic farming in Madhya Pradesh

† 1761. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister had appreciated Madhya Pradesh in Global Investors Meet held on 9 October, 2014 for being the leading State in organic farming and expressed that organic agricultural produces have immense potential for exports;

(b) whether farmers will be given separate facilities to encourage the export and marketing of organic produces of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) whether Government will bring some programme such as Organic Farming Special Package or Organic Farming Mission in which hundred per cent grant would be provided to the Organic Pioneering Processing fee, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Madhya Pradesh was appreciated as a leading State in organic farming for its contribution of 40% in the entire organic production of the country at the Investors Meet 2014.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Presently, the Operators (Farmers/ Groups/ Processors) who are holding valid scope certificate issued by an Accredited Certification Body under National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) and Import Export Code (IE Code) are eligible for export of organic products from India. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) promotes export of organic products in all States including Madhya Pradesh.

(c) From 2015-16, a new scheme 'Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana' (PKVY) to develop organic clusters will be implemented with an outlay of ₹ 300 crore. This scheme envisages Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) that entails group certification. However, for export of organic products, third party certification is required by operators. Under Mission of Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) assistance is provided for 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.

Derailment of Bengaluru-Ernakulam Express

1762. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passengers killed and injured in the derailment of bogies of Bengaluru-Ernakulam Express near Anakel recently;

(b) the details of the preliminary inquiry report and the cause of the accident;

(c) whether inquiry was ordered to fix responsibility and the action taken to prevent such accidents in future;

(d) the action being taken to improve the safety record of railways; and

(e) whether compensation have been paid to the victims, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) 9 passengers lost their lives, 10 sustained grievous injury and 10 sustained simple injury in the recent derailment of bogies of Bengaluru-Ernakulam Express near Anakel on 13.02.2015.

(b) and (c) Statutory Inquiry into the derailment of Train No.12677 Bangalore-

Ernakulam Intercity Express between Anakel Road and Hosur stations of Bangalore Division of South Western Railway on 13.02.2015 was ordered to be conducted by Commissioner of Railway Safety, Southern Circle under the Ministry of Civil Aviation and its report is awaited. Responsibility for the accident will be fixed only after receipt of the inquiry report.

(d) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accident and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/ systems being progressively installed to prevent accidents include provision of Block Proving Axle Counters, Auxiliary Warning Systems, LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device.

(e) No, Sir. Compensation is paid only after a claim application is filed in Railway Claim Tribunal (RCT) by the claimants and a decree is awarded by RCT in favour of the claimants and the same is decided to be satisfied by the Railways. However, enhanced *ex-gratia* to the tune of ₹ 2,00,000/- to the next kin of each deceased, ₹ 50,000/- each to the persons sustained grievous injury and ₹ 20,000/- each to the persons sustained simple injury, as announced by Hon'ble Minister of Railways, has been paid.

Issuance of soil health cards

1763. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to launch soil health card scheme for farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether such cards will be issued to 14 crore farm holdings across the country; and

(c) whether the said move will help farmers identify the health of the soil which will go a long way in improving productivity through judicious use of fertilizers and water, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 'Soil

Health Card' Scheme is launched in current year to assist State Governments to issue soil health cards to all farmers in the country. Soil health card will provide information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Soil nutrient status will be assessed in all the 14 crore farm holdings regularly in a cycle of 3 years so that nutrient deficiencies are identified and amendments applied.

Permits for deep sea fishing

1764. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to grant permits to deep sea fishing vessels; and

(b) whether National Fish Workers Forum has opposed the said move stating that this would help the entry of foreign operators at the cost of livelihood of native fisher folk, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The National Fish-workers' Forum (NFF) in its representation dated 22.02.2015 has expressed certain concerns with regard to recommendations made in the Report of the Expert Committee for the comprehensive review of deep-sea fishing Policy and Guidelines.

Setting up of new agricultural universities and research institutions

1765. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to set up four new Agricultural Universities, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government is also considering to set up three new Agricultural Research Institutions, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) Yes Sir, Government has proposed to support one Agricultural University each in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. Erstwhile Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University (ANGRAU) in the residual State of Andhra Pradesh

will be established at Lam, in Guntur district. The Government of Rajasthan has also identified land for establishing Agricultural University in Baran and Jhalawad district. Government has also proposed to establish one Horticultural University each in Telangana and Haryana. Government of Telangana has issued a notification for establishment of Sri Konda Laxman Telangana State Horticultural University with Headquarters at Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad and a high level committee has been constituted by the Haryana Government to finalize the details to establish Horticultural University in the State. An initial sum of ₹ 200 crore has been allocated in the Budget 2014-15 for the establishment of these four universities in respective States.

(b) Yes Sir, Government has proposed to establish two institutions of excellence on similar pattern of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi in the States of Assam and Jharkhand with an initial sum of ₹100.00 crore in the current financial year. Land for this purpose has been identified in Jharkhand. A team from IARI, New Delhi has visited Assam for identifying suitable site to establish IARI like institution there.

Encouraging organic farming

† 1766. SHRI P. L. PUNIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to encourage organic farming in the country;

(b) whether Government is also considering to launch a special campaign for propagating the benefits of organic farming;

(c) whether drought affected districts of Western Rajasthan will be selected on priority basis;

(d) if so, since when this campaign is proposed to be started; and

(e) if not, the plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) 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), National Mission on Oilseeds & Oil

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Palm (NMOOP) Network Project on Organic Farming of ICAR and National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) of APEDA.

The pattern of assistance provided to State Governments through various schemes for promotion of organic farming is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Under National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), the National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad is conducting various extension and publicity activities like Exhibitions, Radio Talks, TV Programmes, and distribution of literature on Bio-fertilizers. NCOF publishes Bio-Fertilizer News Letter bi-annually as well as Organic Farming News Letter Quarterly in Hindi and English languages. In addition, various books on production and use of biofertilizers have been published in various languages for distribution to the farming community. Radio jingle on promotion of organic agriculture was broadcasted in 13 languages (Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Dogri, Gujarati, Kannada, Manipuri, Marathi, Oriya, Telugu, Punjabi, Tamil, Malayalam) from 63 Radio Stations across the country.

(c) to (e) A training programme on organic farming is proposed to be conducted in selected villages from the year 2015-16 onwards across the country. In Rajasthan, 19 villages would be covered in the first year. Government is committed to promote Organic Farming that improves soil health and leads to better quality crops. From 2015-16, a new scheme 'Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana' (PKVY) to develop organic clusters and make available chemical free inputs to farmers will be implemented with an outlay of ₹ 300 crore.

Statement

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.

Component	Pattern of assistance
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.
5. Adoption of organic farming through cluster approach under Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) certification.	₹ 14.95 lakhs per cluster for three years.
6. Support to research for development of organic package of practices specific to state and cropping system.	Against specific proposal.
7. Setting up of separate Organic Agriculture Research and Teaching Department.	Against specific proposal.
MIDH	
1. Adoption of Organic Farming.	50% of cost limited to ₹ 10,000/ ha for a maximum area of 4 ha. per beneficiary, spread over a period

Component	Pattern of assistance
	of 3 years involving an assistance of ₹ 4000/- in first year and ₹ 3000/- each in second & 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 pro-rata 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 & 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

Component	Pattern of assistance
for Organic Production, through a National Accreditation Policy and Programme. It covers crop production, animal husbandry, food processing, labelling, storage and transport.	
NMOOP: Has launched a scheme for increasing production and productivity of oilseed crops in the country. The expenditure on subsidies is mostly shared on 75:25 sharing basis between Central and State Government. Financial assistance is being provided for different type of components including bio fertilisers <i>i.e</i> Nuclear Polyhedrosis Virus NPV, Supply of Rhyzobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB)/ Zinc Solubilising Bacteria (ZSB)/ Azatobacter/ Mycorrhiza and vermi compost.	

Decline in farming of sugarcane

† 1767. SHRI P.L. PUNIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that sugarcane farming has recorded constant decline across the country;

(b) if so, the names of States and the extent of decline recorded therein over the last three years, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has gathered information on causes leading to decline in sugarcane farming, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is considering working on a permanent new plan to enable farmers to get fair price for sugarcane, again raising MRP in the coming years and get them timely payments from sugar-mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) and (b) Depending upon the rainfall situation, weather and temperature conditions, availability of water in reservoirs, irrigation facilities etc. and shift in the area on account of comparative profitability of other competing crops, State-wise area under cultivation of sugarcane in the major sugarcane growing States of the country during the last three years *i.e* 2011-12 to 2013-14 has been fluctuating. However, during the above period, total area under sugarcane at all India level has been hovering around 50 lakh ha. and there is no evidence to suggest constant decline in the area under this crop. State-wise details of area under sugarcane during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and consultations with State Governments and others stakeholders, the Central Government determines the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of Sugarcane. The FRP is a benchmark guaranteed price of sugarcane below which no sugar mill can purchase sugarcane from cane growers. The FRP is generally increased every year, taking into account various factors such as rising prices, inputs etc.

To ensure timely payment of sugarcane dues, the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 stipulates payment of sugarcane price within 14 days of supply, failing which interest at the rate of 15% per annum on the amount due for delayed period beyond 14 days is payable. Powers for enforcing these provisions are delegated and vested with the State/ UT Governments.

Statement

State-wise area of sugarcane during 2011-12 to 2013-14

State	Area ('000 Hectares)			Decline over		
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	204.0	196.0	192.0	12.0	-8.0	-4.0
Assam	25.7	28.9	29.1	-4.0	3.1	0.2
Bihar	218.3	250.3	258.1	-29.7	32.1	7.7
Gujarat	202.0	176.0	174.0	12.0	-26.0	-2.0
Haryana	95.0	101.0	102.0	10.0	6.0	1.0
Jharkhand	6.6	6.7	6.7	0.0	0.1	0.0
Karnataka	430.0	425.0	420.0	7.0	-5.0	-5.0
Madhya Pradesh	69.2	59.5	73.1	4.1	-9.7	13.6
Maharashtra	1022.0	933.0	937.0	57.0	-89.0	4.0
Manipur	5.8	5.5	5.9	0.6	-0.3	0.4
Odisha	14.5	14.5	14.2	1.4	0.0	-0.3
Punjab	80.0	83.0	89.0	10.0	3.0	6.0
Rajasthan	6.4	5.5	5.3	0.9	-0.9	-0.2
Tamil Nadu	346.4	347.2	313.3	30.4	0.9	-33.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Uttar Pradesh	2162.0	2212.0	2228.0	37.0	50.0	16.0
Uttarakhand	108.0	109.9	104.3	1.3	1.9	-5.6
West Bengal	16.1	16.1	17.0	1.1	0.0	0.9
Others	25.7	28.8	24.5	25.7	3.1	-4.3
ALL INDIA	5037.7	4998.9	4993.3	152.8	-38.7	-5.6

Agricultural contribution in GDP

1768. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the contribution of agriculture sector in GDP is decreasing since last year, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by Government to improve its contribution in GDP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) and (b) As per the estimates released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the contribution of agriculture sector in GDP is estimated to be 17.7% during 2012-13 and 17.2% during 2013-14 at 2011-12 basic prices.

Further as per the advance estimates, contribution in of agriculture sector in GDP is estimated to be 16.2% during the year 2014-15.

The decline in contribution of agriculture sector in the GDP is due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to industry and service dominated one. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development of an economy.

Suicide by farmers

1769. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of farmers' suicide taken place in the country during the last two years;
- (b) the reasons therefor and the compensation given in the matter; and
- (c) the measures being adopted by Government to alleviate the problems of farmers and curb the incidents of suicide in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) As per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data published annually, the number of suicides by persons self employed in farming/agriculture in 2012 and 2013 were 13754 and 11772 respectively. The data relating to suicides in 2014 has not been published by NCRB.

(b) and (c) Reasons of suicide by farmers, as recorded by National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) are family problems, illness, drug abuse/addiction, unemployment, property dispute, bankruptcy or sudden change in economic status, poverty, professional/career problem, love affair, barrenness/impotency, cancellation/non-settlement of marriage, dowry dispute, fall in social reputation, causes not known, etc.

Agriculture is a State subject under the Constitution and therefore, States Governments take appropriate measures for development of agriculture sector and welfare of farmers including payment of compensation to the bereaved families of farmers affected by suicides. Government of India has however, taken several steps to revitalize the agriculture sector and improve upon the condition of farming community on sustainable basis by increasing public investment, improving farm practices, rural infrastructure, extension, marketing, etc. Various programmes/schemes for the development of agriculture sector are being implemented in a decentralized manner with flexibility to State Governments to formulate and implement appropriate projects to suit their specific requirements. The focus of Government is primarily on increase of farm income, creation of non-farm income opportunities, improvement in productivity of rainfed agriculture, increasing coverage of farming areas under protective irrigation and forging appropriate backward and forward linkages.

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

Implementation of PMKSY

1770. SHRI AHMED PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Krishi Shichai Yojana (PMKSY) in the country, if so, the salient features of the Yojana; and

(b) whether Government proposes to give priority to the irrigation deficit States, such as Gujarat in PMKSY and 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) and (b) Government is in the process of operationalising Pradhan Mantri Krishi Shichai Yojana (PMKSY) in the country to ensure access to water to every agriculture farm.

Insurance of crops and income of farmers

1771. SHRI AHMED PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to insure the crops and income of farmers in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the methodology Government proposes to adopt in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to better serve the interest of farmers, Government is desirous to develop a new crop insurance scheme to protect them against both yield and price fluctuations. At present, Government is in the process of finalization of details in consultation with various stakeholders.

Skill development and training programmes for farmers

1772. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes/programmes run by Government for skill development and training of farmers in the field of agricultural and allied sectors;

(b) whether Government has earmarked funds under various schemes for the purpose;

(c) if so, the details of funds earmarked and spent thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, Scheme-wise and State/UT-wise including Jharkhand and Gujarat; and

(d) the details of the success achieved under the programmes during the said period and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) to (c) A number of ongoing schemes and programmes of the Government have an inbuilt component of capacity building and training of farmers in the field of agriculture and allied sectors. An illustrative list of such schemes is given in Statement-I (*See below*). However, there is no specific scheme or programme only on skill development of farmers. While some

schemes have earmarked allocation of funds for training, others are demand driven as per plans drawn up by the States and Implementing Agencies. Information regarding allocation and expenditure of funds during each of the last three years and the current year under various schemes has been given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) Details of farmers trained during last three years and current year under various schemes are given in Statement-III (*See below*).

Farmers gain knowledge and imbibe skills on latest technologies through training and hands-on experience resulting in increased productivity and income. Skills imparted to farmers are wide ranging and include improved agronomic practices, farm diversification, mechanisation, animal husbandry, marketing etc.

Statement-I

Details of schemes/programmes run by the Government for skill development and training of farmers in the field of agricultural and allied sectors

1. National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET)
 - (a) Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension (SMAE) (including Extension Reforms)
 - (b) Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material (SMSP) (including Seed Village Programme)
 - (c) Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)
 - (d) Sub-Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (SMPP)
2. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
3. Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture [including erstwhile National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and Horticulture Mission for North Eastern States and Himalayan States etc.]
4. National Mission on Oilseed and Oil Palm (NMOOP) (including erstwhile Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize)
5. National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)
6. Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (including Rural Godown Component)
7. Crop Diversification Programme in Original Green Revolution States.
8. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

Statement-II
Details showing State-wise/year-wise details of Budget earmarked, utilised and persons benefited

Sl. No.	State	2011-12			2012-13			2013-14			2014-15 (till January, 2015)			
		FA	FU	PB	FA	FU	PB	FA	FU	PB	FA	FU	PB	PB
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4330.56	3654.29	899128	3076.86	2681.33	596207	2421.91	640.32	1638898	467.18	68.61	109479	
2.	Bihar	3188.57	2737.45	1000876	3752.81	2664.65	1461128	1635.18	607.59	688101	735.58	321.54	150569	
3.	Chhattisgarh	1839.80	1395.15	302361	1898.65	1675.20	313092	997.21	460.27	149397	347.89	113.74	23907	
4.	Gujarat	4913.22	4734.36	617548	1828.10	1738.34	517533	874.59	509.60	295006	755.13	594.19	161352	
5.	Goa	3.69	0.43	1586	14.08	2.34	1802	22.13	1.94	224	3.39	5.89	7210	
6.	Haryana	1149.65	1047.04	335509	807.31	838.76	181552	176.04	127.01	155801	271.70	72.70	33619	
7.	Himachal Pradesh	651.33	282.39	62108	402.27	292.03	66989	178.88	123.79	146394	205.89	17.25	10840	
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	755.25	232.83	23593	457.2	202.36	74728	1586.81	950.11	149198	199.55	29.76	66749	
9.	Jharkhand	682.36	537.43	80832	1039.08	896.76	108431	1292.68	976.62	91339	413.10	45.14	22912	
10.	Karnataka	5450.04	5176.69	217326	2367.17	2025.04	238244	371.68	227.48	183591	359.00	178.47	124992	
11.	Kerala	1049.63	486.66	142914	942.98	610.56	184669	780.24	289.36	166498	152.64	79.39	29318	
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2114.87	1775.51	751184	2565.83	2153.36	1037285	2970.48	948.8	270452	1213.01	486.99	212756	
13.	Maharashtra	1405.58	1471.77	313645	1360.38	1267.69	300953	2300.19	707.68	137891	550.95	274.34	129336	
14.	Odisha	5225.04	4920.57	257077	2312.82	2341.7	94260	1096.81	479.06	211990	1149.00	706.00	303913	
15.	Punjab	807.53	593.03	208789	739.59	406.25	218305	410.33	160.48	212408	709.35	178.92	204382	
16.	Rajasthan	6270.59	6044.03	184620	4884.2	4602.69	190179	1359.52	662.03	266200	577.81	177.73	230094	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
17.	Tamil Nadu	3234.17	2895.38	1091727	2698.64	1899.06	540023	1436.86	311.51	4215832	877.01	217.49	204051
18.	Uttar Pradesh	3232.46	2300.08	493969	3829.56	2865.91	536196	1470.57	571.4	633298	1317.55	545.05	307829
19.	West Bengal	664.62	220.93	49298	2001.76	572.71	117174	1340.88	726.72	111603	585.06	166.03	25158
20.	Assam	1021.14	587.52	408972	385.25	198.95	201214	510.61	164.27	169396	1026.88	29.00	197540
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	253.07	104.54	29066	547.6	178.95	28526	445.2	20.60	53299	86.00	13.00	10210
22.	Manipur	392.95	128.83	45179	376.35	71.95	21866	271.08	50.20	44202	196.29	17.00	7335
23.	Meghalaya	127.41	0.0	6697	253.63	28.36	18019	59.73	31.41	24302	34.33	40.53	7510
24.	Mizoram	598.75	416.81	21177	200.23	92.59	24281	113.56	62.88	84239	106.27	48.00	15686
25.	Nagaland	311.32	57.64	25569	293.38	110.38	29801	219.12	149.55	38549	112.57	30.00	14220
26.	Tripura	273.84	177.76	33057	368.43	113.98	16819	327.14	61.20	30502	214.00	42.00	5357
27.	Sikkim	192.63	47.46	16011	194.45	29.45	4070	101.9	33.00	67498	90.35	13.52	6580
28.	Puducherry	27.03	3.89	6426	41.09	6.8	7239	27.86	5.67	4001	32.00	4.00	542
29.	Uttarakhand	526.99	153.46	66615	541.83	219.26	78475	36.38	13.72	52188	103.45	22.73	28856
30.	Delhi	1.19	0	2077	1.59	0	1589	10.27	0	2001	0.80	0.70	1000
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.81	0	1291	6.6	0	2770	31.61	16.28	41001	28.03	3.00	2300
32.	Telangana	0	0	0	0	0	0	13.58	0	0	380.63	131.19	50495
TOTAL		50699.09	42183.93	7696227	40189.72	30787.41	7213419	24891.03	10090.55	10355299	13302.39	4673.90	2706097

FA = Fund Allocation (Rs. in Lakh)

FU = Fund Utilization (Rs. in Lakh)

PB = Persons Benefited (in Numbers)

Statement-III*Details showing State-wise/ year-wise schemes covered*

Sl. No.	State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (till January, 2015)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	NFSM, ER (ATMA), NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	NFSM, ER (ATMA), NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NHM, NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), ISOPOM, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, M&T, SVP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J, NFSM- CC-S
2.	Bihar	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T/PHT, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T/PHT, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NHM, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), ISOPOM,, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, SVP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J, NFSM- CC-S
3.	Chhattisgarh	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR- KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T/PHT, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NHM, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), SVP, KVK- ICAR, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM
4.	Gujarat	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T/PHT, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP (Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG (RGL)	ER (ATMA), M&T, ISOPOM, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, SVP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S
5.	Goa	NFSM, ICAR-KVK	NFSM, ICAR-KVK	TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG (RGL)	KVK-ICAR, SMPMAI, MIDH

Sl. No.	State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (till January, 2015)
6.	Haryana	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, M&T/PHT, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NHM, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), M&T, KVK-ICAR, ISOPOM, NMOOP, SVP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S, CD
7.	Himachal Pradesh	ER (ATMA), NFSM, HNMEH, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, HNMEH, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, SVP, SMPMAI, M&T, MIDH, NFSM
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	ER (ATMA), HNMEH, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HNMEH, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP (Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NHM, NHB, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), SVP, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM
9.	Jharkhand	ER (ATMA), NHM, M&T, ICAR-KVK	Reforms, NHM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, NMOOP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, ISOPOM
10.	Karnataka	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, NIPHM, ER (ATMA), TMOP, NFSM, KVK-ICAR, NHM, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, M&T, SVP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S
11.	Kerala	ER (ATMA), NHM, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NHM, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP (Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NHM, Coconut Development, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, M&T, SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM
12.	Madhya Pradesh	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T,	M&T and PHT, SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP,	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, CIAE-ICAR, M&T, SVP,

13.	Maharashtra	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, HMNEH, ICAR-KVK	ICAR-KVK	KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG(RGS), M&T	SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S
14.	Odisha	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NHM, NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), CIRCOOT-ICAR, KVK-ICAR, SVP, SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S
15.	Punjab	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, SVP, SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J
16.	Rajasthan	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP (Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, M&T, SVP, SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S, CD
17.	Tamil Nadu	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, M&T and PHTM, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), SVP, KVK-ICAR, M&T, SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S

Sl. No.	State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (till January, 2015)
18.	Uttar Pradesh	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, Seeds, M&T, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	SVP, M&T and PHTM, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), M&T, KVK-ICAR, IVRI-ICAR, SVP, SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J, NFSM-CC-S
19.	West Bengal	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, M&T, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, NHM, M&T, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), M&T and PHTM, NIPHM, TMOP (Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), M&T, SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J
20.	Assam	ER (ATMA), NFSM, HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), NFSM, HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), TMOP (Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NHM, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), SVP, SMPMAI, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, M&T/PHT ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, M&T/PHT ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM, TMOP(Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NHM, NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	KVK-ICAR, M&T, SMPMAI, NMOOP, MIDH, NFSM
22.	Manipur	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), TMOP (Oilseed), KVK-ICAR, NFSM, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, NMOOP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM
23.	Meghalaya	ER (ATMA), HMNEH,	ER (ATMA), HMNEH,	SVP, ER (ATMA), NIPHM,	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR,

24.	Mizoram	Seeds, M&T/PHT ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ISOPOM, ICAR-KVK	Seeds, M&T/PHT ICAR-KVK	TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG(RGS)	SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J
25.	Nagaland	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	SVP, Ext Reforms., TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), SMPMAI, ISOPOM, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, MIDH, NFSM
26.	Tripura	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), M&T and PHTM, NIPHM, TMOP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), M&T, KVK-ICAR, SVP, SMPMAI, NFSM, NFSM-CC-J, NMOOP
27.	Sikkim	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, ICAR-KVK	SVP, ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, , MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), M&T, SMPMAI, NMOOP, KVK-ICAR, MIDH, NFSM
28.	Puducherry	ER (ATMA), Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), Seeds, ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), Seeds, ICAR-KVK	SVP, KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, , MKTNG(RGS)	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, MIDH
29.	Uttarakhand	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, M&T/PHT ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, M&T/PHT ICAR-KVK	ER (ATMA), HMNEH, Seeds, M&T/PHT ICAR-KVK	SVP, M&T and PHTM, NIPHM, , KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM, MKTNG (RGS)	ER (ATMA), M&T, KVK-ICAR, SVP, SMPMAI, MIDH, NFSM, NFSM-CC-S

Sl. No.	State	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (till January, 2015)c
30.	Delhi	KVK-ICAR	KVK-ICAR	KVK-ICAR	KVK-ICAR
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	KVK-ICAR	KVK-ICAR	KVK-ICAR, NFSM, NHM (MIDH) NHB, MKTNG(RGS)	KVK-ICAR, ER (ATMA), SMPMAI, MIDH
32.	Telangana	-----	-----	TMOP, NFSM	ER (ATMA), KVK-ICAR, NMOOP, SVP, MIDH, NFSM
<p>ATMA – Agriculture Technology Management Agency CD – Crop Diversification being implemented in Original Green Revolution States CIAE – Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal (ICAR) CIRCOT – Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology, Mumbai (ICAR) ER – Extension Reforms HMNEH – Horticulture Mission for North Eastern States & Himalayan States INM – Integrated Nutrient Management ISOPOM – Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize INSIMP – Scheme on Initiative for Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion ICAR – Indian Council of Agricultural Research IVRI – Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar (ICAR) KVK – Krishi Vigyan Kendra M&T – Mechanization and Technology MIDH – Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture MKTG – Marketing NMAET – National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology</p>					
<p>NHB-National Horticulture Board NFSM – National Food Security Mission NFSM-CC Jute – National Food Security Mission Commercial Crop Jute NFSM-CC Sugarcane – National Food Security Mission Commercial Crop Sugarcane NHM – National Horticulture Mission NIPHM – National Institute of Plant Health Management NMOOP – National Mission on Oilseed & Oilpalm PHTM – Post Harvest Technology & Management PSAMTTD – Promotion & Strengthening of Agricultural Mechanisation through Training, Testing & Demonstration RGS – Rural Godown Scheme SMAE – Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension SMPMAI – Strengthening & Modernisation of Pest Management Approach in India SMSP – Sub-Mission on Seed and Planting Material SMAM – Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization SMPP – Sub-Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine SVP – Seed Village Programme TMOP – Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses</p>					

Farming under crop insurance schemes

1773. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has adopted a policy discriminating between the farmers borrowing banks loans and the farmers using their own resources for farming under the crop insurance schemes, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the other steps taken by Government to identify the shortcomings in implementation of these schemes and to remove the hurdles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) No, Sir. Crop insurance is compulsory for loanee farmers and optional for non-loanees. However, the premium structure and subsidy rates are same for both loanees and non-loanees.

(b) The Crop Insurance Scheme are continually reviewed and improvements, wherever possible, are carried out to better serve the interest of farmers.

Availability of pasture and fodder for cattle

† 1774. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to State:

(a) whether there is adequate availability of pasture and fodder for cattle in the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the area of pasture as on date, and the quantity of fodder available in the States at present; and

(c) the per animal availability of fodder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) No Sir. There is a shortage of 62.76% (665.80 million MT) green and 23.46% (138 million MT) dry fodder in the country respectively.

Requirement and availability of fodder in the country.

Availability (Million MT)	395.20	451.00
Requirement (Million MT)	1061.00	589.00
Deficit gap (Million MT)	665.80 (62.76%)	138.00 (23.46%)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In the State of Maharashtra, there is a shortage of 59% (659 lakh MT) green and 31 % (139 lakh MT) dry fodder as per the Land Use Statistics of Agriculture Department of Maharashtra State.

Requirement and availability of fodder in the Maharashtra State.

Type of fodder	Green	Dry
Availability (Lakh MT)	449.00	304.00
Requirement (Lakh MT)	1108.00	443.00
Deficit gap (Lakh MT)	659 (59)%	139 (31 %)

(b) State-wise area under pastures as on date and the quantity of fodder available in the States.

States/UTs	Permanent pasture & other grazing lands (000ha)*	Details of fodder available in the States**
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	553	Deficit in green fodder (40.58%) and dry fodder (20%).
Arunachal Pradesh	18	—
Assam	160	Deficit in green fodder (74%) .
Bihar	16	Deficit in green fodder (60%) and dry fodder (28%).
Chhattisgarh	863	Deficit in green (84%) and dry fodder (22%).
Goa	1	Deficit in green fodder (96.6%).
Gujarat	851	Deficit in green fodder (30%). Dry fodder availability in the State is satisfactory.
Haryana	28	Deficit in green fodder (48%). However, dry fodder is surplus.
Himachal Pradesh	1504	Deficit in green fodder (62.8%) and Dry fodder (25%).
Jharkhand	110	Deficit in fodder (52.8%).

1	2	3
Jammu and Kashmir	123	Deficit in green fodder (67%) and dry fodder (27.31 %)
Karnataka	908	There is deficit of green fodder but adequate dry fodder is available.
Sikkim	-	—
Manipur	1	Adequate availability of green fodder.
Meghalaya	-	Deficit in green fodder (57%).
Kerala	0	Deficit in dry fodder (65%). Due to constraint of land, there is a severe shortage of green fodder.
Mizoram	5	Deficit in green fodder (26%) and dry fodder (87%).
Madhya Pradesh	1321	Deficit in green fodder (75%) and not deficit in dry fodder.
Maharashtra	1244	Deficit in green fodder (59%) and dry fodder (31 %).
Nagaland	-	Deficit in green fodder (60%) and dry fodder (62.5%).
Odisha	508	Deficit in green fodder (48.4%) and dry fodder (23.5%).
Punjab	4	Dry fodder availability is currently 2604 million tonnes as against the requirement of 904 million tonnes indicating a surplus of over 180%.
Rajasthan	1694	—
Tamil Nadu	110	Deficit in green fodder (21.25%) and dry Fodder (8.89%).
Tripura	2	—
Telangana	-	—
Uttarakhand	199	Deficit in green fodder (46.74%) and dry fodder (30%).
Uttar Pradesh	66	—

1	2	3
West Bengal	4	—
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4	—
Chandigarh	-	Requirement of fodder is mostly fulfilled by neighbouring States viz Haryana, Uttar Pradesh.
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	—
Daman and Diu	0	—
Delhi	0	Requirement of fodder is mostly fulfilled by neighbouring States viz., Haryana, Uttar Pradesh.
Lakshadweep	-	—
Puducherry	-	—
ALL INDIA	10296	

Note: - 0 relates to the area below 500 hectares.

* Area as per Land Use Statistics At Glance, June 2014.

** Details of fodder available as estimated.

(c) Availability of green and dry fodder per year per animal is 1.2 MT and 1.4 MT respectively.

Scope in increasing agricultural productivity

1775. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is considerable scope in increasing India's agricultural productivity with suitable interventions like increase in public capital formation in agriculture;

(b) whether it is also a fact that since there exists scope for increase in agricultural productivity, the growing belief that agriculture has lost the capacity to absorb labour is rendered incorrect; and

(c) if so, the details of the interventions that Government proposes to undertake in order to raise the agricultural productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes, Sir. There is considerable scope to increase agricultural productivity in many States. For instance, productivity of rice per hectare of area is below 2 ton in states like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Odisha. Suitable technologies and varieties are available for raising level of productivity. This requires interventions like supply of quality seed to farmer, improving capacity of farmers to use modern inputs, remunerative prices for output and infrastructure. Public capital formation in agriculture in India is low.

(b) Given the diversity of Indian agriculture, there exists scope for both increase in agricultural productivity and enhancing the production. The growing belief that agriculture has lost the capacity to absorb labour is not correct, as it has imbibed several new sub-sectors requiring skill applications.

(c) Government is taking several measures to raise agricultural productivity. These include enhanced supply of quality seed, strong extension, expansion of irrigation, remunerative prices for farmers and increase in supply of institutional credit to farmers.

Off-shore fishing by foreign and joint venture companies

1776. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recognises a recent Expert Committee's recommendation that waters between 200 m and 500 m kept as buffer zone, will hurt the livelihood of fishermen; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the recommendation to throw open off-shore regions for fishing by foreign and joint venture companies would work against the interest of the local fishermen, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) and (b) The Expert Committee constituted for a comprehensive review of deep sea fishing Policy and Guidelines has *inter-alia* suggested that the waters between 200m to 500 m depth zone may be kept as a buffer zone to augment the resources in both the near-shore waters as well as in the off-shore areas. There is no proposal to throw open off-shore regions for fishing by foreign vessels.

Loss in fertility of soil

1777.SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study/survey to identify the extent of loss of fertility of soil/damage to agricultural land across the country, if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(b) if so, the details of cultivable area affected due to salinity in the soil, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has launched several programmes for reclamation and development of such land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has compiled soil-test data of available Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potash (K) status from different soil testing laboratories located in 19 States. The soils of about 59% area were found low, 36% were medium and 5% were high in available N. Similarly, soils of about 49, 45 and 6 per cent area were low, medium and high in available P, respectively and soils of around 9, 39 and 52 % area were low, medium and high in available, K respectively.

The assessment made under All India Coordinated Research Project on 'Micro and Secondary Nutrients and Pollutant Elements in Soils and Plants' revealed that nearly 24.7, 43.0, 12.1, 5.5, 5.4 and 18.3 % samples were deficient in Sulphur, Zinc, Iron, Manganese, Copper and Boron, respectively across the country.

Recently (in 2013), geo-referenced soil fertility maps of 173 districts covering 20 States in the country have been prepared. Majority of districts are deficient in N but medium to high in available K. In general, northern, southern and eastern districts except Odisha are medium to high in available P whereas western districts are low to medium in available P except Gujarat. These geo-referenced maps are useful for monitoring and evaluation of soil fertility as well as for making fertilizer recommendations to ensure balanced fertilization and effective distribution of fertilizers in the country.

Besides, the Council conducted scientific soil survey for assessing the extent and nature of land degradation across the country. As per the latest estimates (NAAS, 2010) based on harmonized database, around 120.4 million ha of total geographical area of the

country is affected by various kinds of land degradation comprising of water erosion (82.6 million ha), wind erosion (12.0 million ha), chemical degradation (24.7 million ha) and physical degradation (1.0 million ha). Out of total degraded area, 104.2 million ha is arable land.

(b) As per the latest report, the salt affected area in the country is around 6.74 million hectare. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) since April, 2014 with a component of Reclamation of Problem soils *viz.*, saline, alkali and acid soils.

Statement

State-wise salt affected soils in India

Sl. No.	State	Total (ha)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	274207
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	77000
3.	Bihar	153153
4.	Gujarat	2222000
5.	Haryana	232556
6.	Jammu and Kashmir (Jammu division only)	17500
7.	Karnataka	150029
8.	Kerala	20000
9.	Maharashtra	606759
10.	Madhya Pradesh	139720
11.	Odisha	147138
12.	Punjab	151717
13.	Rajasthan	374942
14.	Tamil Nadu	368015
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1368960
16.	West Bengal	441272
TOTAL		6744968

Knowledge based information to farmers

1778. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal to the Central Government to provide knowledge based information through Information and Communication technology for the benefit of farmers of the State;

(b) if so, whether information regarding natural calamities like drought etc. would be made available at the district level through the aforesaid information system; and

(c) if so, the time by which the aforesaid proposal is likely to be approved by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) The Government has not received any specific proposal on the subject from the State of Maharashtra. However, the State of Maharashtra is one of the seven States covered under the National e-Governance Plan in Agriculture (NeGPA). Data Centre and field Hardware in most locations down to Block level have been installed and commissioned. A number of applications in agriculture and allied sector have been developed under the project for providing integrated ICT based services to farmers.

Knowledge based information is being provided to farmers through a number of web and mobile based applications, including Farmers' Portal (www.farmer.gov.in) (in beta version at present) and mKisan Portal (www.mkisan.gov.in).

(b) Information on natural calamities, weather forecast and agromet advisories is being disseminated to farmers through multiple delivery channels including mKisan Portal (through SMS) & Kisan Call Centres of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Government of India & Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa of the India Meteorological Department and some other public/private initiatives.

Under the National Agricultural Drought Assessment and Monitoring System (NADAMS) programme, the Mahalanobis National Crops Forecast Centre (MNCFC) carries out monthly drought assessment at district/ sub-district level using satellite based remote sensing data and ground information with respect to sowing progression, irrigation percentage etc. and puts up the same on the web.

(c) Not applicable in view of reply furnished as above.

MSP for Kharif crops

1779. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Telangana has sent a Report to the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) about the MSP to be given to various crops for the coming Kharif season in Telangana and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action taken by Government on this Report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal to open new Krishi Vigyan Kendras

† 1780. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to open new Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Bemetara, Balod, Kondegaon, Sukma, Sarguja, Raipur and Mungeli in Chhattisgarh has been sent to the Central Government;

(b) if so, by when approval to this proposal would be given; and

(c) whether there is a demand for dairy development project at Janjgir, Kanker, Bemetara, and Balod in Chhattisgarh, and by when amount for the same would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) and (b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has already opened two Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in Sarguja district of Chhattisgarh. The ICAR has made provision for opening new KVKs in Bemetara, Balod, Kondegaon, Sukma, Raipur and Mungeli districts of Chhattisgarh during Twelfth Plan. The standard procedure for opening of new KVKs in these districts will be started after the approval of Cabinet Note.

(c) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of India has approved a new project under dairy development component of Centrally Sponsored scheme – “National Programme for Bovine Breeding & Dairy Development” in Balod, Bemetara, Kanker & Janjgir-Champa districts of Chhattisgarh with the total outlay of ₹1086.28 lakh (including central share of ₹ 915.40 lakh and ₹ 170.88 lakh as organization share) for implementation during 2014-15 to 2018-19. An amount of ₹ 223.20 lakh has been earmarked for implementation of project during 2014-15.

Impact of climate change on agriculture

1781.SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made an estimation of the likely impact of climate change on Indian agriculture and food security, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the progress made under the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture and initiatives being taken by Government to promote climate resilient crop varieties; and

(c) whether Government is taking any initiatives for encouraging farmers to adopt low carbon agriculture techniques, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has conducted climate change impact analysis on crop yields using crop simulation models (INFO-CROP and HAD CM3). Reduction in crop yields has been projected for irrigated maize, wheat, irrigated and rainfed rice to the extent of 18, 6, 4 and 6 per cent respectively by 2020. Further, the Council has made vulnerability assessment on major food crops in different production zones to climatic variability under the ‘National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture’ (NICRA). The study revealed that around 81.3 million ha area in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid regions of the country may suffer from extreme weather events.

(b) The Government has made operational the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) from the current year (2014-15). NMSA has been formulated to make Indian agriculture more productive, sustainable, remunerative and climate resilient. Activities like promotion of integrated farming system, integrated nutrient management, integrated pest management, water use efficiencies, management of rice cultivation practices like system of rice intensification (SRI), direct seeded rice (DSR) etc.,

conservation agriculture, livestock management, climate resilient varietal improvement, crop diversification etc. are taken up as sustainable agriculture practices.

(c) The Government through National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) and the Technology Demonstration component of NICRA is promoting low carbon agriculture technologies and other interventions like direct seeded rice (DSR), system of rice intensification (SRI), intermittent irrigation and mid-season drainage in rice, reduced/zero tillage, conservation agriculture practices, site-specific integrated nutrient management, use of slow release nitrogenous fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, leaf colour chart (LCC) based nitrogen application, micro irrigation, agroforestry etc.

Effect of drought on soyabean crops in Maharashtra

1782. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra is the biggest producer of Soyabean in the country but this year the output has adversely been affected due to drought conditions in the State, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action Government has taken to provide financial assistance and other relief to Soyabean growers of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) Maharashtra is the second largest producer of soyabean in the country. Soyabean production in Maharashtra has been adversely affected this year due to late monsoon at the time of sowing, insufficient rains during crop growing phase and untimely rains during pod maturity stage. Soyabean production estimates in Maharashtra during 2013-14 and 2014-15 are given below:-

Year	Production (lakh tonnes)
2013-2014	47.55
2014-2015	27.67*

*As per 2nd Advance Estimates.

(b) Government of Maharashtra has declared scarcity in 23811 villages having crop yield loss of more than 50 per cent and is taking steps to provide financial assistance to farmers. Under National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), the ceiling of

subsidy on soyabean seeds was enhanced from ₹ 1200/-per quintal to ₹ 1800/- per quintal for drought notified districts during 2014-15.

Suicide by farmers in Marathwada

1783.SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 95 farmers committed suicide within a span of one and a half month in the Marathwada region in recent times, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the total number of farmers who committed suicide in the Marathwada region in the last three years; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by Government to curb suicide by farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) Government of Maharashtra has reported 135 cases of farmers' suicide from 1st January, 2015 to 27th February, 2015 in Aurangabad Division, due to successive natural calamities and scarcity situation.

(b) In the last three years *i.e.* 2012, 2013 & 2014, there were 662 cases of farmers' suicide which were eligible for compensation of ₹ one lakh as per policy of the State Government.

(c) Government of Maharashtra has informed that local level district authorities are conducting awareness programmes in the villages and disseminating information regarding various agriculture and other development schemes for farmers, to boost their morale and prevent suicide.

New technology for agriculture

† 1784. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is needed to adopt new technology in agriculture to overcome the damage caused to the crops by the drought and floods in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether use of technology relating to genetic engineering can prove to be a good alternative in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Droughts and floods have been a recurring feature of Indian agriculture. Adoption of modern technologies such as abiotic stress tolerant crop varieties, *in situ* moisture conservation, crop diversification, integrated farming system and contingent crop planning, help to cope with droughts and floods in agriculture. In view of the anticipated drought in 2014, district level contingency plans for 580 districts were developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and made available for implementation.

(b) Yes, Sir. Use of technology relating to genetic engineering can prove to be a good alternative to combat climate change and the problems caused by it in agriculture.

Farmers in the villages traditionally grow local varieties of different crops which are not specifically adapted to the variations in temperature, precipitation, flooding and other changes due to changing climate and this may result in poor crop productivity. In order to combat this, improved varieties/breeds/species can be evolved by genetic engineering in crops, livestock and fisheries by incorporating traits in them that can confer tolerance and resistance to low rainfall, heat, cold, flooding and other climate related vagaries. Tolerant varieties can be introduced for achieving optimum yields despite climatic stresses. Plants are well known to possess extensive genetic variation in drought and temperature tolerance, water-use efficiency, and other traits that can be effectively harnessed to combat climate change. The integration of genetic engineering with conventional plant breeding, with an interdisciplinary approach, will accelerate the development and adoption of crop cultivars with enhanced adaptation to climate change-related stresses. Genetic engineering provides advanced methods for modern plant breeding to evolve crops that can face the deleterious changes brought by the changing climate. New breeding methods, relying on genetic engineering, can accelerate the pace of improving crops. Under the projects adopted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), evaluation of major food and horticultural crops for tolerance to climatic stresses and genetic enhancement of tolerance, the ICAR is working on thermo tolerant wheat.

Storage facilities for fish and prawn

1785. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to combat the lack of abdicative and well maintained facilities in the country for storage of fish and prawn; and

(b) the details of storage facilities available for these produce, State-wise, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

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 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries, Infrastructure and Post Harvest Operations provides financial assistance for creation of post harvest infrastructural facilities including cold storages. The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) provides financial assistance in the range of 40-55% for creation of storage facilities for storage of fish and prawn. Besides, Marine Products Export Development Authority (Ministry of Commerce and Industry) is also operating a scheme for setting up of large cold storage in the country through which financial assistance to the tune of 25% of the total project cost or maximum of ₹ 60 lakh whichever is lower is provided.

(b) Details of storage facilities available including in Andhra Pradesh as reported by the Marine Products Export Development Authority are given in the Statement.

Statement

*Details of storage facilities available including
in Andhra Pradesh*

Name of the State	Cold Storage		Chilled Storage		Dry Fish Storage		Other Storages		Total	
	No.	Capacity (MT / Day)	No.	Capacity (MT / Day)	No.	Capacity (MT / Day)	No.	Capacity (MT / Day)	No.	Capacity (MT / Day)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Kerala	149	62,370.50	1	861.00	2	19.00	5	771.00	157	64,021.50
Karnataka	21	8,368.70	0	0.00	8	2,105.00	18	6,564.00	47	17,037.70
Maharashtra	48	31,623.30	0	0.00	6	691.00	0	0.00	54	32,314.30
Goa	12	4,326.50	0	0.00	1	920.00	1	200.00	14	5,446.50
Gujarat	101	46,457.80	3	1,322.80	15	1,419.00	3	59.00	122	49,258.60
New Delhi	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Guwahati	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Kolkata	39	5,689.00	0	0.00	9	1,040.00	1	60.00	49	6,789.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Odisha	23	11,019.00	17	7,038.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	40	18,057.00
Andhra Pradesh	63	24,805.00	1	50.00	11	3,912.00	0	0.00	75	28,767.00
Tamil Nadu	41	16,229.40	7	2089.00	5	1900.00	7	812.00	60	21,030.40
TOTAL	497	210,889.20	29	11,360.80	57	12,006.00	35	8,466.00	618	242,722.00

Source : Marine Products Export Development Authority.

Training of precision farming technologies in West Bengal

1786. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has imparted any training to farmers in different precision farming technologies in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of number of such training centres in West Bengal along with the number of farmers trained, the duration and periodicity of such training;

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking any proactive measures for it in West Bengal; and

(d) whether Government plans to conduct such training in West Bengal in near future, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Precision Farming Development Centre has been set up at Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, West Bengal under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). The Centre imparts trainings to farmers in different aspects of Precision Farming Technologies such as micro irrigation, green house, shade house and protected cultivation. Details of the training programmes conducted by the Centre are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Not applicable.

(d) During 2015-16, the Centre has approved 12 Nos. of training programmes on various topics of precision farming technologies with the expected participation of 1500 farmers from different districts of West Bengal such as Purulia, Nadia, Bankura, Medinipur (E), Medinipur (W), Burdwan, Darjeeling, Birbhum, South 24 Parganas and Malda.

The Centre has also approved to conduct field day and participation in agri events to exhibit the precision farming technologies among farmers and entrepreneurs.

Statement

*Training Programmes conducted by Precision Farming Development
Centre (PFDC), IIT, Kharagpur, West Bengal*

Sl. No.	Year	Districts Covered	Total No. of Training Programmes	Total Participants	Duration (days)
1.	2010-11	Purulia, Birbhum, Bankura, Purulia, Medinipur (E), South 24 PGS, Hoogly and Howrah	14	405	2 days
2.	2011-12	Daksin Dinajpur, Nadia, Howrah, Bankura, Birbhum and Purulia	13	392	2 days
3.	2012-13	Nadia, Purulia, Howrah, Medinipur (E), Bankura, Medinipur (W), North 24 PGS	16	554	2 days
4.	2013-14	Bankura, Burdwan, Darjeeling, Nadia, Medinipur (E), Medinipur (W) and Howrah	16	526	2 days
5.	2014-15	South 24 PGS, Burdwan, Bankura, Malda, Purulia, Birbhum, Howrah	17	844	2 days

Implementation of NHM in Rajasthan

† 1787. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of districts in Rajasthan which have been included under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and the amount allocated to these districts under the Mission during last three years and the amount out of it which has not been utilized by the State Government; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Central Government intends to include other districts of Rajasthan in this scheme which are devoid of the scheme, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) has been subsumed under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), which is being implemented in all States/UTs of the country. A total of 24 districts of Rajasthan are covered under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM). The details of funds allocated and utilized during last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The National Horticulture Mission (NHM) envisages a cluster approach for development of horticultural crops, in accordance with their comparative advantage based on agro-climatic conditions, potential for development and marketing opportunities. Inclusion of more districts under this programme would lead to diffusion of scare resources. States have been advised to utilize funds from Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for horticulture development in non-NHM districts.

Statement

District-wise Budget and expenditure in respect of Rajasthan under National Horticulture Mission

(₹ in lakhs)								
Sl. No	District	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		Unutilized amount
		Alloca- tion	Expen- diture*	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	Alloca- tion	Expen- diture	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Ajmer	240.900	294.162	358.010	361.550	547.730	534.640	0.989
2.	Alwar	413.910	264.230	283.430	389.980	188.360	228.180	9.021
3.	Banswara	86.340	88.710	70.000	90.700	76.440	80.050	13.066
4.	Baran	63.160	57.000	55.000	54.650	46.500	42.190	45.549
5.	Barmer	133.390	72.070	50.000	18.070	52.700	49.260	98.006
6.	Bhilwara	190.430	203.970	247.330	201.310	200.570	205.220	61.838
7.	Bundi	38.760	125.560	44.900	52.470	75.970	80.920	42.000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	Chittorgarh	118.200	150.000	279.730	252.380	377.730	382.750	14.453
9.	Dungarpur	23.530	11.63	11.250	21.970	51.030	52.030	39.177
10.	Jaipur	498.460	596.800	1169.680	1046.170	1314.530	1404.330	153.433
11.	Jalore	45.290	46.600	59.820	63.670	50.000	48.680	43.813
12.	Jhalawar	418.240	485.140	527.500	506.780	734.130	517.630	205.087
13.	Jhunjhunu	145.880	139.570	210.000	228.620	109.000	86.770	33.838
14.	Jodhpur	209.410	219.490	100.000	114.400	144.090	132.340	27.207
15.	Karuli	66.970	76.470	0.000	51.440	42.500	23.960	28.151
16.	Kota	72.610	115.560	327.710	232.820	147.150	102.110	100.974
17.	Nagaur	184.440	217.990	692.590	632.780	403.910	388.820	73.561
18.	Pali	117.050	117.060	106.350	134.090	117.380	131.430	22.632
19.	Sawai Madhopur	229.960	234.150	146.000	124.490	127.120	131.400	24.274
20.	Sirohi	61.180	20.760	19.350	47.970	76.930	26.260	95.264
21.	Sriganganagar	578.390	548.740	420.000	205.470	161.500	185.700	301.304
22.	Tonk	444.060	471.000	166.500	175.280	275.490	273.350	52.069
23.	Udaipur	61.140	96.620	75.180	76.890	255.770	273.010	2.790
24.	Jaisalmer	54.120	48.820	27.820	23.730	75.180	46.730	37.840

* Includes unspent balance of previous years.

Source: State Horticulture Mission, Rajasthan.

Plan to open mother dairy booths in Himachal Pradesh

†1788. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of distributing booths of Mother Dairy set up throughout the country, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) whether any plan is being formulated to open such booths in Himachal Pradesh, if so, the names of districts where such booths are proposed to be set up and by when, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) Details of Mother Dairy Milk Booths (as on date) is given below:-

	State	No. of Milk Booths
a)	Delhi	641
b)	Haryana (Faridabad & Gurgaon)	58
c)	Uttar Pradesh (Ghaziabad & Gautam Budh Nagar)	86

(b) No, Sir.

Promotion of rice cultivation

1789.SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed several varieties of hybrid rice to enhance the productivity of rice in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has formulated any scheme to intensify the cultivation of rice in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to promote rice cultivation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The National Agricultural Research System (NARS) comprising Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and State Agricultural Universities has developed 32 rice hybrids suitable for cultivation in different States and ecologies to enhance the productivity of rice in the country. The details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) These hybrids alongwith improved production technologies are promoted through schemes like Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI), National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in the country.

(c) Rice occupies about 44 million hectare area in the country. To sustain the

production and productivity of rice in the country, improved technologies like System of Rice Intensification, Direct Seeded Rice and improved nutrient management for higher productivity, ecology based cropping/farming system approach for enhancing total system productivity are promoted.

Statement

Details of rice hybrids developed by the NARS

Sl. No.	Name of hybrids	Area of adoption	Year of release	Average yield (t/ha)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	APHR 1	Andhra Pradesh	1994	7.14
2.	APHR 2	Andhra Pradesh	1994	7.52
3.	KRH 1	Karnataka	1994	6.02
4.	CNRH 3	West Bengal	1995	7.49
5.	KRH 2	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Tripura, West Bengal, Bihar, Punjab	1996	7.40
6.	CORH 1	Tamil Nadu	1996	6.08
7.	DRRH 1	Andhra Pradesh	1997	7.30
8.	Pant Sankar Dhan 1	Uttarakhand	1997	6.80
9.	Sahyadri	Maharashtra	1998	6.64
10.	Narendra Sankar Dhan 2	Uttar Pradesh	1998	6.15
11.	CORH 2	Tamil Nadu	1999	6.25
12.	ADTRH 1	Tamil Nadu	1999	7.10
13.	Pusa RH 10	Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand	2001	4.35
14.	Pant Sankar Dhan 3	Uttarakhand	2004	6.12
15.	DRRH 2	Uttarakhand, Haryana, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu	2005	5.35

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Sahyadri 2	Maharashtra	2005	6.50
17.	Sahyadri 3	Maharashtra	2005	7.50
18.	Ajay	Odisha	2005	6.07
19.	Rajalaxmi	Odisha	2005	5.85
20.	Narendra Usar Sankar Dhan 3	Uttar Pradesh	2005	5.15
21.	HKRH 1	Haryana	2006	9.41
22.	CORH 3	Tamil Nadu	2006	6.15
23.	JRH 4	Madhya Pradsh	2007	7.50
24.	JRH 5	Madhya Pradsh	2007	7.50
25.	Sahyadri 4	Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, West Bengal	2008	6.81
26.	JRH-8	Madhya Pradesh	2008	7.50
27.	DRRH 3	Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh	2009	6.07
28.	CRHR 32	Bihar, Gujarat	2010	5.43
29.	Rajalaxmi	Assam, Odisha	2010	5.85
30.	CO (R) H-4	Tamil Nadu	2011	7.00
31.	CO-4	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu	2012	5.90
32.	Sahyadri-5	Maharashtra	2012	6.5

Opening of new Cooperative Management Institutes

† 1790. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to open new Cooperative Management Institutes in some States to improve and strengthen the cooperative education and training system, if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the States from where proposals for opening cooperative institutes have been received and Government's action plan for opening new cooperative institute in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Two proposals one each from Sikkim and Tripura for opening of Cooperative Management Institutes have been received by the Government during last one year. As reported by National Council for Cooperative Training (NCCT), proposals have also been received from State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Mizoram, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand for opening of Institute of Cooperative Management (ICM) in their respective States. No proposal has been received from Bihar. The DNS Regional Institute of Cooperative Management, Shastri Nagar, Patna is catering to the cooperative training needs for the cooperative personnel in the State of Bihar. There is no proposal at present to open any new cooperative management institute.

Research and exploration in Agricultural Universities

1791.SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers are made aware of the researches and exploration being made in agriculture sector in Agricultural Universities, if so, the manner thereof; and

(b) the policy of Government to bring farmers into direct contact with Agricultural Universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of institutional mechanisms are in place to make farmers aware of the researches, technologies and best practices generated by Agricultural Universities (AUs) in the country. The manner in which these institutional mechanisms create awareness to farmers include frontline extension education programmes of the Directorates of Extension of the AUs; Agricultural Technology Information Centers (ATICs) and Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning under AUs. The frontline extension programmes include on-farm testing and demonstration of technologies on farmers' field; training of farmers; organization of various extension activities like farmers fair, Krishi Mahotsav, exhibitions, exposure visits, animal camps; and diagnostic services for soil, water and infected plant samples. Besides, the experts from AUs also provide information to farmers through print and

electronic media including radio, television and mobile phones; farmers'- scientists interfaces like Kisan Gosthi, field days, field visits, diagnostic visits etc.

In addition, visits of farmers are also arranged to research farms of the AUs at their main campus and also to their regional/zonal research stations by different extension agencies operating in the States.

Moreover, the technology inputs like seeds and planting materials of improved varieties; bio-fertilizers; vermicompost and bio-agents; extension literature in printed and electronic form; and livestock species and fingerlings produced by AUs are also made available to farmers.

All of these front-line extension programmes bring farmers into direct contact with AUs.

Study to understand causes of farmers' suicides

1792. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study to understand and analyze the socio-economic causes of farmers' suicide in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether there exists any correlation between suicides due to the indebtedness of farmers and the nature of crops *i.e.* cash crops, foodgrains, GM crops etc. cultivated by them; and

(c) if so, whether Government is planning any targeted interventions in agriculture sector to alleviate the socio-economic distress of cultivators of such crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) and (b) Government has not conducted any such study as agriculture is a State subject under the Constitution and the States are primarily responsible for the development of agriculture sector, including welfare of farmers.

Reasons of suicide by farmers, as recorded by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) are family problems, illness, drug abuse/addiction, unemployment, property dispute, bankruptcy or sudden change in economic status, poverty, professional/career

problem, love affair, barrenness/impotency, cancellation/non-settlement of marriage, dowry dispute, fall in social reputation, causes not known, etc.

Causes of farmers suicide due to agrarian reasons, *inter-alia*, include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal.

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

Cultivable land in the country

† 1793. DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of cultivable land in the country; and
- (b) whether there has been any increase in area of cultivable land during last ten years and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) and (b) As per the latest available Land Use Statistics data, area of cultivable land in the country during last ten years is as given in the table below:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Cultivable Land in 000' ha
2002-2003	183450
2003-2004	183132
2004-2005	182946
2005-2006	182686
2006-2007	182476
2007-2008	182438
2008-2009	182459
2009-2010	182179
2010-2011	182018
2011-2012	181983

Adoption of Dr. B. Meenakumari Committee Report on Fishing

1794. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has accepted and adopted the Dr. B. Meenakumari Committee Report related to fishing, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any apprehension and concerns by indigenous fishermen and traders were noticed by Government, if so, the steps taken on the basis of that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) and (b) Report of the Expert Committee constituted under the Chairpersonship of Dr. B. Meenakumari for comprehensive review of deep-sea fishing Policy and Guidelines has been received in the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture in August, 2014. Representations from some quarters have been received on the report. The report has been placed on the website of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries inviting comments from all stakeholders.

New scheme for crop insurance

1795. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken on the proposal of Government of Odisha for introduction of

a new scheme on crop insurance, keeping the premium level of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS);

(b) if no action has been taken on it so far, would the new scheme on crop insurance, as suggested by Government of Odisha, be introduced early; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) to (c) Government of Odisha asked the Government of India to charge only nominal rate of premium from farmers for crop insurance as against the premium on actuarial basis being charged under Modified National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (MNAIS) and weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme, component schemes of National Crop Insurance Programme, being implemented *w.e.f.* Rabi 2013-14. On the basis of the representation as well as the representations from some other State Governments, these States were allowed to implement National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) during Rabi 2013-14 and 2014-15 where the rates of premium are nominal and the liability for payment of claims over and above the premium collected for major crops rests with the Government.

The Crop Insurance Schemes are continually reviewed and improvements, wherever possible, are carried out to better serve the interest of farmers.

Making small land holdings more viable

1796. SHRI K.C. TYAGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and percentage of small and marginal farmers in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether cost effective technologies suitable for small land holdings have been developed by the agricultural research institutions in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to promote and assist small and marginal farmers to adopt such technologies; and

(d) the other measures being taken by Government to make small land holdings more viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIMOCHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) As per the latest Agriculture Census 2010-11, State-wise number and percentage of marginal and small operational holdings are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Research Institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have developed several low cost hand tools, implements and machines appropriate for small and marginal farmers. These technologies are demonstrated to farmers through on-farm trials, front line demonstrations, exhibitions and Kisan Melas. Under the Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) implemented by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation from 2014-15, small and marginal farmers are provided 10 per cent additional subsidy over and above the normal rate of subsidy for purchase of various agricultural equipments and machines.

(d) The Government has taken several measures to make small land holdings viable. These include adoption of modern technologies and practices like multiple cropping, inter-cropping and integrated farming systems. Support is provided to farmers on seeds, bio-agents, bio-fertilizers, improved farm implements, etc. The ICAR is conducting research programmes through All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) and All India Network Projects (AINPs) to develop location specific varieties and technologies as per the agro-ecological needs for enhancing the production and productivity to make small land holdings more viable.

Statement

Number and percentage of operational holdings in the country as per results of Agriculture Census 2010-11

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of operational holdings			Percentage of marginal and small holdings to total	
		Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)	Total number of operational holdings	Marginal (below 1.00 ha.)	Small (1.00 - 2.00 ha.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8424698	2918374	13175100	63.94	22.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21456	19333	109298	19.63	17.69
3.	Assam	1831115	496574	2720223	67.31	18.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Bihar	14744098	948016	16191391	91.06	5.86
5.	Chhattisgarh	2182834	831118	3746480	58.26	22.18
6.	Goa	59900	9817	78020	76.78	12.58
7.	Gujarat	1815634	1429021	4885610	37.16	29.25
8.	Haryana	778142	314818	1617311	48.11	19.47
9.	Himachal Pradesh	670425	174596	960765	69.78	18.17
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1206612	167130	1449397	83.25	11.53
11.	Jharkhand	1848324	428861	2708928	68.23	15.83
12.	Karnataka	3848834	2138208	7832189	49.14	27.30
13.	Kerala	6579692	180171	6830789	96.32	2.64
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3891016	2448652	8872377	43.86	27.60
15.	Maharashtra	6709034	4052317	13698965	48.97	29.58
16.	Manipur	76735	48850	150620	50.95	32.43
17.	Meghalaya	102714	57755	209561	49.01	27.56
18.	Mizoram	50210	29753	91880	54.65	32.38
19.	Nagaland	6476	20338	178411	3.63	11.40
20.	Odisha	3368296	918647	4667466	72.17	19.68
21.	Punjab	164431	195439	1052554	15.62	18.57
22.	Rajasthan	2511512	1511068	6888436	36.46	21.94
23.	Sikkim	40476	16941	74928	54.02	22.61
24.	Tamil Nadu	6266555	1181344	8118224	77.19	14.55
25.	Tripura	499054	55043	578479	86.27	9.52
26.	Uttarakhand	672138	157330	912650	73.65	17.24
27.	Uttar Pradesh	18532272	3035331	23325456	79.45	13.01
28.	West Bengal	5852681	979833	7123347	82.16	13.76
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4626	2415	11803	39.19	20.46
30.	Chandigarh	453	133	714	63.45	18.63

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8177	3903	14724	55.54	26.51
32.	Daman and Diu	7716	458	8355	92.35	5.48
33.	Delhi	11308	4517	20497	55.17	22.04
34.	Lakshadweep	9854	267	10285	95.81	2.60
35.	Puducherry	28481	2779	33228	85.71	8.36
ALL INDIA		92825979	24779150	138348461	67.10	17.91

Note: Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Budgetary allocation for SCSP and TSP

1797. SHRI D. RAJA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the revised guidelines for implementation of Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) by Central Ministries/ Departments, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation should allocate funds between 15 and 16.2 per cent of the Plan outlay for the schemes under these Plans;

(b) if so, the actual budgetary allocation for SCSP and TSP for the year 2014-15 under this Department and the reasons for less allocation; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure due allocation in the budget for 2015-16?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) The existing guidelines for implementation of Scheduled Castes Sub plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for the schemes/programmes of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) provide for earmarking of 15 to 16.2% for SCSP and 7.5 to 8.2% for TSP of funds allocated for the relevant schemes.

(b) The allocation for SCSP and TSP during the year 2014-15 is ₹ 1930.88 crore and ₹ 953.52 crore respectively, which is within the range prescribed.

(c) For the year 2015-16, 16.2% and 8% of funds have been earmarked for SCSP and TSP under relevant schemes/programmes being implemented by DAC.

Development of milk production in Karnataka

1798. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering any Centrally sponsored scheme to be implemented in Karnataka for development of milk production during 2015-16;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the names of districts in the State to be covered under this scheme;
- (c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA): (a) to (d) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India is implementing the following schemes in the country including Karnataka for development of milk production during 2015-16:-

- (i) National Dairy Plan (Phase-I)
- (ii) National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development
- (iii) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme

The detail of the projects covered under the schemes in Karnataka are given below:-

- (1) Under National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development scheme a total assistance of ₹ 4075.76 lakh has been sanctioned for the State of Karnataka, out of which an amount of ₹1289.32 lakh has been earmarked for the year 2015-16.
- (2) Under National Dairy Plan (Phase-I), 25 sub-projects have been approved for implementation with the total outlay ₹ 192.67 crore in the State of Karnataka.
- (3) Under Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme, an amount of ₹ 48.32 crore has been disbursed by National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development as back ended capital subsidy to the beneficiaries upto 31 .1.2015

in the State of Karnataka since inception (01.09.2010) of DEDS, which is a demand driven scheme.

Pesticide testing laboratories in Telangana

1799. SHRIPALVAIGOVARDHANREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are two pesticide testing laboratories in Telangana viz. at Rajendranagar and Warangal;
- (b) if so, the performance of each of the above pesticide testing laboratories;
- (c) to what extent these are helping in reducing the spurious supply of pesticides to farmers in Telangana; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to modernize and strengthen each of the above pesticide testing laboratories since their establishment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir, there are two Pesticide Testing Laboratories (PTLs) in Telangana viz., one at Rajendranagar, Rangareddy district and another at Warangal.

(b) State Government of Telangana has reported following details on these two PTLs:-

- (i) **PTL, Rajendranagar** Analysing capacity of the PTL, Rajendranagar is 1500 samples per year. During 2014-15 so far, 1569 pesticide samples have been analyzed of which 13 samples are declared as misbranded.
- (ii) **PTL, Warangal** Analysing capacity of the PTL, Warangal is 1000 samples per year.

During 2014-15 so far, 1562 pesticide samples have been analysed, of which 7 samples are declared as misbranded.

(c) Insecticide samples are drawn by the Insecticides Inspectors from pesticide outlets including manufacturing units and are analyzed in the pesticide testing laboratories.

Action is initiated as per the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 and rules thereunder if the samples are found not to conform to specifications. This acts as a deterrent against flow of spurious pesticides into the market.

(d) As reported by the State Government of Telangana, strengthening of both the laboratories has been taken up under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana as per details given in the Statement.

Statement

*Release of funds for strengthening of Pesticide Testing Laboratories (PTLs)
under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana*

		(₹ in lakhs)
(1) PTL, Rajendranagar, Rangareddy District	2013-14	11.00
	2014-15	12.00
	2014-15	10.40 for accreditation by the National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratory (NABL).
(2) PTL, Warangal District	2013-14	7.00
	2014-15	5.00

Increasing the population of cattle

1800. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken by the Ministry to increase the population of cattle and other animals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the States for development and conservation and increasing population of cattle and other livestock species in the country the Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries is implementing the following major schemes: (a) National Programme for Bovine Breeding & Dairy Development; (b) National Dairy Plan-I; (c) Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme; (d) National Livestock Mission; (e) Livestock Health and Disease Control; (f) Central Cattle Breeding Farms and (g) Central Herd Registration Scheme.

Central assistance to West Bengal

1801. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of West Bengal had asked for Central compensation/assistance for the loss of crops in the State on various occasions during the last five years, if so, the details of such assistance provided to the State, year-wise;

(b) whether the State Government has raised certain objections relating to discriminations shown to West Bengal, *vis-a-vis* other regions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, along with the action plan of Central Government to help the State in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) to (c) The State Government of West Bengal submitted a memorandum for assistance of ₹ 1100 crore from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) in the wake of drought of 2010-11. The Government of India approved ₹ 724.99 crore from NDRF subject to adjustment of 75% of the balance available in State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for the instant calamity. Government of India had also approved ₹ 11.54 crore from special component of National Rural Drinking Water Supply Programme for repair of damaged infrastructure relating to drinking water supply works in the wake of drought of 2010-11.

The Government of India provides support to the States considering the assessment of calamity and guidelines of SDRF and NDRF scheme.

The Central Share of SDRF released from 2010-11 to 2014-15 (as on 10.3.2015) to the State of West Bengal is as below:-

Year	Central Share of SDRF				(₹ in crore)
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (as on 10.3.2015)
West Bengal	228.62	240.05	252.05	264.65	277.88

**Establishment of an Agricultural Research and
Training Institute in Tamil Nadu**

1802. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is directly implementing the scheme to establish 'Agricultural Research and Training Centre' in remote places to help farmers to take to better commercial farming and agricultural projects, rather than giving funds to financially starving State Governments for the purpose; and

(b) if so, whether Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) village 'Marava Mangalam', in Sivaganga District in Tamil Nadu will get the Agricultural Research and Training Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no specific scheme named "Agricultural Research and Training Centre" being funded by DARE/ICAR at present. However, in order to assess and demonstrate agricultural technology on farmer's field and also to provide training to farmers on various aspects of agriculture, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a network of 641 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in different parts of the country of which 30 KVKs are established in Tamil Nadu State. In addition, Tamil Nadu also has 03 ICAR Institutes, 12 Regional Stations of ICAR Institutes and 01 All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) under DARE/ICAR the details of which are given in the Statement (*See below*). As far as Sivaganga district of Tamil Nadu is concerned, the ICAR has already established a KVK at Kundrakudi, Kallal Block of the district under the administrative control of Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai. The KVK has provided training to 27 farmers of Marava Mangalam village on various aspects of Paddy and Chilli cultivation and value addition in fruits and vegetables. The KVK has also planned to take up the following activities during year 2015-16 in Marava Mangalam village of the Sivaganga district:

- Training, field visits and formation of farmers clusters for promoting dry seeded rain-fed un-puddled lowland rice (with supplemental irrigation)
- Training on drought resistant varieties in groundnut, backyard poultry and rearing of sheep and goat for additional income generation.
- Introduction of improved varieties of minor millets such as finger millet and barnyard millet.

As far as opening of new agricultural Research and Training Centre in Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) village 'Marava Mangalam' in Sivaganga is concerned, it is stated that there is no such proposal under consideration.

Statement

Institutes/Regional Stations/AICRPs/KVKs in Tamil Nadu

Sl.No.	ICAR Institutes
1.	Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore-641007, Tamil Nadu
2.	National Research Centre for Banana, Thogamalai Main Road, Thayanur Post, Tiruchirapalli-620102, Tamil Nadu
3.	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, 75, Santhome High Road, RA Puram, Chennai-600028, Tamil Nadu

Regional Stations of ICAR Institutes in Tamil Nadu

1. CICR Regional Station. Coimbatore-641003, Tamil Nadu
2. Central Potato Research Station, Muthurai, Nilgiris-643004, Tamil Nadu
3. CTRI Research Station, Vendasandur-624710 Dindigul Dist., Tamil Nadu
4. IARI Regional Station, Wellington, Nilgiris-643231, Tamil Nadu
5. IARI Rice Breeding Genetics Research Centre, Aduthurai-612101, Tamil Nadu
6. CSWCRTI Research Centre, Fernhill P.O., Rees' Corner, Udahgamandalam 643004, Tamil Nadu
7. Quality Evaluation Unit of CIRCOT, Lawley Rd. P.O., Coimbatore-641003, Tamil Nadu
8. CSWR Southern Reg. Research Centre, Mannavanur, Dindigul-624103, Tamil Nadu
9. Muttukadu Experimental Station of CIBA, Kancheepuram-603112, Tamil Nadu
10. Mandapam Regional Centre of CMFRI, Marine Fisheries P.O., Mandapam Camp, Ramanathapuram Distt-623520, Tamil Nadu
11. Chennai Research Centre of CMFRI, 75 Santhome High Road, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028, Tamil Nadu
12. Tuticorin Research Centre of CMFRI,, South Beach Road, Near Roche Park, Tuticorin-628001, Tamil Nadu

Sl.No.

ICAR Institutes

All India Coordinated and Network Projects (AICRP)

1. AICRP on Cotton, Central Institute for Cotton Research, Reg Stn, Lawley Road, Coimbatore-641003, Tamil Nadu

Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Tamil Nadu State

1. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sandhiyur Mallur *via*, Distt. Salem-636 203
2. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vridhachalam, Distt Cuddalore-606 001
3. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sirugamani, Distt. Trichirappali-639115
4. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Valikandapuram, Distt. Perambalur-621 115
5. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, National Pulse Research Centre, Vamban Colony, Distt. Pudukottai-622303
6. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Coastal Saline Research Centre, Distt. Ramnathapuram-623503
7. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Horticultural Research Station, Pechiparai, Distt. Kanyakumari-629161
8. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Agricultural College & Research Institute, Distt. Madurai-625 104
9. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Oilseeds Research Station, Tindivanam, Distt. Villupuram-604 001
10. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Virinjipuram, Distt. Vellore-632 104
11. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tirur, Distt. Thiruvallur-602 025
12. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Needamangalam, Distt. Tiruvarur-614 404
13. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sikkal, Distt. Nagapattinam-611 108
14. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Regional Research Station, Kovilangulam, Aruppukottai, Distt. Virudhunagar-626107
15. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, State Seed Farm, Papparappaty, Pennagaram Tk. Distt. Dharmapuri-636 809
16. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kattankulathur Post, Kattupakkam, Distt. Kancheepuram-603 203

Sl.No.	ICAR Institutes
17.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kundrakudi, Distt. Shivagangai-630 206
18.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Veterinary College & Research Institute, Distt. Namakkal-637 0017
19.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Gandhigram, Distt. Dindigul-624 302
20.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, PO. Vivekanandapuram, Seeliyur, Karamadai Block, Distt. Coimbatore-641 113
21.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kamatchipuram, Distt. Theni-625 520
22.	UPASI Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Glenview, Coonoor, Distt. Nilgiris-643101
23.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kilnelli Village, Chithathur Post Cheyyar TK, Distt. Tiruvannamalai-604 410
24.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Urmelalagian, Ayikudi, PO. Tenkasi (TK), Distt. Tirunelveli-627 852
25.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Mallinayanapalli (PO) Elumichangiri-635120, Distt. Krishnagiri
26.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Usilampatti, Manyeripatti (BPO), Distt. Thanjavur-613 402
27.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 57, Bharathi Street, Gobichettipalayam, Distt. Erode-638 452
28.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Vegaikulam, Mudivithanedal Post, Distt. Tuticorin-628102
29.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Puluderi, Kulithalai, Distt. Karur-623313
30.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ariyalur (TN)
GRAND TOTAL – 46	

Use of bio-pesticides

1803. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to increase the use of bio-pesticides

on account of adverse effect of chemical pesticides on crops, live-stock and human health;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by Government to increase the use of bio-pesticides; and

(c) the financial assistance Government has provided to States/UTs especially to Himachal Pradesh for production of bio-pesticides during last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN) : (a) and (b) The Government of India is promoting use of bio-pesticides under the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach which employs cultural, mechanical and biological methods of pest control alongwith need based judicious use of chemical pesticides. The Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) promote IPM through Farmers' Field Schools and various training programmes. Package of practices for control of pests and diseases in 57 crops have been revised to include techniques to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides and encourage use of bio-pesticides and other alternative plant protection measures. The requirement for registration of bio-pesticides has been simplified to facilitate introduction of bio-pesticides. Central Government provides grant-in-aid of ₹ 45.00 lakhs for building and ₹ 20.00 lakh for procuring equipments for Biocontrol Laboratories for production of biocontrol agents including bio-pesticides to State Governments. Central Government also provides ₹ 20.00 lakhs as grants-in-aid to State Governments for procuring equipments for Biopesticides Testing Laboratories.

(c) The assistance given by Centre under Strengthening and Modernisation of Pest Management Approach (SMPMA) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY) for production of biocontrol agents in last five years is given in the Statement.

Statement

*(a) Funds released to States for bio-control labs during
last three years under SMPMA*

Sl. No	State	Year	₹ in Lakhs
1	Meghalaya	2010-11	45
2	Mizoram	2010-11	20

*(b) Funds released to States for bio-control labs/production of
bio-control agents during last five years under RKVY*

Sl.No	State	Year	Project	₹ in Lakhs
1.	Kerala	2010-11	Strengthening of State Bio Control Laboratory, popularization of bio-control agents produced at State Biocontrol Lab for promotion of BIIPM.	71.18
2.	Maharashtra	2010-11	Strengthening of State Bio Control Laboratories	111
3.	Uttar Pradesh	2010-11	Establishment of Bio-Control Units for production and demonstration of bio agents at Farm Science centres.	172.25
4.	Tamil Nadu	2011-12	Large scale mass production and field release of parasitoids for the Management of Papaya Mealy bug in major crops of Tamil Nadu.	75
5.	Maharashtra	2011-12	Promotion and large scale production of Bio-pesticide and Bio fertilizer developed by MPKV	200
6.	Haryana	2012-13	Project for Promotion of Bio Pesticides in Horticulture Crops to reduce the pesticides residual Effect.	180
7.	Maharashtra	2013-14	Strengthening of Bio-Control Laboratory	53
8.	Karnataka	2014-15	Mass production and popularization of Bio- Control Agents for the Management of Pests and Diseases of Crops.	200

Sl.No	State	Year	Project	₹ in Lakhs
9.	Meghalaya	2014-15	Adoption of Agro-Ecosystem Analysis based Bio-intensive Pest Management Strategies and Promotion of Decentralised Bio-control Agents and Bio-pesticides Production Centres through Farmer Self Help Groups in Meghalaya.	69.43

Decline in productivity of crops

1804. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA :

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the productivity of wheat, rice and cash crops including sugarcane and cotton in the country during each of the last three years; if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken to increase the productivity of these crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA) : (a) Depending upon the rainfall situation, adverse weather and temperature conditions, availability of water in reservoirs, irrigation facilities, use of quality inputs etc., productivity of wheat, rice and cash crops including sugarcane and cotton in various States in the country has been fluctuating. State-wise and crop-wise details of productivity of above crops during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) In order to increase the productivity of various crops including wheat, rice, sugarcane and cotton in the country, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is having crop-specific research and development programmes. These research programmes are undertaken by 26 commodity/theme based Research Institutions and 33 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) & All India Network Projects (AINPs) to develop location-specific crop varieties and matching technologies as per the agro-ecological needs. The crop improvement programmes give emphasis on development of new crop varieties/hybrids with improved quality and tolerance/resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses.

State-wise Yield of Major Agricultural Crops during 2010-11 to 2013-14

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Jammu and Kashmir	2078	3126	2250	1689	1595	2061	826	789	890	1579	1000					NG	NG	NG
Jharkhand	2131	2238	2238	1908	1944	2123	680	787	663	69216	69042	69215						#DIV/0!
Karnataka	2793	2632	2666	858	796	1005	665	647	824	90251	84075	90250	368	440	481	180		#DIV/0!
Kerala	2733	2577	2551	NG	NG	NG	1230	1045	980	101165	95241	100235	#	#	#	NG	NG	NG
Madhya Pradesh	1340	1474	1474	2360	2478	2405	1073	1231	858	38685	44401	43415	482	615	572	86	112	132
Maharashtra	1841	1963	1934	1558	1528	1460	1223	1337	1276	84866	74650	82072	297	314	358	228	279	286
Manipur	2642	2099	1788	2498	2500	2498	788	729	840	57913	56671	58002				NG	NG	NG
Meghalaya	1988	2125	2493	1564	1806	1881	766	695	1030	2714	2676	2900	#	#	#	1197	1194	1493
Mizoram	1411	2088	1522	NG	NG	NG	967	1078	1146	5284	5144	4908	#	#	#	NG	NG	NG
Nagaland	2106	2210	2267	1711	1801	1823	1043	1047	1048	43513	43520	43524	#	#	#	332	289	289
Odisha	1450	1814	1821	1644	1894	1574	661	700	755	61014	65545	65905	542	571	410	1003	976	1008
Punjab	3741	3998	3952	4898	4724	5017	1360	1350	1335	70663	71313	75000	698	708	750	NG	NG	NG
Rajasthan	1886	1771	2147	3175	3028	3083	1243	1296	1144	70293	73056	68989	483	529	557	NG	NG	NG
Sikkim	1730	1790	1815	1060	1058	1083	841	863	887	NG	NG	NG				NG	NG	NG
Tamil Nadu	3918	2712	3100	0		#DIV/0!	2479	2103	2362	111378	97688	103575	575	664	456	NG	NG	NG

Note: NG: Not Grown NA: Not Applicable #Included in others

Procuring medicines for sale under Jan Aushadhi Scheme

1805. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to procure essential medicines in bulk from public as well as private drug manufacturing firms to sell under “Jan Aushadhi” brand to ensure availability of medicines at affordable rate; and

(b) if so, the number of essential medicines that have been identified for procurement, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) and (b) 178 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened across the country since the inception of the scheme against which only 98 are functional as on date. The scheme is being revisited to expand its reach across the country. Details are being worked out by Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI) in consultation with Department of Pharmaceuticals.

Shortage of urea and insecticides in Madhya Pradesh

†1806. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in Madhya Pradesh, during Rabi season (January- February, 2015) there was an acute shortage of urea and insecticides and farmers were distributed insecticides in the presence of police;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the reason for shortage of insecticides; and

(c) whether Government is going to take any planned action to provide seeds and insecticides to farmers on time and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) to (c) Details of requirement and availability of urea in Madhya Pradesh during Rabi season (January-February, 2015) are given as under:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Figures in LMTs)

Month	Requirement	Availability
January, 2015	1.64	2.39
February, 2015	0.28	1.23

As is evident the availability of urea in Madhya Pradesh during January, 2015 and February, 2015 was more than the actual requirement even for March, 2015 against projected requirement of 0.14 LMT of urea, Department of Fertilizers has allocated 1.43 LMTs of urea.

Government of Madhya Pradesh reported that insecticides were available at all points of sales and insecticides were not distributed in the presence of Police during Rabi season (January-February, 2015).

For provision of seeds to farmers various policies and programmes are implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) viz. the New Policy on Seed Development, 1988, the National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology (submission on Seeds and Planting Material) etc. The availability of certified/quality seeds in the country for 2014-15 is 351.76 lakh quintals against the demand of 343.55 lakh quintals.

Revamping of Jan Aushadhi Scheme

1807. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to revamp Jan Aushadhi Scheme;
- (b) if so, the failures that have been identified in the scheme;
- (c) whether the Scheme has failed because doctors have not been prescribing generic medicines; and
- (d) the efforts Government is making to ensure that Government doctors in Government hospitals prescribe generic medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) 178 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened across the country since the inception of the scheme against which only

98 are functional as on date. The scheme is being revisited to expand its reach across the country. Details are being worked out by Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI) in consultation with Department of Pharmaceuticals.

(b) and (c) The third party evaluation of Public Health Foundation of India noted five major reasons for under performance of the scheme:

- (i) Over dependence on support from State Government;
- (ii) Poor Supply Chain Management;
- (iii) Non-prescription of Generic Medicines;
- (iv) Health Policies of Central/State Governments-Free Supply of Drugs;
- (v) Lack of awareness.

(vi) Wherever Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened, the concerned State Governments are issuing instructions/guidelines to their Doctors in the Government Hospitals to prescribe generic medicines. Similar instructions are also reported to have been issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to the Doctors to prescribe medicines in generic names. In addition BPPI is engaging Indian Medical Association and other Doctors in the initiative.

Adequate supply of fertilizers at reasonable rates

†1808. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide fertilizers in sufficient quantity and at reasonable prices;
- (b) whether fertilizer companies have launched a toll-free number for farmers;
- (c) if so, the names of such companies along with the details of their toll-free numbers;
- (d) whether fertilizers companies are organizing farmer fairs in various parts of the country;
- (e) if so, the details and the purpose thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (f) the relaxation provided to the farmers by the banks to purchase fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) Following steps are taken for adequate and timely supply of fertilizers to the States:-

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

Further, fertilizers have been declared as essential commodities under the Essential Commodities Act (ECA), 1955. In order to ensure adequate availability of fertilizers at reasonable price to the farmers the Government of India under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act has promulgated the Fertilizer Control Order (FCO) 1985. FCO empowers the State Governments to take appropriate action to make available fertilizers in their States at reasonable prices.

The MRP of Urea is statutorily controlled by the Government and at present it is ₹ 5360/- per tonne (exclusive of the Central Excise duty, Central Sales Tax, countervailing

duty, State VAT and other local taxes wherever levied) *w.e.f.* 1st November, 2012. Quarter-wise Maximum Retail Price for 2014-15 in ₹/MT of P&K fertilizers fixed by the fertilizers companies under the NBS Scheme is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Some of the fertilizer companies have launched toll-free number for farmers, which are as follows:-

Name of Company	Toll- free number
Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.	1800 223044
Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.	1800 1235 000
Zuari Agro Chemicals Limited	1800 121233
Tata Chemicals Limited	1800 266 0255
MOSAIC India Limited	1800 103 5684
Nagarjuna Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited	1800 4251128
Coromendal International Limited	1800 4252828
Chambal Fertilizers Limited	1800 1805550

(d) and (e) The Krishi Melas/ Farmer Melas are organized by the State Governments and Agriculture Universities. Most of the fertilizer companies in public as well as private sectors participate in these melas. Names of some of the companies which participated in these melas are Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited, Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited, Zuari Agro Chemicals Limited, Tata Chemicals Limited, MOSAIC India Limited, Nagarjuna Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited Coromendal International Limited and Chambal Fertilizers Limited, NFL, BVFCL and FACT.

The objectives for organizing this melas are:

- (i) to disseminate Agricultural information to farmers on balanced application of fertilizers/plant protection.
- (ii) to bridge the technology gaps between field and lab.
- (iii) to educate farmers for soil conservation, water harvesting, usage of high yielding varieties, scientific cropping system and improved agronomic practices.

(f) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has no scheme for providing relief through the banks to the farmers to buy fertilizers.

Statement*NBS Rates for 2014-15 Product-wise*

Quarter-wise Maximum Retail Price for 2014-15 in ₹/MT of P&K fertilizers fixed by the fertilizers companies under the NBS Scheme.

Sl. No.	Grades of Fertilizers	I	II	III	IV
1.	DAP : 18-46-0-0	24080	24080	25220	25100
2.	MOP : 0-0-60-0	17892	17892	17892	16980
3.	16-20-0-13	17940	17940	18560	18560
4.	20-20-0-13	19710	22046	23124	19280
5.	10-26-26-0	22260	22370	23729	23729
6.	12-32-16-0	22580	22580	22801	22544
7.	14-35-14-0	23340	23340	24380	24380
8.	15-15-15-0	16894	17625	18100	18010
9.	AS: 20.3-0-0-23	13020	13020	13550	13550
10.	20-20-0-0	16910	16677	17920	17620
11.	28-28-0-0	23100	23100	24380	24260
12.	17-17-17-0	23231	23231	23231	23231
13.	19-19-19-0	20915	0	22700	22700
14.	SSP(0-16-0-11)*	9600	10300	12435	10500
15.	16-16-16-0	18000	18000	18000	18000
16.	15-15-15-09	16618	16454	18214	
17.	24-24-0-0	20040	19840	0	NA
	24-24-0-8	19960	21000	21100	21940

NA means product is not available in the market.

Recommendation to do away with fertilizer subsidy

1809. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government purposes to do away with fertilizer subsidy as recommended by a High Powered Committee recently, if so, the details of this report;

(b) whether the amount of subsidy will be transferred in the accounts of poor farmers; and

(c) if so, the details of budget provision in this regard and how many farmers from Vidarbha region are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) A High Level Committee of the Department of Food, constituted under the Chairmanship of Sh. Shanta Kumar, MP, has recommended that farmer be given direct cash subsidy and the fertilizer sector can then be deregulated. This would help plug diversion of urea to non-agricultural uses as well as to neighboring countries.

The recommendation is under consideration of the Department of Fertilizers.

(b) and (c) Matter is under consideration in this Department.

Revamping fertilizer subsidy system

1810. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to revamp or modify the existing subsidy system in fertilizer sale, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government feels that farmers in the country are prepared financially and in terms of logistics so as not to be affected adversely from such proposal?

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

(b) Question does not arise.

Availability of essential medicines in market

†1811. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has fixed prices of certain essential drugs, if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is aware that a few pharmaceutical companies, keeping in view their reduced profit, have reduced the production of such medicines resulting in an acute shortage of such essential medicines; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to main in the availability of such essential medicines in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) All the essential drugs specified in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2011 are included in the Schedule-I of the DPCO, 2013 and are under price control. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has already fixed / notified the ceiling price of 509 essential medicines out of 680 (628 net medicines) specified in the Schedule-I of DPCO, 2013.

(b) and (c) NPPA monitors shortages and availability of drugs on the basis of monthly reports received from State Drugs Controllers and also complaints, if any received from individuals etc. Whenever any shortage of medicines is reported, NPPA takes remedial steps to ensure that medicines are made available in the affected area in the country. Also, there is a mechanism of monitoring the stock and availability of the essential drugs / scheduled drugs under para 21 (I) of OPCO, 2013 which provides for submission of quarterly return in respect of production/ import and sales of scheduled medicines (NLEM medicines) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients contained in scheduled formulations as stated in Form- III of the said order by the manufacturer/ importer/marketer. Further, any manufacturer / importer wanting to discontinue manufacture / import of a scheduled formulation has to apply to NPPA in Form-IV of Schedule IV of OPCO, 2013 at least 6 months in advance, and NPPA can direct the applicant to continue production / import upto 1 year.

Fertilizer factory at Korba, Chhattisgarh

†1812. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the then Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone of a fertilizer factory in 1973 and 900 acres land was allocated for construction of the said factory;

(b) the area of land of the fertilizer factory allocated for other projects by the State Government and the area of land available with the fertilizer factory;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government has entrusted the responsibility of starting the above factory to Coal India Limited; and

(d) if so, by when the said factory is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) Yes, Sir. In 1973, the then Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone of a fertilizer factory at Korba in the then State of Madhya Pradesh, which is now in Chhattisgarh. Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) was allocated 907 acres of land for Korba project by the State Government.

(b) The State Government allotted 258 acres of land to Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board (CSEB) for expansion of its Thermal Power Plant in 2005. Presently, 663.50 acres of land is in the name of FCIL;

(c) Coal India Limited or any other Public Sector undertaking has not been entrusted the responsibility of starting the Korba Project;

(d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

Revival of drug PSUs

1813.SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL) is struggling with a loss of ₹ 3,000 crore;

(b) whether Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. is also suffering losses and is looking for revival;

(c) the manner in which sickness of these and other drug PSUs are impacting health programmes of the Government; and

(d) the efforts his Ministry is making to revive such PSUs, particularly IDPL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Yes, Sir. IDPL has accumulated losses of ₹ 6958 crore as on 31.3.2014.

(b) Yes, Sir. Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. is suffering losses and its revival is under process.

(c) These companies are manufacturing and marketing life saving drugs at affordable prices for common people of the country and HAL used to manufacture pencillin-G raw material. They also make medicines required under various National Health Programmes. But because of sickness their contribution to National Health Programme is very limited.

(d) Revival of IDPL and HAL are under process.

Sale of fertilizers

1814. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of current sale of different kinds of fertilizers;
- (b) whether sale of most fertilizers is declining, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether rising consumption of highly subsidized urea is the reason for declining consumption of other fertilizers;
- (d) if so, whether Government is considering a revision in prices of urea or undertaking any other efforts to reduce over consumption of urea and the imbalanced use of soil nutrients, if so details thereof;
- (e) the maximum retail price at which urea will be sold; and
- (f) whether Government will cut subsidy on chemical fertilizers, if so, details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) to (c) A table indicating the sales of fertilizers (Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK) for current year 2014-15 (April, 2014 to February, 2015) and previous year 2013-14 (April, 2013 to February, 2014) is as follows:

Name of fertilizers	(Sales in LMT)	
	Year 2013-14 (April, 2013 to Feb. 2014)	Year 2014-15 (April, 2014 to Feb. 2015)
Urea	284.35	284.14
DAP	61.57	67.56
MOP	19.48	24.98
NPK	67.26	76.32

It can be seen from the above table that sale of Urea remains more or less same whereas sale of Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) fertilizers has increased this year in comparison to previous year 2013-14 for the same period.

(d) to (f) There is no proposal for revision of price of Urea. The MRP of Urea is statutorily fixed by the Government of India and at present it is ₹ 5360/- Per Metric Tonne (PMT) (exclusive of the Central Excise Duty for domestically produced Urea and countervailing duty for the imported Urea which is 1% at present) and State VAT which differs from State to State. The Quarter-wise Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs) of P&K fertilizers is given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USQ No.1808(Part a)]. There is no proposal to cut subsidy on chemical fertilizers.

Regarding imbalanced use of soil nutrients, Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the following schemes/ projects to promote soil test based balanced use of fertilizers:-

- (i) Soil Health Management (SHM) programme under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) in which State Governments are assisted in following components:
 - (a) setting up of static/mobile soil testing laboratories (STLs).
 - (b) strengthening of static/ mobile STLs.
 - (c) trainings and demonstrations on balanced use of fertilizers.
- (ii) In current year, Soil Health Card Scheme is introduced to assist State Governments to issue soil health cards to all farmers in the country. Soil health card will provide information to farmers on nutrient status of their soil along with recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health and its fertility. Soil status will be assessed regularly in a cycle of 3 years so that nutrient deficiencies are identified and amendments applied.

Revival of FCIL and HFCL

1815. DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has planned to revive certain fertilizer units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL), if so, the details thereof and the present status thereof; and

(b) the fresh measures taken by Government to achieve the target of self-sufficiency in urea production in the country? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) Yes, Sir. In August, 2011 the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of all the closed units of Fertilizers Corporation of India limited (FCIL) *i.e.*, Talcher, Ramagundam, Sindri, Gorakhpur and Korba and Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation limited (HFCL) *i.e.* Barauni, Haldia and Durgapur. DRS envisaged revival of Talcher unit by a consortium of M/s. Rashtriya Chemical & Fertilizers limited (RCF), M/s Coal India limited (CIL) and M/s Gas Authority of India limited (GAIL), revival of Ramagundam unit by M/s. Engineers India limited (EIL) and M/s. National Fertilizers limited (NFL) and revival of Sindri unit by M/s Steel Authority of India limited (SAIL) and NFL. Revival of Gorakhpur and Korba Units of FCIL and all three units of HFCL was to be done through 'bidding route'.

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

- (i) **Talcher Unit** : The pre-project activities for revival of Talcher unit (Odisha) by the nominated Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), namely, RCF, CIL, GAIL and FCIL are in progress to set-up a coal-based fertilizer plant. The selection of Coal Gasification Technology by GAIL is at the final stage.
- (ii) **Ramagundam Unit** : The pre-project activities for revival of Ramagundam unit (Telangana) by the nominated PSUs, namely, EIL, NFL and FCIL are in progress to set-up a gas-based fertilizer plant. Joint Venture (JV) agreement has been signed by these PSUs on 14.01.2015
- (iii) **Sindri Unit** : Approved DRS envisaged revival of Sindri unit by SAIL. However, not much progress was made due to non-availability of around 3000 Acres of

contiguous piece of land for the Steel Plant due to encroachments. In the meantime, the scenario for SAIL has undergone change, a massive modernization and expansion plan of SAIL is currently under implementation, with capital expenditure (CAPEX) commitment of ₹72,000 crore. SAIL's borrowings have increased to around ₹ 25,300 crore. SAIL has drawn a 'vision plan 2025' to expand to 50 MTPA Hot Metal capacity by 2025. This requires a commitment around ₹ 2.02 lakh crore. In view of the above, SAIL has taken a view not to pursue the Sindri Revival project further. Government is exploring the feasibility of revival of Sindri unit, through the 'bidding route'.

- (iv) **Gorakhpur unit** : M/s. GAIL is planning to lay a gas pipeline from Jagdishpur (Uttar Pradesh) to Haldia (West Bengal). To make this gas pipeline financially viable, Government is exploring the feasibility of revival of Gorakhpur unit, which is en-route of Jagdishpur- Haldia pipeline (JHPL) on 'nomination route' instead of 'bidding route' approved earlier.
- (v) **Korba unit** : The revival of Korba unit would be taken up later on.
- (vi) **Barauni unit** : Though proposal/action plan on revival of units of HFCL to be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track in terms of CCEA approval in May 2013, but, in the context of the recent announcement of the proposed JHPL, Government is exploring the feasibility of fast tracking the revival of Barauni unit of HFCL through 'bidding route'.

(b) The Government has notified the New Investment Policy (NIP)-2012 and amendment to NIP-2012 on 2nd January, 2013 and 7th October, 2014 respectively to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector to boost the indigenous production of urea and to reduce import dependency.

Marketing margin levied by private sector natural gas marketers

1816. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the updated status of action taken by the Ministry to resolve the long standing issue of marketing margin levied by private sector natural gas marketers to consider the same in urea production cost;

(b) whether the Ministry has received any response from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in this regard; and

(c) the specific time-limit within which Government intends to resolve this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) to (c) The matter is under examination with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Bringing more medicines under Jan Aushadhi Scheme

1817. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring more medicines under “Jan Aushadhi” brand to ensure availability of medicine at affordable rates to all;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the number of essential medicines identified so far for the purpose; and

(c) by when these medicines will be made available in the retail market, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) 178 Jan Aushadhi Stores have been opened across the country since the inception of the scheme against which only 98 are functional as on date. The scheme is being revisited to expand its reach across the country. Details are being worked out by Bureau of Pharma Public Sector Undertakings of India (BPPI) in consultation with Department of Pharmaceuticals.

Sale of adulterated fertilizers

† 1818. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large quantity of adulterated fertilizers are available in open market for sale, if so the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government has conducted any study in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to stop the sale of such fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) to (c) Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 has been promulgated for regulation of quality of fertilizers. Samples of fertilizers are drawn periodically by fertiliser inspectors of State Governments to check their quality as per the parameters prescribed in the said Order. In case of imported fertilisers, the fertiliser inspectors of the Central Government draw samples from ships/containers. State-wise details of number of samples analyzed and found not in conformity with the parameters laid down in the said Order during the years 2013-14 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

There are 78 Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories (FQCL) in the country at present. No person shall manufacture/import for sale; sell, offer for sale, stock or exhibit for sale or distribute any fertilizer which is not notified in the Fertilizer (Control) Order or not of standard prescribed in the said Order. State Governments are empowered under the said Order to take appropriate administrative and legal action against those not complying with the provisions prescribed in the Order.

Government also provides assistance for setting up of new Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories and strengthening/ upgradation of existing State Fertilizer Quality Control Laboratories.

Statement

State-wise number of samples analyzed and found not in conformity with the laid down quality parameters during year 2013-14

Sl. No.	States	No. of samples analysed	No of samples found not in conformity with the laid down parameters	% Samples not in conformity with the laid down parameters
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	324	11	3.4
2.	Mizoram	1	0	0.0

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Jharkhand	723	29	4.0
4.	Bihar	2080	64	3.1
5.	Odisha	3398	241	7.1
6.	West Bengal	2387	253	10.6
7.	Gujarat	14623	159	1.1
8.	Madhya Pradesh	6671	877	13.1
9.	Chhattisgarh	2171	117	5.4
10.	Maharashtra	17422	2720	15.6
11.	Rajasthan	14051	117	0.8
12.	Haryana	3901	76	1.9
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1673	43	2.6
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	2127	7	0.3
15.	Punjab	3576	94	2.6
16.	Uttar Pradesh	10848	722	6.7
17.	Uttarakhand	261	32	12.3
18.	Andhra Pradesh	15238	484	3.2
19.	Karnataka	10423	267	2.6
20.	Kerala	2463	102	4.1
21.	Puducherry	467	5	1.1
22.	Tamil Nadu	17900	661	3.7
23.	Govt. of India	6234	415	6.7
TOTAL ALL INDIA		138961	7496	5.4

Closure of fertilizer manufacturing units

1819. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) whether many fertilizer manufacturing units have been closed, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

- (b) the decline in production and availability of fertilizers due to their closure;
- (c) the action taken to ensure unhampered supply of fertilizers;
- (d) whether any Empowered Committee of Secretaries has been constituted to assess the possibility of reopening of closed public sector fertilizer units; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR) : (a) Eight fertilizer units, five of Fertilizer Corporation of India limited (FCIL) *i.e.*, Talcher, Ramagundam, Sindri, Gorakhpur and Korba and three units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL) *i.e.* Barauni, Haldia and Durgapur are lying closed since the year 2002, due to variety of reasons such as vintage of plants, technological obsolescence, design and equipment deficiencies and lack of investment on upgradation/modernization. One urea unit of FACT was closed in 2003 due to no-viability of operation under New Urea Policy.

M/s Deepak Fertilizers & Petrochemicals Corporation Limited has been closed down from 14th May, 2014 onwards after stoppage of gas supply to it.

Apart from the above fertilizers units, the details of the temporary/annual shutdown of the urea units along with the reasons therefor during the year 2014-15 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (b) The details of the target and actual production of urea, OAP and complex fertilizers are as follows:-

(Figures in 000MT)

Fertilizers	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
	Production	Production	Production	Production
	(2013-14)		(2014 - Jan. 2015)	
Urea	23410.1	22715.4	20189.0	19229.3
OAP	5381.1	3611.0	4064.7	2763.5
Complex	8063.5	6913.0	8057.6	6713.3

The details of the demand and supply of urea, OAP, MOP and NPK are as follows:-

(Figures in 000MT)

Fertilizers	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
	(2013-14)			(2014- Feb. 2015)		
Urea	31690.15	30675.23	30454.20	29649.65	28679.23	28414.15
OAP	10985.67	7290.44	6903.04	9287.74	7216.14	6756.19
MOP	3513.32	2332.37	2192.25	2858.84	2877.63	2497.75
NPK	10735.57	7963.46	7515.98	9427.19	8454.19	7632.34

(c) To ensure availability of fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers takes following steps:-

The month-wise demand is assessed and projected by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) in consultation with the State Governments before commencement of each cropping season. On the basis of month-wise and State-wise projection given by DAC, DoF 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 DAC, DoF and Ministry of Railways with State Agriculture Officials and corrective actions are taken to dispatch fertilizer as indicated by the State Governments.
- (iv) The gap in the demand and domestic production of fertilizer is met through import.”

(d) An Empowered Committee of Secretaries (ECOS) was constituted in November, 2008 to evaluate all options of revival of closed Units of FCIL and HFCL, to

decide upon the action to be pursued for seeking investments towards revival of each of the Unit and recommend to the Government for approval. The ECOS recommended that the revival of these closed units would be through 'nomination route' by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and by private sector through 'bidding route'.

(e) Based on the recommendation of ECOS, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 4.8.2011 approved the Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for revival of all the closed units of FCIL and HFCL. DRS envisaged revival of Talcher unit by a consortium of M/s. Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited, M/s Coal India limited and M/s GAIL(India) Limited, revival of Ramagundam unit by M/s. Engineers India Limited and MIs. National Fertilizers Limited(NFL) and revival of Sindri unit by M/s Steel Authority of India Limited and NFL. Revival of Gorakhpur and Korba Units of FCIL and all three units of HFCL was to be done through 'bidding route'. In its meeting held on 9.5.2013, CCEA, *inter-alia*, approved waiver of Government of India loan and interest to facilitate FCIL to arrive at a positive net worth and action plan of revival of HFCL units to be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track. Accordingly, the process of revival of closed units of FCIL is in progress.

Though proposal/action plan on revival of units of HFCL to be taken up once revival of FCIL units is on track in terms of CCEA approval in May 2013, but, in the context of the recent announcement of the proposed Jagdispur-Haldia gas pipeline, Government is exploring the feasibility of fast tracking the revival of Barauni unit of HFCL through 'bidding route'.

Statement

Details of the temporary/annual shutdown of the urea units alongwith the reasons therefor during the year 2014-15

Name of the Unit	Period	Reasons
IFFCO – Phulpur - I	26th/27th January, 2015 to 31st March, 2015.	Annual shut down
IFFCO – Phulpur - II	7th December, 2014 to 26th January, 2015	Non allocation of domestic gas and annual shut down.
NFCL-I (Ammonia Plant)	03.07.2014 to 03.11.2014	Stoppage of gas from GAIL on account of blast in pipeline.

Name of the Unit	Period	Reasons
NFCL-I (Urea Plant)	23.02.2015 to 26.02.2015	Attending reactor liner leak.
NFCL-II (Ammonia and Urea Plant)	07.07.2014 to 15.08.2014	Stoppage of gas from GAIL.
NFL-Nangal	03rd February, 2015 to 31st March, 2015.	100% production achieved and annual shutdown.
NFL-Panipat	03rd March, 2015 to 01st week of April, 2015.	Annual shutdown.
NFL-Vijaipur-I	03rd March, 2015 to 03rd week of April, 2015.	Normal shutdown.
INDOGULF	27th February, 2015 to 31st March, 2015	Non allocation of domestic gas.
CFCL Gadepan-I	15th February, 2015 to 24th February, 2015	Due to technical reasons.
CFCL-Gadepan-II	08th February, 2015	Non allocation of domestic gas.
SPIC	01st October, 2014 to 6th January, 2015	As per the notification of DoF dated 02nd April, 2014, 03rd September, 2014 and 07th January, 2015.
MFL	08th October, 2014 to 07th January, 2015	
MCFL	01st October, 2014 to 10th January, 2015	

Nomination to the Telephone Advisory Committee

†1820. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has asked for the recommendations for nominations of members to the Telephone Advisory Committee by writing a letter to the Members of Parliament in September, 2014;

(b) if so, the month-wise details of number of members who have recommended the names;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is a fact that the above said nomination is much delayed and the Ministry is not providing satisfactory information; and

(d) the number of members on whose recommendation nominations have not been made till date and the time by which their recommendations were made and the details thereof?

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

(b) The number of Hon'ble Members of Parliament (MPs) who have recommended the names for Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC), during November-December, 2014 is 177 and during January-February, 2015 is 164.

(c) This is an ongoing process. As and when the requests from Hon'ble MPs are received, the same are processed for recommendations for Telephone Advisory Committee.

(d) One request is pending due to insufficient information provided by respective Hon'ble MP. On receipt of the details, the request be processed for recommendation of TAC.

Law for net neutrality

1821. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state whether Government is bringing a law with the concept of net neutrality for consumers, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : The issue pertaining to net neutrality are in consultative stage. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is contemplating release of a consultation paper covering issues related to 'Over The Top' (OTT) players, including net-neutrality. In addition to this, Department of Telecommunications has also constituted a committee to recommend overall policy response to net neutrality.

Persons employed in BSNL

1822. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed in BSNL along with those who are in substantive posts;

- (b) the number of sanctioned posts;
- (c) the number of posts which are vacant;
- (d) whether casual labourers are working in BSNL, if so, their number as on 31 March, 2014;
- (e) how many of them are working in BSNL for more than twenty five years, for 15-25 years and 5-15 years, respectively; and
- (f) whether Government has any plan to regularize them considering their long service?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has reported that there are 2,25,785 persons employed in substantive posts and 3469 persons engaged as casual labourers.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) and (e) As on 31.3.2014, 3469 number of casual labourers were working in BSNL. Of which details of persons working for more than twenty five years, for 15-25 years and 5-15 years are given below:

Persons working	Number of persons
For more than 25 years	153
For 15-25 years	2213
For 5-15 years	1089

(f) BSNL has informed that the law laid down in the judgment dated 10.04.2006 by a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal Nos. 3595-3612 of 1999 in the matter of Secretary, State of Karnataka and Ors. *Vs.* Smt. Uma Devi & Ors., the regularization of the existing casual labourers working in BSNL is not possible.

Poor mobile services by BSNL

1823. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that poor mobile services are provided by BSNL in comparison to services provided by private mobile companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof, along with the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that cases of disconnection have increased rapidly among the consumers in North Eastern Region (NER); and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) monitors the performance of service providers against the Quality of Service (QoS) benchmark parameters through quarterly performance monitoring reports received from service providers.

As per the performance monitoring report for the quarter ending September, 2014, BSNL is generally meeting the benchmarks for the network related parameters for its mobile services except in Assam, Bihar, Kolkata, North East Punjab and West Bengal service areas in parameters such as worst affected BTSs (Base Transceiver Stations) downtime, worst affected cells having more than 3% TCH (Traffic Channel) drop, percentage of calls answered by the operators at call centers.

BSNL is in financial distress and facing declining revenues from loss of market share and increasing expenditure. BSNL had been unable to invest in expansion of its network over the period 2008-2012. Other reasons like disruptions due to cable cuts arising from road development works, breakdown of cables due to old legacy network, power supply problem, inability to compete with private sector on the customer services and marketing etc. are also affecting the services of BSNL.

Government is committed to the expansion of mobile connectivity in all parts of the country including remote and inaccessible areas. Government has approved a proposal under Universal Obligation Fund Scheme (USOF) to implement a Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for North-Eastern Region to provide mobile coverage to 8621 identified uncovered villages, installation of 321 mobile tower sites along National Highways and strengthening of transmission network in North-Eastern States. Mobile coverage to balance uncovered villages in the country is to be provided in a phased manner over five years.

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 by BSNL include:

- Augmentation of its mobile network as part of its Phase-VII Project to create additional capacity of 15 million lines at an estimated cost of ₹ 4804.77 crores. This will result in addition of 14421 2G sites and 10605 3G sites across the country.
- In addition, 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 also 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.

Further, BSNL is taking various steps to improve its mobile network. The details of these steps are as follows:

- Monitoring of the Fault Repair Service System.
- Deployment of modern and state of art CDR (Call Detail Record) based Billing & Customer care system.
- Establishment of Customer Service Centers at all important locations in the country with “single window concept” to facilitate friendly interactions with the customers.
- Replacement of weak batteries and power plants to improve network uptime.
- Regular Radio Frequency (RF) optimization tests.

(c) and (d) Details of mobile connections in the North-East is maintained circle-wise. The details for Assam, North East-I & North East-II Telecom circles from 31.03.2011 to 31.01.2015 is as under.

Telecom Circle	Number of mobile connections as on				
	31.03.2011	31.03.2012	31.03.2013	31.03.2014	31.01.2015
Assam	1375989	1161479	1144499	1184703	1175639
NE-I	559240	733026	882540	618274	603683
NE-II	738823	733914	726677	749511	780477

Note: North East-I includes Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram

North East II includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland

Achieving the goals of good governance

1824. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of measures taken by the Ministry to achieve the goals of good governance;
- (b) whether the Ministry proposes to launch new IT products and technologies and strengthen the existing ones, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which all uncovered villages of the country are likely to be connected by mobile services; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Government of India is implementing the “Digital India” programme with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge economy. Under the Digital India programme, Government has proposed to implement e-Kranti which envisages provisioning of various e-Governance services in the country. The focus of the e-Kranti programme is to transform the e-Governance services by expanding the portfolio of Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) in e-Governance under various Government Departments, undertaking Government Process Reengineering (GPR), work flow automation, introducing latest technologies such as Cloud and mobile platform and focus on integration of services.

Besides this, the Government has launched “Good Governance and Best Practices” scheme which aims to promote/replicate the best practices of e-Governance and successful e-Gov applications. The ministries/departments are being encouraged to come up with new applications in uncovered domains under this scheme. The states/UTs have been requested to formulate suitable project proposals for development of new applications and replication of successful e-Governance applications in various domains. The Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) provides technical and financial assistance for this initiative.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government has undertaken several initiatives to introduce new IT products and technologies and to strengthen existing ones in its various e-Governance projects wherever applicable. In order to utilize and harness the benefits of Cloud

Computing, DeitY has initiated Meghraj- GI Cloud project which focuses on accelerating delivery of e-services to the citizens of the country while optimizing ICT spending of the Government. The project will ensure optimum utilization of the infrastructure and speed up the development and deployment of e-Gov applications. National Cloud under MeghRaj is operational since 4th Feb 2014 and 61 Departments are using the services of MeghRaj.

An e-Gov AppStore under MeghRaj is already operational (<https://apps.nic.in>). e-Gov AppStore is a central application repository which will host both cloud and non-cloud enabled applications. The latest technologies like IPv6, MPLS, IPsec for security and also 4G and LTE compliant are proposed to be considered for implementation where upgradation of the present State Wide Area Network (SWAN) project is undertaken in various States/UTs.

DeitY has launched a massive countrywide initiative on mobile governance, called “Mobile Seva”, to provide Government services to the people through mobile phones and tablets. Mobile Seva has been developed by DeitY as the core infrastructure for enabling the availability of public services through mobile devices. As a part of this initiative, the Framework for Mobile Governance was notified in February 2012. As on date, 1558 Central and State Govt. Departments are using Mobile Seva for providing SMS-based services and over 294 crore SMS notifications have been sent to citizens for various mobile based services. As on date, 398 public services have been made available to the citizens through this platform. A Mobile Applications Store (m-Appstore) has also been launched in Jan 2012 by DeitY as part of Mobile Seva. The Mobile Governance Portal and the m-Appstore can be accessed at <http://mgov.gov.in/>. The m-Appstore currently hosts 446 live mobile applications. The live applications can be downloaded and installed free of cost on a mobile phone by any person.

(c) and (d) A scheme to extend financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for provisioning of mobile communication services in inhabited uncovered villages of the country not having mobile coverage is under consideration. It is estimated that there are about 55,669 villages in the country that do not have mobile coverage.

Mobile coverage to balance uncovered villages is proposed to be provided in a phased manner over five years.

Providing mobile coverage to the uncovered villages in the North Eastern Region (NER) has been taken up initially as part of Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for NER.

Mobile coverage to balance uncovered villages is proposed to be provided in a phased manner over five years. Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Himalayan States (Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) and Border States (Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana and Gujarat) is targeted in the current financial year. State- wise list of Uncovered Villages is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise list of Uncovered Villages

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of Inhabited villages as per census 2011	No. of Uncovered Villages
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26286	3812
2.	Telangana		1009
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5258	2886
4.	Assam	25372	2885
5.	Bihar	39073	2534
6.	Chhattisgarh	19567	4041
7.	Goa	320	65
8.	Gujarat	17843	1275
9.	Haryana	6642	2
10.	Himachal Pradesh	17882	2416
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	6337	460
12.	Jharkhand	29492	5949
13.	Karnataka	27397	0
14.	Kerala	1017	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	51929	5926
16.	Maharashtra	40959	4792
17.	Manipur	2515	610
18.	Meghalaya	6459	2389
19.	Mizoram	704	258

1	2	3	4
20.	Nagaland	1400	137
21.	Odisha	47675	10398
22.	Punjab	12168	91
23.	Rajasthan	43264	770
24.	Sikkim	425	23
25.	Tamil Nadu	15049	113
26.	Tripura	863	2
27.	Uttar Pradesh	97814	266
28.	Uttarakhand	15745	1876
29.	West Bengal	37469	487
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	396	190
31.	Puducherry	90	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	65	5
33.	Daman and Diu	19	1
34.	Lakshadweep	6	1
35.	Chandigarh	5	0
36.	Delhi	103	0
TOTAL		597608	55669

Short distance charging areas

1825. SHRI SALIM ANSARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are urban and rural Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCA) in the country for the purpose of 3G rollout obligations;
- (b) if so, the number of urban and rural SDCA in each State along with their names;
- (c) whether Government has issued any notification about names of urban and rural SDCAs; and

(d) if so, the details of criteria used and the date of notification, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d) The Licence Service Area (LSA)-wise list (except for Metro LSAs of Delhi, Mumbai & Kolkata) of rural Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA) has been issued from time to time for the purpose of 3G roll out obligation. The SDCA was designated as rural SDCA in cases where more than 50% of the population was rural population. The LSA-wise details like number, names and date of issue of list of rural SDCAs are given in the Statement.

Statement

The License Service Area (LSA)-wise details of rural SDCAs as on 01.09.2010.

Sl.No.	Details
1.	<p>LSA: Andhra Pradesh, Total No. of SDCAs=239, No. of Rural SDCAs=215, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=24, Date of Issue=28.10.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Adilabad, Asifabad, Bellampalli, Bhainsa, Chennur, Echoda, Khanapur, Luxitpet, Nirmal, Sirpur Khagaz Nagar, Utnoor, Darmavaram, Garladinne, Gooty, Hindupur, Kadiri, Kalyandurg, Kambadur, Kanaganapalli, Madakasira, Nallacheruvu, Penukonda, Rayadurga, Tadiparti, Uravakonda, Yellanur, Badvel, Jammalamadugu, Kamalapuram, Kodur, Lakkireddipalli, Proddatur, Pulivendula, Rajampet, Rayachoty, Siddavatam, Vainpalli, B.Kothakota, Bangarupalem, Chittoor, Kupppam, Madanapalli, Pakala, Palamaner, Piler, Punganur, Puttur, Satyavedu, Sodam, Srikalahasti, Vayalpadu, Venkatagirikota, Amalapuram, Cheviti Dibbalu, Mandapeta, Peddapuram, Pithapuram, Rajahmundry, Ramachandrapuram, Razole, Tuni, Yeleshwaram, Yellavaram, Bapatia, Krosur, Macherla, Mangalagiri, Narasaraopet, Piduguraila, Repalle, Sattenappali, Tenali, Vinukonda, Husnabad, Huzurabad, Jagityal, Mahadevapur, Manthani, Metpalli, Peddapalli, Siricilla, Aswaraopet, Badrachalam, Burgampahad, Khammam, Kothagudem, Madhira, Nugur, Satupalli, Tekulapalli (Sudmella), V.R.Puram, Yellandu, Adoni, Allagadda, Alur, Atmakur, Banganapalli, Dronachalam, Kodumur, Koilakuntia, Nandikotkur, Nandyal, Pattikonda, Peapally, Challapalli, Gudivada, Jaggaiahpet, Kaikaluru, Machilipatnam, Myalavaram, Nandigama, Nuzividu, Tiruvuru, Vuyyur, Achampet, Amangal, Atmakur, Gadwal, Kalwakurthy, Kodangal, Kollapur, Mahaboobnagar, Maktal, Nagarkurnool, Narayanapet, Sadnagar, Santhinagar, Wanaparthy, Gajwel,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Jogipet (Andole), Medak, Narasapur, Narayanakhed, Sangareddy, Siddipet, Zaheerabad, Bhuvanagir, Huzurnagar, Nalgonda, Nampally, Nidavanoor, Ramannapet, Thungathurthy, Atmakur, Chejerla, Gudur, Kavali, Kovvur, Rapur, Sulluripet, Udayagiri, Venkatagiri, Vijamur, Armoor, Banswada, Bodhan, Dichpally, Kamareddy, Madnoor, Yellareddy, Cumbum, Darsi, Donakonda, Giddalur, Kandukur, Kanigiri, Markapur, Ongole, Pamur, Podili, Santhamaguluru, Ulavapadu, Yerragondapalem, Chevella, Ghatkesar, Ibrahimpatnam, Pargi, Shamshabad, Tandoor, Vikarabad, Palakonda, Pathapatnam, Srikakulam, Tekkali, Anakapalle, Araku, Bheemunipatnam, Chintapalli, Chodavaram, Narsipatnam, Paderu, yellamanchili, Bobbili, Gajapathinagaram, Garividi, Parvathipuram, Saluru, Srungavarapukota, Bhimadole, Bhimavaram, Chintalapudi, Jangareddygudem, Nidadavole, Palakole, Polavaram, Tanuku, Tadepalligudem, Cherial, Eturinagaram, Jangaon, Mahaboobabad, Mulugu, Narasampet, Parkal, Wardhannapet.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Mancherial, Ananthapur, Cuddapah, Chandragiri, Kakinada, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Nandyal, Srisailam, Vijayawada, Miryalaguda, Suryapet, Nellore, Nizamabad, Addanki, Chirala, Hyderabad, Medchal, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Eluru, Warangal.</p>
2.	<p>LSA: Assam , Total No. of SDCAs=47, No. of Rural SDCAs=46, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=1, Date of Issue=24.05.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Barpeta Town, Barpeta Road, Bijni, Bongaigaon, Dhubri, Bilashipara, Golpara, Gossaigaon, Kokhrajhar, Nalbari, Dibrugarh, Moran, Tinsukia, Sadia, Margherita , Doomdooma, Golaghat, Bokakhat, Jorhat, Marian, Majuli, Sibsagar, Bijoynagar, Rangia, Hamren, Bokajan, Howraghat, Morigaon, Hojai, Nagaon, Udarbond, Silchar, Hailakandi, Haflong, Umrangshu, Karimganj, Mongoldoi, Dhemaji, Jonai, Lakhimpur, Udalguri, Tejpur, Rangapara, B Chriali.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Guwahati.</p>
3.	<p>LSA: Bihar, Total No. of SDCAs=179, No. of Rural SDCAs=172, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=7, Date of Issue=12.09.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Arrah, Piro, Buxar, Dumraon, Barauni, Begusarai, Bagha, Bettiah, Narkaliaganj, Ramnagar, Amarpur, Banka, Katoria, Bhagalpur, Kahaigaon, Naugachhia, Gopalganj, Hathua, Sidhwalia, Chapra, Ekma, Mashrakh, Sonapur, Maharajganj, Mairwa, Siwan, Benipur, Darbhanga, Singhwara, Aurangabad,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Daudnagar, Nabinagar, Ratiganj, Gaya, Imamganj , Sherghati, Wazirganj, Arwal, Jehanabad, Nawada, Pakribarawan, Rajaul, Bidupur, Hajipur Mahua, Mahua, Araria, forbesganj, Raniganj, Barsoi, Katihar, Korha, Banmanki, Dhamdaha, Purnia, Gogri, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Benipatti, Jainagar, Jhanjharpur, Madhubani, Phulparas, Areraj, Bara Chakia, Dhaka, Motihari, Pakridayal, Raxaul, Chakai, Jamui, Jhajha, Mallehpur, Lakhisarai, H.Kharagpur, Munger, Sheikhpura, Motipur, Muzaffarpur, Sheohar, Purpi, Sitamarhi, Bihar Shrif, Hilsa, Barh, Bikram, Danapur, Madhepura, Uda Kishanganj, Saharsa, Simri Bakhtiarapur, Birpur, Supaul, Triveniganj, Dalsinghsarai, Rosera, Samastipur, Adhaura, Shabhua, Mohania, Banjari, Bikramganj, Rohtas, Sasaram, Bermo, Gomia, Chatra, Hunterganj, Simaria, Deoghar, Madhupur, Govindpur, Dumka, Jarmundi, Kathlkund, Baharagora, Ghatshila, Bhandaria, Bhawnathpur, Garhwa, Nagaruntari, Bagodar, Giridih, Isrtbazar, Rajdhanwar, Tisri, Godda, Mahagama, Basia, Chainpur, Ghaghra, Gumla, Palkot, Barhi, Barkagaon, Chauparan, Hazaibagh, Ichak, Ramgarh, Jamtara, Nala, Jhumritelaiya, Balumath, Barwadth, Garoo, Latehar, Lohardaga, Maheshpur, Raj, Pakur, Bishrampur, Chainpur, Daltonganj, Japla, Patan, Khunti, Torpa, Bundu, Itki, Mandar, Muri, Rajmahal, Sahebganj, Chandil, Kharsawangarh, Saraikela, Bolwa, Kolebira, Simdega, Chaibasa, Chakradharpur, Jagannathpur, Jhinkpani, Manoharpur.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Patna, Bokaro, Dhanbad, Jamshedpur, Mandu, Ranchi, Noamundi.</p> <p>4. LSA: Gujarat, Total No. of SDCAs=164, No. of Rural SDCAs=157, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=7, Date of Issue=27.08.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Ahmedabad, Bareja, Dhandhuka, Barwala, Dholka, Sanand, Viramgam, Dehgam, Gandhinagar, Kalol, Amreli, Babra, Bagasara, Dhari/CHALALA, Lathi, Rajula Savarkundla, Sarvarkundla, Amod, Ankleshwar, Bharuch, Jambusar, Jhagadia, Valia, Dedlapada, Rajplpla, Bhavnaqar, Botad, Gadhada, Garladhar, Mahuva, Palitana, Sihor, Sihor, Vallbhipur, Bhachau, Lakhpat (Dayapar), Mundra, Nakhtrana, Nalia, Kutch Mandvi, Gaqodar, Rapar, Khavada, Sumarasar, Bhuj, Godhra, Haloi, Lunawada, Santrampur, Sehra, Devgadhbaria, Dahod, Jhalod, Limkheda, Bayad, Bhiloda, Himatnagar, Idar, Khedbrahma, Malpur, Modasa, Prantlj, Bhanvad, Bhatla, Dhrol, Jamjodhpur, Jamnagar, Jodia, kalavad, Khambhalla, Lalpur, Junagadh, Keshod, Kodnar, MaliaHatina, Manavadar, Mangrol, Talala, Una, Vanthli, Veraval, Visavadar, Kutlyana, Porbandar, Ranavav,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Mehsana, Chanasma, Kheralu, Sidhpur, Ulsnagar, Vljapur, Harii, Patan, Anand, Borsad, Cambay, Petlad, Balasinor, Kapadwanj, Kheda, Nadiad, Thasra, Danta, Dessa, Deodar, Dhanera, Palanpur, Thara, Tharad, Vadgam, Wav, Radhanpur, Santalpur, Dhoraji, Gondal, Jasdan, Jetpur, Kotda Sangani, Malia Miyana, Morvi, Paddhari, Upleta, Wankaner, Bardoll, M.M.Mangrol, Mandvi, Sayan, Nizar, Fort Songadh, Valod, Vyara, Chotila, Dasada, Dhrangadhra, Halvad, Lakhtar, Limbdi, Muli, Sayia, Vadodara, ChotaUdepur, Pavijetpur, Naswadi, Sankheda, Dabhol, Miyagam, Padra, Savli, Waghodla, Valsad, Vapi, Dharampur, Bilimora, Bansda, Navsari, Ahwa, Una, Vapi. Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Surendranagar, Surat, Rajkot, Dwarka, Anjar, Bareja, Ahmedabad.</p>
5	<p>LSA: Haryana, Total No. of SDCAs=54, No. of Rural SDCAs=52, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=2, Date of Issue=01.10.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Barara, Naraingarh, Chhachhrauli, Jagadhari, Panchkula, Palwal, Gurgaon, Nuh, Firozpurzirkha, Adampur, Hansi, Ellenabad, Sirsa, Fatehbad, Ratia, Tohana, Jind, Juliana, Narwana, Safidon, Assandh, Karnal, Nilokheri, Gharonda, Kurukeshetra, Pehowa, Cheeka, Kaithal, Panipat, Bawal, Kosli, Mahendergarh, Narnul, Bhiwani, Bhiwani Khera, Charkhi Oadri, Loharu, Tosham, Siwani, Jhajhar, Bahadurgarh, Meham, Gohana, Sonapat, Hisar, Barwala, Dabwali, Kalanwali, Jatusana, Rewari, Rohtak, Kalanpur.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Ambala, Faridabad.</p>
6.	<p>LSA: Himachal Pradesh, Total No. of SDCAs=33, No. of Rural SDCAs=32, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=1, Date of Issue=27.08.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Chamba, Pangi (Killar), Bharmor, Churah (Tissa), Kangra (Dharamsala), Dehra Gopipur, Nurpur, Palampur, Kullu, Banjar, Nirmand, Mandi, Jogindernagar, Sundernagar, Hamirpur, Una, Amb, Bilaspur, Solan, Arki, Nalagarh, Nahan, Poanta, Rajgarh, Rampur Bushahar, Rohru, Theog, Kalpa, Pooh, Spiti (Kaza), Keylong, Udaipur.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Shimla.</p>
7.	<p>LSA: Jammu and Kashmir, Total No. of SDCAs=34, No. of Rural SDCAs=32, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=2, Date of Issue=12.09.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Badgam, Anantnag, Pahalgam, Kulgam, Baramulla, Uri,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Sopore, Bandipora, Kupwara, Karnah, Pulwama, Akhnoor, Samba, Kathua, Basholi, Udhampur, Ramnagar, Reasi, Mahore, Doda, Bedarwah, Kishtwar, Ramban, Rajouri, Nowshera, Kalakote, Poonch, Kargil, Zaskar, Leh, Nubra, Nyoma.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Jammu, Srinagar.</p>
8.	<p>LSA: Karnataka, Total No. of SDCAs=180, No. of Rural SDCAs=164, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=16, Date of Issue=19.12.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Bagalkot, Jamkhandi, Mudhol, Badami, Biligi, Hungund, Doddaballapur, Hosakote, Nelamangala, Anekal, Chikkodi, Hukkeri (Sankeshwar), Khanapur, Raibag (Kudchi), Ramdurg, Saundatti, Huvinahadagall, Kudligi, Sandur, Siruguppa, H.B.Hall, Bidar, Basavakalyan, Bhalki, Humnabad, Aurad, Muddebihal, Chamrajnagar, Gundlupet, Chikkaballapur, Gowribidanur, Chintamani, Sidlaghatta, Sagepalli, Chikmagalur, Kadur, Koppa, Mudigere, Narsimharajapur, Tarikere, Chitradurga, Hiriya, Holalkere, Hosadurga, Molkalmuru, Puttur, Bantwal, Belthangady, Sullia, Channagiri, Harapanahalli, Honnali, Jagalur, Hubli, Kalghatagi, Kundgol, Navalgund, Nargund, Mundargi, Ron, Shirahatti, Sedam, Chincholi, Chittapur, Jewargi, Hassan, Arsikere, Channarayana, Holenarasipura, Sakleshpur, Alur, Belur, Haveri, Hangal, Savanur, Ranebennur, Hirekerur, Madikeri, Somwarpet, Virajpet, Kolar, Bangarpet, Malur, Mulbagal, Srinivasapur, Koppal, Garigawati, Kustagi, Yelburga, Mandya, Malavalli, Krishna Raja Pet, Nagamangala, Pandavapura, Hunsur, K.R.Nagar, Nanjangud, H.D.Kote, T.Narsipura, Manvi, Sindhanur, Deodurga, Lingsugur, Channarayana, Kanakapura, Bhadravati, Hosanagara, Shikaripura, Sorab, Thirthahalli, Tumkur, Chikkanayakiahalli, Kunigal, Madugeri, Sira, Tiptur, Gubbi, Koratagere, Pavagada, Foruvekere, Udupi, Joida, Bhatkal, Kumta, Ankola, Haliyal, Honnavar, Mundagoda, Siddapur, Yellapur, Yadgiri, Shahapur, Bailhongai, Murugod, Athani, Alnapur, Gokak, Mudalgi, Bijapur, Babies liwar, Indi, Chadchar, Stndagi, Devarahippargi, Telgi, Basavanabagevadi, Kollegal, Cowdaballi, Challakere, Taliak, Aland, Nimbarga, Afzalpur, Mashal, Sagar, Kargal, Karkala, Hebl, Kundapura, Shankararayana, Sirsi, Salkani, Hunsagi, Shorapur.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Bangalore, Belgaum, Hospet, Mangalore, Davangere, Gadag, Mysore, Raichur, Karwar, Bellary, Kurugodu, Gulbarga, Kamalapur, Wad, Shimoga, Basavapatna.</p>

Sl.No.	Details
9.	<p>LSA: Kerala, Total No. of SDCAs=77, No. of Rural SDCAs=69, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=08, Date of Issue=19.12.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Taliparamba, Payyannur, Kasaragode, Uppala, Munnar, Adlmaly, Pathanamthitta, Adoor, Ranno, Pathanamthitta, Androth, KalpenI, Amini, Kadamath, Kftan, Chetlet, Bitra, Cherthala, Alleppey, Mavelikkara, Badagara, Kalpetta, Mananthavady, Payyannur, Taliparamba, Thalassery, Kasaragode, Kanhangad, Uppala, Moovattupuzha, Peermedu, Nedumkandam, Thodupuzha, Munnar, Adimaly, Kottayam, Pala, Kanjirappally, Vaikom, Manjeri, Nilambur, Perinthalmanna, Tirur, Palakkad, Shornur, Mannarkkad, Koduvayur, Alathur, Adoor, Pathanamthitta, Ranni, Thiruvalla, Karunagapally, Kollam, Punalur, Irinjalakkuda, Kunnankulam, Thrissur, Vadakkanchery, Trivandrum, Attingal, Nedumangad, Agathi, Bitra, Chetlet, Kadamath, Kiltan, Androth, Kalpeni.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Agathi, Kavarathy, Kozhikode, Kannur, Ernakulam, Minicoy, Kavarathy, Aminl.</p>
10.	<p>LSA: Madhya Pradesh, Total No. of SDCAs=358, No. of Rural SDCAs=346, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=12, Date of Issue=24.05.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Balaghat, Baihar, Birsā, Damoh (BLG), Katangi, Lamta, Lanjhi, Waraseoni, Betul, Athner, Bhainsdehi, Bhimpur, Chicholi, Ghoradongri, Multai, P.Pattan, Gauharganh, Sehore, Budhani, Ichhawar, Nasrullaganj, Ashta, Chhatarpur, Bijawar, Buxwaha, Badamalehra, Gaurihar, Khajuraho, Laundi, Nowgaon, Tikamgarh, Jatara, Niwari, Baldeogarh, Chhindwara, Batkakhapa, Amarwara, Chaurai, Harrai, Junnardeo(Jamai), Parasia, Pandurna, Saunsar, Tamia, Damoh (BLG), Hatta, Jaberā, Patera, Patharia, Tendukheda, Bagli, Kannod, Khategaon, Sonkatch, Dhar, Badnawar, Dharampuri, Manawar, Kukshi, Sardarpur, Ashok Nagar, Chanderi, Esagarh, Mungaoli, Guna, Bamori, Chachora, Arone, Raghogarh, Datia, Bhander, Seondha, Dabra, Bhitwar, Harda, Khirkiya, Timarni, Hoshangabad, Pachmarhi, Piparia, Seonimalwa, Sohagpur, Depalpur, Mhow, Sanwer, Panumariya, Kundam, Patan (JBP), Sihora, Katni, Vijayraghogarh, Alirajpur, Jhabua, Jobat, Petlawad, Sondhwa, Thandla, Burhanpur, Khaknar, Khandwa, Harsud, Baldi (BIR), Khalwa, Pandhana, Punasa, Barwani, Khetia, Rajpur, Sendhwa, Khargone, Bhikangaon, Gogawa, Kasrawad, Barwaha, Maheshwar, Ziria, Dindori, Karanjia, Shahpura, Mandla, Ghughari, Kakaiya,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Bijadandi, Mawai, Nainpur, Niwas, Mandsaur, Garoth, Malhargarh, Bhanpura, Sitamau, Neemuch, Manasa, Jawad, Bhind, Gohad, Lahar, Mehgaon, Morena, Joura, Ambah, Sabalgarh, Sheopurkalan, Karahal, Raghunathpur, Baroda, Vijaypur, Narsinghpur, Gadarwara, Gotegaon, Kareli, Chichli, Panna, Gunnore, Ajaigarh, Pawai, Shahnagar, Raisen, Begumganj, Gairatganj, Bareli, Silwani, Udaipura, Rajgarh, Khilchipur, Narsinghgarh, Biora, Sarangpur, Ratlam, Jaora, Alote, Sailana, Rewa, Mauganj, Hanumana, Sirmour, Teonthar, Sagar, Bina, Deori, Khurai, Rahatgarh, Rehli, Banda, Satna, Jaitwara, Maihar, Majhgawan, Nagod, Amarpatan, Seonimalwa, Ghansore, Gopalganj, Keolari, Lakhnadon, Chhapara, Jaitnar, Karpur, Pusprajgarh, Sohagpur (Shadol), Jaisinghnagar, Jaitpur, Khannodhi, Beohari, Bandhavgarh, Birsinghpur, Manpur, Shujalpur, Berchha, Agar, Shajapur, Susner, Badarwas, Karera, Khaniadhana, Kolaras, Narwar, Pichhore, Pohri, Sidhi, Churhat, Deosar, Kusmi, Majholi, Chitrangi, Singrauli, Barnagar, Ghatia, Khachrod, Mahidpur, Tarana, Vidisha, Gyaraspur, Kurwai, Lateri, Nateran, Sironj, Ganjbasoda, Jagdalpur, Lohandiguda, Bastanar, Bakaband, Netnar, Kondagaon, Farasgaon, Makdi, Keshal, Bade Rajpur, Bijapur, Ilamidi, Chingmut, Bhopalpatnam, Jarwa, Luckwada, Toynar, Bhairamgarh, Bilaspur, Marwahi, Pendra, Kota, Mungeli, Lormi, Dantewada, Kuakonda, Sukma, Chhindargarh, Bachel, Gogundam, Konta, Dhamtari, Nagri, Kurud, Patan, Dhamada, Dallirajhara, Balod, Bemetra, Berla, Janjgir, Dabhara, Sakti, Chandipara, Pondishankar, Jashpurnagar, Tapkara, Kunkuri, Pathalgaon, Bagicha, Kawardha, Bodla, Pandaria, Kanker, Sarona, Bhanupratappur, Durgkondal, Anantgarh, Koyelibeda, Pakhanjur, Pondiuproda, Kartala, Pali, Pasan, Kathghora, Baikunthpur, Mahendragarh, Kathadol, Bharatpur, Mahasamund, Bagbahara, Basna, Saraipadi, Narayanpur, Padamkot, Garpa, Raigarh, Sarangarh, Dhramjaigarh, Charghoda, Arang, Bhatapara, Bolda Bazar, Kasdol, Bilaigarh, Fingeshwar, Gariaband, Manipur, Deobhog, Rajnadgaon, Chhuriyakala, Manpur, Mohla, Khairagarh, Dondargarh, Chhuikhadan, Ambikapur, Udaipura, Sitapur, Ramchandrapur (Pal), Balrampur, Wadrafanagar, Rajpur, Semari, Surajpur, Odgi, Premnagar, Pratappur.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Bhopal, Dewas, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Anuppur, Umariya, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Durg, Korba, Raipur.</p>
11.	<p>LSA: Maharashtra, Total No. of SDCAs=310, No. of Rural SDCAs=281, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=29, Date of Issue=19.12.2013</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Akole, Sangamner, Kopargaon, Shrirampur, Nevasa, Shevgaon, Pathardi, Rahuri, Parner, Shrigonda, Karjat, Jamkhed, Akot, Akola, Murtizapur, Balapur, Barshitakali, Achalpur, Daryapur, Chandur Rly, Chandur Bazar, Chikhaldara, Dharni, Morshi, Nandgaon Khandeshwar, Tiosa, Warud, Kannad, Khultabad, Vaijapur, Gangapur, Paithan, Soygaon, Ambejogai, Ashti, Beed, Gevrai, Kaij, Majalgaon, Patoda, Sakoli, Lakhandur, Pauni, Bhandara, Mohadi, Tumsar, Buldhana, Chikhali, Deolgaon Raja, Sindkhed Raja, Lonar, Mehakar, Khamgaon, Nandura, Malkapur, Jalgaon Jamod, Rajura, Mul, Gondpipri, Warora, Bhadrawati, Chimur, Nagbhid, Bramhapuri, Sindewahi, Shirpur, Shindkheda, Chamorshi, Desaiganj, Dhanora, Etapalli, Bhamragad, Aheri, Kurkheda, Sironcha, Arjunimrgaon, Gondia, Tiroda, Goregaon, Amgaon, Salekasa, Deori, Hingoli, Kalamnuri, Basmath, Amalner, Pachora, Bhusawal, Chalisgaon, Chopda, Erandol, Jamner, Muktainagar (Edlabad), Pachora, Parola, Raver, Yawal, Jalna, Partur, Ambad, Bhokardan, Ajara, Gargoti, Chandgad, Gadhinglaj, Bavada, Murgud, Karveer, Panhala, Radhanagari, Malakapur, Jaysingpur, Latur, Ausa, Nilanga, Ahmedpur, Udgir, Bhiwapur, Hingna, Kalmeshwar, Katol, Kuhi, Mouda, Narkhed, Parseoni, Ramtek, Saoner, Umred, Bhokar, Biloli, Degloor, Hadgaon, Kandhar, Kinwat, Daheli Tanda, Mukhed, Nandurbar, Navapur, Shahada, Dhadagaon, Taloda, Kalwan, Surgana, Baglan, Chandvad, Dindori, Peint, Trimbakeshwar, Igatpuri, Sinnar, Niphad, Yevla, Panjim, Ponda, Osmanabad, Tuljapur, Kallam, Paranda, Omerga, Bhoom, Parbhani, Gangakhed, Jintur, Pathri, Alibag, Pen, Karjat, Khopoli, Pali, Roha, Murud, Mangaon, Mhasla, Shrivardhan, Mahad, Poladpur, Rajapur, Lanja, Chiplun, Khed, Guhagar, Dapoli, Mandangad, Atpadi, Jath, Khanapur, K-Mahankal, Shirala, Tasgaon, Walwa, Satara, Medha, Wai, Mahabaleshwar, Shirwal, Patan, Dahiwadi, Karad, Sawantwadi, Kankavali, Kudal, Vengurla, Malvan, Devgad, Akkalkot, Barshi, Karmala, Malsiras, Mangalwedha, Mohol, Madha, Pandharpur, Sangola, South Solapur, Sanguem, Canacona, Murbad, Shahapur, Wada, Jawhar, Mokhada, Palghar, Dahanu, Talasari, Wardha, Deoli, Arvi, Hinganghat, Samudrapur, Seloo, Talegaon (Sp), Mangrulpir, Risod, Washim, Maregaon, Darwaha, Digra, Wani, Mahagaon, Pusad, Umarghed, Pandharkawda, Ghatanji, Babhulgaon, Ralegaon, Kalamb, Sillod, Golegaon, Dhule, Kusumba, Sakri, Pimpalner, Nagpur (Rural), Butibori, Nandgaon, Manmad, Ratnagiri, Malgund, Sangmeshwar, Devrukh, Khanapur, Tasgaon, Phaltan, Sakharwadi, Koregaon, Wathar Station, Vaduj, Pusegaon, Pirangut, Manchar, Baramati, Bhot, Junnar, Rajgurunagar, Lonavala, Saswad, Velhe, Sirhur, Nhavra, Daund, Kedgaon, Indapur, Walchandnagar.</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Nagar, Akola, Amravati, Aurangabad, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Jalgaon, Jalna, Nanded, Ichalkaranji, Karveer, Kamptee, Nagpur, Nanded, Malegaon, Nashik, Umrane, Chinchwad, Khadakwasla, Loni, Pune, Miraj, North Solapur, Madgaon, Bhiwandi, Kalyan, Vasai, Malegaon, Yavatmal.
12	<p>LSA: North East, Total No. of SDCAs=103, No. of Rural SDCAs=90, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=13, Date of Issue=11.04.2014.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Itanagar, Pasighat, Pakkekesang, Roing-III (MARISO), Dirang, Along, Nefra, Bameng, Khonsa, Seppa, Kolaring, Huri, Tali, Taliha, Daporizo, Mechuka, Tawang, Basar, Pangin, Mariyang, Tuting, Jairampur, Anini, Roing-II (ARDA), Roing-I, Tezu, Hayuliang, Chowkhem, Changlang, Sagalee, Jalukie, Mokokchung, Kohima, Wokha, Tuengsang, Dimapur, Kiphire, Phek, Zuenheboto, Mon, Imphal, Ukhrul Central, Ukhrul South (Kassemkhulen), Mao (Korang), Sadarhills (Kangpokai), Chandel, Churchandpur, Jiribam, Tamenglong, Chakpikarong, Jalukie, Wokha, Tuengsang, Dimapur, Kiphire, Zuenheboto, Ukhrul Central, Ukhrul South (Kassemkhulen), Mao (Korang), Sadarhills (Kangpokai), Chandel, Thinghat, Churchandpur, Jiribam, Tamenglong, Chakpikarong, Shillong, Cherrapunjee, Nongstoin, Mairang, Mawkyarwat, William Nagar, Mendipathar, Tura, Fulbari, Gabmara, Nongpoh, Jowai, Khliehriat, Dawki, Agartala, Khowal, Dharmanagar, R.K. Pur, Ambassa, Chiapui, Kolasib, Lungleh, Demagiri, Saiha, Serchhip.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Yangkiyang, Kalaktung (BOMDILA), Miao, Mokokchung, Kohima, Phek, Mon, Imphal, Thoubal, Bishenpur, Kailashahar, Belonia, Serchhip.</p>
13.	<p>LSA: Orissa, Total No. of SDCAs=124, No. of Rural SDCAs=123, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=1, Date of Issue=27.08.2013</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Anugul, Athmalik, Chhendipada, Palla Hara, Talcher, Balangir, Dunguripalli, Kantabanjhi, Patnagarh, Titlagarh, Balasore, Basta, Soro, Attabira, Bargarh, Padmapur, Paikamal, Sohela, Bhadrak, Chandbali, Boudh, Kantamal, Purunakatak, Athagarh, Cuttack, Narsinghpur, Barkote, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Hindol, Kamakhyanager, Parjang, Mohana, Parelakhemundi, R.Udayagiri, Aska, Berhampur, Bhanjanagar, Buguda, Chhatrapur, Digapahandi, Khallikote, Sorada, Jagatsinghpur, Paradeep, Dhanmandal, Jajpur Road, Jajpur</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Town, Kendrapara, Bagdehi, Jharsuguda, Bhawanipatna, Dharmagarh, Jayapatna, M.Rampur, Narlaroad, T. Rampur, Baliguda, Daringibadi, G. Udayagiri, Kotagarh, Phiringia, Tumudibandha, Jajpur Town, Kendrapada, Pottamundai, Anandapur, Barbil, Ghatgaon, Keonjhar, Telkoi, Balugaona, Bhubaneswar, Khurda, Boriguma, Jeopur, Koraput, Laxmipur, Nandapur, Sunabeda, Kalimela, Malkangiri, Mathili, Mottu, Bangiriposi, Baripada, Betnoti, Jashipur, Karanjia, Rairangpur, Udala, Komna, Nuapada, Rajkhariar, Dabugaon, Jhariagaon, Nawarangpur, Papadahandi, Umerkote, Daspalla, Nayagarh, Balugaon, Nimapara, Puri, Bisamkatak, Gudari, Gunupur, Kasipur, Rayagada, Jamankira, Jujomara, Kuchinda, Naktideuli, Rairakhol, Sambalpur, Birmaharajpur, Dunguripalli, Subarnapur, Banaeigarh, Hemgiri, Lahunipada, Rajgangpur, Rourkela, Sundargarh.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Jajpur Road.</p>
14.	<p>LSA: Punjab, Total No. of SDCAs=55, No. of Rural SDCAs=50, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=05, Date of Issue=28.10.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Ajnala, Rayya, Tarn Taran, Goindwal, Patti, Bathinda, Phul Mandi, Raman, Mansa, Sardulgarh, Zira, Fazika, Abohar, Faridkot, Kotkapura, Muktsar, Malout, Moga, Hoshiarpur, Garh Shankar, Balachour, Phillaur, Nakoder, Kapurthala, Sultanpur, Phagwara, Nawansher, Jagraon, Samrala, Sirhind, Nabha, Rajpura, Samana, Pathankot, Jugial, Batala, Qadian, Gurdaspur, Dinanagar, Rupnagar, Nangal, Kharar, Barnala, Malerkotla, Sangrur, Sunam, Ferozepur, Guruhar Sahai, Dasuya, Tanda.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Amritsar, Chandigarh, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Patiala</p>
15	<p>LSA: Rajasthan, Total No. of SDCAs=261, No. of Rural SDCAs=250, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=11, Date of Issue=11.04.2014.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Beawar, Kekri (E), Kekri(W) (Bhinai), Kishangarh(N) (Roopangarh), Kishangarh (S), Nasirabad, Sarwar, Alwar, Bansur, Behror, Kishangarhbas (Khairthal), Laxamangarh (Kherli), Mundawar, Rajgarh, Ramgarh, Thanagazi, Tijara (N) (Bhiwadi), Tijara (S), Barmer (C) , Barmer (E) (Gudda), Barmer(N) (Kanot), Barmer (s) Sindari, Barmer (SW) (Dhorimanna), Barmer(W) (Ramsar), Chohtan (N), Chohtan (S) (Gangasar), Pachpadra(E) (Korna), Pachpadra (W) (Balotra), Sheo(E), Sheo(W) (Harsani), Siwana (E) Samdari, Siwana (W), Bayana, Bharatpur, Deeg, Kaman, Nadbai, Roopbas, Asind, Banera, Hurda,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Jahajpur, Kotri, Mandal, Mandalgarh, Raipur, Shahapura, Bikaner(C) (Jaimalsar), Bikaner(N) (Chhatargarh), Bikaner(W) Poogal), Kolayat-I (Goddo), Kolayat-II, Kolayat-III(Bajju), Kolayat-IV(Daitra), Loonkaransar-I(Kanholi), Loonkaransar-II(Mahajan), Loonkaransar-III (Rajasarb), Loonkaransar-IV, Nokha(E), Sridungargarh(N), Sridungargarh(S), Nokha(W)(Nathusar), Bundi, Hindoli, Keshoraipatan, Nainwa, Churu, Rajgarh (Sadulpur), Ratangarh, Sardarshahar(S), Sardarshahar(N), Sujjanganarh(c) , Sujjanganarh (E), Sujjanganarh(W), Taranagar, Bari, Baseri, Dholpur, Aspur, Dungarpur, Sagwara, Jaisalmer-1(Ramgarh), Jaisalmer-10 (Khuri), Jaisalmer-11(Jaisalmer), Jaisalmer-12(Devikot), Jaisalmer-13(Myajlar), Jaisalmer-14 (Jheenjanilyali), Jaisalmer-2 (Sadhna), Jaisalmer-3(Nehdai), Jaisalmer-4 (Shahgarh), Jaisalmer-5 (Khuiyals), Jaisalmer-6 (Pasewar), Jaisalmer-7 (Mohargarh), Jaisalmer-8 (Mehrana), Jaisalmer-9 (Dhanaua), Pokran-1(Nachna), Pokran-2 (Madasar), Pokran-3 (Loharki), Pokran-4 (Pokran), Pokran-5 (Phalsoond), Aklera, Gangdhar, Jhalawar, Khanpur, Pachpahar (Bhawanimandi), Pirawa (Raipur), Chirawa, Jhunjhunu (N) (Bissau), Jhunjhunu (S), Khetri, Udaipurwati, Bilara (N) (Bhopalgarh), Bilara(S)(Piparcity), Jodhpur(W) (Jhanwar), Osian(E) (Dhanwara), Osian(N), Osian(S) (Mathania), Phalodi(E) (Lohawat), Phalodi(N)(BAP), Phalodi(S), Phalodi(W) (Baroo), Shergarh(N) (Deecho), Shergarh(S) (Balesar), Atru, Baran, Kishanganj(Bhanwargarh), Sahabad, Chhabra, Mangrol, Chhipaborad, Digod (Sultanpur), Pipalda (Sumerganj Mandi), Ramganj Mandi, Sangod, Deedwana, Degana, Jayal, Ladnun, Merta(E) (Merta-City), Merta (W) (gotan), Nagaur(E) (Mundwa Marwar), Nagaur(N), Nagaur(W) (Khinwsar), Nawa (Kuchamancity), Parbatsar(N)(Makrana), Parbatsar(S), Bali(N)(Sumerpur), Bali(S), Desuri(Rani), Jaitaran, Marwar-JN, Pali(N) (Rohat), Raipur, Sojat (Sojat-city), Gangapur, Hindaun, Karauli, Sapotra, Todabhim, Gangapur, Bamanwas, Bonli, Khandar, Sawaimadhopur, Bhadra, Hanumangarh, Noohar(C) (Rawatsar), Nohar(E), Nohar (W) (Jedasar), Suratgarh(N) (Goluwala), Sangaria, Tibbi, Anupgarh(E), Anupgarh(W) (Gharsana), Padampur, Raisinghnagar, Sadulshahar, Srikaranpur, Suratgarh(S), Dantaramgarh(E) (Shyamji), Dantaragarh(W), Fatehpur, Laxamgarh(E), Laxamangarh(W) (Nechwa), Neem Ka Thana, Sikar, Srimadhopur, Sanchoe(E), Sanchoe(W) (Hadecha), Ahore, Bhinmal(N), Jalore(e), Bhinmal(S) (Jasawantpura), Jalore(W) (Sayla), Pindwara, Abu Road, Reodar, Sheoganj(Posaliyan), Sirohi, Deoli, Malpura, Newai, Todaraisingh, Tonk (N)(Piploo), Tonk(S), Uniayara, Amet, Bhim(N), Bhim(S) (Dawer), Deogarh, Kumbalgarh(Charbhujaji), Nathdwara, Rajsamand (Kankorli), Dhariawad, Gogunda, Jhadol, Kherwara, Kotra, Saumber, Malvi (Fatehnagar),</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Sarada (Chawand), Vallabh Nagar, Rashmi, Begun(S), Chittorgarh, Dungla, Kapasan, Barisadri, Nimbahera, Barisadri, Pratapgarh(N), Dhariawad, Ghatol, Pratapgarh(S), Bagidore, Banswara, Gerhi, Ghatol, Kushalgarh, Amber, Bassi, Dudu, Jamwa-Ramgarh(Achroi), Kotputli, Phagi, Phulera(E) (Renwal), Phulera(W) (Sambhar), Virat Nagar(Shahpura), Dausa, Baswa, Lalsot.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Ajmer, Bhilwara, Bikaner (E) (Jamsar), Bikaner (S), Jodhpur (E), Ladpura (Kota), Pali(S), Sriganganagar, Tonk (S), Girwa(Udaipur), Jaipur.</p>
16.	<p>LSA: Tamil Nadu, Total No. of SDCAs=119, No. of Rural SDCAs=108, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=11, Date of Issue=24.05.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs:Nagapattinam, Mayiladuthurai, Mettupalayam, Pollachi, Cuddalore, Chidambaram, Virudhachalam, Villupuram, Gingee, Kallakurichi, Tindivanam, Ulundurpet, Arakandanallur, Dharmapuri, Harur, Palacode, Krishnagiri, Hosur, Denkanikottah, Uthangarai, Ramnad, Mudukulathur, Paramakudi, Devakottai, Sivaganga, Manamadurai, Tirupathur, Dindigul, Kodaikanal, Natham, Ottanchatram, Palani, Vendasandur, Batlagundu, Thirumangalam, Usilampatti, Theni, Namakkal, Velur, Rasipuram, Tiruchengode, Attur, Mettur, Omalur, Sankaridurg, Valapady, Yercaud, Thanjavur, Pattukkottai, Orathanadu, Kumbakonam, Papanasam, Mannargudi, Thiruthuraiipoondi, Thiruvarur, Kotagiri, Kovilpatti, Srivaikundam, Tiruchendur, Vilathikulam, Nanguneri, Sankarankoil, Tenkasi, Valliyoor, Ariyalur, Jayamkondam, Aravakurichi, Kulithalai, Perambalur, Pudukkottai, Aranthangi, Keeranur, Ponnamaravathy, Musiri, Thuraiyur, Manapparai, Tiruvannamalai, Arni, Chengam, Polur, Teruvettipuram, Wandiwash, Vellore, Arakonam, Gudiyatham, Ranipet, Tirupattur, Vaniyambadi, Virudhunagar, Aruppukottai, Bhavani, Gobichettipalayam, Perundurai, Sathyamangalam, Avinashi, Palladam, Udumalpet, Kangayam, Mulanur, Dharapuram, Thiruvallur, Ponneri, Tiruttani, Kancheepuram, Chenglapet, Chenglapet, Sriperumbudur, Karaikal.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs:Coimbatore, Madurai, Nagercoil, Salem, Thiruvarur, Ottacamund, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli, Erode, Tiruppur.</p>
17.	<p>LSA: Uttar Pradesh (East), Total No. of SDCAs=155, No. of Rural SDCAs=150, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=05, Date of Issue=01.10.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Karachhana, Sirsa, Phoolpur, Soraon, Lakhimpur, Bharwari,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Sadar, Lalganj, Jeanpur, Burhanpur, Phoolpur, Bhinga, Nanpara, Mihinpurwa, Mahsi, Kaiserganj, Ballia, Rasra, Bansdih, , Raniganj, Banda, Attara, Baberu, Karwi, Manikpur, Mau, Ramsnehi Ghat, Haidergarh, Nawabganj, Fatehpur, Basti, Harriya, Khalilabad, Mehdawal, Siddharth Nagar, Bansi, Dmariyaganj, Barhni, Deoria, Salempur, Barhaj, Padrauna, Khadda, Captainganj, Faizabad, Bikapur, Akbarpur, Baskhari, Tanda, Jalapur, Farrukhabad, Kaimganj, Kannauj, Chhibramau, Fatehpur, Gazipur, Bindki, Khaga, Saidpur, Ghazipur, Mohammadabad, Jamania, Gonda, Colonelganj, Tarabganj, Balrampur, Tulsipur, Utraula, Gorakhpur, Bansgaon, Balhalganj, Compierganj, Mahrajganj, Anandnagar, Hamirpur, Maudaha, Rath, Mahoba, Charkhari, Hardoi, Shahabad, Sandila, Madhoganj, Sandi, Baghauli, Jaunpur Sadar, Kerakat, Mariahau, Machhlishahar, Shahganj, Moth, Mauranipur, Garautha, Lalitpur, Mehrauni, Talbehat, Pukhrayan, Akberpur, Derapur, Bilhaur, Ghatampur, Nighasan, Dhaurahara, Mohammadi, Maigalganj, Bheera, Pallia, Malihabad, Ghosi, Mau, Chunar, Mirzapur, Hallia, Robertsganj, Obra, Dudhi I, Dudhi II, Kalpi, Konch, Jalaun, Orai, Pratapgarh, Patti, Kunda, Raebareli, Jais, Salon, Lalganj, Dalmau, Shahjahanpur, Powayan, Jalalabad, Tilhar, Maholi, Sitapur, Biswan, Mahmoodabad, Mishrikh, Sultanpur, Kadipur, Amethi, M. Khana, Unnao, Bighapur, Hasanganj, Safipur, Varanasi, Bhadoi, Chandauli, Chakia.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Allahabad, Bahraich, Jhansi, Kanpur Nagar, Lucknow.</p>
18.	<p>LSA: Uttar Pradesh (West), Total No. of SDCAs=115, No. of Rural SDCAs=109, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=06, Date of Issue=28.10.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Almora, Ranikhet, Bageshwar, Chamoli, Karanpryag, Champawat, Chakrata, Pauri-I, Lansdown-III, Lansdown-II, Lansdown-I, Pauri-II, Hardwar, Roorkee, Nainital, Chorgalia, Pithoragarh, Dharchula, Munsyari, Ukhimath, New Tehri, Pratap Nagar, Kashipur, Sitarganj, Rudrapur, Khatima, Bazpur, Dunda, Purola, Barkot, Bhatwari-I, Bhatwari-II, Devpryag-I, Devpryag-II, Joshimath-I, Joshimath-II, Jarar, Achhnera, Firozabad, Firozabad, Shikohabad, Jasrana, Atrauli, Khair, Aligarh, Hathras, Sadabad, Sikandrarao, Bisauli, Budaun, Dataganj, Babrala, Bilsa, Aonla, Baheri, Faridpur, Nawabganj, Bijnor, Chandpurj, Dhampur, Nagina, Najibabad, Bulandshahar, Debai, Khurja, Pahasu, Siana, Sikandrabad, Etah, Jalesar, Ganj Dundwara, Garhmukteshwar, Hapur, Modinagar,</p>

Sl.No.	Details
	<p>Chhata, Mat, Mathura, Mawana, Sardhana, Baghpat, Bilari, Sambhal, Moradabad, Hasanpur, Amroha, Budhana, Jansath, Muzaffarnagar, Kairana, Dadri, Jewar, Noida, Bisalpur, Pilibhit, Puranpur, Rampur, Shahabad, Deoband, Nakur, Saharanpur, Etawah, Bharthana, Mainpuri, Bhongaon, Karthal, Auraiya, Bidhuna, Kasganj, Ganj dundwara.</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Dehradun, Haldwani, Agra, Bareilly, Ghaziabad, Meerut.</p>
19.	<p>LSA: West Bengal, Total No. of SDCAs=73, No. of Rural SDCAs=68, No. of Non-Rural SDCAs=5, Date of Issue=01.10.2013.</p> <p>Names of Rural SDCAs: Bankura, Bishnupur, Gangajalghati, Khatra, Bardhaman, Ghuskara, Kalna, Katwa, Rampurhat, Bolpur, Nalhati, Suri, Cooch Behar, Dinhata, Mathabhanga, Mekliganj, Nagrakata, Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Contai, Haldia, Tamruk, Gangtok, Arambag, Champadanga, Jagatballavpur, Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri, Birpara, Malbazar, Kalchini, Malda, Bulbulchandi, Harischandrapur, Berhampur, Dhuliyan, Islampur (M), Kandi, Murshidabad, Jiaganj, Krishnagar, Bethuadahari, Karimpur, Ranaghat, Basirhat, Bongaon, Islampur (Nd), Dalkhola, Raigunj, Gangtok, Purulia, Adra, Jhalda, Manbazar, Sheharabazar, Canning, Diamond Harbour, Kakdwip, Gangarampur, Harirampur, Balurghat, Nayabazar, Kharagpur, Jhargram, Amlagora, Dantan, Ghatal, Nayagram (Kultikri), Nayabazar, Andaman, Andaman, Nicobar</p> <p>Names of Non-Rural SDCAs: Asansol, Durgapur, Siliguri, Dhaniakhali, Habra.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> 1) Bihar LSA includes State of Bihar and Jharkhand, 2) Madhya Pradesh LSA includes State of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, 3) Maharashtra LSA includes State of Maharashtra and Goa and excludes Mumbai, 4) North-East LSA includes States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. 5) Uttar Pradesh (W) LSA includes State of Uttarakhand, 6) Andhra Pradesh LSA includes States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, 7) Gujarat LSA includes State of Gujarat and UTs of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, 8) West Bengal LSA includes State of West Bengal and Sikkim and UT of Andaman & Nicobar and excludes Kolkata, 9) Punjab LSA includes State of Punjab and UT of Chandigarh, 10) Kerala LSA includes State of Kerala and UT of Lakshadweep, 11) Tamil Nadu LSA includes State of Tamil Nadu and UT of Pondicherry.</p>

**Report on industry's requirements for mobile and
communications development**

1826. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state whether any comprehensive report is being submitted by Indian Cellular Association/Cellular Operators Association of India to DoT with details of the industry's requirements for mobile and communications development in the country under 'Make in India' programme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : No Sir. However, a Fast Track Task Force, chaired by President, Indian Cellular Association (ICA) and having members from industry and Government, has been constituted by the Department of Electronics and Information Technology to re-establish and catalyse significant growth in mobile handset and component manufacturing eco-system in India.

Electronics Development Fund policy

1827. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to develop Electronic Development Fund (EDF) policy;
- (b) if so, the aims and objectives for setting up EDF;
- (c) whether this policy will include development of domestic design capabilities, creating intellectual property (II) rights, development of nano-electronics and IT, etc;
- (d) whether the policy aims at reducing trade deficit for the segment of exports and imports; and
- (e) the structure for such mechanism and the time period for framing and implementation of such policy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (e) Government of India has notified Electronic Development Fund (EDF) policy on 6th January, 2015 and it was published in Gazette of India on 9th January 2015.

The objective of the EDF policy is to support Daughter Funds including Early

Stage Angel Funds and Venture Funds in the area of Electronics System Design and Manufacturing, Nano-electronics and IT. The supported Daughter Funds will promote innovation, R&D, product development within the country in the specified fields of ESDM, nano-electronics and IT.

The Electronics Development Fund (EDF) shall be created in a financial institution like SIDBI or a similar organization.

It is expected that the start-ups and other intellectual property generated from such innovation will lead to creating a vibrant electronics product eco-system in the country. These products will meet both domestic demand as well as opportunities to export in other countries.

Some of the salient features of the policy are:

- (i) A Daughter Fund, to be eligible for support by the EDF, should be created within India, as per Indian laws and regulations.
- (ii) The Daughter Funds supported under the EDF should be professionally managed.
- (iii) An EDF Management Board including representatives of Department of Electronics and IT, Government of India, will be set up by the financial institution housing the EDF policy.
- (iv) The Funds realized on exit from Daughter Funds would be recycled through the EDF.
- (v) The policy would be available for approval of new Daughter Funds upto 31.3.2017.

Section 66A of the IT Act

1828.SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government believes that Section 66A of the Information Technology Act in its current form is in contravention to Article 19 of the Constitution; and
- (b) whether in view of its laudable Digital India ambition of bringing a billion Indians online, Government believes that Section 66A in its current form will impede its policy goals?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The Government fully respects the upholding of freedom of expression enshrined in Article 19(1)(a) and Article 19(2) of the Constitution. The Government further acknowledges the extraordinary reach and nature of internet and social media particularly in the field of information sharing and dissemination and its resultant advantages to the society. The Information Technology Act 2000 only seeks to regulate the use of cyberspace which would fall within any (if) and/or all categories stipulated under Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India. Therefore, the Government firmly believes that the provision of Section 66A in the Information Technology Act 2000 requires to be interpreted and understood strictly in the context of Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India.

Hon'ble Supreme Court is presently having judicial review of Section 66A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 in writ petition challenging the provision. The judgement is awaited. The directions given by Hon'ble Supreme Court will be implemented by the Government.

Mobile tower companies under licensing regime

1829. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state whether Government has any proposal to bring mobile tower companies under licensing regime, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : Sir, towers that are used for providing coverage of mobile services are generally installed by companies which have been granted Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) License, Unified Access Service License (UASL) or Unified License (UL), under Section 4 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 by Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India. Therefore such companies are already covered under licensing regime.

Further, to support the faster growth of telecom infrastructure including mobile tower, DoT has also created a separate registration category known as Infrastructure Providers Category-I (IP-I). The IP-I registered companies are permitted to create passive infrastructure such as tower, dark fibre, duct space etc. and provide the same to licensed telecom service providers.

Turn around plans for BSNL and MTNL

1830. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering for turn around plans for loss making BSNL and MTNL;
- (b) the reasons attributed to their continued losses while private sector players are able to make profit;
- (c) the response to the 3G services offered by BSNL in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana; and
- (d) whether there is any move to merge BSNL and MTNL, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Government is conscious that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are in financial losses. BSNL and MTNL are in the process of revival and revitalization through various short term, medium term and long term measures.

- (b) Main reasons of losses being incurred by BSNL and MTNL are as follows:
 - (i) Increase in expenditure caused by increase in salaries and wages due to implementation of the Second Pay Revision Committee recommendation. This led to an increase in salary expenditure which is more than 50% of revenue of BSNL and MTNL.
 - (ii) Decline in other income specifically from interest earned from the cash reserves. BSNL had to pay a sum of Rs.18,500 crores for all circles for obtaining spectrum in the 3G and BWA band and MTNL paid Rs.11098 crore for Delhi and Mumbai after the auctions of 2010 where the price of the spectrum was discovered. This led to drop in interest income and debt burden in case of MTNL.
 - (iii) Increase in repair and maintenance costs of old legacy network.
 - (iv) Decline in revenue due to loss in market share of landline and mobile subscribers.

- (v) Delay in expansion of mobile services GSM (Global System of Mobile communication) capacity during 2008-2012 in BSNL due to cancellation of tenders.

(c) BSNL has reported that all its 2G customers have been enabled with 3G facilities in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and it is providing 3G services as per the benchmarks prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. BSNL has reported that there has been improvement in data usage on its 3G mobile services in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

(d) Government is in the process of revival and revitalization of BSNL and MTNL. Amongst various options for revival of BSNL and MTNL is merger of the two CPSUs (Central Public Sector Undertakings). Merger of BSNL and MTNL may help in adopting a common approach to network infrastructure, enterprise business and customer service issues. Implications of merger are being studied.

Complaints against telecom service providers

1831. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the complaints against telecom service providers regarding insensitive consumer handling for the majority of the subscriber base, particularly in areas such as activation of value-added services without consent, inflated bills, overcharging, unfair deductions, disconnection without notice, call drops etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether a large number of complaints have been registered regarding Mobile Number Portability (MNP) services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by Government against the erring companies?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) does take note of complaints which are against the interest of consumers and complaints alleging practices adopted by service providers which are against the interest of consumers. TRAI is monitoring the performance of service providers

against the parameters (i) metering and billing creditability – postpaid (benchmark $\leq 0.1\%$) (ii) metering and billing creditability – prepaid (benchmark $\leq 0.1\%$), (iii) resolution of billing/charging/validity complaints (benchmark (98% within 4 weeks and 100% within 6 weeks) and (iv) period of credit/wavier / adjustment to customers account from the date of resolution of complaints (benchmark within 1 week of the resolution of complaint). Further following steps are also taken by TRAI:

- (i) Wherever non-compliance with the benchmark is observed the matter is persuaded with the service providers for improving quality of service. Also financial disincentives are imposed for such non-compliance.
- (ii) The metering and billing systems of the service providers are also audited every year through auditors appointed by the service providers from the panel notified by TRAI to identify billing / charging deficiencies. The service providers have to take corrective action to address such deficiencies, including refund of overcharge amounts to affected customers.
- (iii) TRAI has also issued various directions to service providers prescribing the manner in which the explicit consent of the consumer is to be obtained before activating Value Added Services. The provision of value added services by service providers is also audited by metering and billing auditors.

(c) and (d) A total of 17357 Mobile Number Portability (MNP) related complaints has been received with TRAI till January, 2015 since the implementation of the Mobile Number Portability Regulations, wherein the subscribers had reported that their porting requests were rejected by the donor operators on various grounds. It was noticed that in many cases rejection of porting requests of the subscribers done by the service providers was not in accordance with the provisions of the regulations. Accordingly following steps have been taken by TRAI:

- (i) Directions issued to concerned service providers to ensure compliance of Mobile Number Portability regulations, so that MNP process is smooth and convenient to the subscribers.
- (ii) Show cause notices issued against those service providers who had contravened the Mobile Number Portability regulations.
- (iii) TRAI issued “Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2012” dated 19th September, 2012 providing

financial disincentives for unjustified rejection of porting request and for violation of timelines specified in the regulations. Under these regulations Financial Disincentives of ₹ 94,553,000 /- have been levied on various service providers so far.

Social Media Policy

1832. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to frame a Social Media Policy and strategic dissemination and perception management on behalf of Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for convergence and integration of communication through an identified hub on behalf of Government on social media?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Framework and Guidelines for use of Social Media for Government Organisations has been formulated by Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY). These guidelines enable various agencies to create and implement their own strategy for the use of social media. The document helps them to make an informed choice about the objective, platforms and resources to meet the requirement of interaction with their varied stakeholders.

(b) The New Media Cell under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting disseminates information and publicizes various Ministries' initiatives through Multiple Social Media Platforms. This cell also facilitates the Ministries in having a presence on Social Media Platforms.

Implementation of NOFN in Goa

1833. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) project is being implemented in Goa;

(b) whether any Gram Panchayats have been provided facilities under the project;

(c) if so, the names of the Gram Panchayats benefited; and

(d) the proposed coverage under the project, if any?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) All Gram Panchayats of Goa have already been connected on optical fibre by the State Government.

(b) to (d) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Share of BSNL in mobile services market

1834. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR :

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

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

(a) whether share of BSNL in mobile phone services market has come down from 11.6 per cent in 2012 to 8.6 per cent in 2014;

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

(c) the reasons for this steep decline in the share of BSNL; and

(d) the steps Government would take to ameliorate this sorry state-of-affairs as the telecom PSU was once the backbone of country's telecom industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) The market share of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in wireless services has decreased from 10.72 % as on 31/03/2012 to 8.62% as on 31.12.2014, as given in table below :-

Year (as on)	31.03.2012	31.03.2013	31.03.2014	31.12.2014
Market Share (in %age)	10.72	11.66	10.46%	8.62%

Circle-wise details of market share of BSNL is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The main reasons for decline in market share of BSNL in mobile services are stiff competition in mobile sector, aggressive marketing of services by the private telecom operators and inadequate investment in expansion/modernization of its network over the period 2008-2012 leading to network coverage issues.

(d) BSNL is taking several steps to enhance market share and revenues through investments to strengthen its network and focus on customer care and service delivery to improve quality of service.

The investment projects being undertaken by BSNL include:

- Augmentation of its mobile network as part of its Phase-VII Project to create additional capacity of 15 million lines at an estimated cost of ₹ 4804.77 crores. This will result in addition of 14421 2G sites and 10605 3G sites across the country.
- Replacement of the entire network of wireline local exchanges by Internet Protocol (IP) enabled exchanges and deployment of Next Generation Network (NGN) equipment based on the latest architecture gradually to replace entire legacy telephone exchanges at an estimated cost of ₹ 600 crores.
- Migration of entire C-DOT (Centre for Development of Telematics) legacy telephone exchanges with technology solutions being developed by C-DOT at an estimated cost of ₹ 350 crores for which MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) has been signed between C-DOT and BSNL.

In addition, 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 also 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.

Further, BSNL is also taking the following steps to improve their mobile network:-

- Monitoring of the Fault Repair Service System.
- Deployment of modern and state of art CDR (Call Detail Record) based Billing and Customer Care System.
- Establishment of Customer Service Centers at all important locations in the country with “Single Window Concept” to facilitate friendly interactions with the customers.
- Replacement of weak batteries and power plants to improve network uptime.
- Regular Radio Frequency (RF) optimization tests.

Statement

Circle-wise details of market share of BSNL in wireless service during the last three years and current year (upto 31.12.2014)

Sl. No.	Circle	Market share of wireless services (%age) as on			
		31.03.2012	31.03.2013	31.03.2014	31.12.2014
1.	Andhra Pradesh &Telangana	13.50%	14.57%	14.77%	14.08%
2.	Assam	8.91%	8.59%	8.38%	7.77%
3.	Bihar including Jharkhand	9.66%	9.80%	5.27%	4.51%
4.	Gujarat	7.94%	8.32%	7.59%	5.59%
5.	Haryana	13.29%	15.91%	15.68%	14.11%
6.	Himachal Pradesh	21.05%	23.29%	20.14%	18.86%
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	16.59%	16.94%	16.01%	13.93%
8.	Karnataka	12.41%	13.47%	13.53%	11.77%
9.	Kerala	20.91%	25.16%	25.55%	21.67%
10.	Kolkata	9.71%	10.80%	4.08%	3.65%
11.	Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh	9.34%	10.05%	8.92%	6.51%
12.	Maharashtra including Goa	8.84%	10.05%	9.07%	7.07%
13.	North East	18.97%	19.60%	16.17%	14.97%
14.	Odisha	16.70%	18.35%	13.27%	12.73%
15.	Punjab	14.67%	15.04%	14.83%	10.31%
16.	Rajasthan	11.50%	12.28%	11.50%	6.51%
17.	Tamil Nadu including Chennai	12.52%	13.25%	13.07%	12.36%
18.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	13.48%	14.13%	13.56%	10.03%
19.	Uttar Pradesh (West) including Uttarakhand	8.95%	10.13%	9.19%	6.80%
20.	West Bengal including Sikkim	7.78%	8.77%	4.85%	4.28%

Note: North East includes Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland.

Excess foodgrains stock in the country

1835. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country is holding excess foodgrains stocks worth nearly 50,000 crore over and above the stipulated buffer limits;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government was able to offload less than 2 million tonnes from the 15 million tonnes to be liquidated; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) The stock of foodgrains in the Central Pool as on 16.2.2015 was 35.37 million tons against the minimum buffer norms of 21.41 million tons for January-March quarter.

(b) During the current year, Government of India has allocated 61.45 million tons of foodgrains for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/ National Food Security Act (NFSA), Other Welfare Schemes (OWS), natural calamities etc. This includes additional allocation of 5 million tons of foodgrains allocated during July, 2014 for Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. In addition, 10 million tons of wheat has been allocated under Open Market Sales Schemes Domestic (OMSS (D) during the current year. Out of 5 million tons of additional TPDS foodgrains and 10 million tons of OMSS (D) wheat allocations, total lifting upto February was 2.94 million tons and 3.95 million tons respectively.

- (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Procurement of paddy

1836. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of paddy procured throughout the country, during 2013-14 and 2014-15, State- wise; and
- (b) the figures of rice quota levied from the millers during 2013-14 and 2014-15?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) The quantum of paddy procured throughout the country, during the period Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2013-14 and Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15, State-wise is given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) The figures of rice quota levied from the millers from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2013-14 and Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15 is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of procurement of paddy during KMS 2013-14 and KMS 2014-15; State-wise

(Fig. in LMT)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15*
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.72	20.63
2.	Telangana	24.54	11.06
3.	Assam	0.00	0.12
4.	Bihar	14.07	9.37
5.	Chhattisgarh	63.96	50.06
6.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00
8.	Haryana	35.87	29.78
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	0.00	0.96
12.	Kerala	5.36	1.91
13.	Madhya Pradesh	15.59	11.95
14.	Maharashtra	2.40	1.79
15.	Odisha	41.75	12.70
16.	Punjab	120.98	116.14
17.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00

Sl.No.	States/UTs	KMS 2013-14	KMS 2014-15*
18.	Tamil Nadu	10.21	0.09
19.	Uttar Pradesh	9.07	18.18
20.	Uttarakhand	0.47	6.12
21.	West Bengal	10.62	9.26
	Others	0.17	0.16
	TOTAL	355.78	300.28

*Procurement during KMS. 2014-15 is under progress. Figure reported are as on 03.03.2015.

Statement-II

Levy rice received for KMS 2013-14 and 2014-15

(Fig. in LMT)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	KMS 2013-14		KMS 2014-15*	
		Levy Percentage (in %)	Qty. delivered in Central Pool	Levy Percentage (in %)	Qty. delivered in Central Pool
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	75	36.90		1.58
2.	Telangana	75	27.09		8.03
3.	Assam	50	0.00	25%	0.00
4.	Bihar	Nil	0.00	The Govt. of India vide letter	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	50	0.05	No. 6(1)/ 2007- Py.11/ dated	0.00
6.	Gujarat	Nil	0.00	07.07.2014 has	0.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	0.00	directed all the	0.00
8.	Haryana	25	0.02	State Govts not to impose	0.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	50	0.00	any levy on	0.00
10.	Jharkhand	Nil	0.00	rice from the millers exceeding	0.00
11.	Karnataka	25	0.00	25% of the	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Kerala	25	0.00	rice purchased or processed	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	0.00	or held by the	0.00
14.	Maharashtra	Nil	0.00	millers w.e.f. 01.10.2014.	0.00
15.	Odisha	25	0.03		0.00
16.	Punjab	Nil	0.00		0.00
17.	Rajasthan	Nil	0.00		0.00
18.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	0.00		0.00
19.	Uttar Pradesh	60	5.19		2.19
20.	Uttarakhand	75	4.31		0.19
21.	West Bengal	50	6.48		3.50
	Others	-	0.00		0.00
	TOTAL		80.07		15.49

*Procurement during KMS 2014-15 is under progress. Figure reported are as on 03.03.2015.

Impact of Central Food Security Scheme on similar schemes of State Governments

1837. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that some States are running their own food subsidy schemes similar to Central Food Security Scheme, if so, the expected impact of Central scheme on State-run schemes; and

(b) the details of schemes implementation in such States?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Government of India allocates foodgrains (rice and wheat) under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), to States and Union Territories (UTs) for distribution to 6.52 crore accepted number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families, which includes 2.42 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana

(AAY) families @ 35 kg per family per month at the Central Issue Price (CIP) of ₹ 3/- per kg for rice and ₹ 2/- per kg for wheat for AAY families and ₹ 5.65 per kg for rice and ₹ 4.15 per kg for wheat for BPL families. Allocation of foodgrains to about 11.52 crore Above Poverty Line (APL) families are also made depending upon the availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and the past offtake. Presently the allocation of foodgrains to APL families range between 15 and 35 kg per family per month. CIPs of foodgrains for APL category are ₹ 7.95 per kg. for rice (common) ₹ 8.30 per kg. for rice (grade 'A') and ₹ 6.10 per kg. for wheat. However, some States are distributing foodgrains under their own food subsidy schemes at various rates and quantity. The statements indicating State/UT- wise issue prices for foodgrains (rice & wheat) under existing TPDS and NFSA, 2013 at Fair Price Shops (FPSs) and scale of issue of foodgrains as reported by respective State/UT from time-to-time are at given in Statement-I to IV (*See below*).

National Food Security Act, 2013 notified on 10.09.2013 *inter alia* provides for coverage of up to 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population of the country for receiving 5 kg. of foodgrains at subsidized prices of ₹ 3/2/1 for rice, wheat and coarse grains respectively per persons per month under TPDS. The existing AAY households will however continue to receive 35 kg. of foodgrains per households per month. Further, Section 32 of the Act provides that the provisions of this Act shall not preclude the Central Government or the State Government from continuing or formulating other food based welfare schemes. It further provides that notwithstanding anything contained in the Act, the State Government may, continue with or formulate food or nutrition based plans or schemes providing for benefits higher than the benefits provided under this Act, from its own resources.

Statement-I*(As compiled on 31.12.2014)**Issue Prices at Fair Price Shops as reported by respective State/UT from time-to-time**(Part-I Under existing TPDS)*

Sl. No	States	BPL		AAY		APL		Rice Gr. A Rice	Reported as on
		Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Common		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.00	1.00	-	1.00				03.11.14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.85	7.35	-	4.70	7.80	10.00		24.02.14
3.	Assam	-	7.00	-	3.00	8.50	10.00		30.03.12
4.	Goa	4.80	6.15	-	3.00	6.60	-	8.95	12.12.14
5.	Gujarat	2.00	3.00	2.00	3.00	7.70	10.10 (Max. 6 kg.)		02.12.14
		(Max. 13 kg)	(Max. 3 kg)	(Max. 19 kg)	(Max. 16 kg)	(Max. 10 kg.)			
		7.70	7.20			12.5 kg			
		(Max. 9 kg)	(Max. 10 kg)			per head			
		(Wheat Spl.)	(Rice Spl.)						
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.80	6.40	2.00	3.00	7.25	10.00		09.04.12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	Jharkhand	-	1.00	-	1.00	6.88	9.21		06.03.14
8.	Kerala	2.00	1.00	-	1.00	-	8.90(9 kg.) 2.00(9 ka.)		22.01.14
9.	Manipur	5.80	7.30	-	4.65	7.75	9.95		21.03.14
10.	Meghalaya	-	5.94 to 10.00	-	3.00	7.80 to 8.25	8.94 to 12.00		19.05.14
11.	Mizoram	-	6.15	-	3.00	-	9.50		20.03.14
12.	Nagaland	6.25	6.15	2	3	6.10	8.30		21.03.12
13.	Odisha	-	1.00	-	1.00	7.00	-		09.06.14
14.	Sikkim	6.80	2.00	-	Free	8.92	9.00		04.12.13
15.	Tamil Nadu	7.50	Free of cost	7.50	Free of cost	7.50	Free of cost		16.07.14
16.	Telangana	7.00	1.00	7.00	1.00	-	-		18.11.14
17.	Tripura	10.00 (wheat flour)	2.00	10.00 (wheat flour)	2.00	10.00 (wheat flour)	-	10.35	10.12.14
18.	Uttar Pradesh	4.65	6.15	2.00	3.00	6.60	-		04.03.14

19.	Uttarakhand	2.00	3.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	8.45	01.04.14
20.	West Bengal	4.65	2.00	2.00	2.00	6.75	9.00	18.02.14
	(5.00 wheat flour 750 gms packet)							
21.	A&N Islands	4.45	6.05	2.00	3.00	7.70	10.00	29.05.14
22.	D&N Haveli	4.65	6.00	2.00	3.00	6.50	8.50	06.03.14
23.	Daman & Diu	4.80	6.45	2.00	3.00	6.90	-	07.05.13
24.	Lakshadweep	-	6.15	-	3.00	-	10.40	13.02.14
25.	Puducherry *	Free	Puducherry Karaikal-	-	Puducherry Karaikal	Free Puducherry/Karaikal-	10.10	10.12.14
			7.45		-3.00	Mahe/Yanam - Free		
			Mabel		Mahe/			
			Yanam-		Yanam -			
			Free		Free			

* 10 kg. Single boiled rice procured at open market rate is being distributed at free of cost to all card holders in Puducherry and Karaikal region from November, 2013.

Statement-II

Issue prices at Fair Price Shops as reported by respective State/UT from time-to-time (Part-II under NFSA, 2013)

(As compiled on 31.12.2014)

Sl. No	State/UT	AAY			Priority			BPL			APL			Reported as on
		Rice	Wheat	Coarse grains	Rice	Wheat	Coarse grains	Rice	Wheat	Coarse grains	Rice	Wheat	Coarse grains	
1.	Bihar	3.00	2.00	-	3.00	3.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26.06.14
2.	Chhattisgarh	1.00	-	-	1.00	1.00	-	-	-	-	9.50	6.75	-	20.11.14
3.	Delhi	3.00	2.00	-	3.00	2.00	-	-	-	-	9.25	7.05	-	12.02.14
4.	Haryana	-	2.00	-	-	2.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	06.02.14
5.	Himachal Pradesh	3.00	2.00	-	3.00	2.00	-	-	-	-	10.00	8.50 (Atta)	-	04.07.14
6.	Karnataka	1.00	1.00	-	-	-	-	1.00	1.00	-	-	-	-	05.06.14
7.	Madhya Pradesh	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.05.14
8.	Maharashtra	3.00	2.00	-	-	-	-	6.00	5.00	-	9.60	7.20	-	17.02.12
9.	Punjab	-	2.00	-	-	-	-	-	4.57	-	-	-	-	31.01.14
10.	Rajasthan	-	1.00	-	-	For BPL/ SBPL @ 1.00 Rest @ 2.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	05.06.14
11.	Chandigarh	3.00	-	-	-	-	-	6.15	4.65	-	8.00	-	-	11.04.12

Statement-III

Issue prices at Fair price Shops as reported by respective State/UT from time to time

(Part-I Under existing TPDS)

(As compiled on 31.12.2014)

Sl. No	States	BPL			AAY			APL			(kg/Per month/Per family)
		Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4 kg per member per month subject to a Max of 20 kgs. per card	1 kg per card		35	-	35	-	-	-	03.11.14
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35		35 *	35		35 *	35		35 *	24.02.14
3.	Assam	35	-	35	35	-	35	18	7	25	30.03.12
4.	Goa	30	-	30	30	-	30	8	1.5	9.5	12.12.14
5.	Gujarat	(i) Max. 3 Kg. per card @ ₹. 3/- per kg. (ii) Max. 10 kg. per card @ ₹. 7.20/- per kg. (for rice special)	i) Max. 13 kg per card @ ₹2/- per kg. ii) Max. 9 kg per card @ ₹ 7.70/- per kg. (APL to BPL wheat)	35 (Max.)	Max. 16 kg. per Card @ ₹ 3/- per kg	Max. 19 kg per card @ ₹ 2 per kg.	35 (Max.)	Max. 6 kg. per card @ ₹ 10.10/- per kg	Max. 2.5 kg Per head @ ₹7.70/- per kg. (Max. 10 kg. per card)	16 (Max.)	02.12.14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6.	J&K	35 kg per family per month to all categories except the areas where no cultivation take place. At such places 13kg/soul is provided.		35*	35 kg per family per month to all categories except the areas where no cultivation take place. At such places 13kg/soul is provided.		35*	35 kg per family per month to all categories except the areas where no cultivation take place. At such places 13kg/soul is provided.		35*	09.04.12
7.	Jharkhand	35	-	35	35	-	35	7.5	7.5	15	06.03.14
8.	Kerala	25	5	30	35	-	35	18	-	18	22.01.14
9.	Manipur	33.96	104	35	35	-	35	6.65	4.15	10.80	21.03.14
10.	Meghalaya	35	-	35	35	-	35	16.150	1 to 5kgs per household (wheat/ wheat flour)	17.150-21.150	19.05.14
11.	Mizoram	35	-	35	35	-	35	2 Kgs. per week per adult	-	2 Kgs. per week per adult	20.03.14
12.	Nagaland	35		35	35		35	35		35	21.03.12
13.	Odisha	25	-	25	35	-	35	-	10	10	09.06.14
14.	Sikkim	35	1 (1kg of wheat is provided only on additional BPL allocation from Gol)	36	35	-	35	2	1	3	04.12.13
15.	Tamil Nadu	4 kgs per kg adult and 2 kgs per child per month, subject to a	10 kgs per card per month in Chennai City and	-	35	10 kgs per card per month in Chennai City and	-	4 kgs per kg adult and 2 kgs per child per month, subject to a	10 kgs per card per month in Chennai City and District	-	16.07.14

	minimum of 12kgs and maximum of 20 kgs per month per card (except the Nilgiris district). For minimum of 16 kgs and maximum of 24 kgs per card.	District Head Quarters and 5 kgs per card per month in other areas.	District Head Quarters and 5 kgs per card per month in other areas.	minimum of 12 kgs and maximum of 20 kgs per month per card (except the Nilgiris district). For minimum of 16 kgs and maximum of 24 kgs per card.	District Head Quarters and 5 kgs per card per month in other areas.	minimum of 12 kgs and maximum of 20 kgs per month per card (except the Nilgiris district). For minimum of 16 kgs and maximum of 24 kgs per card.	Head Quarters and 5 kgs per card per month in other areas.	
16. Telangana	4 kg (per member)	1 kg (per card)	35 kg (per card)	5	1 kg (per card)	36	-	18.11.14
17. Tripura	35	1 kg. per head per month (whole meal atta)	35	S Rice) lkg per head per month whole meal atta)	1 kg. per head per month (whole meal atta)	35 (Rice) + 1kg per head per month (whole meal atta)	1 kg. per head per month (whole meal atta)	10.12.14
18. Uttar Pradesh	20	15	25kg (East-09 Mandai region) 20Kg. (West-09 Mandai region)	35	10Kg. (East-09 Mandai region) 15Kg. (West-09 Mandai region)	35	-	04.03.14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
19.	Uttarakhand	10.250	24.750	35	24.540	10.460	35	5	10	15	01.04.14
20.	West Bengal	MR Area- 1000gms SR Area- 1000 gms (Scale per adult per week; Child = half adult)	MR Area- 750 gms SR Area- 750 gms (wheat/ wheat flour) (Scale per adult per week; Child = half adult)	-	MR Area - 1000 gms SR Area- 1000 gms (Scale per adult per week; Child = half adult)	MR Area - 750 gms SR Area- 750 gms (Scale per adult per week; Child = half adult)	35	MR Area- NIL SR Area- NIL	MR Area- 600 gms SR Area- 390 gms (Scale per adult per week; Child = half adult)	-	18.02.14
21.	A&N Islands	30	5	35	31	4	35	5 kg. per adult & 2.5 kg. per child.	8 kg. (1-3 unit) and 12 kg. (4 and above unit)	-	29.05.14
22.	D&N Haveli	32	3	35	33	2	35	7	3	10	06.03.14
23.	Daman and Diu	34	2	36	33	2	35	2	5	7	07.05.13
24.	Lakshadweep	35	-	35	35		35	8 kg. per adult per month, 4 kg. per head per month for child below 12 years	-	-	13.02.14
25.	Puducherry	20	5	25	35		35	10	5	15	10.12.14

* Either Rice or Wheat

Statement-IV

State-wise Scale of Issue of foodgrains as reported by respective State/UT from time to time

(part-II- Under NFSAI, 2013)

(As compiled on 31.12.2014)

(Kg / Per month)

Sl. No	State/UT	AAY (per household)				Priority (per person/unit)				BPL (per household)				APL (per household)				Reported as on
		Grains				Grains				Grains				Grains				
		Rice	Wheat	Coarse	Total	Rice	Wheat	Coarse	Total	Rice	Wheat	Coarse	Total	Rice	Wheat	Coarse	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1.	Bihar	21	14	-	35	3	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26.06.14
2.	Chhattisgarh	35	-	-	35	30*	5*	-	35 kg*	-	-	-	-	10	5	-	15	20.11.14
upto 7 units. Every addl, unit 5 kg																		
3.	Delhi	10	25		35	I	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	4	18	-	22	19.12.14
4.	Haryana		35		35		5		5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	06.02.14
5.	Himachal Pradesh	15	20	-	35	2	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	9	18	-	27	04.07.14
6.	Karnataka	29	6		35		-	-	-	North-6 per unit max.20	North-4 per unit max. 10	Hassan, Mandya & Mysore Distt. -1 per unit	North-30 max.30 South-30 max.30	-	-	-	-	05.06.14

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
										max.24. Hassan, Mandya & Mysore Distt.-2 Distt.-7 per unit max.	Hassan, Mandya & Mysore Distt.-2 per unit max.6	max.2. Mandya & Mysore Distt.-						
7.	Madhya Pradesh	7	26	2	35	1.0	3.7	0.3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.05.14
8.	Maharashtra**	35	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	35	15	-	-	15	17.02.12
9.	Punjab	-	35	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	35	-	-	-	-	31.01.14
10.	Rajasthan	35	-	-	35	-	5 (State BPL/BPL families@ min. 25 kg per month; if no. of units more @5kg per unit per month.	-	5 (State BPL/BPL families@ min. 25 kg per month; if no. of units more @5kg per unit per month.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	05.06.14
11.	Chandigarh	35	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	35	7	-	42	10 kg (1-2 members) 20 kg (3-4 members) 30 kg (5 and above members)	-	-	Max. 11.04.12 30 kg	

• Reponed by the State Government on per household basis and Dot per person/unit basis ** Either rice or wheat.

Regulation of e-commerce

1838. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government considers the need to regulate e-commerce sector to check frauds and tax evasion;
- (b) if so, how does Government proposes to go about the task, particularly firewalling the retail trade; and
- (c) whether Government agrees that e-commerce portals also should be brought under local taxation net in the State of their origin and the State of delivery?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) E-commerce companies are liable for paying income tax like any other company engaged in trading. Appropriate action against tax evasion including tax evasion by e-commerce is allowed under direct tax laws covering searches, surveys, enquiries, assessment of income, levy of taxes, penalties etc. and filing of prosecution complaints in criminal courts wherever applicable.

India's investment rating by Moody's Investors Service

1839. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether credit rating global player Moody's Investors Service has commented that India's sovereign rating might get a boost if Government goes ahead with implementation of recommendations of high-powered panel for revamping FCI and restructuring the food security law;
- (b) whether presently Moody's has assigned to India, the lowest investment rating Baa3 with stable outlook; and
- (c) whether employees' union of FCI has threatened to launch a nation-wide agitation, if Government implements recommendations of the reform panel on downsizing the FCI operations?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Moody's in its report titled "India's proposed food subsidy and distribution reforms would mitigate fiscal

and inflationary pressures” released on 29th January 2015 has stated that India’s sovereign rating could see a rise if the Government implements the recommendations of the High Powered Committee for revamping FCI and restructuring the Food Security Law; and Moody’s latest rating on India has affirmed Baa3 rating to India with stable outlook for both foreign and local currency.

(c) Yes, Sir. The two major employees’ unions namely Food Corporation of India Executive Staff Union (FCIESU) and Bhartiya Khadiya Nigam Karamchari Sangh (BKNKS) had staged a day long dharna/lunch hour demonstration on 18.11.2014 and 29.01.2015.

Hoarding of foodgrains

1840. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any firm steps to curb food inflation which is a matter of concern;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that there are big hoardings going on in various parts of the country, particularly of foodgrain items;

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government’s action in this regard against the hoarders; and

(d) if not, Government’s future plan to curb the food inflation?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has initiated several measures to improve availability of essential commodities and to curb food inflation, the details of which are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) to (d) In order to ensure availability of essential commodities to the consumers and to protect them from exploitation by unscrupulous traders including hoarding, the Government has enacted the following two Acts:

(i) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955, and

(ii) The Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

The enforcement/implementation of both Acts lies with the State Governments and UTs. The details of action taken under the Acts, as reported by States/UTs, are given in Statement-II.

Statement- I

Specific steps taken by the Government to improve the availability and to contain prices of essential food items:

- Minimum Export Price (MEP) fixed for potatoes at USD 450 per M.T. *w.e.f.* 26.06.2014 (now withdrawn with improved availability and fall in prices *w.e.f.* 20.2.2015) and of onions at USD 300 per M.T. *w.e.f.* 21.08.2014 respectively.
- States have been advised to allow free movement of fruits and vegetables by delisting them from the APMC Act.
- A Plan Scheme titled Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) with a corpus of ₹ 500 crores has been approved for implementation aimed at regulating price volatility of agricultural and horticultural commodities both when there is price rise or *vice-versa* through procurement of farm produce, maintenance of buffer stocks and regulated release into the market. Initially the support is for procurement of onion and potato only.
- States have been advised to exempt levy of market fee on fruits and vegetables and to allow establishment of “Kisan Mandis”/ Farmers markets where producers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) can directly market their produce to wholesalers, organized retailers and ordinary consumers. Such alternative marketing channels promoted to reduce intermediaries and to contain marketing costs, are intended to benefit both farmers and consumers.
- Government is also encouraging production of horticultural crops through a Centrally Sponsored scheme, namely Mission for integrated Development of Horticulture *w.e.f.* 2014-15.
- Authorized States/UTs to impose stock limits in respect of onion and potato for a period of one year with effect from 3rd July, 2014 under the Essential Commodities Act.
- Government has approved the release of additional five million tonnes of Rice to BPL & APL families in States pending implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA).

- Advisory to State Governments issued to take action against hoarding and black marketing and effectively enforce the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.
- Authorized States/UTs to impose stock limits from time to time in the case of select essential commodities such as pulses, edible oil, and edible oilseeds for a period up to 30.9.2015.
- Based on interaction with the State Governments/UTs on 4th July, 2014, a decision has been taken to amend the Essential Commodities Act to make hoarding and black marketing a non bailable offence and increase the period of detention to one year from existing six months.
- The Government has approved for the current year *i.e.* 2014-15 Open Market Sale of ten million tonnes of wheat in the domestic market.

Statement - II

- (I) *Action taken by the State Governments under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 against persons involved in hoarding, black-marketing etc. during 2011 to 2014 (up to 31.12.2014)*:*

(₹ in lakhs)

Year	No. of Raids	No. of Persons arrested	No. of Persons Prosecuted	No. of Persons Convicted	Value of goods Confiscated
2011	239295	10249	8864	297	7978.61
2012	217097	7609	6406	375	5855.29
2013	211594	8231	6009	273	5846.21
2014	131182	11918	3174	2073	15790.71

- (II) *Action taken by the State Governments/UT Administrations and detentions reported under the Preventions of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 during 2011 to 2014 (up to 31.12.2014)*:*

Name of the State	2011	2012	2013	2014 (As on 31.12.2014)
Gujarat	67	41	34	18
Tamil Nadu	198	187	179	124
Maharashtra	05	03	01	-
TOTAL	270	231	214	142

*Latest available

Regulation of e-commerce

1841. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- the steps taken by Government to regulate e-commerce in the country;
- whether any study has been conducted to look into the issues like false offers, selling of fake products, offering of massive discounts, allegations of dodging of taxes etc., if so, the details thereof; and
- whether the booming e-commerce industry poses a threat to the brick and mortar players, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) There is at present no proposal under consideration for regulation of e-commerce in the country.

- No official data on the e-commerce sector is being compiled.
- There have been formal complaints submitted to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) under M/o Corporate Affairs against unfair trade practices including fraudulent schemes by online retailers based on which investigation has been initiated.

Implementation of NFSA

1842. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- the number of hunger/starvation deaths reported during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether India is projected to miss the UN Millennium Development Goals for eradication of hunger, if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the current level of agricultural productivity/production and procurement of foodgrains will be a limitation in successful implementation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA); and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for successful and effective implementation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) No State Government/Union Territory Administration has reported any incident of death due to hunger/starvation so far.

(b) The Government of India has assessed the progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in its report “Millennium Development Goals - India Country Report 2014”. India is required to reduce the proportion of underweight children below 3 years of age from estimated 52 % in 1990 to 26% by 2015. As per this report, the proportion of underweight children is expected to come down to about 33% by 2015. Thus India will fall short of achieving the target of 26%.

However, to eradicate the problem of hunger/starvation and to provide food security to the vulnerable population, the Government has been providing food grains at highly subsidized prices to the targeted population through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) such as Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls, Annapurna Scheme etc.

During the current year 2014-15, the Govt. of India has so far allocated 614.53 lakh tons of foodgrains under TPDS and OWS. This includes allocation of 483.70 lakh tons under TPDS, 66.45 lakh tons additional APL and BPL allocation, 12.04 lakh tons for natural calamities, additional TPDS requirements etc., and allocation of 52.34 lakh tons of foodgrains under OWS.

To further strengthen the efforts to address the food security of the people, Government of India has notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 on 10th September, 2013. The act provides for coverage of up to 75% of the rural population and upto 50% of the urban population for receiving foodgrains at subsidized prices of ₹ 3, 2 & 1 per Kg for rice, wheat and coarse grains respectively under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), thus covering about two-third of the population.

The Act also has a special focus on nutritional support to women and children, pregnant women and lactating mothers will be entitled to meals as nutritional norms as well as to receive maternity benefit of not less than ₹ 6,000. Children upto 14 years of age will be entitled to nutritious meals or take home rations as per the prescribed nutritional standards. In case of non supply of entitled foodgrains or meals, the beneficiaries will received food security allowance.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The coverage and entitlements prescribed in the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) are keeping in view the recent trends in production and procurement of foodgrains. The annual requirement of foodgrains for implementation of Act is estimated at 614.4 lakh tons, which is likely to be met adequately at the current levels of production and procurement of foodgrains.

PDS items not reaching intended beneficiaries

1843. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that approximately 40 per cent of foodgrains allocated under Public Distribution System (PDS) do not reach the intended beneficiaries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that major beneficiaries of PDS are people from States that have a smaller number of poor; and

(c) whether some States have covered their 100 per cent population under PDS, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) No data regarding the quantum of diversion, based on recent evaluation study, is available. However, based on surveys

of National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), estimates of diversion from PDS have been inferred in certain studies which are only indicative in nature.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In Tamil Nadu, Universal Public Distribution System is being followed and the essential commodities are supplied at subsidized rates to the card holders based on the option exercised by them. All the fair price shops are run either by the Co-operative Societies or by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and no fair price shop is run by private agencies.

Response of FCI to recommendations of high level panel

1844. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) has informed Government that it will be able to implement major recommendations of high level panel that has recommended a complete revamp of the body that plays a key role in the country's food security, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that FCI has taken a decision to phase out the open air storage of grains; and

(c) whether grains under such storage fell from 27.4 million tonnes in June, 2012 to 6.21 million tonnes in January, 2015?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Food Corporation of India (FCI) has informed to implement some of the major accepted recommendations of High Level Committee (HLC) for restructuring of FCI. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Foodgrains are stored in a scientific manner including the Cover and Plinth (CAP) which is a short-term arrangement for storage of foodgrains when the covered capacity is fully utilized. Covered storage is being progressively augmented with an

objective to limit storage under CAP. However, FCI has decided to continue to use suitable CAP structures in such a manner that stock is lifted from there within 6-8 months.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Statement

*Major recommendations of HLC intimated to be implemented by
Food Corporation of India (FCI)*

- FCI to outsource all procurement operations to States that have gained sufficient experience.
- FCI to move to the Eastern V.P., Bihar, W.B., Assam etc. where small and marginal farmers suffer most from distress sale.
- Quality check through transparent and mechanical process.
- Outsourcing of stocking operations to CWC, SWCs, private sector under PEG scheme on competitive basis.
- Convert old conventional storages to Silos in PPP mode.
- Gradually phase out cover and plinth (CAP) with no gram stocks remaining in CAP for longer period.
- Abolition of levy on rice millers.
- Procurement of pulses and oilseeds under the accounts of the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Various steps to improve cost efficiency.
- Introduce a pro-active liquidation policy to off-load stocks in the market whenever they are in excess of buffer norms. Greater flexibility to FCI needed to operate in OMSS and export markets.
- End to End Computerization of food management system - Automation of FCI Operations.
- FCI to reorient into an agency for innovation in foodgrain management system.

Non-lifting of allocated foodgrains

1845. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of foodgrains supplied to States and lifted by them for distribution under the Public Distribution System during last three years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether certain States did not lift the quantity of foodgrains supplied to them, if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether States are experiencing acute shortage of covered storage capacity, if so, the steps taken to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) The State-wise details of foodgrains allocated by the Government of India and lifted by the States/UTs (Union Territories) for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) during the last three years are given in Statement-I and II (*See* below). The low offtake of foodgrains by the States/ UTs may be attributed to their inability to mobilize funds, lower demand from beneficiaries in view of higher production of foodgrains, shifting in food consumption pattern due to increase in per capita income etc.

(c) The total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State agencies for storage of Central Pool Stocks as on 31.1.2015 was 711.16 lakh MT comprising of 558.82 lakh MT of covered capacity and 152.34 lakh MT of covered and plinth (CAP) capacity which is sufficient for storing peak stock of 622 lakh tons of foodgrains available during last year on 1.6.2014. Further during peak procurement season, small quantity of procured foodgrains are temporarily kept in CAP storage, which is also a scientific method of storage. Such foodgrains are evacuated on priority to the consuming States.

Statement-I

Allocation and offtake of foodgrains (rice & wheat) for the year 2011-2012 to 2013-2014 under TPDS

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14	
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3738.252	3065.474	3822.816	3130.234	3822.816	2688.167
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	101.556	83.589	101.556	98.376	101.556	100.162
3.	Assam	1806.756	1662.751	1886.856	1830.998	1886.856	1788.041
4.	Bihar	3650.312	2757.350	3703.872	2639.407	3804.791	3195.481
5.	Chhattisgarh	1218.752	1085.194	1244.112	1178.578	1255.803	1232.282
6.	Delhi	597.858	545.295	598.920	566.777	554.894	521.490
7.	Goa	60.316	60.421	63.036	62.909	63.036	64.063
8.	Gujarat	2018.738	1242.799	2085.108	1265.504	2085.108	1505.321
9.	Haryana	732.422	586.431	756.012	465.415	632.504	486.102
10.	Himachal Pradesh	519.146	512.663	527.940	524.927	517.968	502.905
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	756.804	743.485	756.804	760.644	756.804	756.635
12.	Jharkhand	1339.032	1022.038	1358.652	977.751	1358.652	1022.392
13.	Karnataka	2386.646	2234.612	2806.928	2304.402	2456.382	2467.432
14.	Kerala	1431.674	1428.807	1472.688	1473.184	1472.688	1466.713
15.	Madhya Pradesh	2680.736	2653.417	2736.426	3551.778	2743.016	2519.347
16.	Maharashtra	4647.114	3539.245	4819.044	3724.189	4716.136	4307.369

(In thousand tons)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Manipur	160.446	144.884	170.952	172.661	170.952	160.435
18.	Meghalaya	181.696	182.690	188.580	189.600	188.580	188.567
19.	Mizoram	70.140	66.233	70.140	66.538	70.140	66.393
20.	Nagaland	126.876	140.094	126.876	135.953	126.876	125.048
21.	Odisha	2118.908	2058.005	2194.266	2120.509	2191.872	2073.182
22.	Punjab	814.100	686.355	827.976	613.964	781.044	587.370
23.	Rajasthan	2115.140	2078.693	2179.500	2149.291	2485.536	2399.933
24.	Sikkim	44.270	44.936	44.280	45.046	44.280	45.932
25.	Tamil Nadu	3722.832	3700.634	3722.832	3634.495	3722.832	3010.254
26.	Telangana	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
27.	Tripura	308.034	275.381	304.836	289.291	303.240	311.409
28.	Uttar Pradesh	7114.590	6645.333	7268.520	6568.015	7268.520	6755.502
29.	Uttarakhand	501.702	456.876	617.992	596.557	511.992	511.274
30.	West Bengal	3763.754	3281.205	3857.196	3616.745	3857.196	3560.451
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	34.020	16.026	34.020	14.908	34.020	32.045
32.	Chandigarh	34.980	34.216	36.780	33.429	35.852	24.725
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10.284	10.247	10.464	10.499	10.464	13.192
34.	Daman and Diu	5.430	4.669	5.652	4.530	5.652	0.725
35.	Lakshadweep	4.620	4.053	6.620	5.706	4.620	3.090
36.	Puducherry	58.912	47.816	60.312	53.313	60.312	33.427
	TOTAL	48876.848	43101.917	50468.564	44876.123	50102.990	44526.856

Offtake Source: FCI

Statement-II

Details showing allocation and offtake of foodgrains (rice+wheat) of special adhoc additional allocations made during 2011-12 to 2013-14 under TPDS

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2011-12				2012-13				2013-14	
		BPL Allocation 16.5.2011	Allocation made to Poorest Backward Districts	Allocation made to Poorest Backward Districts	BPL Allocation July, 2012	Allocation made to Poorest Backward Districts	Allocation made to Poorest Backward Districts	Allocation made to Poorest Backward Districts	Allocation made to Poorest Backward Districts	BPL Allocation 19.9.2013	Allocation made to Poorest Backward Districts
		Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake	Allocation	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	311.570	297.194	116.797	115.093	311.570	269.020	14.244	11.698	311.570	235.079
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.592	6.009	0.737	0.737	7.592	7.331	0.307	0.118	7.592	0.000
3.	Assam	220.794	199.829	15.340	14.544	190.794	184.495	26.273	19.739	140.794	97.900
4.	Bihar	600.214	474.756	596.511	312.511	500.213	368.367	595.395	267.211	500.213	256.181
5.	Chhattisgarh	143.784	143.434	131.952	135.836	143.784	132.080	307.274	275.102	143.784	0.000
6.	Delhi	31.364	29.976	0.000	0.000	31.364	0.000	0.000	0.000	31.364	0.000
7.	Goa	3.680	3.849	0.000	0.000	3.680	3.985	0.000	0.000	3.680	0.000
8.	Gujarat	162.572	163.038	51.502	51.886	321.472	256.034	21.455	13.508	162.572	153.925
9.	Haryana	60.504	39.618	9.739	3.391	60.504	59.606	7.164	3.969	60.504	0.000

(In thousand tons)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10.	Himachal Pradesh	39.416	27.489	11.537	11.420	39.416	30.447	11.537	8.210	39.416	0.000
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	56.440	52.369	11.757	10.654	56.440	51.706	14.255	14.253	56.440	0.000
12.	Jharkhand	183.584	86.158	132.229	117.540	183.584	133.165	131.781	108.183	183.584	106.167
13.	Karnataka	239.946	239.989	31.395	31.370	239.946	239.006	31.395	30.182	239.946	49.716
14.	Kerala	119.168	119.092	5.068	5.068	306.104	264.199	1.232	1.232	119.168	51.010
15.	Madhya Pradesh	316.324	270.063	278.044	113.963	316.324	0.000	206.620	0.000	316.324	1.189
16.	Maharashtra	501.060	294.409	105.812	84.957	501.059	272.404	0.000	0.000	501.059	0.000
17.	Manipur	12.730	12.730	1.215	1.199	12.730	12.730	0.381	0.374	12.730	9.120
18.	Meghalaya	14.033	14.213	1.719	1.308	14.033	14.020	0.000	0.000	14.033	12.002
19.	Mizoram	10.214	8.542	0.159	0.159	9.594	9.099	0.159	0.159	5.214	0.000
20.	Nagaland	19.510	19.615	0.315	0.376	17.010	17.075	0.315	0.254	9.510	0.000
21.	Odisha	252.906	151.273	143.933	143.702	252.906	192.616	204.647	112.241	252.906	137.015
22.	Punjab	35.888	34.235	1.839	1.839	35.888	0.000	1.839	0.000	35.888	0.000
23.	Rajasthan	186.420	179.772	99.054	70.182	186.420	174.464	81.278	81.481	186.420	0.000
24.	Sikkim	10.778	6.286	0.264	0.169	3.298	3.297	0.440	0.441	3.298	0.475
25.	Tamil Nadu	377.918	378.430	40.948	40.359	508.918	507.146	40.948	39.285	372.918	250.064
26.	Telangana	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
27.	Tripura	22.622	22.093	2.734	2.230	34.071	34.487	1.746	1.746	22.622	22.624

28.	Uttar Pradesh	818.880	629.003	316.724	299.744	818.879	740.242	159.556	97.642	818.879	71.989
29.	Uttarakhand	38.188	31.891	2.602	2.598	38.188	35.279	1.681	1.681	38.188	0.000
30.	West Bengal	397.152	325.987	259.315	130.411	397.152	383.272	259.315	36.713	397.152	85.182
31.	A&N Islands	2.146	1.820	0.000	0.000	2.146	0.667	0.000	0.000	2.146	0.000
32.	Chandigarh	1.764	1.635	0.000	0.000	1.764	0.588	0.000	0.000	1.764	0.000
33.	D&N. Haveli	1.382	0.017	0.000	0.000	1.382	0.493	0.000	0.000	1.382	0.037
34.	Daman and Diu	0.268	0.032	0.000	0.000	0.268	0.178	0.000	0.000	0.268	0.048
35.	Lakshadweep	0.230	0.230	0.000	0.000	0.230	0.207	0.000	0.000	0.230	0.000
36.	Puducherry	10.711	8.492	0.000	0.000	6.442	3.835	0.000	0.000	6.442	0.000
GRAND TOTAL		5000.003 #	4273.568	2369.241	1703.246	5000.000#	4401.540	2121.237	1125.422	5000.000	1539.723

The total in certain cases may not add upto the grand total shown of allocation made to the states due to reallocation made from the unlifted savings within the overall allocations.

Offtake Source: FCI

Leakages in PDS

1846. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantity of rice and wheat distributed through PDS during the last five years, year-wise and grain-wise;
- (b) the amount of food subsidy during each of these five years; and
- (c) the estimates of all leakages in the PDS during each of the five years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) The quantity of rice and wheat lifted by the States/ UTs (Union Territories) for distribution under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is as under:-

(In lakh tons)

Year	Normal		Additional	
	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat
2009-10	234.12	189.91	5.02	4.20
2010-11	248.41	188.80	38.75	24.88
2011-12	243.26	187.76	39.71	20.05
2012-13	252.27	196.49	37.25	18.02
2013-14	245.15	200.12	11.81	3.59

(b) The year-wise details of subsidy during last five years is as under:-

Year	Subsidy released (in crores)
2009-10	58242.45
2010-11	62929.56
2011-12	72370.90
2012-13	84554.00
2013-14	89740.02

(c) No such data is available/maintained in the Department of Food and Public Distribution.

Shortage of labourers and staff in FCI

1847. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Food Corporation of India (FCI) is facing shortage of labourers and staff, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that FCI is considering making the movement of grains containerised, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes Sir, there is overall shortage of labourers engaged by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) across the country. The details of the sanctioned strength and men in position under various labour systems of FCI as on 30.09.2014 are as under:

Labour system	Sanctioned Strength	Men in position	Shortage
Departmental	19858	16908	-2950
Direct payment System (DPS)	31600	27223	-4377
No Work No Pay	7886	7904	18
TOTAL	59344	52035	-7309

There is a shortage of staff also. Against the Sanctioned Strength of 36515 staff, total number of staff in position is 23946. Hence, there is a shortage of 12569 officials/officers across Category-I, II & III as on 31.12.2014.

(b) Movement of foodgrains is done through the mode of transport, which is most economical for a particular route. Based on this strategy, presently FCI is undertaking coastal transport through containers from Andhra Pradesh to Kerala. A quantity of 104542 MT of foodgrain has been transported through 16 voyages of ships on this route.

Shortage of godowns

† 1848. DR. SANJAY SINH : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of shortage of godowns and the efforts made by Government to overcome this shortage;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of foodgrains getting rotten during last three years in the country due to shortage of godowns, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government has fixed any time-limit to overcome this shortage, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) At present, there is sufficient storage capacity for Central Stock of foodgrains and there is no rotting or damage of food grains due to shortage of godowns.

Policy on direct selling

1849. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the direct selling industry with the right policy stimulus is likely to reach ₹ 64,500 crore in size by 2025 from ₹ 7200 crore at present;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the industry is adversely affected by lack of proper legal framework, which is compromising the growth of the industry; and

(c) whether there is no systematic and standard policy on direct selling that is based on a constitutional structure, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes Sir. According to a joint study conducted by the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) with KPMG Ltd. the market share of direct selling industry in India is expected to touch ₹ 645 billion by the year 2025.

(b) and (c) There is at present no separate legislation for regulation of direct selling industry and they come directly under the purview of Prize Chits Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978.

Action against hoarders

1850. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked State Governments to crackdown on hoarders; and

(b) if so, the details of raids conducted during the last five years on various occasions and the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes Sir. As regards Essential Commodities (Drugs, Fertilizers, Foodstuffs, hank yarn, petroleum and petroleum products, raw jute and jute textiles, seeds of food crops/fruits and vegetables/jute and cotton), the powers of Central Government have been delegated to the States *vide* Notification dated 9th June, 1978. It is the constitutional responsibility of the States/UTs (the State Police) not to allow any kind of hoarding/blackmarketing/profitteering etc. in the trade of any essential commodity, exercising powers provided under 'The Essential Commodities Act, 1955' and 'The Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980'. However, the Union Government has been persistently persuading the States/UTs to implement both the above Acts effectively in order to ensure availability of essential commodities to the general public at fair prices.

(b) The details are given in the Statement.

[illegible]

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
31.	Chandigarh	10	-	9	3	4	9	-	22	7	5	Nil	-	-	-	-
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	13	5	Nil	3	1	9	13	Nil	Nil	Nil	-	5	Nil	Nil
33.	Daman and Diu	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR
34.	Lakshadweep	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	NB	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	NB	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	NB
35.	Puducherry	745	615	770	520	950	30	0	1	3	14	44	1	3	8	24
36.	Telangana	NR	NR	8718	13701	7136	NR	NR	NR	NR	55	NR	NR	NR	NR	0
TOTAL		233208	239295	217097	211594	137777	10991	10249	7609	8231	11933	4778	8864	6406	6009	3189
Sl.No.	State/UTs	Number of Persons Convicted								Value of goods confiscated (₹ in lakh)						
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
1	2	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	0	1	0	0	144.96	614.51	1441.9	2281.54	239.66					
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR					
3.	Assam	10	Nil	Nil	NIL	NIL	Nil	71.25	30.07	0.59	Nil					
4.	Bihar	Nil	-	Nil	-	-	Nil	-	87.32	17.74	19.64					
5.	Chhattisgarh	14	NR	1	77	0	757.58	NR	109.63	1543.49	12.06					
6.	Delhi	4	1	Nil	NR	NR	Nil	0.13	Nil	NR	NR					
7.	Goa	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					

8.	Gujarat	17	-	-	-	-	-	428.99	298.13	221.41	241.54	157.82
9.	Harayana	Nil	1	2	2	1	1	361.62	7.25	13.26	9.24	60.49
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	11.62	27.95	19.10	14.08	34.4
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
12.	Jharkhand	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
13.	Karnataka	2	0	0	0	0	1	317.78	28.34	19.19	13.93	2.76
14.	Kerala	3	0	0	0	0	0	21.931	4.93	0	13.24	25.36
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3	1	1	1	3	3	86.12	157.87	181.98	115.3	276.05
16.	Maharashtra	Nil	1	8	2	0	0	1139.46	4708.04	2016.7	279.87	12798.94
17.	Manipur	5	4	2	-	Nil	Nil	0.47	3.64	12.5	6.24	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.91	Nil	0.02	1.35	Nil
19.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
20.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.39	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
21.	Odisha	Nil	-	-	-	-	-	5.29	25.43	7	1.69	0.22
22.	Punjab	9	2	1	-	Nil	Nil	1.27	2.05	2.09	0.89	8.03
23.	Rajasthan	76	100	132	13	NR	NR	193.33	192.47	116.8	234.07	NR
24.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	Tamil Nadu	43	158	92	162	2068	2068	708.69	184.41	152.24	131.63	87.09
26.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	NR	NR	7.07	6.56	6.12	1.19	NR
27.	Uttarakhand	NR	-	-	-	-	-	NR	80.44	26.59	98.45	1.85

1	2	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	-	6	8	0	6262.85	1124.94	1112.7	954.73	1482
29.	West Bengal	14	29	129	8	-	262.04	409.05	246.94	27.61	79.39
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
31.	Chandigarh	Nil	-	-	-	-	9.16	-	4.44	0.96	0.61
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	35	31.04	21.98	Nil	Nil
33.	Daman and Diu	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR	Nil	NR	NR	NR	NR
34.	Lakshadweep	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	NB	Nil	NR	Nil	NR	NB
35.	Puducherry	53	0	0	0	0	4.71	0.18	0.06	0.38	1.17
36.	Telangana	NR	NR	NR	NR	0	NR	NR	35.52	54.04	887.38
Total		256	297	375	273	2073	10761.4	7978.61	5855.29	5846.21	16174.92

Source : Reports received from State Governments/UTs

NR : Not Reported

NB : No Blackmarketing

(B) Action taken under the essential commodities act, 1955 during 2015

(Relating to offences under E.C. Act - for other than violation of stock control orders/ for violation of stock control orders)

(Updated as on 10.03.2015)

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No..	States/UTs	No. of Raids Conducted	No. of Persons			Value of goods confiscated	Reported upto
			Arrested	Prosecuted	Convicted		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh						
2.	Arunachal Pradesh						
3.	Assam						
4.	Bihar						
5.	Chhattisgarh						
6.	Delhi						
7.	Goa	28	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	February
8.	Gujarat						
9.	Haryana	5	2	-	-	19.76	January
10.	Himachal Pradesh						
11.	Jammu and Kashmir						
12.	Jharkhand						
13.	Karnataka						
14.	Kerala						
15.	Madhya Pradesh						
16.	Maharashtra						
17.	Manipur						
18.	Meghalaya						
19.	Mizoram						
20.	Nagaland						
21.	Odisha						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Punjab						
23.	Rajasthan						
24.	Sikkim						
25.	Tamil Nadu						
26.	Tripura						
27.	Uttarakhand						
28.	Uttar Pradesh						
29.	West Bengal	60	12	-	-	9.74	January
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands						
31.	Chandigarh						
32.	Dadra amd Nagar Haveli						
33.	Daman and Diu						
34.	Lakshadweep						
35.	Puducherry						
36.	Telangana						
TOTAL		93	14	0	0	29.5	

Source : Reports received from States/Uts

NR : Not Reported

(c) Details showing detention made under the prevention of blackmarketing and maintenance of supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 for the year 1.1.2010 to 31.12.2014 and 2015 (as on 10.3.2015)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1.	Tamil Nadu	120	198	187	179	124	37
2.	Gujarat	79	67	41	34	18	5
3.	Orissa	02	-	-	-	-	2
4.	Maharashtra	02	05	03	01	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	01	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Andhra Pradesh	01	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		205	270	231	214	142	44

Smuggling of PDS items

1851. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are rampant and unchecked anomalies and corruption in distribution of grains and other items under the Public Distribution System in various States of the North Eastern Region, particularly in Assam;

(b) whether a large chunk of such PDS items are being smuggled out to Bangladesh by unscrupulous traders; and

(c) if so, the action Government is going to take against such illegal activities to safeguard the economic interest of the people and the country as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) No cases of rampant and unchecked anomalies and corruption in distribution of grains and other items under the Public Distribution System have been reported in North East States, particularly Assam.

(b) As per reports received from Ministry of Home Affairs, during the year 2014, 900 kg of rice costing about ₹ 36000/- has been seized by the Border Security Force (BSF) at Indo-Bangladesh Border in Assam. However, it cannot be confirmed whether these are PDS items or otherwise.

(c) Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/UT Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for its implementation including supervision over and monitoring of functioning of Fair Price Shops (FPSs) within the State/UT rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Therefore, as and when complaints regarding irregularities in implementation of TPDS such as leakage/diversion of foodgrains, etc. in various States/regions are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

Government has regularly reviewed and also has issued instructions to States/Union Territories to strengthen functioning of TPDS by improving monitoring mechanism and vigilance, increased transparency in functioning of TPDS and use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools. With a view to modernize the system, the Government has initiated a Plan Scheme on End-to-end Computerization of TPDS operations on cost sharing basis with States/U'Ts which would facilitate digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portals and grievances redressal mechanism.

To prevent smuggling activities along Indo-Bangladesh Border, the Security Forces deployed at the borders maintained vigil at international borders at take required preventive action.

Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) also monitor the distribution of packed LPG cylinders under PDS by keeping vigil to prevent and take action against black-marketing, make surprise inspections, refill audit, etc. Further, to check mal-practices of diversion of domestic LPG cylinder, the Government has launched the Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme “PHAL” in the entire country. Further, the State Civil Supplies Authorities ensure that the PDS kerosene uplifted is delivered to FPSs and to intended beneficiaries .

Settlement of LSPEF claims

† 1852. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that claims related to LSPEF of Rajasthan State Food and Civil Supplies Corporation have not been settled by Central Government, if so, the reasons therefor and by when the settlement will be made; and

(b) whether Central Government allocates foodgrains to Aanganvadi Kendras running in the country, if so, by when allocation of foodgrains will be made for the Aanganvadi Kendras running in Rajasthan, if not, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) The claims related to LSPEF are submitted by Rajasthan State Food and Civil Supplies Corporation to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) for payment. As intimated by FCI, a part payment has already been released and the remaining amount will be released in the financial year 2015-16.

(b) No Sir, The Central Government do not allocate foodgrains to Aanganvadi Kendras running in the country.

Payment of LSPEF claims to Government of Rajasthan

1853. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government allocates funds under the Levy Sugar Price Equalization Fund (LSPEF) to State Governments, if so; the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) by when LSPEF claims funds are likely to be released to the Government of Rajasthan; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Central Government has not revised levy sugar margins for the Financial Years 2012-13 and 2013-14, if so, the reasons therefor and by when they are likely to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) No Sir, the Central Government do not allocate the funds to State Governments under the Levy Sugar Price Equalization Fund (LSPEF). However, the Central Government releases funds to FCI for settlement of LSPEF claims of State Governments.

(b) As intimated by FCI, a part payment has already been released and the remaining amount will be released in the financial year 2015-16.

(c) The levy sugar margins for the year 2012-13 has already been revised and communicated to the State Government *vide* letter dated 02.03.2015. The State Government has not submitted the levy sugar margin proposals for the year 2013-14.

Amendments to Consumer Protection Act

1854. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL :

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is working on amendments to the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 to give it more teeth, if so, the details thereof; .

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to set up a Consumer Protection Authority, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Authority would look into various complaints of consumers, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) to what extent the consumer Protection Authority will provide full protection to consumers?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 comprehensively.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. However, no final decision has been taken yet. The subject matter is under consultation with all stake-holders.

Regulation of e-commerce industry

1855. SHRI D. RAJA :

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a panel of Secretaries is being set up to consider a proposal for potentially extensive regulation of country's e-commerce industry which is growing very rapidly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN) : (a) No. Sir. There is at present no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Potential of FPI in NE region

1856. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any survey to assess the potential of Food Processing Industry in NE Region based on the different produces/raw materials cultivated and grown there in plenty;

(b) if so, the specialities of the respective States and plan ahead of the Government to optimally utilise the potential; and

(c) the status of Mega Food Park coming up in Tripura under finance by the Ministry in terms of infrastructure building, expenditure incurred and private investment received till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries conducted a study through North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Ltd. (NERAMAC) based at Guwahati to assess the scope and potential

of food processing industries in the States of Assam, Mizoram and Tripura. The study revealed that the production volumes of various crops in these States currently do not provide the economics of scale for setting up of large food processing industries, except for pineapple. As far as vegetables are concerned, the crops like carrots, peas, tomatoes and ginger offer good scope for processing and value addition, subject to promoting commercial production in these crops.

MoFPI has been implementing central sector schemes in the country including North-East for providing modern infrastructure for food processing industries. The schemes are Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure, Modernization of Abattoirs and Quality Assurance, Codex, R&D and Other Promotional Activities during Twelfth Plan. In addition, Ministry had also launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme – National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) in the country including in NE during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. Under the Mission, all the State/UT Governments have been empowered to receive the applications, sanction and release the grant-in-aid to the eligible beneficiaries. States also have flexibility in selection of location of projects as well as beneficiaries. This initiative is meant to augment the capacity of the food processors for up-scaling their operations by adoption of new technologies.

(c) Mega Food Park at Agartala, Tripura was approved at a total project cost of ₹ 87.45 Crore, which is implemented by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely -M/s Sikaria Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd. Mega Food Park scheme provides a grant-in-aid of ₹ 50 Crore, out of which, ₹ 20.79 Crore has been released to SPV till date. As per the information furnished by SPV, the expenditure incurred in the project till date is ₹ 28.77 Crore (including ₹ 24.05 Crore on creation of project infrastructure, ₹ 1.92 Crore cost of land and ₹ 2.80 Crore towards pre-operative expenses). The Core infrastructure of the project includes Dry warehouse for storing raw material, pulping line, packing facility, hi-tech cold storage, quality control laboratory and also internal Roads, Drainage, Water Supply, EPT, STP and Solid Waste. The Non-core facilities of the project are Staff Quarters, Working Sheds, Insurance office, Fire Station and Garage for fire brigade, Canteen and Standard Design Factory for SME Sheds etc. The Park has not attracted any private investments till date.

Setting up of FPIS

1857. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the States which are deficient in Food Processing Industries (FPIS);

- (b) whether these States are producing more fruits and vegetables; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken to set up FPIs in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) and (b) Information on State-wise number of units (in operation) in registered food processing sector in 2012-13 as released by Central Statistics Office (CSO) in their latest Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) and corresponding production of fruits and vegetables, State-wise, released by National Horticulture Board (NHB) for 2013-14, is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Food processing units are set up by entrepreneurs in the private sector. It has been the endeavour of the Government to promote food processing industry in the country to reduce wastage of agricultural produces, control food inflation and ensure higher returns to the farmers. With a view to promote the sector, the Government has been strengthening infrastructure by supporting creation of Cold chain, Mega Food Park and setting up/ modernization of Abattoirs under the Central Sector Scheme of Infrastructure Development. Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) - on 1st April, 2012 for promoting the sector through State/ UT Governments. The various schemes under the NMFP, *inter alia*, include setting up/ modernisation of food processing units, setting up Cold Chain units for non-horticultural products, Primary Processing Centres/ Collection Centres in Rural Areas, setting up/ modernisation of meat shops, Reefer Vehicles, Human Resource Development and Promotional Activities.

Statement

Details of State-wise number of units in registered food processing sector in 2012-13 and corresponding production of fruits and vegetables

States/UTs	Number of Units*	Production in '000 Mt	
		Fruits#	Vegetables#
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	7	29.73	51.79
Andhra Pradesh	7740	10510.56	8149.76
Arunachal Pradesh	--	321.26	35.00
Assam	1090	2007.80	3031.90

1	2	3	4
Bihar	662	4013.58	15097.77
Chandigarh	12	---	---
Chhattisgarh	849	1930.18	5465.92
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8	0.00	5.50
Daman and Diu	37	0.00	0.00
Delhi	135	0.00	436.95
Goa	80	81.19	79.92
Gujarat	1564	8001.96	11571.24
Haryana	470	554.90	5565.90
Himachal Pradesh	143	866.34	1635.88
Jammu and Kashmir	121	2073.94	1395.47
Jharkhand	190	890.04	4238.13
Karnataka	1711	6652.42	7500.69
Kerala	1343	2889.50	3572.67
Lakshadweep	---	0.48	0.33
Madhya Pradesh	633	5696.00	13019.31
Maharashtra	2479	13457.92	10161.83
Manipur	19	515.69	271.04
Meghalaya	17	348.00	515.34
Mizoram	---	343.90	254.14
Nagaland	16	411.00	492.37
Odisha	829	2148.27	9433.66
Puducherry	60	12.58	16.26
Punjab	2197	1541.24	3936.19
Rajasthan	705	581.78	1114.07
Sikkim	20	24.05	134.53

1	2	3	4
Tamil Nadu	4208	7369.86	8678.82
Telangana	---	4440.98	3647.28
Tripura	67	786.35	780.52
Uttar Pradesh	1755	6887.45	18544.96
Uttarakhand	304	678.49	1016.83
West Bengal	1421	2909.71	23044.95
ALL INDIA	30,885	88,977.13	1,62,896.91

*: Annual Survey of Industries for 2012-13 (Provisional Results);

#: National Horticulture Board Database for 2013-14

Investment in FPIS

1858. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of investment made by Central Government in the Food Processing Industry (FPI) during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the steps Government proposes to take to boost this investment particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) and (b) Food Processing units are set up by entrepreneurs in private sector. Government has been supporting the efforts of private entrepreneurs through various measures including financial support in the form of grant-in-aid. Ministry of Food Processing Industries has launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Mission on Food Processing (NMFP) - on 1st April, 2012 for supporting entrepreneurs through State/ UT Governments. The various schemes under the NMFP, *inter alia*, include setting up/ modernisation of food processing units, setting up Cold Chain units for non-horticultural products, Primary Processing Centres/ Collection Centres in Rural Areas, setting up/ modernisation of meat shops, Reefer Vehicles, Human Resource Development and Promotional Activities. The scheme covers all States/UTs including Andhra Pradesh. State-wise fund released under NMFP by Government of India during 2012-13 to 2014-15 (up to 28.02.2015) is given in the Statement.

Statement

*State-wise fund released under NMFP by Government of India during
2012-13 to 2014-15 (upto 28.02.2015)*

(₹ in crore)				
Sl.No.	State	Fund released 2012-13	Fund released 2013-14	Fund released 2014-15
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.68	0.00	14.60
2.	Bihar	8.565	2.29	0.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	5.91	0.00	5.226
4.	Goa	2.745	0.00	0.00
5.	Gujarat	8.3625	0.62	8.51
6.	Haryana	4.44	4.16	12.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3.8175	0.00	1.69
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.75	0.00	0.7474
9.	Jharkhand	5.3175	0.00	1.5318
10.	Karnataka	8.3325	8.225	8.84
11.	Kerala	4.6725	2.22	0.3613
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10.7025	0.00	7.89
13.	Maharashtra	12.3825	3.53	13.71
14.	Odisha	6.93	0.00	5.80
15.	Punjab	4.62	0.00	1.94
16.	Rajasthan	11.0775	0.00	11.82
17.	Tamil Nadu	7.80	0.00	0.4405
18.	Telangana	0.00	0.00	2.39
19.	Uttar Pradesh	15.0225	0.00	5.51
20..	Uttarakhand	3.9225	0.00	0.994
21.	West Bengal	10.82	3.945	5.58
TOTAL		152.87	24.99	109.581

1	2	3	4	5
North Eastern States:				
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.15	1.35	0.5150
2.	Assam	4.1025	0.00	2.35
3.	Manipur	2.8425	0.00	0.6906
4.	Meghalaya	2.85	1.15	0.8208
5.	Mizoram	2.7825	1.105	0.00
6.	Nagaland	2.7825	0.00	2.11
7.	Sikkim	3.06	0.00	0.62
8.	Tripura	2.805	1.12	0.3892
TOTAL		24.375	4.725	7.4956
Union Territories:				
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.98	0.00	0.705
2	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Delhi	2.0475	0.00	0.00
6	Lakshadweep	1.6875	0.00	0.00
7	Puducherry	1.725	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		7.44	0.00	0.705

Schemes for promotion of FPIS in North Eastern States

1859. SHRIMATINAZNINFARUQUE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented by Government in North Eastern States for promotion of Food Processing Industries during the last year and the current year, scheme-wise, especially in Assam; and

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilized by the North Eastern States during last year and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : (a) For promotion and development of food processing sector in the country, including North-Eastern States, 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 Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries; Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Other Promotional Activities; and Scheme for Human Resource Development.

Further, during the Twelfth Five Year Plan the Government has launched Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'National Mission on Food Processing' (NMFP) which is being implemented through the State Governments/Union Territories including in the North Eastern States. The components of 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 including North-Eastern States have been empowered to receive the applications, sanction and release grants-in-aid to the eligible beneficiaries under NMFP. State/Union Territory Governments also have the flexibility in identifying sectors for special focus and selection of locations of projects as well as beneficiaries to harness the potential of value addition by using locally grown raw material including fruits and vegetables for setting up food processing Industries.

(b) The details of funds allocated and utilized by the North-Eastern States during last year and the current year is given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of funds allocated and released to the North Eastern States under the various Schemes of the Ministry during the last year and current year (2013-14 and 2014-15) is as under:-

(i) Name of the Scheme: Development of Infrastructure for Food Processing

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Funds released 2013-14	Funds released during 2014-15
1	2	3	4
(a) Mega Food Parks			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
2.	Assam	0	0
3.	Manipur	0	0
4.	Meghalaya	0	0
5.	Mizoram	0	0
6.	Nagaland	0	0
7.	Sikkim	0	0
8.	Tripura	0	0
	TOTAL	0	0
(b) Integrated Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
2.	Assam	0	4.68
3.	Manipur	5.00	0
4.	Meghalaya	0	0
5.	Mizoram	8.00	0.06
6.	Nagaland	0	0
7.	Sikkim	0	0
8.	Tripura	0	0
	TOTAL	13.00	4.74

1	2	3	4
(c) Setting-up/Modernization of Abattoirs			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.02	0
2.	Assam	0	0
3.	Manipur	0	0
4.	Meghalaya	0	0
5.	Mizoram	1.29	0
6.	Nagaland	0	1.11
7.	Sikkim	0.69	0.19
8.	Tripura	0	0
TOTAL		3.00	1.30
(ii) Name of the Scheme: Technology Up-gradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
2.	Assam	2.14	0.20
3.	Manipur	7.93	0
4.	Meghalaya	0.72	0.38
5.	Mizoram	0	0
6.	Nagaland	0.08	0
7.	Sikkim	0	0
8.	Tripura	0	0
	MM-4	0	0.41
TOTAL		10.87	0.99
(iii) Name of the Scheme: Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, Research and Development and Promotional Activities			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
2.	Assam	1.11	0.40
3.	Manipur	0.36	0
4.	Meghalaya	0	0.25
5.	Mizoram	0	0
6.	Nagaland	0	0.61
7.	Sikkim	1.47	0
8.	Tripura	0	0
TOTAL		2.94	1.26

(iv) Name of the Scheme: Human Resource Development

1	2	3	4
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.02	0
2.	Assam	0.12	0.005
3.	Manipur	0.06	0.005
4.	Meghalaya	0.03	0.38
5.	Mizoram	0.01	0
6.	Nagaland	0.03	0
7.	Sikkim	0	0.01
8.	Tripura	0.03	0
TOTAL		0.30	0.40

(v) Name of the Scheme: National Mission on Food Processing Industries

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2013-14		2014-15	
		Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.70	1.35	2.35	0.52
2.	Assam	3.97	0.00	2.98	2.35
3.	Manipur	2.29	0.00	2.14	0.69
4.	Meghalaya	2.30	1.15	2.15	0.82
5.	Mizoram	2.21	1.105	2.11	0.00
6.	Nagaland	2.21	0.00	2.11	2.11
7.	Sikkim	2.08	0.00	2.04	0.62
8.	Tripura	2.24	1.12	2.12	0.39
TOTAL		20.00	4.725	18.00	7.50

Setting up of NIFTEM

1860. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state whether Government proposes to set up National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) in Andhra Pradesh, 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) : No, Sir. Recently the Government has set up the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) at Kundli, District Sonapat, Haryana at an estimated cost of ₹ 479.94 crore. The Institute was declared to be a Deemed to be University under De Novo category on 08.05.2012. NIFTEM Deemed University commenced its academic programme on 16.08.2012. Due to budgetary constraints, the Ministry at present does not have any other proposal to set up such institute in the country during the Twelfth Plan period.

Encouraging FPIs in Punjab and West Bengal

1861. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state whether Government proposes to encourage Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in various States including Punjab and West Bengal by setting up of cold storages for storage of perishable commodities, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI) : For setting up of integrated cold chain and preservation infrastructure facilities without any break from the farm gate to the consumer, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure since 2008-09 throughout the country including Punjab and West Bengal by assisting in setting up of integrated cold chain infrastructure for arresting post-harvest losses of horti and non-horti produce. The scheme is primarily private sector driven wherein financial assistance @ 50% of the total cost of plant & 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. The scheme is available in all States/UTs and rural and urban areas. 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 Twelfth Plan. For setting up of cold chain projects for non-horticulture produce like dairy, meat, poultry, fish, etc. financial assistance

is provided (a) Capital Subsidy: Grant-in-aid @35% of the bank appraised project cost for general areas, and @ 50% of the project cost for difficult areas including North-Eastern region, subject to maximum of ₹ 5 crore and (b) Interest Subsidy: 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 years from completion of the project for general areas, and @ 7 % per annum subject to a maximum of ₹ 3.00 crore per project or actual interest accrued on term loan, whichever is lower, for a period of 7 years from completion of the project for difficult areas including North-Eastern Region. However, it has been decided that National Mission of Food Processing will be delinked from central assistance from financial year 2015-16 and accordingly no provision has been made for the scheme as it stands transferred to the States.

In addition, National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and National Horticulture Board (NHB), under Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India are also providing assistance for setting up cold storages under their respective schemes.

CVC guidelines for appointment of legal officers

1862. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criteria for appointment of Additional Solicitor General, Standing Counsels, Additional and Assistant Standing Counsels and other Government Counsels in Supreme Court, High Court of Delhi and other High Courts;

(b) the details of CVC guidelines for appointment to above posts;

(c) the details of appointments made by Government against above posts since May, 2014 till date along with the salary/remuneration paid, post-wise; and

(d) whether CVC guidelines have been followed in appointments to above posts, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) The Additional Solicitors General are appointed from among the advocates, keeping in view their sincerity, integrity and professional competence. Such proposals are taken in the Government at the highest level and after approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, the appointment is made. Normally, only those who are designated as senior

advocates are considered for appointment as Additional Solicitors General. Empanelment of Government Counsels/Panel Counsels in the Supreme Court and High Courts are made on the basis of the advocate's standing at bar, experience, integrity and reputation which are assessed at higher level.

(b) This Ministry has received a report of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) regarding review of the functioning of Central Agency Section. The report *inter-alia* highlighted the issue of empanelment of advocates and observed that the same is largely based on recommendation and discretion and was not based on the actual requirement or workload of litigation. Para-7 of the report of CVC contains recommendations relating to empanelment of panel counsel which is reproduced as under:-

7.1 The empanelment of advocates should be a one-time annual exercise instead of a continuous one. It should be an open, competitive process calling for applications from all advocates with certain prescribed criteria of selection like experience, qualification, etc. The selection process for the empanelment should be based on an objective assessment of the merit and suitability of the applicants by a Screening Committee before it is approved by the Minister of Law and Justice.

7.2 The number of panel counsels should be proportionate to the workload of litigation and to the actual requirement of advocates from different streams of specialization.

7.5 It is recommended that the whole exercise of empanelment, categorization of panel counsels, allocation of work and payment should be IT enabled to improve efficiency, consistency, transparency as well as accountability. All data base maintained by the Judicial and the Central Agency Section should be integrated to ensure integrity of data. The system should also provide for a complete trail of a case from start to end.

(c) A statement showing the details of appointments/empanelments made by Government since May, 2014 of the ASGs, Asstt. SGs and various categories of Government counsel is annexed as Annexure-'A'. The retainership per month is paid only to the Addl. SGs (₹ 30,000/-), Asstt. SGs (₹ 6,000/-) and Central Government Counsel in the High Court (₹ 6,000/-).

(d) Even prior to receipt of the CVC report, *vide* OMs. No.34(1)/2011-Judl. dated 25.08.2011 and dated 17.10.2011, the Ministry had rationalized the process of empanelment of counsel by establishing a procedure that ensures more accountability and objectivity. As per the instructions contained in the aforesaid OMs the empanelment of counsel were

used to be made on the recommendation of the Committees of Supreme Court/various High Courts. The said Committees were comprised of Joint Secretary and Legal Adviser of this Ministry, concerned In-charge (Litigation) and the concerned Additional Solicitor General. The said Committees after interview/interaction with advocates used to make their recommendations to the Government. It was experienced that the said Committee system has not worked well for many reasons including non-availability of Assistant Solicitors General/Law Officers for holding personal interaction with the advocates. It is also admitted fact that many good advocates, having sufficient standing at bar, are reluctant to appear before the Committee thereby depriving of the Government of their services, if required. Therefore, the system of empanelment of Government counsels on the basis of the recommendations of the Committees has been reviewed and has been discontinued in consultation with Ld. Attorney General for India. Now, the empanelment of counsels is done on the basis of the recommendations of the Hon'ble Minister for Law & Justice based upon his personal satisfaction and upon his satisfaction arrived as a result of his consultation with the Law Officers/Asstt. SGs, depending upon the requirement in various courts.

Letters from Members of Parliament

1863.SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALYAWI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of letters received from Members of Parliament by the Minister since August, 2014 till date;
- (b) the number of letters on which interim and final reply have been sent to the Members of Parliament;
- (c) the number of letters on which action has been taken and those on which action is still pending;
- (d) the number of letters on which neither any reply has been sent nor any action has been taken along with reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken to avoid the situation as in part (d) above?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of All India Judicial Service

1864. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up an All India Judicial Service to recruit judicial officers in the lower courts of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether an Advisory Council had been set up in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the likely time by when this Service will be set up?

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

(a) to (c) 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. It was decided in the Conference that issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. 15 State Governments and 18 High Courts have furnished their views. Divergence of opinion among the State Governments and High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service still persists.

Increasing the strength of judges in Supreme Court

1865. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, in view of pendency of cases before the Supreme Court, Government is of the opinion that the strength of judges requires to be increased;
- (b) whether Government, at present, is considering to increase the strength of judges from 25 to 30;
- (c) whether Government is considering to increase the age limit for the Supreme Court Judges from 65 years to 67 years; and
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court feels shortage of space, which has resulted into less number of courts, if so, the action plan of Government in this regard?

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

(a) to (c) The strength of the Judges of the Supreme Court was increased from 25 to 30

(excluding the Chief Justice of India) in the year 2009 to address the increasing workload of cases in the Supreme Court. There is no proposal for increasing the retirement age of Supreme Court Judges.

(d) The Government has approved a proposal for construction of additional office complex for the Supreme Court of India for the purpose of storage of records, office complex, auditorium, litigants hall and parking, etc. at an estimated cost of ₹ 884.30 crores.

Opening up of Law University at Aurangabad

1866. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bombay High Court has recently directed the Government to open a Law University in Aurangabad, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action taken by Government so far to implement the directive of the High Court?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) The Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Maharashtra has informed that as per the note sanctioned in Cabinet of Government of Maharashtra, it is decided to start the Maharashtra National Law University, Aurangabad temporarily in the Campus of Government College of Education which is located at Padampura area of Aurangabad and sanctioned ₹ 196.98 Lakhs for renovation of old administrative building and students hostel. Further Government of Maharashtra sanctioned and released ₹ 40 Lakhs on 24.10.2013 and ₹ 22 Lakhs on 20.01.2015 for development work. The Government of Maharashtra also sanctioned land of 20 hectares at Karodi, Tq. Distt. Aurangabad for Maharashtra National Law University, Aurangabad.

The work of establishment of Maharashtra National Law University is in progress as stated above and as the directions given by Hon'ble Court.

Appointment of public notaries

†1867. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public notaries appointed in the country, State-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of new public notaries required to be appointed as on date; and

(c) whether Government intends to appoint new public notaries, if so, by when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) and (b) Details containing the required data is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Appointment of Notaries is a continuous process. The appointments are made as per procedure prescribed in the Notaries Act, 1952 and the Notaries Rules, 1956.

Statement

Details of number of public notaries appointed and required to be appointed as on date; State-wise

Sl. No.	State	No. of Notaries appointed	Number of Notaries that can be appointed under the Rules
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	50
2.	Andhra Pradesh	417	158
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	325
4.	Assam	02	573
5.	Bihar	61	864
6.	Chandigarh	75	33
7.	Chhattisgarh	12	388
8.	Delhi	546	64
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	25
10.	Daman and Diu	-	50
11.	Goa	14	49
12.	Gujarat	1020	153
13.	Himachal Pradesh	04	446
14.	Haryana	901	437
15.	Jharkhand	14	436

1	2	3	4
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	350
17.	Kerala	636	68
18.	Karnataka	800	44
19.	Lakshadweep	-	25
20.	Meghalaya	-	175
21.	Maharashtra	2243	220
22.	Manipur	-	225
23.	Mizoram	-	200
24.	Madhya Pradesh	74	1051
25.	Nagaland	-	200
26.	Odisha	24	726
27.	Punjab	824	373
28.	Pondicherry	97	3
29.	Rajasthan	614	386
30.	Sikkim :	-	100
31.	Tamil Nadu	886	21
32.	Tripura	12	88
33.	Uttar Pradesh	1650	538
34.	Uttarakhand	35	290
35.	West Bengal	181	269
TOTAL		11) 42	9399

Setting up of commercial courts

1868. SHRI MAJEED MEMON : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to set up commercial courts across the country to deal with foreign investments;

(b) if so, the composition and *modus operandi* of these courts;

(c) whether these courts will help the Centre send a positive message to foreign investors that any dispute can be settled in a time bound manner and will no longer be dragged over years; and

(d) the full details of setting up of and functioning of these courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA) : (a) to (d) The Law Commission of India in its 253rd Report, has, *inter-alia*, recommended the establishment of Commercial Courts and Commercial Divisions and Commercial Appellate Divisions in the High Courts in order to ensure speedy disposal of high value commercial disputes. The full text of the Report is available on website www.lawcommissionofindia.nic.in. The recommendations made therein are under consideration of the Government.

Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor

1869.SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to develop Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor;

(b) if so, Japan's offer to India in respect of the proposed rail corridor;

(c) whether Government is considering to use pension funds for building High Speed Rail Corridors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Mumbai-Ahmedabad is one of the corridors identified for feasibility study for introduction of High Speed trains/bullet trains in the country. The feasibility study for this section is co-financed by India and Japan

(c) No financing scheme has been finalized at this stage.

(d) Does not arise.

Stoppage of Amritsar Shatabdi Express at Ambala Cantt.

1870. KUMARI SELJA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation for providing stoppage of Amritsar Shatabdi Express at Ambala Cantt. if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether recommendation from the State Government has been received in the matter, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stand of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) A large number of representations are received from various quarters for provision of stoppages of trains including proposal for provision of stoppage of Amritsar Shatabdi Express at Ambala Cantt. station, and action as found feasible and justified is taken from time to time. However, at present, three Shatabdi Express trains viz. 12013/12014 New Delhi-Amritsar Shatabdi Express (Daily), 12029/12030 New Delhi-Amritsar Shatabdi Express (6 days a week) and 12031/12032 New Delhi-Amritsar Shatabdi Express (Weekly) are available for Amritsar bound passengers, and all of them are having stoppage at Ambala Cantt. station.

Diesel Modernization Works of Railways

1871. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to make the Diesel Modernization Works of Railways (DMW) in Punjab, a manufacturing hub for manufacturing of diesel and electric engines, for Railways under “Make in India” campaign, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) The Indian Railways already have manufacturing hubs for diesel engines (locomotives) at Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW), Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and for electric engines (locomotives) at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), Chittaranjan, West Bengal. In addition, Diesel Loco Modernisation Works (DMW), Patiala in Punjab also manufactures new diesel engines (locomotives) as per the requirement of Indian Railways.

Railway Recruitment examinations for North Eastern Railway

†1872. SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Headquarters of the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) and the Railway Recruitment Cell of the North Eastern Railway is situated in Gorakhpur and a

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

camp office is situated in the campus of the office of the Divisional Railway Manager, Lucknow;

(b) whether it is a fact that examinations for filling up the newly created posts for the North Eastern Railway are conducted by the camp office, office of the Divisional Railway Manager, Lucknow; and

(c) the reasons that the written examinations for recruitment to the North Eastern Railway are not conducted by the Headquarter of Railway Recruitment Board, Gorakhpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The headquarters of the Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) and Railway Recruitment Cell (RRC) of North Eastern Railway is situated at Gorakhpur. Camp Office of RRB is situated in the campus of the office of Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), North Eastern Railway (NER), Lucknow. There is no Camp Office of RRC in Lucknow. A temporary Camp Office is opened in the campus of the office of DRM/NER, Lucknow during the period when examinations for Group 'D' posts are conducted by RRC for which co-ordination is done with RRC Headquarters Office.

(b) No, Sir. The RRB and RRC conduct examinations at both the places, *i.e.* Lucknow as well as Gorakhpur. The choice of venue is determined on the basis of the magnitude of the examination concerned, and the logistical and other considerations having a bearing on smooth and fair conduct of examinations. Staff of RRB shifts to Lucknow for the purpose of conducting the examination as and when the examinations are held at Lucknow.

(c) Does not arise as the examinations are conducted by RRB, Gorakhpur.

Modernization of railway network

1873. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government proposes to take to improve the existing tracks, strengthen bridges, and modernize signalling and communication systems to meet the demands of modern railway network;

(b) whether Government proposes to open up Railways for FDI to modernize the entire network; and

(c) if so, whether Government has received any proposal for investment in Railways, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Modernization and technical up-gradation on the Railways is an ongoing process. To meet the demands of modern railway network, the steps taken by Railways are as under:

Track: Laying of modern track structure consisting of 60 kg/90 Ultimate Tensile Strength (UTS) rails on Pre-stressed Reinforced concrete (PSC) sleepers with 1660 sleepers per km at the time of renewals, laying of longer rails, minimizing the use of Almino Thermic Welding and adoption of better welding technology for rails *i.e.* Flash Butt Welding, maintenance of track with the help of track machines, Ultrasonic testing of rails to detect flaws, etc.

Bridges: Repair/strengthening/rehabilitation/ rebuilding of bridges is a continuous process on Indian Railways and is undertaken whenever so warranted by their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspection by the designated officials.

Signalling: Progressive upgradation of Signalling System to meet the essential requirements of Signaling like Electrical/Electronic Interlocking with Centralized operation of Points and Signals, Multiple Aspect Colour Light Signalling with LED signals, complete track circuiting of the station, Digital Axle Counters, Automatic Signalling, Train Management Systems (TMS) etc. Adoption of new technologies such as Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) as means of Automatic train protection to further improve safety.

Telecommunication: Introduction of Mobile Train Radio Communication (MRTC) system based on Global System for Mobile Communication, use of Modern Optical Fibre Communication System on entire railway network.

(b) and (c) Government of India has permitted 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in construction, operation and maintenance of : (i) Suburban corridors through Public Private Partnership (PPP); (ii) High speed train projects; (iii) Dedicated freight lines; (iv) Rolling stock including trains sets and locomotive/coaches manufacturing and maintenance facilities; (v) Railway electrification; (vi) Signalling system; (vii) Freight terminal; (viii) Passenger terminal; (ix) Infrastructure in industrial park pertaining to railway line/siding; (x) Mass Rapid Transport System. No proposal has been received for investment in Railways so far.

Railway projects for Bihar and Jharkhand

†1874. SHRI HARIVANSH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway projects declared for Bihar and Jharkhand in the last two decades;
- (b) the present status of these projects;
- (c) whether Railways are seriously considering to complete these projects in a time-bound manner; and
- (d) if so, by when they would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) In the last two decades, 90 major Railway projects comprising 41 New Lines, 8 Gauge Conversion and 41 Doublings falling fully/partly in Bihar and Jharkhand have been sanctioned. Out of these, 3 New Lines, 1 Gauge Conversion and 16 Doublings projects have been completed and the remaining are at different stages of completion.

(c) and (d) It is Railways' endeavour to complete all the sanctioned projects in a time bound manner. However, Railways have a large shelf of ongoing projects with limited availability of resources. Progress of projects also depends on factors like land acquisition, forestry clearances, law and order problems etc. which are beyond control of Railways due to which no time-frame can be fixed for completion of all these ongoing projects.

Expected expenditure on construction of bridges over rivers in Bihar

†1875. SHRI HARIVANSH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the expected expenditure on rail-road bridge at Digba in Patna, the bridge to be built on river Ganga in Munger and the railway bridge to be built on river Kosi in Madhubani, Bihar; and
- (b) by when these projects will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) The details of expenditure incurred upto March 2014 against latest anticipated cost on Patna Ganga Bridge, Munger Ganga Bridge and Kosi Bridge are as under:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Bridge	Latest Anticipated cost	Exp. incurred upto Mar 14	Revised Outlay 2014-15	Outlay 2015-16
1.	Patna-rail-cum-road Bridge on river Ganga (19 km)	2921	2072	421	350
2.	Munger-rail-cum-road Bridge on river Ganga (14 km)	2363	1341	351	280
3.	Kosi Bridge	341	295	25	30

(b) Due to factors beyond control of Railways like land acquisition, removal of encroachments, etc. it is not possible to fix time limit for completion of the projects. However, it is Railways' endeavour to complete these projects on priority.

Accidents on unmanned level crossings

†1876. DR. SANJAY SINH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of regular accidents taking place on unmanned level crossings, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to check such accidents; and

(c) the State-wise details of deaths in these accidents during the last five years and the amount of State assistance provided to the families of deceased persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) The number of consequential train accidents at unmanned level crossings caused due to negligence of road vehicle users was 53 in 2012-13 and 47 in 2013-14. In the current year (upto February, 2015), 45 such accidents at unmanned level crossings took place on Indian Railways.

(b) Steps being taken to prevent accidents at unmanned level crossings include the following:

- It has been decided to progressively eliminate all unmanned level crossings by
 - (i) closing unmanned crossings having NIL/negligible Train Vehicle Units (TVUs),
 - (ii) merger of unmanned level crossing with nearby unmanned/manned gates or Road Under Bridge or Road Over Bridge or Subway by construction of diversion

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

road, (iii) provision of Subways/Road Under Bridges. The Unmanned Level Crossings which cannot be eliminated by the above means, will be progressively manned based on the volume of rail road traffic (TVU) and visibility conditions.

- Provision of basic infrastructure on all unmanned level crossings which includes provision of appropriate visibility, width, gradient, level surface on either side from centre of the nearest track, whistle boards, road warning boards, surface of the approach road and speed breakers/rumble strips as per laid down standards.
- Social awareness campaigns to educate road users with the use of various print and electronic media for observance of safe practices prescribed in Motor Vehicles Act and Indian Railways Act and joint ambush checks along with civil police to counter misadventure in front of approaching trains.
- Provision of Second Whistle Board (Repeater) for level crossings for the loco drivers to whistle while approaching unmanned/manned level crossings to warn the road users.
- Deployment of Gate Mitras/Gate Counsellors on unmanned level crossings to counsel the road vehicle users for observance of safe practices.

(c) Zone-wise and year-wise number of loss of lives in consequential train accidents at unmanned level crossings during the last five years and the current year (upto February, 2015), is as under:

Railway	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (Upto February, 2015)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Central	0	5	2	7	1	0
Eastern	0	0	3	0	0	0
East Central	7	11	36	5	13	15
East Coast	1	0	4	20	10	4
Northern	39	16	30	23	7	21
North Eastern	38	17	61	12	18	28
Northeast Frontier	9	11	9	8	5	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
North Western	33	19	11	18	19	14
North Central	2	0	2	1	2	1
Southern	1	10	13	11	1	4
South Central	6	16	18	4	4	20
South Eastern	7	11	0	2	7	5
South Western	4	2	6	0	3	6
Southeast Central	1	0	5	6	4	1
Western	22	12	4	7	2	6
West Central	0	0	0	0	2	1
TOTAL	170	130	204	124	98	126

The amount of compensation paid by the Railways for death/injury in accidents at unmanned level crossings during the last five years and the current year (upto February, 2015), is as under:

Year	Amount Paid (in ₹)
2009-2010	20,53,003
2010-2011	13,64,417
2011-2012	2,22,342
2012-2013	11,38,789
2013-2014	15,15,344
2014-2015 (upto February, 2015)	6,29,938

Sector-wise fare system for Railways

1877. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce sector-wise fare system, as is being done in the case of airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the method worked out for this purpose;

(c) whether Government has assessed the likely impact of this fare system on the weaker sections of the society, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to rationalize the fare structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal with Railways at present to introduce sector-wise fare system as is being done in the case of airlines. However, Railways have introduced the concept of premium train services on dynamic fare over and above the regular train services *w.e.f* 24.12.2013. The fare of Premium 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.

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

Mismanagement of funds in Railways

1878. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are suffering from mismanagement of funds, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have identified such mismanagement of funds at any levels of the organisation, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Ministry to curb such mismanagement, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No, Sir. Funds at the disposal of the Railways are spent judiciously after due process of budgeting and all expenditure is incurred after internal check. Monthly

accounts and annual accounts are prepared to enable concurrent budgetary control. The accounts and financial transactions are further subject to statutory audit by C&AG.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Number of loco running staff

1879. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of posts of loco running staff in Railways in 2014-15;
- (b) the number of vacant posts in April, 2014;
- (c) whether these posts have been filled up; and
- (d) the number of hours a loco running staff is expected to work per day along with the actual at ground level at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) The number of sanctioned posts of Loco Running Staff in Zonal Railways as on 01.04.2014 is 88568 out of which 17120 posts are vacant.

(c) Retirements and recruitment against vacancies is a continuous process. During the last 3 years, 32921 panels/persons were provided to the Zonal Railways in respect of Loco Running Staff.

(d) Running staff on the Indian Railways are classified as “Continuous” and they are statutorily required to work for not more than 54 hours a week on an average. But the rostered hours of this category of employees have been fixed at 104 hours in a two weekly period of 14 days including preparatory and complementary time. As per extant instructions, running duty at a stretch should not ordinarily exceed 10 hours from departure of the train and overall duty should not exceed 12 hours from ‘signing on’ to ‘signing off’ except in emergent circumstances like accidents, floods, agitations, equipment failures, etc.

Manufacturing high speed rail engines

1880. SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO),

Lucknow has developed semi high speed rail engine of 160 kilometre per hour having 5500 hp capacity and being manufactured by Varanasi unit;

- (b) if so, the number of other such engines under manufacture in the country;
- (c) whether Railways are in process of manufacturing high speed diesel and electric rail engines too, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No Sir. There is no diesel loco of 5500 HP capacity that is capable of running at 160 Kmph. However, the 4000 HP WDP4 diesel locomotive is capable of running at 160 kmph.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) and (d) Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) is assembling one WAP-5 electric locomotive with modified transmission and drive gear system suitable to haul trains at 200 kmph. Design for diesel locomotive fit for speed of 200 kmph and above is not available, at present, on Indian Railways.

Adarsh Railway Stations

†1881. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria to select a railway station for development as Adarsh Railway Station;
- (b) the details of the additional facilities to be provided at Adarsh stations; and
- (c) the details of those railway stations in the country, particularly of Maharashtra which have been accorded approval to be developed as Adarsh stations during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Selection of railway stations as 'Adarsh Stations' is based on the identified need for upgradation of passenger amenities.

- (b) Adarsh Stations are provided with basic facilities such as drinking water, adequate toilets, catering services, waiting rooms and dormitories especially for lady passengers, better signage etc.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) While additional stations were identified as Adarsh Stations in 2012 and 2013, no station was identified in 2014 for inclusion under Adarsh Station Scheme is as under:-

Statement

*State-wise details of stations identified for development under Adarsh
Station Scheme during the last three years*

State	2012	2013	2014
Andhra Pradesh	06	06	-
Assam	02	-	-
Bihar	23	04	-
Chhattisgarh	-	02	-
Delhi	-	-	-
Goa	-	-	-
Gujarat	11	02	-
Haryana	-	02	-
Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-
Jammu and Kashmir	01	-	-
Jharkhand	09	02	-
Karnataka	04	01	-
Kerala	14	08	-
Madhya Pradesh	09	06	-
Maharashtra	13	04	-
Nagaland	-	-	-
Odisha	01	01	-
Puducherry	-	01	-
Punjab	01	11	-
Rajasthan	11	03	-

State	2012	2013	2014
Telangana	--	-	-
Tamil Nadu	05	06	-
Uttar Pradesh	20	16	-
Uttarakhand	-	01	-
West Bengal	01	-	-
TOTAL	131	76	-

Special purpose vehicles to raise funds

1882. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to set up Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) in partnerships with State Governments to raise funds from the market to complete pending projects, if so, the details thereof and the reaction of State Governments thereto;

(b) the total funds required for the sanctioned new railway line projects and those of gauge conversion and doubling of railway lines; and

(c) the details of major projects pending as on 31 December, 2014 and the time schedule fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Ministry of Railways has approached all State Governments to form Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) jointly with Ministry of Railways to undertake mutually identified rail infrastructure projects for project development, resources mobilization and monitoring. 17 State Governments have consented to form the SPVs.

(b) As estimated on April, 2014 balance fund required for completion of already sanctioned New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling projects was ₹1.82 lakh crore. The throwforward at present price level including effect of new Land Acquisition Act has been assessed to be ₹ 2.79 lakh crore.

(c) Presently, there are 154 New Line, 42 Gauge Conversion and 166 Doubling projects across the country. Because of large shelf of ongoing projects, limited availability of funds for projects and factors such as land acquisition/forest clearances/law and order

which are beyond the control of Railways, no time lines can be fixed for completion of these projects.

Doubling of Waltair Railway Line

†1883. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) by when the work related to doubling of Waltair Railway line in Chhattisgarh would be completed;

(b) whether it is a fact that many sleepers broke after installation due to their inferior and poor quality in work related to (a) above; and

(c) whether the proposed survey for new railway lines in Chhattisgarh has been completed and which are the new railway lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) There is no line as 'Waltair Railway line'. However, doubling of Kirandul-Jagdulpur Railway line has been sanctioned in 2011-12 with funding from M/s NMDC Limited. No time line can be fixed for completion of this project as law and order, land acquisition, forestry clearances and release of funds by M/s NMDC Ltd. are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways.

(b) No sleepers have been installed in this project.

(c) Surveys for 4 new lines falling partly/fulling in the State of Chhattisgarh have been completed in last three years and current financial year. The new lines surveyed are (i) Chirimiri and Nagpur Halt Railway Station (ii) Nagpur Halt and Boridand Ambikapur Railway line to Paradol (iii) Dongargarh to Kota (iv) Kota to Uslapur. However, surveyed projects have not been taken up due to un-remunerative nature and large throw forward of ongoing projects.

Expansion and growth plan for railways

1884. DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have formulated an expansion and growth plan for the next Five Year Plan period, if so, the salient features thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) the steps taken by Government for time-bound execution thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) The Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) document contains the growth and expansion targets of Indian Railways which are as under:-

- (i) New Lines: 4,000 km, (ii) Gauge Conversion: 5,500 km, (iii) Doubling: 7,653 km, (iv) Electrification: 6,500 km, (v) Locomotives: 4,010, (vi) Wagons: 1,05,659 and (vii) Coaches: 24,000.

The above are in addition to the Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Project.

Targets for all items are also fixed annually and the required funding is planned and the projects monitored.

Development, modernisation and beautification of Surat and Udhna stations

1885.SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the updated status of steps taken by Railways for overall development, modernisation and beautification of Surat and Udhna railway stations;
- (b) the amount spent for the aforesaid purpose during last three years, year-wise;
- (c) the updated status of setting up of Divisional Railway Manager office at Surat;
- (d) the steps taken to increase security of Surat railway station in view of increasing threat perception;
- (e) whether to decongest Surat railway station, Railways contemplate diverting some passenger traffic to Udhna station, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken to increase passenger traffic capacity of Surat station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Modernisation/Improvement of railway stations is a continuous process and is undertaken depending upon volume of passenger traffic, *inter-se* priority of works and availability of funds. While Surat station has been developed under Model and Modern Station Scheme, Udhana station has been developed under Model and

Adarsh Station Scheme in the past. Station-wise details of expenditure incurred are not maintained. Development of stations under various modernization schemes is generally funded under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities'. Expenditure under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities' on Western Railway, on which Surat and Udhna stations fall, during last three years and current year is as under:-

Year	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (Upto Jan'2015)
Expenditure (in crores)	64.69	47.54	48.08	29.24

Further, Surat station has been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited for redevelopment and Consultants for undertaking techno-economic feasibility studies have been appointed on 06.01.2015.

(c) At present, there is no plan to create a new Division with headquarters at Surat.

(d) The following steps are being taken to increase security of Surat railway station in view of increasing threat perception:

1. Quick Response Team (QRT) consisting of one office and four other staff with arms and ammunition are deployed strategically to combat terrorist activities and avoid any untoward incidents.
2. 32 CCTV cameras have been installed at Surat Railway station for monitoring suspicious movement of persons over the passenger area.
3. There is strict surveillance on criminals involved in crimes in trains and Railway premises.
4. Intelligence inputs are being collected from City Police and other Intelligence units.
5. Close coordination is maintained with the Government Railway Police (GRP) and City Police.
6. Regular mock drills have been organized in co-ordination with GRP, City Police, Fire Brigade, Railway departments etc. to evaluate the security preparedness of the division towards terror attacks.
7. RPF personnel on access control/platform duty are being briefed/debriefed

regularly by supervisors and Gazetted Officers for keeping effective vigil on suspected persons/object and on the suspects entraining and detraining en-route stations.

(e) No, Sir. At present, there is no such proposal to divert passenger trains from Surat to Udhna station as the existing infrastructural facilities available at Surat are commensurate with the present requirements.

(f) Increase/improvement of passenger capacity of Railway Stations is a continuous process as per volume of passenger traffic and availability of funds. Surat station has been developed under “Model and Modern” station scheme. For further development and improving passenger traffic capacity, Consultants for techno-economic feasibility studies have been appointed by Indian Railway Station Development Corporation Limited.

Replacement of old coaches

1886. SHRI SALIM ANSARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are still using conventional coaches built in the years 1970-80, resulting into their frequent breaking down besides their maintenance being very expensive;

(b) whether by using such old coaches, the lives of passengers are being put at a very high risk; and

(c) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to replace these more than 25 years old coaches by new and modern coaches for comfort of the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No, Sir. No coach built in 1970-80 is being used in passenger services.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Tenders for stalls/trolleys

1887. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any plan for calling tenders for the allotment of Miscellaneous Article stalls/trolleys at New Delhi, Delhi, Hazrat Nizamuddin, Shahdara and Anand Vihar railway stations;

(b) if so, the time and date being fixed for the tendering;

(c) the details with names of miscellaneous articles contractors working at present at New Delhi, Hazrat Nizamuddin, Delhi and Anand Vihar railway stations; and

(d) the details of stalls, counters, trolleys and open spaces allotted to each Miscellaneous Article contractors at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The details of Miscellaneous Articles Contractors working at present at Delhi Division of Northern Railway are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the station	Name of the contractor	Miscellaneous articles units			
			Stall	Trolley	Tray/ Counters	Open space
1.	Delhi	Maqbool Illahi & Sons	1	--	--	--
2.	Delhi	Krishna & Co.	--	2	6	--
3.	New Delhi	P. C & Sons	1	4	12	--
4.	Hazrat Nizamuddin	P. C & Sons	3	--	10	--
TOTAL			5	6	28	

Policy for rehabilitation of handicapped STD/PCO booth operators

1888. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government/Chairman, Railway Board have received representations from Additional District and Session Judge, Delhi *vide* letter No. DSLSA/MSO/MISC/12/2051 dated 23 March, 2012 regarding conversion of STD/PCO booths into multi-purpose stalls operated by handicapped persons at railway stations on humanitarian grounds;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether any policy has been framed for rehabilitation of handicapped persons operating STD/PCO booths since long and whose livelihood is solely dependent thereon; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A representation from Additional District and Session Judge, Delhi was received for conversion of STD/PCO booth into multi-purpose stall operated by handicapped persons. There is no policy to convert STD/PCO booths into multi-purpose stalls, at present.

(c) and (d) In order to help STD/PCO booth operators, including handicapped persons, to earn better livelihood, permission has been granted for sale of SIM cards (new connections), mobile phones and related accessories on payment of certain additional licence fee in the existing STD/PCO booths. General Managers of Zonal Railways have been delegated power for granting extension of one year to the STD/PCO operated by handicapped persons on the basis of satisfactory performance of the licensee, etc.

Underperformance of North-East frontier railway

1889. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether North-East Frontier Railway, serving the North Eastern States, has been underperforming in ensuring passenger safety, hygiene, punctuality, upkeep of coaches and station premises;

(b) whether sub-standard coaches, long overdue to be declared as scrap, are being used in long-distance south-bound trains, originating from Assam;

(c) whether most of the rakes in south-bound express trains are unserviceable with faulty plumbing and light facilities, absence of water storage tanks and coaches are infested with rodents in under frame cavities; and

(d) whether the food served both on-board and on station platforms are stale, unhygienic and over priced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. All coaches are within their permitted service life.

(c) No, Sir. Rakes are being maintained as per prescribed schedule and deficiencies wherever noted are attended during maintenance. Pest and Rodent control treatment of coaches is also being done.

(d) No, Sir. It is a continuous endeavour by the Indian Railways to provide good quality hygienic food to railway passengers. However, some complaints in this regard have been reported, both onboard and on station platforms. In case, deficiencies/irregularities in services are found, punitive action is taken by the railways depending upon the gravity of offence.

DMU train between Ahmedabad and Abu road

1890. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Diesel Multiple Unit (DMU) train which was running between Ahmedabad-Mahesana - Abu Road to and fro has been cancelled between Ahmedabad -Mehesana, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government is thinking to start DMU train between Abu Road and Ahmedabad; and

(c) whether Government has made any survey of passengers, travelling daily between Ahmedabad to Abu Road, to and fro?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) 79431/79432 Ahmedabad-Mahesana DMU (daily) service and 79437/79438 Mahesana-Abu Road DMU(daily) were cancelled on 25.02.2015/26.02.2015 for operational reasons. However, these have been restored and are catering to the needs of passengers of Ahmedabad-Mahesana-Abu Road sector.

(c) The census of unreserved passengers on this section has been conducted by Western Railway.

Facilities at Sidhpur railway station

1891.SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to provide additional facilities for devotees at Sidhpur railway station in Gujarat in view of millions of devotees from across the country visiting the holy place of Matrugaya; and

(b) whether the Ministry is planning to construct foot-over bridge/under-bridge at Sidhpur railway station as this railway line divides Sidhpur city, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Foot-over-bridge for inter platform transfer facility is available at Sidhpur station but construction of foot-over-bridge outside railway boundary to west side is not a part of passenger amenities. If the local civil authorities (Sidhpur Municipality) desire so, the work can be undertaken by the Railways under Deposit Scheme.

Steps to increase electric routes and electric engines

1892. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are much more energy efficient than road transport, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether electrification constitutes a small percentage so far operation of Railways by electric engines is concerned, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Ministry to increase electric route kilometers as well as the electric engines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. According to the 'India Transport Report' submitted by 'National Transport Development Policy Committee' to Hon'ble Prime Minister in January 2014, as compared to Road, Rail consumes 75 per cent to 90 per cent less energy for freight traffic and 5 per cent to 21 per cent less energy for passenger traffic.

(b) No, Sir. Substantial percentage of operation of Railway is carried out on electric traction. For the year 2013-14, out of the total traffic in Indian Railways measured in terms of Gross Tonne Kilometre (GTKM), 65.4% of freight traffic and 51.2% of passenger traffic has been moved on electric traction.

(c) Indian Railways have already embarked upon a major electrification programme to speed up electrification of Railway Lines as can be seen from the targets and achievements of Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plans (FYP).

Five Year Plan	Route Kilometers Electrified (RKM)
Tenth	1810
Eleventh	4556
Twelfth	6500 (Target)
(2012-13 & 2013-14) of 2600 (RKM)	(2667 RKM electrified against the proportionate target)

Indian Railways have also increased the production of electric locomotive continuously during Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth Five Year Plans (FYP).

Five Year Plan	Electric Locomotives
Tenth	526
Eleventh	1116
Twelfth	534
(2012-13 & 2013-14)	

Besides the above, 200 Electric Locomotives have been procured from M/s Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited during the period 2009-10 to 2013-14.

Evasion of service tax by railways

1893. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways are facing investigation for evasion of service tax and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the tune of the tax evasion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Investigation into service tax matters is instituted and the tune of tax evasion is decided by Service Tax authorities under Ministry of Finance. The information received from Ministry of Finance is under:-

Investigations are underway against Indian Railways and some other railway organizations for evasion of service tax. Since investigations are in progress and have not attained finality, details and quantum cannot be indicated at this stage.

In the current financial year upto 31.12.2014, six show cause notices for an amount of ₹ 693.56 crores have been issued to railway organizations for alleged evasion of tax. Details of show cause notices issued earlier are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disposal of garbage by Railways

1894. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of garbage generated by Railways each day;

- (b) the mechanism in place for disposal of garbage by Railways;
- (c) whether any specific guidelines have been issued for disposal of garbage for parties outsourced under On-Board Housekeeping Services (OBHS) and Clean Train Station (CTS) scheme;
- (d) whether segregation of garbage generated in trains and at railway stations is made into bio-degradable and non-biodegradable and how the garbage generated is finally disposed off by Railways; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government towards the mission of Swachh Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No such assessment regarding quantum of garbage generated by Railways each day is made.

(b) Disposal of garbage is done by handing over the garbage to Municipal Authorities, through incineration, dumping in identified landfill sites and composting pit etc. Similarly, hazardous waste is also disposed off as per extant statutory guidelines.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Detailed instructions regarding waste management have been issued to zonal railways for prompt disposal of waste arising out of catering services at stations and in trains in order to maintain hygiene and cleanliness at all catering units. In order to segregate the garbage, the refuse bins (with three colours) so nominated are prominently painted in Green (for Bio-degradable waste), White (for recyclable waste) and Black (all other waste *i.e.* other than bio-degradable waste and recyclable waste) of sufficient size to ensure all collections.

(e) Under the “Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat Mission”, regular events on cleanliness are planned to be organized at railway premises. The focus of Indian Railways is to ensure clean and hygienic toilets, maintenance of cleanliness at stations, trains etc., tree plantation, removal of encroachments, improving drainage, public awareness campaign and periodic monitoring of the mission.

Bringing all railway crimes within the ambit of RPF

1895.SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to abolish the current three-tier security system for railway operations ;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has proposed to bring all railway crimes within the ambit of Railway Protection Force (RPF);

(c) if so, whether Railways propose amendment in the RPF Act to ensure seamless security and the details thereof;

(d) whether State Governments have opposed this move, if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. To ensure effective and seamless passenger security over Indian Railways, there is a need to replace the prevailing three tier security system of Railway Protection Force (RPF), Government Railway Police (GRP) and District Police with two tier security system of RPF and District Police.

(b) and (c) A proposal for amendment in the Railway Protection Force (RPF) Act, 1957 has been moved by the Ministry of Railways with the concurrence and approval of the Ministries of Law & Justice and Home Affairs to empower RPF to register and investigate all passenger related criminal offences in passenger area.

(d) and (e) Comments of States have been solicited on the proposed amendments in the RPF Act. Comments have so far been received from 23 States/Union Territories (UTs). Six States have agreed to the proposal and one UT has not offered any comments. Eight States have preferred not to send the reply whereas sixteen States/UTs have opposed the move to amend the RPF Act. Minister for Railways has requested the Chief Ministers of States to consider the proposal keeping the interest of common passengers in mind and convey their concurrence.

Request for doubling of railway line from Gujarat

1896. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of requests for doubling of railway lines made from Gujarat, falling under Western Zone of Railways and the reasons for keeping them pending;

(b) the number of requests for gauge conversion of railway lines in Western Zone of Gujarat are pending; and

(c) by when the same will be attended to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) Representations, both formal as well as informal, from various organizations, users, elected representatives etc. are received from time to time at various levels in Railways including Divisional Headquarters, Zonal Headquarters and Railway Board. A centralized compendium of such representations is not maintained. However, due attention is given to the suggestions, subject to the overall availability of resources and practicability of their implementation and feedback on the implementation or otherwise of the suggestions made by public representatives is normally given to them.

In the recent past, Government of Gujarat has suggested certain doubling and gauge conversion works details of which are as under:-

Sl.No.	Subject	Status
Doubling		
1.	Bhruch-Samni-Dahej	Gauge Conversion of this section has been completed and section has been opened for goods traffic on 28.7.2011. At present, there is no proposal for doubling this section.
2.	Surendranagar-Botad-Dhasa-Rajula-Pipavav	Survey for this project is not sanctioned.
3.	Surendranagar-Viramgam-Mahesana	Doubling of Surendrangar-Viramgam (65 Km) section has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 279 crore. An expenditure of ₹185 crore has been incurred upto March, 2014 and an outlay of ₹ 80 crore has been provided in 2014-15. Outlay of ₹ 200 crore has been proposed in the Budget 2015-16. Viramgam-Vani Road (7 Km) and Sabli Road-Bhaskarpara-Lilapur (14 km) sections have been completed. Track linking in balance section of Lilapur-Surendranagar (33 km) and Vani Road-Sabli Road (8 km) sections have also been completed. Yard remodeling and

Sl.No.	Subject	Status
		signaling alteration have been taken up. No survey for doubling of Viramgam-Mahesana has been taken up.
4.	Palanpur-Bhildi-Samakhiali-Gandhidham-Mundra	Doubling of Palanpur-Bhildi- Samakhiali has been taken up at a cost of ₹ 1267 crore being funded by Kutch Railway Company Ltd. (an Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) of Rail Vikas Nigam Limited). Detailed estimate has been prepared and tendering has been taken up. Samakhiali-Gandhidham and Gandhidham to Adipur is already BG double line. No survey for doubling of Adipur-Mundra has been sanctioned.
5.	Viramgam-Samakhiali-Gandhidham	Doubling of Viramgam-Samakhiali (182 km) has been taken up. An expenditure of ₹ 108 crore has been incurred upto March, 2014 and an outlay of ₹ 120 crore was provided in 2014-15. Further an outlay of ₹ 600 crore has been proposed in the Budget 2015-16. Viramgam-Sadla section (21 km) has been commissioned. Works in balance section have been taken up. Samakhiali-Gandhidham is already an existing BG double line section.
6.	Ahmedabad-Mahesana-Jaipur	<p>(a) The work of Gauge Conversion of Ahmedabad- Mahesana (70 km) Meter Gauge (MG) Line running parallel to existing Broad Gauge (BG) line has been included in the Budget 2015-16 at an anticipated cost of ₹ 420 crore alongwith outlay of ₹ 50 crore.</p> <p>(b) Survey for Doubling of Mehsana-Palanpur (65 km) section has been taken up.</p> <p>(c) Doubling of Palanpur-Ajmer has been sanctioned in different patches and work has been taken up.</p>

Sl.No.	Subject	Status
		(d) Ajmer-Jaipur is already a double line.
7.	Rajkot-Veraval	Rajkot-Veraval doubling surveys (in 2 parts) have been taken up.
8.	Rajkot-Okha	Rajkot-Okha Doubling survey has been taken up.
9.	Rajkot-Viramgam	(a) Rajkot-Surendranagar Doubling Survey completed and the work has been included in the Budget 2015-16 at a cost of ₹ 1315 crore with proposed outlay of ₹ 80 crore. (b) Viramgam-Surendranagar (65 km) work has been taken up.

Gauge Conversion

1. Ahmedabad-Botad-Bhavnagar. Botad-Bhavnagar section is already Broad Gauge section. Gauge conversion of Ahmedabad-Botad has been taken up at a cost of ₹ 567 crore. An expenditure of ₹ 2 crore has been incurred upto 31.03.2014 and an outlay of ₹ 40 crore was provided during 2014-15. An outlay of ₹ 120 crore has been proposed for this project in the Budget 2015-16. Final Location Survey completed. Other preliminary activities like processing of tender have been taken up.

Import of locomotive components

1897. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is importing various locomotive components like crank shafts, alternators and forged wheels; and

(b) if so, the details of locomotive components which are being imported from various foreign countries and expenditure incurred in this regard during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of locomotive components being imported from various foreign countries and expenditure incurred in this regard is given below:

Name of locomotive components	Year	Contract value of import (₹ in cr.)	Foreign countries
Crank Shafts	2010-11	94.49	China, USA
	2011-12	88.36	
	2012-13	100.02	
	2013-14	34.85	
	2014-15	94.72	
Alternators	2010-11	39.20	USA
	2011-12	272.84	
	2012-13	343.49	
	2013-14	-	
	2014-15	151.74	
Forged Wheel	2010-11	-	Czech Republic, Switzerland, China, Japan
	2011-12	27.95	
	2012-13	45.68	
	2013-14	84.50	
	2014-15	63.31	

Railway link within premises of a paper mill

1898. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a paper mill situated in Saila Khurad, District Hoshiarpur in Punjab has urged for a railway link within premises of the mill, if so, by when it will be started; and

(b) the revenue Railways will earn if the railway line is provided in the premises of the paper mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) M/s Kuantum Papers Ltd. had requested to construct a siding on 11.06.2012. The proposal submitted by the firm had been examined by the zonal railway concerned and the same could not be considered being found operationally non-feasible and was not as per the provisions of Private Siding Policy as well as not justifying Railway's investment.

Catering facilities in late running trains with no pantry car

†1899. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provisions for proper catering facility have been made for passengers in long distance trains having travel time of more than 12 hours and having no pantry cars and running late due to weather inconsistencies or otherwise; and

(b) whether any special system has been set up to provide medical treatment during the train travel in case of disaster or emergency, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All long distance passenger carrying trains are provided with First Aid Boxes containing essential drugs and dressing materials. In addition, Augmented First Aid Boxes with wide range of medicines, disposable medical material, etc. have been provided with the Train Superintendents of Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains and Guards of other nominated trains. The front line staff deployed on trains is trained in rendering First Aid. Services of doctors travelling as passengers are utilized to attend to passengers who are in need of urgent medical assistance. Trains can also make unscheduled halts, if necessary, at the stations en-route in emergencies. Railway doctors at major stations are available on call basis. The Station Masters have details of doctors, clinics & Hospitals, both Government and Private, in the vicinity of the station, so that their services could also be availed, in emergencies.

Agreement between China and Nepal for laying a new railway line

†1900. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that China has entered into an agreement with Nepal for laying a new railway line from Tibet to Kathmandu, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government has conducted a survey and study for laying a new railway line from Kathmandu to Patna, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Chinese Foreign Minister during his visit to Nepal in December 2014, had reportedly conveyed China's willingness to extend Qinghai-Tibet railway line up to Kerung, the nearest Chinese town from Nepal. Further, China has reportedly asked Nepal to carry out a feasibility study on possible extension of the railway line up to Kathmandu. Thereafter, the Development Committee of the Nepalese Legislature Parliament has recently directed the concerned authorities in Nepal to conduct a detailed study in this regard.

(b) No, Sir.

Crimes in long distance trains

1901. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an increase in the number of cases of burglary, looting and other crimes in various long distance trains;

(b) if so, the number of such instances reported during the last three years, zone-wise; and

(c) the details of measures taken by Railways to check such incidents and to ensure fear-free journey in trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. No case of burglary in long distance trains was reported in the last three years. The number of cases of loot (robbery and dacoity) and drugging have decreased in long distance trains in the year 2014 in comparison to the previous years. However, number of cases of theft of personal belongings of passengers have increased. The number of cases of burglary, loot (robbery and dacoity), theft of personal belongings and drugging in long distance trains over Indian Railways during the last three years zone-wise is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. As such, the cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the

efforts of GRP by deploying their staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive railway stations.

Besides, the following measures are being taken by the Railways for security of the passengers and to ensure a fear free journey:-

1. 1300 trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to 2200 trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily on an average.

2. Security Help-Line number 182 has become operational in Zonal Railways' Control Rooms to enable passengers to seek security related assistance on real time basis.

3. An Integrated Security System, including electronic surveillance through CCTV to enhance security over 202 sensitive and vulnerable Railway stations, is under implementation.

4. Regular coordination meetings are held with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by Government Railway Police.

5. To create a more effective security mechanism over Indian Railways, a proposal for amendment in the RPF Act has been moved by the Ministry of Railways with the approval of the Ministry of Law and Justice, and Home Affairs which is expected to empower the RPF to deal with serious crimes in passenger areas. State Governments have been written to communicate consent.

Statement

The number of cases of burglary, loot (robbery and dacoity), theft of personal belongings and drugging in long distance trains over Indian Railways during the years 2012, 2013 and 2014 zone-wise is as under:

Zonal Railways	Year	Burglary	Loot (Robbery & Dacoity)	Theft of personal belongings	Drugging
1	2	3	4	5	6
Central	2012	0	73	683	20
	2013	0	85	984	29
	2014	0	86	1281	23
Eastern	2012	0	4	193	88

1	2	3	4	5	6
	2013	0	9	216	62
	2014	0	4	141	66
East Central	2012	0	14	507	108
	2013	0	8	563	90
	2014	0	15	410	35
East Coast	2012	0	5	360	15
	2013	0	12	286	13
	2014	0	6	341	33
Northern	2012	0	18	400	27
	2013	0	20	508	14
	2014	0	5	70	1
North Central	2012	0	13	343	37
	2013	0	15	320	13
	2014	0	9	399	18
North Eastern	2012	0	1	12	35
	2013	0	8	56	14
	2014	0	1	134	16
Northeast Frontier	2012	0	1	96	64
	2013	0	0	125	51
	2014	0	1	110	28
North Western	2012	0	1	281	10
	2013	0	2	382	10
	2014	0	2	442	5
Southern	2012	0	2	91	2
	2013	0	1	108	5
	2014	0	5	203	11

1	2	3	4	5	6
South Central	2012	0	10	495	6
	2013	0	6	483	10
	2014	0	21	1008	18
South Eastern	2012	0	3	172	24
	2013	0	3	255	14
	2014	0	2	342	25
Southeast Central	2012	0	3	126	8
	2013	0	6	136	7
	2014	0	2	170	7
South Western	2012	0	1	50	2
	2013	0	1	75	2
	2014	0	21	196	6
Western	2012	0	49	598	27
	2013	0	71	681	7
	2014	0	33	605	12
West Central	2012	0	36	767	23
	2013	0	14	1080	11
	2014	0	22	1754	20
TOTAL	2012	0	234	5174	496
	2013	0	261	6258	352
	2014	0	235	7606	324

Online booking services for cabs and porters

1902. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether online booking service for cabs and porters by passengers (concierge services) have been introduced at some stations under South Central Railway, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether similar service will be introduced at all important A and A1 category railway stations under all the Zonal Railways by IRCTC, 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) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has introduced cab services only (under concierge services) at Secunderabad and Tirupati railway stations, on trial basis.

(b) and (c) Concierge services (only cab services) have already been started at 16 railway stations. The stations are Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Ernakulam, Guwahati, Howrah, Jaipur, Lucknow, Lucknow Jn., Madurai, Mumbai Central, Mumbai CST, Mysore, New Delhi, Patna, Secunderabad and Tirupati.

Improving the standard and quality of railway stations

1903. DR. V. MAITREYAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to improve standard and quality of railway stations in major cities and towns;

(b) if so, the list of railway stations selected and the funds allocated in the last three years for the purpose, Zone-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide an effective 24/7 electronic security and surveillance at railway stations and trains to combat any untoward incidents and to save commuters from terrorists and anti-social elements; and

(d) the total amount allocated and spent in the last three years for such security and surveillance, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Upgradation of amenities/facilities for all stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken based on the volume of passenger traffic, relative importance of the work/amenities and availability of funds. Presently, development of stations is undertaken under 'Adarsh Station Scheme'. While additional stations were identified as Adarsh stations in 2012 and 2013, no station was identified in 2014 for inclusion under Adarsh Station Scheme. The details of zone-wise name of stations identified for improvement of amenities under Adarsh Station Scheme are as under:-

*Zone-wise list of identified stations for inclusion as Adarsh Station
Scheme in the year 2012*

Zonal Railway	Name of Railway Stations
Central	Ahmednagar, Burhanpur, Jalgaon, Jayasinghpur, Junnordao (Jamai), Khandwa, Malkapur, Nandura, Nimbhora, Parasia, Puntamba, Savda and Varangaon.
East Coast	Duvvada.
East Central	Begusarai, Daltonganj, Dhanbad, Garhpura, Garhwa Road, Ghora Sahan, Hasanpur Road, Hisua, Janakpur Road, Kharik, Maheshkhut, Narainpur, Nawadah, Salauna, Sheikhpura, Simribakhtiyarpur, Supaul and Warsaliganj.
Eastern	Deoghar, Dumka, Ghogha, Pakur and Shivnarayanpur.
North Central	Birlanagar and Naini.
North Eastern	Daraganj, Ghazipur City, Jakhania, Jhusi, Jiradai, Maghar, Munderwa and Shohrathgarh.
Northeast Frontier	Ambari falakata, Arariya, Forbeshganj, Jodbani, Kokrajhar, New Bongaigaon, Simraha and Thakurganj.
Northern	Ayodhya, Bharat Kund, Bilhar Ghat, Gauriganj, Ghaziabad, Haider Garh, Hapur, Hiranagar, Lalganj, Lal Gopal Ganj, Muzaffarnagar, Phagwara and Prayagghat, Unchahar Jn.
North Western	Anupgarh, Balotra, Jaipur, Khairthal, Kolayat, Lunkaransar, Nohar, Rajgarh, Sardar Sahar, Sri Dungar Garh and Sujana Garh.
South Central	Jalna, Macherla, Machilipatnam, Piduguralla, Pokarni Narsimha, Sattenapalli and Vinukonda.
South Eastern	Bokaro, Lohardaga, Ranchi and Soro.
South Eastern	Ariyalur, Auvaneeswaram, Charvathur, Coimbatore, Etakkot, Feroke, Kannapuram, Kotikulam, Manjeswaram, Nileswar, Pappinisseri, Parappanangadi, Paravur, Payangadi, Royapuram, Thiruverumbur, Trichur (Trisur) and Valapattanam.
South Western	Almatti, Badami, Haveri, Hosur and Kabakaputtur.
West Central	Damoh, Kareli and Madanmahal.

Zonal Railway	Name of Railway Stations
Western	Amalner, Bechraji, Bhanvad, Bhatariya, Kadi, Kandivli, Lalpurjam, Palanpur, Siddhpur, Ujjain, Unjha, Vadnagar, Vijapur and Visnagar.

*Zone-wise list of identified stations for inclusion as Adarsh Station
Scheme in the year 2013*

Zonal Railway	Name of Railway Stations
Central	Dhule, Karad and Kolhapur.
East Coast	Naupada, Palasa, Parvathipuram and Visakhapatnam (Vizag).
East Central	Bajpatti, Dumra, Dumraon and Tehta.
Eastern	Jasidih.
North Central	Bhuteshwar, Dabra, Gwalior, Khulpahar, Rurah and Vrindaban Road.
North Eastern	Babhnan, Nautanwa, Padrauna and Sadat.
Northern	Amroha, Anandpur Sahib, Bani, Bareta, Bathinda, Bijnor, Chandpur Siau, Dera Baba Nanak, Doiwala, Fazilka, Giddarbaha, Jais, Jaunpur City, Karnal, Khanna, Mansa, Maur, Muktsar, Musafir Khana, Palwal, Rajpura and Shamli.
North Western	Abu Road, Ladnun and Raisingh Nagar.
South Central	Adoni.
Southeast Central	Balpur, Bhilai Power House and Itwari.
South Eastern	Chakulia and Rairangpur.
Southern	Arakkonam, Chingavanam, Guruvayur, Irinjalakuda, Kanhangad, Kanniyakumari, Kazhakuttom, Kollam (Quilon), Kozhikkode, Kudalnagar, Pamban, Peelumudu, Puducherry, Tripunittura and Teni.
South Western	Bellary and Sri Satya Sai Prashanthi Nilayam.
West Central	Bina, Gadarwara and Pipariya.
Western	Ambli Road, Bhaktinagar and Indore.

The expenditure on works of development of stations under various modernisation schemes is generally funded under Plan Head-‘Passenger Amenities’. The zone-wise allocation under Plan Head ‘Passenger Amenities’ on Indian Railways, during the last three years and the current year is as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Zonal Railway	Allocation under Plan Head ‘Passenger Amenities’			
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Central	55.62	29.00	58.60	73.50
Eastern	113.59	126.69	113.30	92.22
Northern	69.94	54.30	71.45	106.44
North Eastern	16.66	14.14	18.59	41.71
Northeast Frontier	47.11	67.23	45.00	50.48
Southern	59.00	69.81	68.12	62.29
South Central	81.46	85.98	97.12	92.47
South Eastern	39.90	57.80	45.97	58.01
Western	67.98	49.91	50.74	63.28
East Central	39.02	41.91	53.39	64.52
East Coast	18.48	33.38	35.94	53.67
North Central	46.00	72.36	74.97	88.64
North Western	13.96	18.94	28.38	33.87
South East Central	44.10	65.80	42.87	46.11
South Western	32.98	37.59	28.02	38.07
West Central	26.98	30.76	53.58	48.15
Metro	12.50	6.46	7.95	12.25
TOTAL	785.28	862.06	893.99	1025.68

(c) Security has been identified as one of the priority areas by Railways for strengthening and upgradation. Measures initiated to strengthen security and surveillance

at station premises and trains include installation of Integrated Security System under which 80 stations have already been provided with Internet Protocol based CCTV surveillance system, operationalisation of 24x7 security Helpline System through security Control Rooms of RPF, networking of RPF posts and Security Control Rooms under RPF Security Management System (RSMS), allotment of 4000 CUG SIMs for RPF escort parties to render security related assistance to passengers on real time basis etc.

(d) There is no separate Plan Head meant for “electronic security and surveillance” etc. However, works relating to creation of assets and procurement of plant and equipment etc. relating to the security establishment are undertaken and expenditure incurred on them in Demand No. 16 under Plan Outlay by different zonal Railways.

Measures to increase safety of trains

1904. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any measures to increase the safety of trains in light of increasing railway accidents and the recent derailment of a Bangalore-Kochi train;

(b) if so, the details of measures being undertaken in this regard;

(c) whether Government has considered private sector participation in order to ensure usage of newer and safer technology; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposals made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Safety devices/systems being used to prevent accidents include complete track circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Auxiliary Warning System (AWS), LED Signals, Vigilance Control Device (VCD), usage of 60kg rails and Pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, long rail panels, better welding technology, progressively

increased use of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Coaches, Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory (ICF) Coaches, etc.

(c) and (d) Sectoral Guidelines of Domestic/Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) issued in November, 2014 have identified areas for such investment including construction and maintenance of Road Over Bridge (ROB)/Road Under Bridge (RUB)/Limited Height Subway, installation and maintenance of safety systems for level crossing gates, installation and maintenance of Asset Failure Detection systems (Track/Over Head Equipment (OHE)/Rolling Stock/Signalling, etc.) and automatic self propelled Track/OHE parameter recording cars. No investment proposal has been received in this regard.

High speed rail corridor between New Delhi and Chennai

1905. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any fast track project to build the world's second longest High Speed Rail Corridor project between New Delhi and Chennai with the help of Chinese Railways;

(b) if so, the details of project and the salient features thereof; and

(c) whether Government has received preliminary report on its costing and investment required for completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) As per an Action Plan to carry forward the Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Railways and National Railway Administration, Government of People's Republic of China signed on 18.09.2014, a Feasibility Study of a High Speed link between Delhi-Chennai has been agreed to be taken up with Chinese assistance.

(c) No, Sir.

Shortage of reserved seats

1906. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of reserved seats in various express trains running through various important cities of West Bengal, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Railways for ensuring availability of accommodation to passengers by increasing the seats in all express trains passing through various important cities of West Bengal along with trains running from Delhi to West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) The important cities in the country, including those of West Bengal, are connected with large number of trains. On certain occasions like festivals and holidays, the upsurge in demand of reserved sector is catered to by running holiday specials. This upsurge of demand on peak days of holidays and festivals, sometimes outstrips the available reserved accommodation.

(b) In order to generate additional accommodation to passengers in express trains passing through important cities of West Bengal and trains running from Delhi to West Bengal, Indian Railways, to the extent feasible and justified, not only operate special trains but also augment the load of existing trains to create extra accommodation for travelling passengers.

Constitution of task force to deliberate on advertising

1907. SHRI C.M. RAMESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a Task Force to deliberate on the utilization of idle space in coaches, wagons, trains, railway stations, consumable items, utensils, bedding etc., for advertising, publicity and other purposes to generate additional revenue, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Task Force has submitted its report to Government, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Task Force has been constituted on 19.12.2014 by the Ministry of Railways under the Chairmanship of Member Traffic to deliberate on the Concept Note prepared by RITES on strategies for enhancing advertising revenue in Indian Railways by leveraging idle space in Coaches, Wagons, Trains and Railway Stations etc.

(b) No, Sir.

Zonal Railway Head Quarters

1908. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Zonal Railway Head Quarters in Railways;
- (b) the details about these Railway Head Quarters, viz., their locations and jurisdiction over various Divisions of Railways; and
- (c) the details of regular railway employees from Group A to D, employed in each zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) There are 17 Zonal Railway Headquarters on Indian Railways including Metro Railway, Kolkata.

(b) The details of the location of the Zonal Railway Headquarters and their jurisdiction over various Divisions are given below:

Name of the Zone	Headquarter	Divisions under the Zonal Railway
Central Railway	Mumbai	Bhusawal, Mumbai (CSTM), Nagpur, Pune, Solapur
East Central Railway	Hajipur	Danapur, Dhanbad, Mughalsarai, Samastipur, Sonpur
East Coast Railway	Bhubaneswar	Khurda Road, Sambalpur, Waltair
Eastern Railway	Kolkata	Asansol, Howrah, Malda, Sealdah
North Central Railway	Allahabad	Agra, Allahabad, Jhansi
North Eastern Railway	Gorakhpur	Izzatnagar, Lucknow, Varanasi
North Western Railway	Jaipur	Ajmer, Bikaner, Jaipur, Jodhpur
Northeast Frontier Railway	Guwahati	Alipurduar, Katihar, Lumding, Rangiya, Tinsukia
Northern Railway	New Delhi	Ambala, Delhi, Ferozpur, Lucknow, Moradabad
South Central Railway	Secunderabad	Guntakal, Guntur, Hyderabad, Nanded, Secunderabad, Vijayawada

Name of the Zone	Headquarter	Divisions under the Zonal Railway
South East Central Railway	Bilaspur	Bilaspur, Nagpur, Raipur
South Eastern Railway	Kolkata	Adra, Chakradharpur, Kharagpur, Ranchi
South Western Railway	Hubli	Bangalore, Hubli, Mysore
Southern Railway	Chennai	Chennai, Madurai, Palghat, Trichy, Trivandrum, Salem
West Central Railway	Jabalpur	Bhopal, Jabalpur, Kota
Western Railway	Mumbai	Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Mumbai (Central), Rajkot, Ratlam, Vadodara
Metro Railway	Kolkata	Not applicable

(c) The details of regular employees from Group 'A' to erstwhile Group 'D' employed in each zone as on 01.04.2014 are given below:-

Railways	Group 'A' & 'B'	Group 'C' & Erstwhile Group 'D'
1	2	3
Central	1084	108142
Eastern	1165	119207
East Central	931	80509
East Coast	602	44367
Northern	1513	153860
North Central	784	66277
North Eastern	607	57393
Northeast Frontier	969	65430
North Western	664	54393
Southern	1146	91612
South Central	1033	88575

1	2	3
South Eastern	888	83899
South East Central	529	45070
South Western	511	38810
Western	1117	99641
West Central	627	56944
Metro	98	3755

Model railway stations

1909. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria laid down for selection of a station for upgradation as Model Station;
- (b) the details of amenities provided at Model Stations;
- (c) the names of railway stations in the country, particularly in Jharkhand, which have been upgraded or identified for being upgraded as Model Station, so far;
- (d) the expenditure incurred by Railways thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken for timely completion of works at the identified railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) The 'Model Station' scheme was in vogue between June, 1999 and November, 2008. The concept of 'Adarsh Stations' has since been introduced. Initially, one station per Division of Indian Railways was selected under the Model Station Scheme. In the year 2006, the criteria were revised to include all 'A' and 'B' category stations, on the basis of the annual passenger earnings, under the scheme.

(b) Model stations were to be provided with additional amenities, depending upon the category of the stations, such as, retiring room, waiting room, public address system/computer based announcement system, electronic train indicator board, public phone booths, water coolers, standardized signages etc.

(c) 594 stations which include 16 stations from Jharkhand were identified for development under Model Station Scheme. The name of stations identified under the Model Station Scheme are as under:-

List of 594 identified stations under Model Station Scheme

State	Name of Stations
Assam (15)	Dibrugarh, Gosaigaon, Guwahati, Jorhat Town, Kamakhya, Kokrajhar, Lumding, New Bongaigaon, New Tinsukia, Rangiya Jn., Silchar, Srirampur, Tezpur, Bongaigaon and Tinsukia.
Andhra Pradesh (44)	Dharmavaram Jn., Guntakal, Guntur, Kakinada Town, Nellore, Rajahmundry, Tirupati, Vijayawada, Palasa, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam, Anakapalli, Anantapur, Bhimavaram Town, Cuddapah, Eluru, Godavari, Ongole, Samalkot, Tenali, Adoni, Chirala, Kurnool Town, Machilipatnam, Palakollu, Tadepalligudem, Tanuku, Tuni, Bhimavaram, Dhone, Gooty, Gudivada, Gudur, Nadikudi, Nidadavolu, Pakala, Renigunta, Annavaram, Bhadrachalam Road, Mantralayam Road, Srikalahasti and Nandyal.
Bihar (55)	Akshayawat Rai Nagar, Ara, Araria Court, Barauni, Begu Sarai, Bettiah, Bhagalpur, Buxar, Chhapra, Dehri-on-Sone, Danapur, Darbhanga, Gaya, Hajipur Jn., Jamalpur Jn., Janakpur Road, Katihar, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Mokama, Motihari, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nayagaon, Narkatiaganj Jn., Nawadah, Patna Jn., Purnea Jn., Sagauli Jn., Sasaram, Samastipur, Sheikhpura, Sitamarhi, Siwan Jn., Sonepur, Sultanganj, Patna Sahib, Bakhtiyarpur, Biharsharif, Jamui, Jhajha, Kiul, Lakheesarai, Rajendra Nagar (T), Rajgir, Anugrah Narayan Road, Raxaul, Saharsa, Madhubani, Barh, Bhabua Road, Dalsinghsarai, Phulwarisarif, Bariarpur and Mananpur.
Chandigarh (1)	Chandigarh.
Chhattisgarh (8)	Bilaspur, Durg, Raipur, Raigarh, Champa, Bhatapara, Tilda and Rajnandgaon.

State	Name of Stations
Delhi (9)	Delhi, Delhi Cantt., Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Hazarat Nizamuddin, Nangloi, New Delhi, Delhi Shahdra, Sabzi Mandi and Shakurbasti.
Gujarat (29)	Ahmedabad, Anand Jn., Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Dwarka, Gandhidham Jn., Gandhigram, Navsari, Okha, Rajkot, Surat, Vadodara, Valsad, Vapi, Ankleshwar, Nadiad, New Bhuj, Palanpur, Jamnagar, Billimora, Udhana, Maninagar, Mahesana, Dahod, Hapa, Surendranagar, Junagadh, Porbandar and Verawal.
Goa (2)	Madgaon and Vasco-de-gama.
Himachal Pradesh (1)	Shimla.
Haryana (18)	Ambala Cantt., Faridabad, Hissar, Kalka, Panipat Jn., Rewari, Rohtak, Ballabhgarh, Karnal, Sonipat, Jagadhari, Kurukshetra, Palwal, Chandi Mandir, Bhiwani, Sirsa, Bhodwal Majri and Kosli.
Jammu and Kashmir (2)	Jammu Tawi and Kathua.
Jharkhand (16)	Baidyanathdham, Bokaro Steel City, Chakradharpur, Daltonganj, Dhanbad, Hatia, Jasidih, Koderma, Madhupur, Parasnath, Ranchi, Tatanagar, Sahibganj, Barharwa, Barkakana and Garhwa Road.
Karnataka (26)	Bangalore Cantt., Bijapur, Gulbarga, Hospet Jn., Hubli Jn., Mangalore, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga, Toranagallu, Kankanadi, Bidar, Yadgir, Belgaum, Bellary Jn., Yesvanthpur Jn., #Alnavar, Bangalore City, Bangarpet Jn., Davangere, Dharwad, Gadag, Hassan, Krishnarajapuram, Londa Jn., and Tumkur. #Dropped
Kerala (19)	Alwaye, Calicut, Cannanore, Chengannur, Ernakulam Jn., Kayankulam, Kottayam, Palghat Jn., Quilon, Trichur, Trivandrum Central, Varkala, Shoranur, Tellicherry, Tiruvalla, Ernakulam Town, Badagara, Tirur and Alleppey.

State	Name of Stations
Madhya Pradesh (34)	Bamnia, Bhopal, Babina, Damoh, Gwalior, Guna, Habibganj, Hoshangabad, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni Jn., Pipariya, Ratlam, Satna, Ujjain, Khandwa, Burhanpur, Betul, Singrauli, Morena, Shahdol, Mhow, Dewas, Mandsaur, Nagda, Nimach, Madanmahal, Sagour, Maihar, Rewa, Itarsi, Bina, Vidisha and Chhindwara.
Maharashtra (45)	Akola Jn., Bandra Terminus, Bhusaval, Chandrapur, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur), Dadar (CR), Dadar (WR), Dharangaon, Jalgaon, Kalyan, Kurla (Lokmanya Tilak Terminus), Malkapur, Mumbai CST, Mumbai Central, Nagpur, Nanded, Nasik Road, Pune, Solapur, Thane, Wardha, Lonavala, Manmad, Amrawati, Miraj, Ahmednagar, Matheran, Badnera, Chalisgaon, Devlali, Shegaon, Ballarshah, Karad, Sangli, Satara, Daund, Aurangabad, Jalna, Parbhani, Mudkhed, Purna, Nagarsol, Parlivaijnath, Gondia and Nandurbar.
Nagaland (1)	Dimapur.
Odisha (23)	Badakhanda, Balasore, Brahampur, Bhadrak, Bhubaneswar, Byree, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Golanthra, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Jharsuguda, Kapilas Road, Khurda Road, Puri, Rahama, Rayagada, Rourkela, Sambalpur, Surla Road, Titlagarh, Balugaon, Sambalpur Road and Kesinga. #Dropped
Puduchery (1)	Pondicherry.
Punjab (18)	Amritsar, Anandpur Sahib, Beas, Bhatinda, Dhuri Jn., Firozpur, Jullundur City, Ludhiana, Pathankot, Patiala, Chakki Bank, Jalandhar Cantt, Phagwara, Sirhand Jn., Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Rajpura and Abohar.
Rajasthan (27)	Abu Road, Ajmer, Bikaner, Chittaurgarh, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Nimbahera, Sawai Madhopur, Sri Ganga Nagar, Udaipur, Alwar, Falna, Rani, Marwar,

State	Name of Stations
	Jn., Beawar, Bhilwara, Pali Marwar, Jaisalmer, Nagaur, Makrana, Suratgarh, Hanumangarh, Bharatpur, Gangapur City, Rana Pratapnagar and Kishangarh.
Tamil Nadu (27)	Arakkonam Jn., Chengalpattu, Chennai Central, Chennai Beach, Chennai Egmore, Coimbatore, Erode Jn., Kanniyakumari, Katpadi, Madurai, Mambalam, Rameswaram, Salem Jn., Tiruchchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Tiruttani, Tuticorin, Jolarpettai, Dindigul, Tiruppur, Thanjavur, Nagercoil, Ambur, Kovilpatti, Virudhunagar, Villupuram Jn. and Hasur.
Telangana (13)	Hyderabad, Kacheguda, Secunderabad, Kazipet, Khammam, Manchiryal, Ramagundam, Tandur, Dornakal, Vikarabad, Basar, Nalgonda and Nizamabad.
Tripura (1)	Dharmanagar.
Uttar Pradesh (82)	Agra Cantt., Agra Fort, Aligarh, Allahabad, Ayodhya, Badshah Nagar, Ballia, Bareilly, Basti, Baraut, Baghpat Road, Deoria Sadar, Etawah, Faizabad, Garhmukteshwar, Ghaziabad, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Izzatnagar Jn., Jhansi, Kanpur Central, Katra, Lucknow (NR), Lucknow (NER), Mau Jn., Mathura Jn., Meerut City, Manduadih, Mughalsarai, Moradabad, Pilibhit, Prayag, Rae-Bareilly Jn., Rawatpur, Saharanpur, Tundla, Varanasi, Renukot, Chopan, Meerut Cantt., Jaunpur, Pratapgarh, Sultanpur, Bhadohi, Akbarpur, Shahjahanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Barabanki, Shahganj, Unnao, Janghai, Najibabad, Rampur, Hardoi, Hapur, Chandausi, Mirzapur, Banda, Raja Ki Mandi, Fatehpur, Firozabad, Naini, Chitrakut Dham Karvi, Lalitpur, Orai, Lucknow City, Allahabad City, Azamgarh, Bahraich, Barhni, Belthra Road, Bhatni Jn., Farrukhabad, Ghazipur City, Kasganj, Khalilabad, Lakhimpur, Salempur, Sitapur, Varanasi City, Deoband and Kaimganj.

State	Name of Stations
Uttarakhand (7)	Dehradun, Haridwar, Kathgodam, Roorkee, Rishikesh, Kashipur and Lalkuan.
West Bengal (70)	Alipurduar Jn., Adra, Alubari Road, Andal Jn., Asansol, Bagnan, Bandel, Barddhaman, Barasat, Basirhat, Bishnupur, Bolpur, Budge Budge, Baruipur Jn., Bidhannagar Road, Bongaon, Canning, Contai Road, Cooch Behar, New Cooch Behar, Dalkolha, Dhakuria, Dum Dum, Dankuni, Durgapur, Garia, Garbeta, Ghutiari Sharif, Ghum, Harishchandrapur, Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Jhargram, Kharagpur, Krishnagar Road, Kulti, Kolaghat, Labpur, *Maal Bazar, Madhyamgram, Malda Town, Mecheda, Midnapore, Murshidabad, New Alipurduar, New Jalpaiguri, New Farakka, Nabadwip Dham, New Mal Jn., Raniganj, Ranaghat Jn., Raiganj, Siliguri Town, Santragachi Jn., Sealdah, Sonarpur, Sainthia, Tamluk, Tollyganj, Tarakeswar, *Ultadanga Jn., Ulubaria, Barrackpur, Naihati, Rishra, Srirampur, Rampurhat, Sheoraphulli, Chandannagar and Purulia.
	*Closed

(d) The expenditure on works of development of stations under modernisation schemes including Model Station Scheme is generally funded under Plan Head- 'Passenger Amenities'. The zone-wise expenditure under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities' on Indian Railways, during the last three years and the current year is as under:-

	Expenditure			(₹ in crore)
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (upto Jan.15)
	834.43	842.14	857.73	594.14

(e) All the stations identified under Model Station Scheme have been developed.

Bringing entire Odisha under one zone

1910.SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to carve out zones co-terminus with Telangana and Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether Railways would consider bringing the entire Odisha within one zone for better synergy and more effective implementation of railway projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. New Zones and Divisions on Indian Railways are set up keeping in view various factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operational/administrative requirements, consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency. The Zones and Divisions on Indian Railways are neither based on the State/District boundaries nor are created on the basis of regional/geographical considerations.

Modernising railway stations

1911. SHRI PANKAJ BORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to revamp, transform and modernise railway stations in the country, if so, the details of visualization and proposals therefor;
- (b) the details of financial arrangements to modernise the stations' premises; and
- (c) the policy and financial terms to be provided to the players participating in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Upgradation of stations has been undertaken under Adarsh Station Scheme. Selection of railway stations as Adarsh Stations is based on the identified need for upgradation of amenities. Since the year 2009, stations upgradation is done under Adarsh Station Scheme. 1052 stations have been identified under Adarsh Station Scheme out of which 925 stations have been developed so far. The expenditure on development of stations under Adarsh Station Scheme is generally funded under Plan Head- 'Passenger Amenities'.

In addition, 7 stations have been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited/Rail Land Development Authority for redevelopment to international standards. Two stations are identified for prefeasibility studies by China Railway Construction Engineering Group at their cost under an MOU between Indian Railways and National Railway Administration, Government of the People's Republic of China. Further, it has also now been decided to offer identified stations for redevelopment on 'as is where is' basis by inviting open bids from interested parties with their design and

business ideas duly providing for amenities and other requirement of the Railways. The cost of such station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of land and air space in and around the railway station.

Relaxation in expenditure contribution to Uttarakhand

†1912. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will give relaxation in the expenditure contribution to the State of Uttarakhand for railway projects of the State, in view of its special status;
- (b) if so, whether Government will exempt the railway projects of strategic importance from expenditure contribution; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) to (c) One new line *viz.* Rishikesh-Karanprayag (125 km) has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 4295 crore, being a strategic line, State Government of Uttarakhand has been fully exempted from any expenditure. The other two new line projects, being non-strategic lines, contribution of the State Government is land free of cost in one project *viz.* Kichha-Khatima (58 km) new line, and 50% cost sharing in the other Deoband (Muzzafarnagar)-Roorkee (27 km) new line, as already agreed to.

Reply to MPs and MLAs

1913. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH :

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether, as per the recent circular/order of Railway Board, MPs and MLAs would not be replied by Railway Board or concerned officers of Railways in cases of complaints against railway officials or recommendations by them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with circular order number with date; and
- (c) the reasons for issuing such an order/circular, which is in contravention and violation of the directions of DoPT regarding replying to MPs by Government/ Government officials and privileges of public representatives?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SC/ST employees in Textile Parks

1914. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Textile Parks existing in the country;

(b) the details of the persons belonging to SC/ST category employed in these Textile Parks; and

(c) if persons belonging to SCs/STs are not employed in these Textile Parks, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Details of Textile Parks sanctioned so far are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Textile Parks are set up in Public Private Partnership mode under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks. These parks are managed by Special Purpose Vehicle and the units in these parks are individually owned by private persons. The data for employment of SCs/STs are not managed by Government.

Statement

Details of Textile Parks sanctioned so far

Sl.No.	Project Name	Location
1.	Hindupur Vyapar Apparel Park Limited, Ananthpur	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Brandix India Apparel City Private Limited, Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
3.	MAS Fabric (India) Park Ltd., Nellore	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Gouthambudha, Guntur	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Guntur Integrated Textile Park, Guntur	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Rangraya Integrated Textile Park, West Godavari	Andhra Pradesh

Sl.No.	Project Name	Location
7.	Prag Jyoti Integrated Textile Park, Darrang	Assam
8.	JVL ITP, Rohtas	Bihar
9.	Gujarat Eco Textile Park Limited, Surat	Gujarat
10.	Mundra SEZ Textile & Apparel Park Limited , Kutch	Gujarat
11.	Fairdeal Textile Park Pvt. Ltd., Surat	Gujarat
12.	Vraj Integrated Textile Park Limited , Khed	Gujarat
13.	Sayana Textile Park Ltd., Surat	Gujarat
14.	Surat Super Yarn Park Limited, Surat	Gujarat
15.	RJD Integrated Textile Park, Surat	Gujarat
16.	Kejriwal Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd., Surat	Gujarat
17.	Shanti Integrated Textile Park, Surat	Gujarat
18.	Palsana Integrated Textile Park, Surat	Gujarat
19.	Amitara Green High Tech Textile Park Pvt .Ltd., Kheda	Gujarat
20.	Madhav Integrated Textile Park, Sundernagar	Gujarat
21.	Himachal Textiles Park, Una	Himachal Pradesh
22.	Jammu & Kashmir Integrated Textiles Park, Kathua	J&K
23.	Kashmir Wool & Silk Textile Park, Ghatti, Kathua	J&K
24.	Gulbarga Textiles Park, Gulbarga	Karnataka
25.	Doddabalapur Integerated Textile Park, Doddabalapur	Karnataka
26.	Metro Hi-Tech Cooperative Park Limited, Ichalkaranji	Maharashtra
27.	Pride India Coperative Textile Park Limited, Ichalkaranji	Maharashtra
28.	Baramati Hi-Tech Textile Park Limited, Baramati	Maharashtra
29.	Deesan Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd., Dhule	Maharashtra

Sl.No.	Project Name	Location
30.	Asmeeta Infratech Pvt. Ltd., Bhiwandi,	Maharashtra
31.	Islampur Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd., Islampur	Maharashtra
32.	Latur Integrated Textile Park Pvt. Ltd., Latur	Maharashtra
33.	Purna Global Textile Park Ltd., Hingoli	Maharashtra
34.	Khed Textile Park, Pune	Maharashtra
35.	Sundararao Solanke Cooperative Textile Park, Beed	Maharashtra
36.	Kallappana Awade Textiles Park, Kolhapur	Maharashtra
37.	Asiatic Cooperative Powerloom Textiles Park, Solapur	Maharashtra
38.	Dhule Textile Park	Maharashtra
39.	Satyaraj Integrated Textile Park, Kohlapur	Maharashtra
40.	CLC Textile Park Pvt. Ltd., Chindwara	Madhya Pradesh
41.	Lotus Integrated Tex. Park	Punjab
42.	Rhythm Textile & Apparel Park Ltd., Nawansaher	Punjab
43.	Ludhiana Integrated Textile Park Ltd., Ludhiana	Punjab
44.	Jaipur Texweaving Park Limited, Kishangarh	Rajasthan
45.	Kishangarh Hi-Tech Textile Park Limited, Kishangarh	Rajasthan
46.	Next Gen Textile Park Pvt. Ltd., Pali	Rajasthan
47.	Jaipur Inegrated Texcraft Park Pvt. Ltd., Bagru	Rajasthan
48.	Jaipur Kaleen Park Ltd., Dausa	Rajasthan
49.	Himmada Integrated Textiles Park, Balotra	Rajasthan
50.	The Great Indian Linen & Textile Infrastructure Company, Perundurai	Tamil Nadu
51.	SIMA Textile Processing Centre, Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu
52.	Palladam Hi-Tech Weaving Park, Palladam	Tamil Nadu

Sl.No.	Project Name	Location
53.	Komarapalayam Hi-Tech Weaving Park Ltd., Komarapalayam	Tamil Nadu
54.	Karur Integrated Textile Park, Karur	Tamil Nadu
55.	Madurai Integrated Textile Park Ltd., Madurai	Tamil Nadu
56.	Kanchipuram AACM Handloom Silk Park, Kanchipuram	Tamil Nadu
57.	SLS Textile Park, Bagalur	Tamil Nadu
58.	Pallavada Technical Textiles Park Ltd., Chennai	Tamil Nadu
59.	Whitegold Integrated Spentex Park, Ranga Reddy District	Telangana
60.	Pochampally Handloom Park Limited, Pochampally	Telangana
61.	Avantika Textile Park	Telangana
62.	EIGMEF Apparel Park Limited, Kolkata	West Bengal
63.	Hosiery Park, Howrah,	West Bengal
TOTAL (63)		

Assistance to handloom and handicraft sectors

†1915. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government provides any financial assistance/subsidy to handloom weavers and artisans through Self Help Groups/Non-Governmental Organizations for different programmes;

(b) if so, the details of the plans formulated for this purpose during last three years and current year, State-wise, year-wise and institution-wise, along with the quantum of monetary allocation made for respective Institutions/Group; and

(c) the other steps being taken by Government to incentivize and develop handloom and handicraft sector, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRISANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India provides financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations for development of handloom clusters and also, for live demonstration of handloom weaving etc. under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), formulated for implementation during XII Plan. Based on the viable proposals received from the State Government/directly from the Implementing Agency(ies) as the case may be, the funds are released to NGOs. Details of financial assistance released to NGOs during each of the last three years and current year is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

The office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India implements following schemes for overall development of Handicrafts Sector:

- (i) Baba Saheb Hastshilp Vikas Yojana
- (ii) Design and Technology Up gradation Scheme
- (iii) Marketing Support and Services Scheme
- (iv) Research and Development Scheme
- (v) Human and Resource Development Scheme
- (vi) Handicrafts Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
- (vii) Infrastructure and Technology Development Scheme

The above schemes are not institution specific and implemented in a uniform pattern throughout the country. The State-wise and year-wise funds released under various handicraft schemes is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) The steps for development of handlooms and handicrafts Sector are taken from time to time in consultation with stakeholders.

Statement-I

Details showing funds released to NGOs through State Government during last three years and current year (2011-12 to 2014-15)

Sl. No	Name of State	Name of NGO	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (10.03.2015)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Society for Integrated Rural Improvement (SIRI), Anantapur	13.48	0	0	0
		Aurunodaya Tural Integrated and Social Education Society, Tadipatri	15.02	0	0	0
		Orient Craft Fashion Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (2 cluster)	0	35.83	0	0
		Society for Human Care Agriculture and Rehabilitation for Rural People, Nalgonda	0	19.15	0	0
		M/s Chitrika Srikakulam, (2 cluster)	0	12.77	0	0
		Centre for Handloom Information and Policy Advocacy (CHIP), Near old Registrar Office, Chirala, Prakasham	0	0.00	0	0
2.	Assam	Panchratna Gramya Bikas Kendra, Dhekiabari, PO- Kharshitha, Distt. Nalbari, Assam	0	21.80	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Oju Welfare Association, "B" Sector near Plice Station PO/PS - Naharlagun, Papumpare	5.99	16.67	0	0
		M/s. Arun Kutir Udyog Coop. Society, P.O. Ziro, Salang - Hapoli	22.67	17.42	0	0
		M/s. Aya Welfare Society, Ziro, (Hapoli), Hari	22.67	17.42	0	0

	M/s. B.J. Memorial Welfare Society, Dollung - Mukh	11.54	26.20	0	0
	M/s. Yuva Arunachal P.O. Jang, P.S. Tawang Distt.	16.38	0	16.87	0
	M/s. Everest Society & Welfare Association, Tirbin, West Siang Distt.	16.38	0	16.87	0
	M/s Dadi Hamgio Charitable Society	16.48	0	15.52	0
	M/s Tribal Development Society	13.32	0	9.86	0
	M/s International Global Welfare Society	16.47	0	17.21	0
4.	J&K Social Action for Social Development, Jammu	0	21.81	0	0
	Kashmir Silk Producers Cooperative, Ltd. Srinagar	0	18.98	0	0
5.	Karnataka M/s. DESI, Trust, Bangalore	21.03	19.64	0	0
6.	Madhya Pradesh Centre for Media Research Bhopal	22.63	0	0	0
	Priyanshi Educational Cultural & Social Society Bhopal	13.70	16.08	0	0
	Nageshwara Charitable Trust Centre for Women & Rural Dev., Nagpur	17.06	0	0	0
	Centre for Research and Industrial Staff Performance (CRISP) Shyamla Hills, Bhopal	0	0	8.55	0
	Women Work and Health Initiative, New Delhi	37.80	0	0	0
7.	Rajasthan URMUL Marusthali Bunkar Vikas Samittee, Pokaran	0	0	0	0
	Rangsutra Craft Duniya Producer Co. Ltd., Bikaner	0	0	0	0
8.	Uttarakhand Uttarakhand Artist Welfare Association, Nainital Uttarakhand (2 cluster)	18.00	21.17	0	0
9	Uttar Pradesh Gram Niyozen Ashram, Vinobha Marg, Gali No.1, Chharra, Aligarh.	17.91	17.80	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Ehsaas Foundation, D-6, 6138/8, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi (2 cluster)	39.10	31.89	0	0	0
	Khadievam Gramdhyog Vikas Samiti, Central Market, Sector-2, Shashtri Nagar, Meerut	17.91	17.80	0	0	0
	Global Value Creation, 301, S.G. Shopping Mall, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi	21.19	14.09	0	0	0
	Jal Sangrahan Vikas Evam Gramothan Smiti, Surbhi Utsav, Pahadiya, Varanasi	20.25	0	17.45	0	0
	Smriti Sewa Sansthan, C-23-E, Park Mahanagar Extn., Lucknow	16.83	0	12.15	0	0
	Ehssas Foundation, New Delhi, (2 Cluster)	0.00	0	17.80	30.94	30.94
	TOTAL	433.79	346.51	132.28	30.94	30.94

(a) Details showing funds released to NGOs during last three years and current year (2011-12 to 2014-15)

Sl.No.	Year	Name of the State	Name of the NGO	Amount released (₹ in lakhs)
1.	2011-12	Karnataka	M/s Pilkuula Nisagra Dhana Society, Manglore	26.25
		West Bengal	M/s Craft Council of West Bengal, Kolkata	0.48
2.	2012-13	West Bengal	M/s Craft Council of West Bengal, Kolkata	0.24
3.	2013-14	Karnataka	M/s Pilkuula Nisagra Dhana Society, Manglore	18.76
4.	2014-15	-	-	-

Statement-II

(A) Details of State-wise, scheme-wise funds released under handicrafts schemes during 2011-12 .

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	Marketing	HRD	R&D	Welfare	Total (₹ in lakhs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	200.82	17.04	172.47	55.99	18.99		465.31
2.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	6.36	0		6.36
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	76.81	15.4	9.95	31.21	0		133.37
4.	Assam	420.08	186.88	642.34	78.54	42.45		1370.29
5.	Bihar	21.20	18.25	43.23	43.76	0		126.44
6.	Chandigarh	3.55	0	0	0	2.47		6.02
7.	Chhattisgarh	12.81	2.70	48.53	4.19	0		68.23
8.	Delhi	101.73	156.03	1608.13	150.16	409.42		2425.47
9.	Daman and Diu	13.55	0	0	0	0		13.55
10.	Goa	6.32	2.70	39.87	5.82	0		54.71
11.	Gujarat	487.00	45.65	127.57	27.16	0		687.38
12.	Haryana	261.46	12.20	85.85	15.33	0		374.84
13.	Himachal Pradesh	22.61	50.88	68.37	7.07	0		148.93

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	Marketing	HRD	R&D	Welfare	Total
14.	Jharkhand	140.89	9.65	20.16	10.87	0		181.57
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	307.17	24.89	67.55	60.16	2.37		462.14
16.	Karnataka	46.20	7.35	28.65	32.28	7.35		121.83
17.	Kerala	109.90	10.80	19.76	47.13	0		187.59
18.	Madhya Pradesh	139.93	89.17	119.07	65.14	11.34		424.65
19.	Maharashtra	101.22	43.97	120.97	35.99	20.34		322.49
20.	Manipur	560.32	109.06	189.41	54.47	0		913.26
21.	Meghalaya	110.36	5.90	22.03	18.86	0		157.15
22.	Mizoram	70.14	7.70	0	11.57	0		89.41
23.	Nagaland	91.09	4.37	110.92	29.03	7.5		242.91
24.	Odisha	66.67	44.57	60.38	73.60	15.05		260.27
25.	Punjab	123.90	24.75	35.32	49.85	0		233.82
26.	Puducherry	2.00	1.80	11.34	18.72	0		33.86
27.	Rajasthan	126.84	14.40	186.58	59.47	22.66		409.95
28.	Sikkim	49.03	21.80	11.36	16.23	0		98.42
29.	Tamil Nadu	67.13	11.10	127.69	98.42	3.51		307.85
30.	Tripura	58.81	23.36	43.87	111.54	0		237.58

31.	Uttar Pradesh	932.60	909.88	445.19	390.14	15.34	2693.15
32.	Uttarakhand	68.80	16.20	41.82	39.77	5.17	171.76
33.	West Bengal	66.14	8.79	53.55	46.89	5.17	180.54
TOTAL		4867.08	1897.24	4561.93	1695.72	589.13	17083.1

Note:- In Welfare Scheme State-wise funds are not released.

(b) State-wise, scheme-wise funds released under handicrafts schemes during 2012-13

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	Marketing	HRD	welfare	R&D	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99.90	28.50	144.67	40.40		4.86	318.33
2.	A and N Islands	0	0.00	0				0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	44.65	15.00	59.70	1.25		3.65	124.25
4.	Assam	394.64	99.90	591.85	40.10		21.52	1148.01
5.	Bihar	102.13	16.70	62.82	38.10		7.18	226.93
6.	Chhattisgarh	15.00	-	39.37	19.30		-	73.67
7.	Delhi	72.12	104.80	1778.3	187.60		252.28	2395.1
8.	Goa	28.35	-	26.83	4.60		-	59.78
9.	Gujarat	236.38	14.50	83.26	20.90		-	355.04
10.	Haryana	209.11	5.90	44.6	40.30		14.87	314.78
11.	Himachal Pradesh	44.51	5.00	46.55	1.42		-	97.48

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	Marketing	HRD	welfare	R&D	Total
12.	Jharkhand	52.62	14.00	21.84	11.50		-	99.96
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	315.37	28.10	30.43	57.65		9.80	441.35
14.	Karnataka	73.19	4.50	73.92	24.15		-	175.76
15.	Kerala	55.76	14.50	65.27	39.70		-	175.23
16.	Madhya Pradesh	161.00	44.90	109.58	99.00		27.10	441.58
17.	Maharashtra	86.63	2.70	99.53	62.90		-	251.76
18.	Manipur	396.32	30.40	121.46	44.30		21.63	614.11
19.	Meghalaya	1.75	5.00	5.61	6.25		-	18.61
20.	Mizoram	6.17	5.00	13.35	5.46		-	29.98
21.	Nagaland	40.45	20.90	20.16	4.50		-	86.01
22.	Odisha	72.89	24.90	165.98	93.20		8.70	365.67
23.	Punjab	141.74	14.50	58.79	15.60		2.49	233.12
24.	Puducherry	3.61	-	22.96	11.40		-	37.97
25.	Rajasthan	54.92	13.10	102.78	86.60		29.30	286.7
26.	Sikkim	0	5.00	23.15	5.90		-	34.05
27.	Tamil Nadu	50.84	4.50	98.63	39.50		42.31	235.78
28.	Tripura	105.69	5.00	26.25	16.00		-	152.94

29.	Uttar Pradesh	1171.75	94.60	414.91	278.45	47.77	2007.48
30.	Uttarakhand	100.28	16.30	15.75	11.60	2.40	146.33
31.	West Bengal	119.34	10.40	129.00	58.30	-	317.04
	TOTAL	4257.11	648.60	4497.30	1365.93	2489.00	13753.80

Note:- In Welfare Scheme State-wise funds are not released.

(c) Details of State-wise, scheme-wise funds released under handicrafts schemes during 2013-14

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	MSS	HRD	*welfare	R&D	Infrast.	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1145.5	46.97	252.63	64.97		20.16		1530.23
2.	A and N Islands			0	5.61				5.61
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.07	10.79	0	8.08		10.97		30.91
4.	Assam	247.23	169.12	757.84	143.37		34.04	38.75	1390.35
5.	Bihar	55.7	30.93	47.22	23.4		6.77		164.02
6.	Chhattisgarh	10.4	11	18.84	16.55				56.79
7.	Chandigarh	0		0					0
8.	Delhi	93.86	237.69	1362.01	168.58		419.73	350.00	2631.87
9.	Goa	0.9		6.75	0.87				8.52

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	MSS	HRD	*welfare	R&D	Infrast.	Total
10.	Gujarat	209.06	40.69	29.85	20.17				299.77
11.	Haryana	280.13	19.2	69.04	25.84		68.21		462.42
12.	Himachal Pradesh	26.7	15.97	69.98	2.17		2.89		117.71
13.	Jharkhand	26.95	8.59	7.44	18.96				61.94
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	273.78	42.6	41.99	44.72		13.18	300.00	716.27
15.	Karnataka	29.88	11.97	34.55	20.66				97.06
16.	Kerala	52.98	4.44	16.89	6.9				81.21
17.	Madhya Pradesh	214.1	68.48	64.07	75.75		24.59	53.75	500.74
18.	Maharashtra	68.28	11.75	55.45	27.39		7.69		170.56
19.	Manipur	212.43	91.52	45.66	71.75		48.52		469.88
20.	Meghalaya	0.75	13.56	0	10.76				25.07
21.	Mizoram	22.24	11.93	0					34.17
22.	Nagaland	75	28.05	0	14.29			15.64	132.98
23.	Odisha	675.3	35.78	100.46	38.37		6.90	22.20	879.01
24.	Punjab	113.96	21.8	70.61	57.72		4.66		268.75
25.	Puducherry	0.75		10.54					11.29
26.	Rajasthan	137.76	32.4	134.54	48.7		16.06	116.0	485.46

27.	Sikkim	18.57	37.85	4.51	13.67				74.60
28.	Tamil Nadu	68.9	8.68	44.74	51.93	1.15	12.80		188.20
29.	Tripura	13.16	36.5	0	38.39				88.05
30.	Uttar Pradesh	1056.45	170.69	600.53	269.12	139.84	31.79		2268.42
31.	Uttarakhand	33.7	5.37	20.45	76.66				136.18
32.	West Bengal	41.29	26.67	54.83	31.49	5.00	25.00		184.28
	Welfare								2194.00
	TOTAL	5206.78	1250.99	3921.42	1396.8	830.36	965.93		15766.32

*Note:- In welfare scheme State-wise funds are not released. Funds allocated country as a whole.

(d) Details of state-wise, scheme-wise fund released during 2014-15 upto 20th February, 2015

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	MSS	HRD	Welfare	R&D	Infra	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.60	24.76	146.06	19.61		4.53	60.00	271.56
2.	A and N Island	0	0	0.00	1.84			4.00	5.84
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.90	0.00	4.26		5.96		11.12
4.	Assam	28.10	76.54	323.87	57.50		14.24		500.25
5.	Bihar	31.53	0.90	10.03	60.76		2.17		105.39

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	AHVV	Design	MSS	HRD	Welfare	R&D	Infra	Total
6.	Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	20.25	7.50	35.51	15.91				79.17
8.	Delhi	30.19	170.18	1125.58	92.40		124.40	1263.00	2805.75
9.	Goa	0	0.00	7.00	0.00				7.00
10.	Gujarat	91.68	4.87	35.39	15.87				147.81
11.	Haryana	71.97	0.00	34.41	13.96		2.10		122.44
12.	Himachal Pradesh	49.07	0.00	43.14	1.45				93.66
13.	Jharkhand	3.43	0.00	2.99	21.50				27.92
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	62.64	8.30	58.45	44.98				174.37
15.	Karnataka	10.38	7.30	3.70	0.92			222.00	244.30
16.	Kerala	18.72	0.00	32.58	2.07				53.37
17.	Madhya Pradesh	227.61	10.00	59.89	88.00		2.15		387.65
18.	Maharashtra	54.64	18.33	64.70	21.60				159.27
19.	Manipur	13.78	13.07	27.54	23.92				78.31
20.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				0.00
21.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.50				7.50
22.	Nagaland	0.00	13.93	44.51	21.40		2.48		82.32

23. Odisha	128.46	8.50	97.77	119.75	5.00		359.48
24. Punjab	49.00	1.50	28.75	26.12			105.37
25. Puducherry	0.00	0.00	8.00	0.00	1.66		9.66
26. Rajasthan	63.54	14.43	45.50	33.57		320.00	477.04
27. Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.15			14.15
28. Telangana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00
29. Tamil Nadu	5.90	3.30	148.85	9.58		12.80	180.43
30. Tripura	1.22	2.40	0.00	15.29			18.91
31. Uttar Pradesh	254.13	41.85	258.76	149.96	51.14	67.69	823.53
32. Uttarakhand	1.75	0.00	19.33	85.42			106.50
33. West Bengal	3.75	35.31	21.46	12.36	2.84		75.72
Welfare							0.17
TOTAL	1238.34	463.87	2683.77	981.65	218.67	1949.49	7535.96

*Note:- In Welfare scheme State-wise funds are not released. Funds allocated country as a whole.

Requirement of support for development of textile industry

†1916. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile industry is in a critical condition at present and requires policy related changes and adequate financial support to speed up its development, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is proposed to introduce a new National Textile Policy to improve and enhance the development of textile industry, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No Sir, There has been an overall growth in the textiles sector in terms of production and export of textile items during the year 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 (April-December 2014) with the exception of Man Made Filament Yarn industry. The details thereof is being provided in the statement

(b) An Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shankar, Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council was setting for reviewing the Textile Policy 2000. The Expert Committee has submitted a draft Vision, Strategy and Action Plan based on which formulation of a New National Textile Policy 2015 is under process.

Replies to letters of Members of Parliament

1917. SHRI GULAM RASOOL BALLYAWI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters received from Members of Parliament by the Minister since August, 2014 till date;

(b) the number of letters on which interim and final reply has been sent to the Members of Parliament;

(c) the number of letters on which action has been taken and those on which action is still pending;

(d) the number of letters on which neither any reply has been sent to the Members nor any action has been taken along with reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken to avoid the situation as in part (d) above?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New textile policy

1918. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the new Textile Policy;
- (b) whether certain benefits are proposed to be extended to certain units to upgrade their system to help them out under this policy, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which this will help to create new jobs and enrich their financial status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Ministry of Textiles had constituted an Expert Committee headed by Shri Ajay Shankar, Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council for reviewing/revamping the Textile Policy 2000. The Expert Committee has since submitted a draft Vision, Strategy and Action Plan based on which formulation of a New National Textile Policy 2015 is under process.

Encouraging the handloom weaving sector

1919. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that textile sector is the second largest employment provider after agriculture;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to encourage the handloom weaving sector which is in a very bad shape; and
- (c) whether the Ministry is coming up with special packages for women workers of the handloom weaving industry, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

- (b) To encourage the handloom weaving sector and for its sustainable

development, the Ministry of Textiles through various schemes and programmes has adopted focused, flexible and holistic approach by facilitating marketing of handloom products, infrastructure development, brand building and empowerment of weavers by organizing them under self help groups, training and skill up-gradation, infusion of new and contemporary designs through design intervention as well as product diversification, technology up-gradation, easy access to raw material at subsidized prices and easy credit flow at low interest rate etc. besides providing better health care and life insurance under welfare schemes. With this objective, following schemes are under implementation during Twelfth Plan:-

- (i) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
- (ii) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (iii) Yarn Supply scheme
- (iv) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

(c) No Sir. As per third handloom census (2009-10), out of 38,46,835 adult weavers and allied workers 29,98,362 are women, which implies mostly women (77.94%) are benefited under the schemes.

Programmes for development of infrastructure in textile sector

1920. SHRI K.C. TYAGI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether Government is contemplating to initiate ambitious programmes to develop and upgrade infrastructure in textile sector to meet the demands in the international markets, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : In order to enable the textile sector to meet demands of international market, Government has already launched various policy initiatives and schemes for development and upgradation of the Textile Industry in the country viz., Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Development of Technical Textiles, Schemes for the Development of the Powerloom Sector, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), Schemes for Development of Silk and Sericulture sectors, Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT), Schemes for promoting the usage of Agrotextiles and Geotextiles, etc. Implementation of programmes and schemes for development and upgradation of textile sector is an ongoing activity. This is a continuous process.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over. The House is adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*:

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, let us take up the Private Members' Legislative Business. Bills for introduction. The first one is the Cow and Other Milch Animals (Prohibition of Slaughter, Cruelty and Other Provisions) Bill, 2015. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot.

The Cow and Other Milch Animals (Prohibition of Slaughter, Cruelty and Other Provisions) Bill, 2015

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the prohibition of slaughter of cow and its progeny and other milch animals for consumption of meat or its export or for any other purpose and prevent cruelty and infliction of trauma, pain or suffering on animals and for humane approach towards them through welfare measures and the well being of animals and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Underprivileged Orphan, Vagabond and Other Street Children (Prevention of Abuse, Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill, 2015. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot.

The Underprivileged Orphan, Vagabond and Other Street Children (Prevention of Abuse, Rehabilitation and Welfare) Bill, 2015

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the prevention of abuse and exploitation of orphan, vagabond, runaway and other street children by anyone by providing deterrent punishment of the

violators and for rehabilitation and other welfare measures to be undertaken by the State of such children who usually subsist on rag picking, begging, shoe polishing, working as potters, performing acrobatics or who are forced to indulge in crimes like stealing, pick-pocketing, snatching, smuggling, prostitution and unnatural acts by taking their custody and providing them with shelter, care, protection, education, medical care, vocational training etc., and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Drought Affected and Drought Prone Areas (Special Provisions) Bill, 2015. Shri Rajkumar Dhoot.

The Drought Affected and Drought Prone Areas (Special Provisions) Bill, 2015

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the special provisions such as compulsory maintenance of food and potable water supplies for human consumption and fodder for livestock of the farmers, financial assistance for lost crops to farmers in drought affected areas of the country by the Union Government and for creation of water bodies like lakes, ponds, wells, rainwater harvesting, diversification of water intensive crops to low water requirement crops, community afforestation programmes, etc. as long term action plan for the drought prone areas of the country by the Union Government and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of Article 58). Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya.

The Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2015 (Amendment of Article 58)

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारत के संविधान का और संशोधन करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Compulsory Registration of Callers Using Public Telephone Bill, 2015. Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya.

The Compulsory Registration of Callers Using Public Telephone Bill, 2015

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि कॉल करने के लिए पब्लिक टेलिफोन का उपयोग करने वाले व्यक्तियों का राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा के हित में अनिवार्य पंजीकरण करने एवं तत्संसक्त अथवा उसके आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करने के लिए एक विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया : महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Child Development Programme Coordination Agency Bill, 2015, by Shri Prabhat Jha. Not present.

The Prohibition of Publication and Dissemination of Objectionable Material on Religion Bill, 2015, by Shri Prabhat Jha. Not present.

Now, the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2015, by Shri Husain Dalwai. Not present. The Supreme Court (Establishment of a Permanent Bench at Kolkata) Bill, 2015 by Shri Vivek Gupta

The Supreme Court (Establishment of a Permanent Bench at Kolkata) Bill, 2015

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent bench of the Supreme Court at Kolkata.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Bills for consideration and passing. The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014. Further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Tiruchi Siva on 27th February, 2015. Shri Harivansh was speaking. Now, he can continue. Shri Harivansh. He is absent. The next speaker is Shri Vivek Gupta.

The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, Mahatma Gandhi had said, "Our struggle does not end so long as there is a single human being considered untouchable on account of his birth." We have today, over two million transgender people who are discriminated on their biological identity everywhere from education to healthcare to insurance to job opportunities. Moreover, they are shunned as a disgrace. At traffic signals, these people walk up and try, and make a livelihood. My first suggestion to the Government, through you, would be that in all application forms, instead of the word 'sex', the word 'gender' should be used and instead of male and female only, the third gender should also be indicated so that these people also get an identity and be counted.

Sir, we have their presence but the present society shuns them. But Arjun spent the last year of the Ajnaata-Vaasa in Mahabharat as a transgender. So, we know that they were not shunned by our forefathers. Why do we shun them now? I fail to understand. The apathy of the Government towards their rights, towards their feelings is also complete. I don't know whether the word 'Hizda' is Parliamentary or unparliamentary. I will take it back if it is unparliamentary. But this is how we address them these days. Something should be done like our Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi did when he gave the name of 'Dalit' to a section of our people. Something like this should be given to the transgender; we should not call them with such names. Maybe, we can give them a good name of better life.

Sir, there are a few things which I would like to quickly mention without taking much time of the House. These people are still suffering from a 153 year-old colonial law, Section 377 of IPC. Any sex they have among themselves is accounted as an unnatural offence and punishable by a ten year jail. They have been denied the basic liberties to exist. There is no national guidance on providing sensitive and competent services to these people. There is a lack of any research data as in any application form they are not counted and they are singled out.

Sir, the Supreme Court in a landmark ruling has recognized them in 2014. However, the Government continues to ignore them. The spirit of the Constitution is to provide equal opportunities to every citizen. However, these people have got no quotas in jobs, no education opportunities.

Sir, in 2009, the Indian Election Commission took the first step by allowing them to choose their gender as 'other' on the ballot form. But it was only recently that the Election

Commission allowed them to cast their voting for the first time. Sir, this is a welcome step. But more such steps are needed from the Government.

Sir, this year, the first transgender was issued a passport. In a country with 20 lakh transgenders, it is surprising to note that no passports were issued to them till date in the name of 'procedural matters'.

Sir, I will end with a few facts. West Bengal is one of the first States to decide to set up a Welfare Board for them. The population of transgenders in West Bengal is 6 lakh people. I will conclude by asking the Government that a path-breaking intervention is required for training, skill development and rehabilitation of these people across the country. Also, I will repeat myself, the third option in gender forms must be introduced in all application forms across the Government very soon. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You said that no passport is given to the transgender!

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Sir, the first passport was issued in February. That is it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is that all? What is the reason?

SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Only the Government can answer that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, now Shri Navaneethakrishnan.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, thank you. The issue is very, very important. Our hon. Supreme Court, in the case of National Legal Services Authority *versus* the Union of India and others has given a clear-cut verdict recognizing *hijras*, eunuchs, apart from binary gender be treated as 'third gender' for the purpose of safeguarding their rights under Part-III of our Constitution and the laws made by the Parliament and the State Legislatures. Transgender persons' right to decide their self-identified gender is also upheld and the Centre and the State Governments are directed to grant legal recognition of their gender identity such as male, female or as third gender. Further the Supreme Court has given the direction which says, "We direct the Centre and the State Governments to take steps to treat them as socially and educationally backward classes of citizens and extend all kinds of reservation in cases of admission in educational institutions and for public appointments." It further says, "Centre and State Governments are directed to operate separate HIV Sero-surveillance Centres since *Hijras*/Transgenders face several sexual health issues. Centre and State Governments should

[Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan]

seriously address the problems being faced by *Hijras*/Transgenders such as fear, shame, gender dysphoria, social pressure, depression, suicidal tendencies, social stigma, etc., and any insistence on SRS for declaring one's gender is immoral and illegal. Centre and State Governments should take proper measures to provide medical care to Transgenders (TGs) in the hospitals and also provide them separate public toilets and other facilities. Centre and State Governments should also take steps for framing various social welfare schemes for their betterment. Centre and State Governments should take steps to create public awareness so that TGs will feel that they are also part and parcel of the social life and be not treated as untouchables. Centre and the State Governments should also take measures to regain their respect and place in the society which once they enjoyed in our cultural and social life."

Further we are informed that an Expert Committee has already been constituted to make an in-depth study of the problems faced by the transgender community and suggest measures that can be taken by the Government to ameliorate their problems and to submit its report, with recommendations within three months of its constitution. Let the recommendations be examined and based on legal declaration made in this judgement and implemented within six months. This is the judgement dated 15th April, 2014. The Ministry of Social Justice has informed through Additional Solicitor-General that the Government is looking into this issue. Even prior to the direction given by the hon. Supreme Court, our hon. Amma has rendered help, as far as possible, to the transgenders. I may be permitted to place the data because it is vital. In order to enlist the transgenders as members of the Transgender Welfare Board and provide them welfare measures, the Government has constituted District-level Screening Committees. After certification by the District-level Screening Committees, they are registered with the Transgender Welfare Board and given an identity card. Four thousand six hundred seventy seven transgenders were enumerated as per the Census. Four thousand one hundred fifty eight were identified as transgenders out of which ID cards are issued to 3,981. By recognising them as transgenders, they are also provided with Ration Cards, Health Insurance Cards, House site pattas, Voter IDs and housing. In order to empower them economically, loan up to ₹15 lakhs for Transgenders Self Help Groups with 25 per cent subsidy and 75 per cent as bank loan is provided for self-employment activities by the Government of Tamil Nadu. That is as per the guidance given by the hon. Amma. At present 51 Transgender Self Help Groups have been sanctioned with 25 per cent of subsidy to the tune of ₹ 55 lakhs and ₹ 1.5 crore as bank loan being distributed for starting various economic

activities like provision stores, rearing of milch animals, canteens, production units like soaps, napkin, milk products, plying passenger Autos, load Autos, business activities related to cloth, coir, rice, etc. A sum of ₹ 100 lakhs has been provided in the revised Budget Estimate for 2011-12 for the welfare of the transgenders.

In order to provide financial assistance for the aged transgenders, who have nobody or means to take care of, the Government has introduced the Monthly Pension Scheme for destitute transgenders. For the year 2012-13, Government has allotted ₹ 1,17,59,000/- for the old age pension for destitute transgenders, who are in the age group of 40 years and above. Also, they are now getting a monthly pension at the rate of ₹1,000 per month. These are all unique schemes implemented by hon. Amma in Tamil Nadu. So, these very good schemes are now in place in Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is okay.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I have enumerated 4,677...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already said that.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, 4,150 were identified as Transgenders. The pattas are granted to them; and ration cards are also given to them. The Government has provided everything to them. We are providing all the destitute Transgenders ₹ 1,000 per month as pension. So, these are all innovative schemes implemented by hon. Amma. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Very good. Now, Shri Baishnab Parida.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: It should be implemented in other States also.

SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA (Tamil Nadu): Kalaighar will initiate and Amma will implement it.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE (Kerala): Sir, at least, in this case, DMK and AIADMK are together. For the first time, the AIADMK supported the Bill moved by DMK. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA (Odisha): Sir, I express my thanks to you for allowing the House to discuss this issue which is a national issue concerned with the lives of lakhs of people of the Indian society. These people are deprived of the right to live with

[Shri Baishnab Parida]

dignity; they are deprived of the right to be employed; they are deprived of the right to get education properly, and to enjoy the political, social and economic rights, *i.e.*, social justice. I think there are more than five lakh Transgenders in our country. When we talk of religion, we mention names of religions, namely, Hindus, Christians, Buddhists, Muslims, etc. But we never mention the atheists, who are living in the country. When the American President addresses the nation, he addresses the Christians, Muslims and other religious people along with the atheists of America. But in Indian society, till now, we do not address a large section of people which constitutes Transgender. These people constitute a large number in our society since the days of Charvaka.

Sir, even after 68 years of independence, these sections of people, the *Kinnars* or *Hijras*, as we call it, are not living a life of dignity. Since ancient days, they are recognised by our Puranas. Even in Mahabharata, when the Pandavas were in vanvas, Arjuna went to the court of King Virat in Nepal as a *Kinnar*, in a disguised manner. Even at that time, the *Kinnars* were having some social recognition and prestige in the society. But after the Britishers came, in 1871, they passed the Criminal Tribes Act, wherein they categorized the *Kinnars*, the *Hijras* as persons innately criminals addicted to the systematic commission of non-bailable offences. The Britishers made them a criminal tribe. They never gave them any right and recognition. But, after independence, we have forgotten them. Now, what has happened? We come across these people in every State, in buses, trains and everywhere. But the Indian society treats them as if they don't belong to our society. They are non-entities. They are some kind of stigmas. They suffer from the society like the untouchables. They are treated like that. Untouchability is still prevalent in India. We are talking of Gandhiji. Nobody mentions it. The Hindu organisations want to revive the Hindu traditions. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody talks about abolishing untouchability because as political parties we think that if we talk of abolition of untouchability, the caste Hindus will not give vote. That is the vote politics. It is a great obstacle in abolishing untouchability from Indian soil. My friend, Tarun Vijay, some time back glorified the traditions of Hinduism. Yes, I agree on many issues. But you do not say that. The same British crime we are committing every day in Hinduism. Due to this caste politics, we are discriminating against them. When you are talking of ...*(Interruptions)*... I like you very much. ...*(Interruptions)*... We want to bring them back to Hinduism. ...*(Interruptions)*... When you try to bring back Muslims or Christians, your Hinduism is a ladder. So many steps are there, the *shudras*, the untouchables are at the lowest levels. When you bring them back, where do you place them? Will you place them as Scheduled Castes or *dalits*

or as *shudras*? This is the question we have to think about. While speaking for the transgender people, they are a deprived section of our Indian society. We have not given them education. They are also part of our human resources. If you give them education, training and provide them proper employment, they will be a great source or help to our Indian society. They will also live with dignity. I express my thanks to Mr. Siva. He is my friend. They have said that they have done many things for them in Tamil Nadu. Mr. Siva belongs to Tamil Nadu. I thank him for bringing this Bill. The Central Government should also do something in this regard. Like the Women Commission, there should be some Commission for them also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Allow him some more time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Instead of three minutes, you have taken six minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have only two hours, Mr. Siva. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will be over. ...*(Interruptions)*... You will be in trouble. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: They are deprived sections of our society. I think the State Governments should also take appropriate steps for them. Thank you.

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman. I would like to congratulate my friend and colleague, Tiruchi Siva, for moving his historical Bill. As I already mentioned, AIADMK and DMK have joined hands on this issue of transgender community. It is true that Tamil Nadu Government, as pioneer of the protection of transgender community, in 2008 constituted a Transgender Welfare Board. Thereafter, both Governments have taken very good decisions and initiatives to protect the rights of the TG community. Sir, some of the colleagues have already mentioned this historical judgement of January 27, 2014 written by a Malayali Supreme Court Judge, K.S. Radhishnan, which recognises transgender as the 'third' gender and appealed to the Central and State Governments that they should be considered as socially and economically backward classes. Now, Sir, nearly one year is over. The earlier Government had constituted an Expert Committee to examine the suggestions and table them after examining the Supreme Court judgement. That suggestion is already submitted to the Government. But, I think, nothing has happened. This is the duty of the Government to come forward with a Bill to protect the welfare of the transgender community. The Government is not ready to do that and that is why hon. Member, Mr. Tiruchi Siva, has brought this Private Member Resolution.

[Shri P. Rajeev]

Normally, the fate of a Private Member's Bill is that after the discussion, the mover withdraws that. But, there have been several incidents when several Private Member Bills have been passed by this House and those Bills have become law. But, after that, it has become just an academic exercise. But, I would like to inform the Government that this is a very important matter. If you go through any application form, you will find that those application forms contain only two columns: 'Male' and 'Female'. You will not find any column for 'transgender'. The judgement of the Supreme Court correctly states to recognize the 'transgenders'. I went through the application form of the Union Public Service Commission. That too had only two columns: 'Male' and 'Female'. There is no column for 'Transgender'. But in the application form of the University of Delhi, there is a column for 'transgenders'. Similarly, in the application form of the Bangalore University also there is a column for the 'transgenders'. Some universities of Tamil Nadu too have this column for 'transgenders'. But in the application form of most of the colleges and universities, there is no specific column for the transgender community. Then, they are compelled to fill either 'male' or 'female'. But they do not belong to that group. It is not their fault that they were born as transgender. It happens because of some hormonal problem or some other problem. But there are many laws which are against their interests. Even in the passport application form also there was no such column. My friend, Mr. Vivek, just told here that first such passport was recently issued by the passport officer. In all application forms, whether for admission to any educational institution or for employment in any organization, there should be a column for the transgender community.

Most of them are denied education. First, they are isolated in their own family. Their families try to hide their identity. They are isolated in their own families. Initially, if they are admitted in a school, they are isolated by their fellow students. Gradually, they are forced to stop their studies at a very early stage. Thereafter, they are compelled to leave their families. Then, they are compelled to do some sexual activities. This is a very serious issue. The Constitution of India guarantees Fundamental Rights to everyone. The Right to Equality is applicable to the transgender community too. The Right to Equality says that there shall be no discrimination on the ground of sex, caste, creed or religion. That is their fundamental right. Nobody can deny them this right. Here, in their case, there is a serious discrimination on the grounds of sex. We are the custodian of the Constitution. The Parliament should make an effective law to ensure equal rights to the transgender community.

3.00 P.M.

In hospitals also, there are only two wards: the Male Ward and the Female Ward. There is no Transgender Ward. The doctors in the hospital are not ready to treat them in the Female Ward. They are not ready to admit them in the Male Ward either. De facto, the hospital administration denies the treatment to the transgender community. This is not only a violation of Fundamental Rights, but a very serious violation of human rights too. Then, there should be a specific mechanism, like, the special provisions for the physically handicapped people. There should be some special provision in our rules for the transgender community. At least, in the hospitals, there should be a special ward for them.

Some of them are having HIV because of their lifestyle, the lifestyle, not chosen by them; but, they are forced to choose that type of lifestyle. Then, there should be some mechanism to treat them in at least in medical colleges. *(Time-bell rings)* I am concluding, Sir. Sex education should be there. Counselling, not only for these students but for all students, on how to treat them, should be there in schools. There should be a Special Cell for transgenders, and civil rights also be taken into consideration. There are two draconian rules, that is, 377 IPC and the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act of 1956. These two Acts are the instruments of harassment and exploitation of the transgender community. It should be taken care of. The Government should give some subsidy for the sex reassignment surgery. The Government should give some subsidy to the transgender community if anybody wants to go for sex reassignment surgery. Sir, some States like Tamil Nadu have taken a very good initiative; I have already mentioned that. In Maharashtra, there are some incidents. *...(Interruptions)..* Actually, in 2008 Kalaingar started it and you are also continuing. *...(Interruptions)..* Then, Sir, my request is that the Central Government should come out with a proper legislation to prospect the fundamental rights of the transgender community, to ensure social welfare for this community. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Gundu Sudharani; not here. Shri D.P. Tripathi.

SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI (Maharashtra): Sir, I thank you for giving me the permission to speak on this Bill, moved by hon. Member Shri Tiruchi Siva. I am promising you that I will not repeat the arguments made by all hon. Members, but a few points are very important in this connection. What is the problem, on the ground, of the transgender

[Shri D.P. Tripathi]

community? If you go by the last Census, the transgender population is 4.9 lakh, less than half a million. Only the last Census mentions that the children in the age group of 0 - 6 years are 55,000. If you go at the literacy problem, the literacy rate among the transgender community is 46 per cent; whereas in the general category it is 74 per cent. The gainful employment ratio is 38 per cent. About 66 per cent of the transgender community lives in the rural areas. This is important. All those discriminations against them have been detailed out by hon. Member Comrade P. Rajeeve, and while moving the Bill, hon. Tiruchi Siva has also mentioned that. So, I am not repeating those discriminations. It is not merely discrimination; the other problem is that there is a kind of social stigma and hatred against them, especially, in the rural areas. Now, of course, because of birth registration, many parents are coming out and the children are not being tortured in the sense as it used to happen earlier. The laws are also being enforced in certain areas. But, by and large, the atmosphere of oppression against this community continues. The hon. Member, Shri Baishnab Parida, just mentioned about Puranas. Of course, it is Mahabhart, which mentions about Shikhandi, then, Arjuna becoming Brihannala in the Court of Virat. If you look at the entire corpus of Hindu scriptures, Srimad Bhagvat mentions it in Chapter IV in four slokas and they talk, specifically, about this community. Garuda Purana mentions it once but in detail the problems of this community, how the nature is different. Of course, I am not going into Kamasutra of Vatsyayana, which mentions it in a different context. But the problem is that now the kind of discrimination which is done against them in society is something which is really despicable, to use the word. There are two communities in India, which face maximum discrimination and atmosphere of hatred and oppression.

One is the community of differently-abled persons and the other community, of course, is the transgender. What are the problems? The Census says, the transgenders are 4.9 lakhs which means half a million – less than half a million. But if you look at the Election Commission voters' registration, in the last election, the transgender voters are only 28,341. This is the situation in terms of voting in elections. So, this oppression must end, and I congratulate Tamil Nadu Government, and, of course, West Bengal is also taking some initiatives in this direction. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment had appointed an Expert Committee which has given its report. I don't want to repeat all those arguments which are given. But we need to work out a national policy. One of the journalists belonging to a very respected national newspaper, Ruma Nagarajan, has done a serious work on problems of the transgender community. Sir, through you, I want to

share with the Government a very startling piece of information. This is a very startling information. She says that the number of transgenders in India is actually seven or eight times more than the figures given by the Census. Now this is a very, very important study which had to be looked into by any Expert Committee or anyone formulating a national policy in this direction or for this subject.

Therefore, finally, while concluding my brief intervention on this subject, I would say, the litmus test of any democracy is the treatment given to its minorities -- and they are a very microscopic oppressed discriminated minority of our system. Therefore, the system has to be both sensitive and sensible towards their problems and the issues. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Husain Dalwai could not be present when I called him to introduce the Bill. He says, he wants to go early. Does the House agree if I allow him to just introduce the Bill?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Yes, Mr. Dalwai.

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2015

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But this should not be taken as a precedent. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi, not present; Shri Biswajit Daimary, not present, Dr. M.S. Gill.

The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014—Contd.

DR. M.S. GILL (Punjab): Thank you, Sir. In my thinking, this is one of the most important Bills which has come up on a Friday in the last many, many years. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am speaking now. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just give me a few minutes.

Sir, I think it is one of the most important Bills that has come up on a Friday in this House for many, many years. I want to compliment Mr. Siva for bringing it forward.

[Dr. M.S. Gill]

I have read it twice and it is very comprehensive in the detailing of what they have put in. In order to get the attention of the two Parties, DMK and AIADMK, I will also compliment the Tamil Nadu Government and both Amma and Mr. Karunanidhi. I hope my friend is also listening to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this is a grave problem and a sad comment on India's civilized behaviour. Many Members have already put down what it relates to, how many people are affected, how many in the rural areas and how many in the urban areas. I tend to agree that actually, the number is much greater than what is put out in the census. I see that there was a book that was quoted. Therefore, it is something, which we, as a civilized country, must address, and address without delay.

Sir, the Bill has laid out everything -- the need for a National Commission, the need for State Commissions, courts with adequate authority, directions to Magistrates, and so on. When we meet these people, children, adults, men and women, at the traffic lights, we look the other way. If I can say so, sadly, almost like in the case of Leprosy, we push away from these people. कोई भी हिज़ड़ा यदि नज़दीक जाए, तो हम उसे दूर करते हैं। This is the truth in India. They have the same rights as you and me. The Constitution has the same duty to protect them as much as you and me. But this is not happening. I compliment the Tamil Nadu Government -- both Parties, don't worry about that -- both Amma and Mr. Karunanidhi...*(Interruptions)*... I really mean it, because Tamil Nadu does many progressive things; forget about the politics. And, it seems to me that this is a legislation which Tamil Nadu has done seven-eight years ago; no other State in India has done it. Tell me if any other State has done it.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, Maharashtra.

DR. M. S. GILL (Maharashtra): Okay. We compliment you too, if you have done it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Therefore, the States need to pass such legislation. The Centre, Sir, must own this Bill. Normally, very few bills are accepted by the Government. They say, Mr. Nehru some times accepted them; maybe some other person had done it some time in the last many decades. This is a Bill that the Government must own and thank Mr. Siva for. They must pass a sensible legislation quickly. It will do credit to the new Government of India and their social concerns. We need, urgently, to put this together. The Bill itself has laid out all the details of what needs to be done, how it is to be done, their legal rights, financial help and their protection. They all need protection. People very easily, as a mob, misbehave with individuals in India on many occasions, and certainly जो बेचारे हिज़ड़े हैं, उनका तो करते हैं या करेंगे। गांव में ज्यादा करेंगे या शहर में करेंगे। Somebody has to look after them; somebody has to protect them. And that is the duty of the

Government. It is the duty of the Constitution. We are a House of Elders. We should be recommending unanimously to the Government, to own this Bill and immediately take it up for passage in the next Session. That is what it should be doing. They would get unanimous support in both the Houses. This is one Bill that nobody will quarrel over. I think, that is important.

That is all the request that I want to make, Sir. Thank you.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, श्री तिरुची शिवा जी ट्रांसजेंडर के लिए जो बिल लेकर आए हैं, मैं उसका इसलिए अनुमोदन करना चाहूंगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में सभी जीवों, चाहे फिर वे पक्षी हों या प्राणी, सभी के प्रति सौहार्द भाव रखना हमारी संस्कृति है। भारतवर्ष में सभी जीव-जन्तु एवं प्राणियों के साथ 125 करोड़ की आबादी रहती है और उसमें यदि किसी के प्रति अन्याय होता है या किसी को कोई छोटा सा घाव भी लगता है, तो हमारे देश के लोग उसे अपना समझ कर सभी के दुख को अपना दुख समझते हैं।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) पीठासीन हुए]

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, समाज के उस वर्ग के साथ अभी तक जो व्यवहार हुआ और उनके संदर्भ में जो यहां दिखाया गया, उसके संबंध में तमिलनाडु गवर्नमेंट और अन्य सरकारों ने जो एक्शन लिया और इनीशिएटिव लिया, उसकी मैं सराहना करता हूं और उनके लिए ऐसा होना चाहिए। इसमें जो ट्रांसजेंडर लोग हैं, उनकी तो कोई गलती नहीं है। उन्हें तो ईश्वर ने ऐसा बनाया है। कुदरत ने उनके साथ अन्याय किया है। कुदरत ने जो अन्याय किया है, क्या हम उसे दूर नहीं कर सकते हैं? अगर कोई विकलांग है, उसके साथ कुदरत ने अन्याय किया है, तो उनके लिए हमने कानून बनाया है। कानून के तहत उनको हमने कुछ सुरक्षा दी है। वैसे ही समाज का एक वर्ग यह भी है, जिसको राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर हम कैसे न्याय दिला सकते हैं - राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर ये लोग समाज के दूसरे लोगों की तरह जी सकें, सारा समाज उनके साथ अपनेपन का व्यवहार करे, कानून की दृष्टि से उनको सभी के बराबर मान्यता मिले। अगर हम उन्हें विशेष मान्यता दिलाएंगे, तो आज तक सोसायटी में उनके साथ जो व्यवहार हुआ है, जो अन्याय हुआ है, उस अन्याय को दूर करने की आवश्यकता है, उसके लिए हमारी जिम्मेदारी है। वे कितने समय तक इसे सहन करेंगे? ट्रांसजेंडर लोग रेलवे स्टेशन में जाते हैं या बस स्टेशन पर जाते हैं, कोई सामाजिक कार्यक्रम हो, कोई लग्न या त्यौहार हो, वे टोली के रूप में आते हैं, तो लोग उनको कहते हैं कि चले जाओ। वे बाहर खड़े रहते हैं और लोग उनको आने के लिए मना करते हैं, ऐसा व्यवहार उनके साथ क्यों होता है? ऐसा इसलिए होता है कि उनको हम अछूत समझते हैं। उनको अछूत समझने की वजह से सोसायटी में सभी के बराबर उनको सम्मान नहीं मिल रहा है, इसलिए उनकी ऐसी स्थिति है। मुझे लगता है कि अब समय आ गया है कि अभी तक उनके साथ जो हुआ, सो हुआ, लेकिन क्या नई सुबह नहीं हो सकती? क्या हम नई स्थिति पैदा नहीं कर सकते? क्या हम उनको ऐसे अवसर प्रदान नहीं कर सकते, जिससे कि अभी तक उनके साथ जो व्यवहार किया गया है, उसको सकारात्मक दृष्टि से बदला जा सके? मुझे लगता है कि हमें उनके लिए... मेरी तो सरकार से विनती है कि क्यों नहीं सरकार ही उनके लिए कानून लेकर आए, जिससे कि इस वर्ग के साथ, ट्रांसजेंडर लोगों के साथ अच्छी तरह से न्याय हो सके। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने तो कह दिया है कि उनके लिए कानून बनाओ, उनके साथ समाज में बराबरी का व्यवहार हो, ऐसा कानून

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

बनाकर उनको न्याय दिलाओ और मुझे लगता है कि जिन्होंने यह किया है, जिस स्टेट ने ऐसा किया है, बहुत अच्छा किया है। यहां तमिलनाडु के हमारे सहयोगी साथी एम.पी. बोल रहे थे, तमिलनाडु में उनके लिए जो व्यवस्था हुई है - उनके लिए पेंशन की योजना हुई है, हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस हुआ है, उनके self help groups बनाए गए हैं, यह बहुत अच्छी बात है। क्या सारे देश के लोग ऐसा नहीं कर सकते, जिससे कि उनकी आमदनी हो, उनकी लाइफ सिक्योर हो जाए? गवर्नमेंट की सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से वे स्वमान में जी सकें, उनकी स्वमान की राय हो सके? जब उनकी स्वमान की राय हो सकेगी तो उनको किसी के आगे हाथ नहीं फैलाना पड़ेगा। उन्हें किसी रेलवे स्टेशन पर, किसी बस स्टेशन पर, किसी लग्न प्रसंग में या किसी और प्रसंग में कभी भी किसी के सामने अपना पेट भरने के लिए हाथ नहीं फैलाना पड़ेगा। इसलिए मेरी आपसे अपेक्षा है कि इस समुदाय को सोशल सिक्योरिटी देने के लिए कानून में ऐसा प्रावधान किया जाए जिससे कि वे self sufficient हो जाएं, उन्हें अपने रोजगार के अवसर मिल सकें और उनको किसी के आगे हाथ न फैलाना पड़े, तभी वे सम्मानपूर्ण जीवन जी सकते हैं। यह हमारी जिम्मेदारी है और सारे भारतवर्ष की जिम्मेदारी है कि समाज में वे उन्नत मस्तक से जी सकें, समाज में उनके साथ समान व्यवहार हो, समाज उनकी जाति और उनके पिछड़ेपन को न देखे। ऐसा कानून बनाकर हम उनको प्रोटेक्ट करें। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी के माध्यम से मेरी सरकार से यह विनती है कि सरकार ऐसा बिल लाए जिससे कि उन्हें सामाजिक सिक्योरिटी मिल सके, धन्यवाद।

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं भाई तिरुची शिवा जी को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने समाज के एक ऐसे तबके के दर्द का एहसास किया, जो दूसरों की खुशी में खुश होता है। मेरा मानना है कि मालिक कहता है कि तुम हमारी मखलूक पर रहम करो, हम तुम पर रहम करेंगे। मखलूक, चरिन्द, परिन्द इंसान और जानवर, सब होते हैं। अभी राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण में सरकार का जो विज़न डाक्युमेंट आया था, उसमें 'समग्र विकास' की बात कही गयी थी, 'सर्वजन हिताय' की बात कही गयी थी। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह समाज का वह तबका है, जो दूसरे के घर बच्चा पैदा होते देखकर खुश होता है और इतना खुश होता है कि खुशी में नाचने लगता है। यह समाज का वह तबका है, जिसको विपरीतलिंगी लकब दिया गया है, उपाधि दी गयी है। इसने खुद अपने आपको विपरीतलिंगी नहीं बनाया है, बल्कि कुदरत ने उसको यह इनाम दिया है, कुदरत ने उसे विपरीतलिंगी बनाया है। लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान की आज़ादी के 67 बरस बीत जाने के बाद भी अगर समग्र विकास की परिधि में वे विपरीतलिंगी लोग नहीं आते, जो दूसरे की खुशी में खुश होते हैं - खुद उनके घर बच्चा नहीं होता, लेकिन दूसरे के घर बच्चा पैदा होते देखकर खुश होते हैं - तो यह दुर्भाग्य है। मैं एक बार फिर भाई शिवा को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने समाज के उस तबके के दर्द को छूने की कोशिश की है, जो हिन्दुस्तान के इतिहास में एक बड़ा स्थान रखता है और बड़े-बड़े योद्धाओं को उनका सहारा लेना पड़ा है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस विधेयक में बहुत सारी बातें कही गयी हैं, विधेयक बड़ा मुकम्मल है। विधेयक में उन्हें आर्थिक और सामाजिक संरक्षण की बहुत सारी बातें कही गयी हैं, लेकिन मैं और आगे जाकर कहता हूँ - इस विधेयक में जितनी बातें कही गयी हैं - मैं कहता हूँ कि उन्हें राजनैतिक संरक्षण भी दिया जाना चाहिए। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश से राज्य सभा में आता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश को यह गर्व प्राप्त है कि वहां से एक विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्ति विधान सभा में आ चुका है। मैं मध्य प्रदेश का रहने वाला हूँ। मध्य प्रदेश को भी यह गर्व हासिल है कि मध्य प्रदेश की विधान सभा में भी आवाम ने एक विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्ति को विधायक बनाया था लिहाज़ा इस बिल को अगर मुकम्मल करना है और उन्हें पूरा इंसाफ

دیلانا ہے، ماننیی ساماژیک نیاہ اور اڈکاریتا منتری جی بےٹے ہئے، مے انسے انورودھ کرتا ہوں کہ ساماژیک-آرٹیک سانشن کے ساٹھ-ساٹھ انکو راجنئیک سانشن بھی میلنا چاہیے۔ جب راجنئیک سانشن میلےگا تو انکے ساٹھ ہونے والی ناہنساہی نہی ہوگی۔ سر، مے اپنی آانوں سے دےھا، مے آاگرا سٹیشن پر بےٹا ہئا آا۔ آک وپریٹلنگی ویکٹ یہ سوچ رہا آا کہ وہ مردانے باٹھروم مے، یورینل مے آاے یا لےڈیج یورینل مے آاے۔ جب وہ لےڈیج والے مے داکیل ہئا تو لےڈیج نے اسے ڈانٹا اور یہ کہا کہ تو مہاں کسے آاے؟ مے آود اسکا پریکشدہشی ہوں۔ اس پکار ساماژ کا یہ تیرسکار، جو وے ڈول رہے ہں، وہ تیرسکار انکی اپنی گالٹی سے نہی ہے، بلکے کورٹ نے انہں دیا ہے۔ انہں سانشن دےنے کے لیے، انکو نیاہ دےنے کے لیے، انکو ہنساہ دےنے کے لیے یہ آاویک ہے کہ 'ساماژ ویکاس' کا نارا دےنے والی، 'سارون ہیتاہ' کا نارا دےنے والی سارکار انکو نیاہ دے، انکو آرٹیک، راجنئیک اور ساماژیک سانشن پرادان کرے۔ بہت-بہت شکریا۔

†آودھری منور سلیم (اٹریڈیشن) : آپ سبھا اڈھیکش مہوڈے، سب سے پہلے میں بھائی تروچی شیوا جی کو مبارکباد دیتا ہوں کہ انہوں نے سماج کے ایک ایسے طبقے کے درد کا احساس کیا، جو دوسروں کی خوشی میں خوش ہوتا ہے۔ میرا ماننا ہے کہ مالک کہتا ہے کہ تم ہماری مخلوق پر رحم کرو، ہم تم پر رحم کریں گے۔ مخلوق، چرند، پرند، انسان اور جانور سب ہوتے ہیں۔ ابھی راشٹریتی جی کے ابھیہاشن میں سرکار کا جو ویژن ڈاکیومنٹ آیا تھا، اس میں 'سمگر وکاس' کی بات کہی گئی تھی، 'سروجن ہٹانے' کی بات کہی گئی تھی۔

آپ سبھا اڈھیکش مہوڈے، یہ سماج کا وہ طبقہ ہے، جو دوسرے کے گھر بچہ پیدا ہوتے دیکھ کر خوش ہوتا ہے اور اتنا خوش ہوتا ہے کہ خوشی میں ناچنے لگتا ہے۔ یہ سماج کا وہ طبقہ ہے، جس کو وپرت-لنگ لقب دیا گیا ہے، اپادھی دی گئی ہے۔ اس نے خود اپنے آپ کو وپرت-لنگ نہیں بنایا ہے، بلکہ قدرت نے اس کو یہ انعام دیا ہے، قدرت نے اسے وپرت-لنگ بنایا ہے۔ لیکن ہندوستان کی آزادی کے 67 برس گزر جائے کے بعد بھی اگر سمگر وکاس کی پریڈھی میں وہ وپرت-لنگ لوگ نہیں آتے، جو دوسرے کی خوشی میں خوش ہوتے ہیں - خود ان کے گھر بچہ نہیں ہوتا، لیکن دوسرے کے گھر بچہ پیدا ہوتے دیکھ کر خوش ہوتے ہیں۔ تو یہ بدقسمتی ہے۔ میں ایک باد پھر بھائی شیوا کو مبارکباد دیتا ہوں کہ انہوں نے سماج کے اس طبقے کے درد کو چھونے کی کوشش کی ہے، جو ہندوستان کے اتہاس میں ایک بڑا استہان رکھتا ہے اور بڑے بڑے بودھاؤں کو ان کا سہارا لینا پڑا ہے۔

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

[चौधरी मुनवर सलीम]

اپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، اس ودھیک میں بہت ساری باتیں کہی گئی ہیں۔ ودھیک بڑا مکمل ہے۔ ودھیک نے انہیں آرتھک اور سماجک سنرکشن کی بہت ساری باتیں کہی گئی ہیں، لیکن میں اور آگے جاکر کہتا ہوں، اس ودھیک میں جتنی باتیں کہی گئی ہیں۔ میں کہتا ہوں کہ انہیں راجنیتک سنرکشن بھی دیا جانا چاہئے۔ میں، اثر پردیش سے راجیہ سبھا میں آتا ہوں۔ اثر پردیش کو یہ گرو حاصل ہے کہ وہاں سے ایک وپرت-لنگ شخص ودھان سبھا میں آ چکا ہے۔ میں مدھیہ پردیش کا رہنے والا ہوں۔ مدھیہ پردیش کو بھی یہ گرو حاصل ہے کہ مدھیہ پردیش کی ودھان سبھا میں بھی عوام نے ایک وپرت-لنگ شخص کو ودھایک بنایا تھا۔ لہذا اس بل کو اگر مکمل کرنا ہے اور انہیں پورا انصاف دلانا ہے، مائٹے سماجک اور ادھیکارکنا منتری جی بیٹھے ہوئے ہیں، میں ان سے انورودھ کرتا ہوں کہ سماجک-آرتھک سنرکشن کے ساتھ ساتھ ان کو راجنیتک سنرکشن بھی ملنا چاہئے۔ جب راجنیتک سنرکشن ملے گا تو ان کے ساتھ ہونے والی ناانصافی نہیں ہوگی۔ سر، میں نے اپنی آنکھوں سے دیکھا، میں آگرہ اسٹیشن پر بیٹھا ہوا تھا۔ ایک وپرت-لنگ شخص یہ سوچ رہا تھا کہ وہ مردانہ باتہ روم میں، یورینل میں جائے یا لیڈیز یورینل میں جائے۔ جب وہ لیڈیز والے میں داخل ہوا تو لیڈیز نے اسے ڈانٹا اور یہ کہا کہ تم یہاں کیسے آئے؟ میں خود اس کا گواہ ہوں۔ اس طرح سماج کا یہ ترسکار، جو وہ جھیل رہے ہیں، وہ ترسکار ان کی اپنی غلطی سے نہیں ہے، بلکہ قدرت نے انہیں دیا ہے۔ انہیں سنرکشن دینے کے لئے، ان کو نیانے دینے کے لئے، ان کو انصاف دینے کے لئے یہ ضروری ہے کہ 'سمگر وکاس' کا نعرہ دینے والی، 'سروجن بتائے' کا نعرہ دینے والی سرکار ان کو نیانے دے، ان کو آرتھک، راجنیتک اور سماجک سنرکشن پردان کرے۔ بہت بہت شکریہ۔

(ختم شد)

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to compliment my brother Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva, for bringing in this Bill in the way he has done it and the matter that he has brought in. Sir, in a polite society, we do not mention the word 'hijra' or whatever we call it. It is an unspeakable word. The people who belong to this community are considered totally untouchable. The way Mr. Siva has brought it out has, at least, touched our conscience that we are discriminating against our own brothers and sisters, a creation of God, for which they are not responsible. Therefore, Sir, I would urge, very simply, through you, upon the Central Government that let them bring out a law on the subject giving some leeway to the States to make such little amendments as they like to cover the whole gamut of the activities of these unfortunate people. Sir, before I conclude, I would like to quote a famous judgement delivered by the Bench of Justices K.S. Radhakrishnan and A.K. Sikri. Sir, with your permission, I am quoting a portion of the judgement. It says, "Seldom, our society realises or cares to realise the trauma, agony and pain which the members of the transgender community undergo. It does not appreciate their innate feelings, especially of those whose mind and body disowned their biological sex. Our society often ridicules and abuses the transgender community. They

are treated as untouchables forgetting the fact that the moral failure lies in the society's unwillingness to contain or embrace different gender identities and expressions, a mindset which we have to change."

Sir, this is our attitude towards the transgenders. I will only appeal to you that the Central Government should take note of this fact that they require protection and support of the entire country because they are as much Indian citizens as any one of us, and, they are entitled to as much protection of law as any one of us have it. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Now, Shri M.P. Achuthan.

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN (Kerala): Sir, I fully support this Bill and congratulate my dear friend, Mr. Tiruchi Siva, for bringing such a comprehensive Bill. Many of the main issues have been dealt with by other speakers.

We, as a society, consider transgenders as outcast. The attitude of the society has to be changed. If you see it number-wise, it is a small population, and, therefore, cannot influence the electoral results. Therefore, the political parties normally do not consider them as a vote bank. My request is that the issues of the transgenders must become an integral part of the agenda of the political parties in India. Sir, in the last 68 years, we, as a society, did not consider the issues of these people. It is time to do this because after the verdict of the Supreme Court, this issue is in public domain. Now, it is up to the Government to take action and give it a legal framework, and, this Bill, which is a comprehensive Bill, must be the basis for the same.

I appeal to the Government that on the basis of what Mr. Tiruchi Siva has drafted, it should bring a Bill in the next Session of Parliament itself so that justice can be done. It is basically a human rights issue, it is a democratic issue. If we consider it in that way, we will be doing justice to ourselves as a society. So, I again request the Government to come out with a comprehensive legislation on this issue. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Now, Shrimati Vandana Chavan; not present. Ms. Anu Aga.

MS. ANU AGA (Nominated): Sir, I am aware that many things have already been said but, I think, it is worth repeating. In our society, we deny the existence of transgenders and also there is discrimination and taboo against them. As a result, we do not even know

[Ms. Anu Aga]

the exact number of transgenders existing in India. For no fault of theirs, their families in which they are born are ashamed, and, conceal their identity from the society and shun them to places where hijra population lives. 'Hijra' is considered a derogatory word and yet we have not found a respectable substitute word for it. Deprived of formal education and skill, they are forced into traditional occupations like blessing a newly-born or a newly-married couple or become sex workers or beggars. Society and Government so far accepts only the male and the female genders and hence transgenders are forced to identify themselves either as male or female. Some instances were given. For example, as a woman, she enters a woman's railway compartment and she has to deal with smirks and stares. The first requirement is their existence has to be given a legal recognition. Instead of listing them as others, we need to have male, female and transgender in all the forms that we have to fill. In schools, we need to openly talk about transgenders so that our children are sensitized and learn to accept them as normal human beings. Because of this ignorance and bias, there is humiliation and social ostracism, and most transgender students give up studies. These children require counselling and support. There are many legal and special protections transgenders need. But as a first step, if we, the Members of Parliament, recognize and respect their existence, many other benefits are bound to follow. Thank you.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana) : Respected Vice-Chairman, to begin with, I salute my elder from Dravidian culture, Shri Tiruchi Siva, for framing and making this document as the property of the Indian Parliament, of Indian Government and also of Indian people. Shri Tiruchi Siva has drafted this Rights of Transgender Persons Bill with ten Chapters, 58 Clauses, including all the aspects that are required for a comprehensive law. This shall go into the history of Indian Parliament. We shall not forget the Paramatma Tattva. These transgenders are from all the cultures and religions. But to make a mention, I take the Vaishnavite formula. Shri Maha Vishnu himself claimed:

“न स्त्री न पुरुषः न षंडा

विश्वमयं तु विश्वविभुव तु”

He is also claimed to be mohini, neither man nor woman. And, as rightly recollected by Tripathiji, the Mahabharata establishes the role of not only Brihannala for the transient

period of their crisis in the Virata Parva but also reflects the complication of to-be framed society in the shape of Shikhandi before Bhisham Pitamah. Now, the status and the plight of transgender persons is more pathetic than Shikhandi. The word 'hijra' is an Urdu-Hindustani word. It is having its root from Arabic 'hijr' meaning the person who is moving away from his milieu. The person who is going away from his tribe. That is how it has come. Now, it is being treated across several nations as if it is a community. No; it can never be a community. They belong to several castes, creeds and religions. But that is the bio-technological complication of life. There are transgenic animals, there are transgenic plants and likewise, the transgender lies in human beings. Just sympathy and empathy towards them will not serve at all. Recognition and respect, as advocated by Anu Agaji, will alone elevate our level of standard as human beings, that too within our country, India. I also salute the Mayor of Raigarh in Chhattisgarh – the first transgender Mayor Madhu Bai Kinnar. Her election got the attention and attraction of the global media. That transgender person, Madhu Bai Kinner, has defeated the candidate of the present ruling Party, not only at the Centre, but also in Chhattisgarh. I salute the capacity and stamina of the community, which is not to be. In America, in a State called Utah, just twenty four hours earlier, the Utah Legislature has adopted a legislation providing sufficient rights to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons. Across the nations, the LGBT community is a challenge and, equally, attracting the attention and the respect. This is high time for us to get ready to accord the due respect and provide sufficient remedies, amenities and facilities and the separately required, specially required welfare to that complication. At this juncture, I will not only appeal to the Union Government to come out with a comprehensive support mechanism with proper institutional support and safeguards but I also call upon the scientific community that there is a facility for a male person to become female, a female to become male. When it is happening, why this trauma to a transgender person? Let the scientific community rise to the occasion and evolve the required bio-technological scientific innovations so that they can come out of their trauma. Their trauma is not only societal, but they undergo a very severe psychological trauma. Hence, there is every necessity to evolve a certain support mechanism to the research institutes, which are having concentration on the DNA and other formulations, to focus on these aspects also.

It is mentioned by Mr. Siva in his comprehensive document. Since this happens to be a Private Member's Bill, we all know that it is not going to become a law.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Why not?

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: It will become a law only when the Union Government of the day adopts it and moves it as its own Bill. Only then is there scope to make it a law. For that, let the Union Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry come up with its mechanism to first evolve the immediate requisites of the institutions such as grievance redressal cells to begin with and subsequently, as proposed by Mr. Siva in his nice piece of legislation, the requisite welfare mechanism and protection to them on a par with the SC and ST Act. This will bring respect to their lives and ease the trauma.

With this appeal, I once again appreciate the gesture, care and concern of Mr. Tiruchi Siva. It is high time the Union Government responded to the present demands and needs of the transgender population. Thank you very much, Sir.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the very fact that almost all the people are supporting a Bill like this should not require repetition at all, merits adoption.

At the very outset, I would like to congratulate my best friend Siva on working out the entire Bill in detail. I was just thinking that it is some kind of support that we should give to the people who have been discriminated against for no reason and fault of theirs' at all.

Sir, birth is natural. It is not legal. When a child is born, there is nothing like human rights. I think first he inherits his natural right and later on you bring human rights. He asked whether the word 'hijra' is parliamentary or not. They are known by many names. We call them jogtas, kothi, shivshakti, etc. Many names are given to them. But the reality tells you that they do exist and they are part of society. My best friend talked about their diverse presence in the present milieu and present society.

Having realised the reality, which you cannot shun. As Mr. Gill said, somehow we have some kind of aversion or some kind of distaste or attitude towards them. Why is it so? All of us have seen Mr. Siva's Bill in detail. All of us are talking about certain facilities and rights to them. According to me, if you read the Constitution, you will find that the rights do exist for them. They are not being given is another matter. The International Convention No. 62 is there. The Constitution of India gives me the right to identity, life style, practices, etc. All these things are there. Justice Radhakrishnan and Justice Sikri of the Supreme Court have said that they should get the full rights. But, unfortunately, the present Government, Mr. Minister, Sir, has challenged the Supreme Court Order. Later the Attorney General said, "No, no, we have not challenged it. We wanted a clarification." No need for clarification. They exist. It is his plight. It is gory

plight. What we must do is that we must react. We must respond. He says the first such mayor is Madhu Bai Kinnar. It is not only Madhu Bai Kinnar. Earlier we had another mayor in Madhya Pradesh. Today, we have two or three MLAs. They are there. But they are not getting it as a right, as part of social system. That is what Siva's concern is and that is what the concern of all of us is. We exist along with them but unfortunately think that some kind of sympathy should flow from us towards that section.

Sir, I don't want to repeat all these things. Many things have been said. Mr. Tripathi had brought in all the statistics here. These are available. But, let me tell you that it is not only about Ruma Nagaraj who spoke about them. Many things are said which are sometimes not good. Time and again, we have been saying that statistics about transgenders are not adequate and are not at all correct. Ruma might have said much more. Nagrajan might have said that. Earlier, the novels of Tamil Nadu writers, Vadlamani and Revathi, were translated all over the world in many languages. Mr. Tripathi referred to Garuda Purana. It has given it in detail. Scriptures back our claim; international laws back it; Constitution backs it; our own views back it. Yet, this kind of a paradoxical situation exists. We must say that somewhere it should have stopped.

Sir, through you, I would say that Mr. Siva has given what exactly is required. Constitutional rights are given. But, basically, let us understand why this mental antipathy has come. Why is this reservation in us? It could be their behavioural pattern; it could be their body language; it could be our own innate feeling towards something which is not you. We are trying to tolerate the outcasts. So, what is required is, as he said, genetic studies, genome studies, etc. Presentations tell you that there can be correctional methods. It is not that the reassignment surgeries are going to correct it. A man can be what he is. A lady can be what she is. A transgender can be what he is. But, if there are different behavioural patterns, then there are psychological studies and trends which can be factored in. I request the Government to look into this. Let us have this kind of motivational courses which correct body behaviour and our own attitude towards the other man. This is the basic thing.

Sir, as a Minister, I have experienced it myself when people were not allowing transgenders getting admission in schools. First, we thought that we would have separate seats for them. Then, we had separate classes, motivational classes, for them. So, this kind of a thing must be tried. I have seen the Bill. I think, the mover of the Bill, Mr. Siva, must also look into that particular issue. He has mentioned only about physical correction, reassignment and medical needs. All these things are there. The Minister has

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seen these things. I don't want to repeat them. First of all, let us all help them come out of their trauma. Let us all go with positive responsiveness and own them as part of this society. First, it must come in us as to what exactly can be done through law or social awareness. That is the first thing we must do. Secondly, there should be some kind of motivational classes for them where they accept us as equals instead of saying that they are not part of us or are not equals to us. That should come in us and them. Then comes the things which Mr. Siva has given in the Bill like educational reservation, separate treatment in hospitals, etc. All these things are there. So, I don't want to repeat them. The Bill is very comprehensive. He has comprehended the problem and brought in all those things in a comprehensive fashion.

Sir, I have two or three things to say. There was an expert committee which had looked into it. I know it. I also congratulate the State of Tamil Nadu. Mr. Ramaswamy Naicker, in one of his writings, wrote about this gender and how it should be brought in and made a part of the society. So, I congratulate the Tamil Nadu Government. I think the hon. Member from Tamil Nadu was talking about things like pension. This is we should do. It is not that we are giving ₹1,000. But It is only saying that we own you. We are part of you. West Bengal has also started a Welfare Board. We have not heard much except that they have prepared an action plan. They are looking at the welfare aspect of it like amenities, hospitals, etc. First, make them a part of the milieu. That kind of awareness must come in them. We need some kind of studies which focus on the correctional methods, behavioural patterns, etc. Then comes the physical thing. Sir, the worst discriminated ones are two, as Mr. Tripathi has rightly said. One is kothis whom you call hijras or shivashakti. Number two is physically and mentally challenged. These two exist. Let us not show misplaced sympathy at all. But let us own them. It is not our owning them. Let the society own them. Let the society look to you and them equally. I think that is the spirit of this Bill. Since all of us have lent support to the Bill the Minister should accept it as his Bill. As my friend, Mr. Bhaskar has said, this Bill has come from a private Member, so, it can't become an Act.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: In the past Private Member's Bill had been passed and had become an Act.

DR. K. KESHA RAO: Rather I would go that route. Let the Minister know that all the people here are agreeing with every part of what has been said in the Bill. Please bring it in the next session.

Lastly, as far as the NDA Government is concerned, you have replied to the Supreme Court. You are unnecessarily mixing it with Section 377. Section 377 is unnatural practice and must be shunned. Transgender is by nature and one is born that way. Let me live, let me correct and let me lead as I want it, when you can't change. Section 377 of the IPC is regarding gays or homo sex. It is to practice unnatural sex. Mixing these two in seeking the Supreme Court clarification when you have argued has created all these problems.

I have discussed the issue with the Mover of the Bill, Mr. Tiruchi Siva. He did not mix up those two issues at all. He has talked about a particular sect which Mr. Bhaskar has very well explained. It is not only Vishwapuranas or Sanskrit scriptures which have elaborated. Due to bio-genetic formations these things happen. Let them get all the rights. Let them be part of the society to which they belong. They are part of our society. I congratulate this Government also. We have elected them as MLAs and Mayors. They are asserting themselves. They have their Kalyana Sangams which is fighting for them. We are also fighting for them. We are talking for them in this way, in this fashion, so loudly to show that we all agree with that kind of movement. Let us give them a constitutional right because by birth they have got that natural right. You need not give them through your Acts or human rights laws. But in what manner you would like to integrate them with the present society which is totally prone to discrimination with each other, a caste ridden society is important. Let not this become a part of the caste. Let this become part of the humanism. On behalf of all, and on my own behalf, I request the Minister -- since all of us are agreeing to it -- look into it, as it is you who can accept it. I would like to insist that this Bill should be passed. Otherwise, please give an assurance that an expert committee would be constituted, which will study it, the base being the present Bill. If we are also coming out with something, wherein they have all the rights given, and making them a part of the society, without our saying as if we have not done anything, and for them to say that they have a right, they are part of the society and part of the constitution, that will be good and is what we are seeking. And I hope the Government will look into this. Thank you.

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you. I support this Bill moved by our hon. Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva, for the protection of the rights of the transgender persons which is a well structured Bill. As other Members have said, the job of the Government to draft the Bill has already been done by Mr. Siva. I feel that the hon. Minister is also a very nice gentleman. We know it. He has to take it as a historical event to accept this Bill as the Government Bill. If you

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feel that you cannot accept it immediately, at least, you should give an assurance that it would be taken up in the second part of the Budget Session as a Government Bill. Why we are stressing on this particular point is that many of the Members of Parliament are working and doing a lot of research to come forward with a piece of legislation. We are not following the model of the United States' Parliament where Parliament Members were bringing a lot of Bills which were accepted according to the Constitution. Members' names are also mentioned saying that the Bill was moved by so and so, and the President of United States accepts them. In certain cases only, if it is not favourable to their own strategy, then, they may not accept it. Otherwise, these Bills are also made as one of the Bills which are binding upon the Government. Therefore, this structure was also taken into consideration when our Constitution was drafted. And this part of the hour, two-and-a-half hours, allotted for Private Members is a special thing for bringing in Members' contributions. Whether they are sitting in the Opposition or in the Ruling Benches, their own individual recognition is brought up by this method of Private Members' Resolutions or Private Members' Bills. But this particular Bill is on the basis of an International Convention. Many international organizations have come forward and said that every domestic law should have this protection to transgenders. We were having it as a conventional method. You know very well that even in the Mughals' period and subsequent periods, these people were used for the protection of Princess and ladies of the Kingdom because they were very bold, very sincere and very loyal to the Kingdom. Therefore, they were protecting the lady folks of the Kingdom. Subsequently, they were treated excellently in their own identity. But after a certain point of time, they became one of the stigmas of the society. They started to feel that they were being neglected. They were ridiculed by others. They wanted to show their identity by using a different type of dress, using their body behaviour, using their tones for certain purposes. And further they started to be abused by the society. That is why the Parliamentary Forum on Human Rights and also the Parliamentary Forum on HIV AIDS have taken up this issue and the United Nations Development Organisation is also taking up a special case study. I could attend that Conference at Bangkok in 2010, where the Asian people are very much affected by this transgender stigma. The European countries could come forward with a protection provision on the basis of the European Constitution, and the European Courts are also protecting them. They have got equal rights everywhere. They are identified as a third gender. They are having their own dignity. They are also protected health-wise. Their surgery method, that is, the procedure, is also accepted by the European countries.

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The United States of America is also accepting them. Canada is also accepting them. Also, Argentina and many others in the South American countries are accepting them. Even some of the Asean countries are, gradually, coming up with legislations. And we want to create awareness among the people that this is not the sin of anybody. Our friends were citing many of the Vedic happenings. Shikhandi is one of the characters who was holding a small Kingdom and who was woman in her earlier birth. When she could not get married with a prince, she went to Bhishma. But Bhishma refused and the story went on like that. The story further goes on that Shikhandi hid behind Arjuna and killed Bhishma.

That is the story which we have studied. This shows that the third gender is accepted as the chief of the kingdom. This is the story which talks about bravery of third gender. Similarly, they have got every capacity to do something in the world. Therefore, we have to treat them as human beings, whether they are working for the development of the society or whether they have to be brought into the mainstream as part of the human activities or whether we are giving equal justice in each and every aspect. Now we are citing very boldly the incident of winning of the first Mayor named Madhu Bai Kinnar. She was dancing and singing in the train but, finally people accepted her as the Mayor of a city. These are historical incidents happening in India and the judgment which was pronounced by the Supreme Court has to be taken into consideration by the hon. Minister and the Government. The judgment is having 113 pages. Justice Radhakrishnan has given a clear judgment. I will just read one paragraph alone. He has cited all the incidents of what is happening throughout the world in this particular issue and he finally comes to the conclusion that you have to come forward with legislation. It is a two-judge Bench judgment. They gave concurrent judgments and said that domestic legislations should also come forward to protect these people. I will just read how they look at the issue of transgender under Article 14. I will quote paragraph 54. "Article 14 of the Constitution of India states that, The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India. Equality includes full and equal enjoyment of all rights and freedom. Right to equality has been declared as the basic feature of the Constitution, treatment of equals as unequals or unequals as equals will be violative of the basic structure of the Constitution." In that way, it has got a lot of justification. And, finally, the judgment says that the State has got certain obligations to come forward with legislation. This work is done by our hon. Member, Shri Siva,

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here. Beyond all political things, I have to say that in many of the social aspects, Tamil Nadu is the pioneer, and more so, we feel that the present Government and also the earlier Government from 2006 itself, Dr. Kalaingar as Chief Minister has recognized this particular gender as the third gender. In Tamil, they call it as Thirunangai. That was the word coined by him and they were given all the facilities and a Board was also constituted. I hope this was the inspiration on which Shri Siva has brought this Bill also and subsequently the present Government is giving a lot of incentives for this purpose. One of our friends was citing the word, 'gay'. We should not confuse ourselves with transgender and gay. Transgender is a recognition of a particular type of people who have not committed any sin, who have not committed any violation of the civilized system. It is only a change in the anatomy. When they were born, they were having certain type of anatomy. That is the only thing. They could not procreate. They cannot bring forth children. They cannot be the cause of bringing children. That is the only difference. But there are many other incidents also happening that by proper surgery, procedurally they can also bring forth children. Science is motivated now. Therefore, we feel that gay is totally a new method of having single sex, to live together. We cannot fully accept it. There may be a controversy in that discussion. I feel that we should not mix both the things. This is purely a matter which civilization has accepted as a third gender. But, in the 19th and 20th Centuries we neglected that cultural aspect. We, the Indians, have protected the third gender. Now, we have to rehabilitate them. How to rehabilitate them? How to protect their rights? How to bring them into the mainstream? How to make them potential persons for the development of society and nation? How they should sit besides us, equally, without any mockery or stigma are the issues which are important and the Bill has drafted keeping all these things in mind. I feel this Bill will give them life by way of statutory support. It is not grace that we giving them. It is not that we are doing any charity, but all we are doing is recognizing a right which is given to them for centuries by our Indian society, our Indian civilization which has to be protected by way of domestic law.

Thank you very much.

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA (Karnataka): Thank you Vice-Chairman, Sir. I must congratulate Tiruchi Siva for introducing this Bill. It has a very inclusive definition of transgender persons, covers a broad spectrum and has an excellent definition of discrimination which includes provisions for reasonable accommodation.

Sir, many of the speakers who have spoken before me have already talked about how ancient Indian culture has always been very inclusive when it comes to accommodating and understanding the needs and rights of transgenders. We have talked about Shikandi, we have talked about Brihannala and we have also talked about Mohini. Sir, my own House God is Belur Channakeshava, who is Lord Krishna dressed in woman's clothes. So, there is always been a certain tolerance and willingness to be inclusive in our ancient culture. That spirit must be incorporated in the way we run our country today. Sir, that has not necessarily happened historically in the last few decades or even today and we must do much more.

Here, I would like to point out that the Government of India has to respond to a historic judgment of the Supreme Court in the National Legal Services Authority Case. In this context, the Government has only filed a clarification petition. This is delaying the resolution of this legal process. That way, it does not provide for speedy justice to this vulnerable, stigmatized minority.

Sir, while Tiruchi Siva has done an extraordinary job in drafting this Bill, I do think that it needs certain changes to bring it in compliance with the principles enunciated in the NALSA judgment, in the Report of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's Expert Committee on issues relating to transgender persons and also the Verma Committee Report on amendments to the Criminal Law relating to sexual violence.

Let me just enumerate these as quickly as I can. First is recognition of legal identity. The guiding principle of NALSA judgment is legal recognition of gender identity -- male, female or third gender -- based on self-identification amongst people. For this, there is a legal procedure that has been proposed which includes a report which involves the District Screening Committee and a Self-declared Affidavit.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

Sir, I recommend that this Bill should provide a separate section to affirmatively recognize the right to legal recognition along with providing procedure for the same.

Sir, Tiruchi Sivaji has used the term 'transgender children.' Sir, I feel, it is a tricky term, because children, until they become adolescents, are not necessarily fully aware of their identity and, therefore, it is better to use a term that could be called 'gender non-conforming children', along with the term 'transgender children.' And, I recommend that children should be brought under the purview of this Bill who are not only seen to

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be non-conforming but are also perceived to be individuals who are non-conforming by others. This is a very tricky matter. So, I would suggest that the Bill include the term 'transgender children', 'gender non-conforming children' or 'children perceived to be transgender'. It seems a little complicated. But, that is more appropriate for children. I would also urge Shri Tiruchi Siva to expand the education chapter to provide for inclusive education and adult education programmes. He already has done that. But the basic challenge faced by transgender children is harassment, discrimination and bullying. That is something we need to change by sensitising teachers, by sensitising students. Already, we have laws against ragging. For this group, we should not only have the establishment of anti-ragging, anti-bullying, anti-harassment cells and anti-discrimination cells, but this should also be sensitised in education right from early childhood to later years, and should also be sensitised and incorporated in teachers' training as well.

Sir, I have one disagreement with the Bill. Sivaji suggests that we should have a separate, exclusive transgender rights court. I think, it is more important for the mainstream legal system to be sensitive, to incorporate matters associated with transgender persons and to deal with in the same manner as anybody else would be dealt with. So, in that existing framework...

AN HON. MEMBER: He has put that.

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Has he put that? Very good then.

In terms of freedom of speech and expression of transgender community, this is again an interesting issue. On the freedom of speech under Article 19, this Bill also recognizes the right for the transgender community. But there are certain crucial components that were elaborated in the Supreme Court's NALSA judgment. The Court read the right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(A) to include the right to expression of one's self-identified gender. The self-identified gender can be expressed through dress, words, action or behavior or any other form. A transgender's personality, the Court notes, could be expressed by the individual's behavior and presentation. The State can't prohibit, restrict or interfere with the transgender's expression of such personality subject to restrictions into the purview of the law.. (*Time-bell rings*)

I need two more minutes, Sir. I am finishing, don't worry. It is an important issue. Sir, going beyond the Bill, there are two major issues. One is providing adequate protection against sexual violence. Under Section 375, we don't take into account sexual violence

against the transgender community. I recommend that Section 375 of the IPC be amended to make it gender neutral with respect to the victim as recommended by the Justice Verma Commission. This should ensure that even if the assaulter is male, the victim of any gender should fall under the purview of this Bill. Then, most importantly, Sir, we need to repeal Section 377 of the IPC. I think, the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment could bring a path-breaking figure if he goes ahead and pushes for the repeal of this very, very regressive Section of the IPC. In the Naz Foundation judgment, we know that Section 377 continues to have a deleterious impact on the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender persons. This must be repealed as quickly as possible.

Sir, once that is done, we will see that Section 377 will not be used as a tool of abuse against transgender persons. If we can get rid of this particular clause, we will be doing justice to not just transgenders, but also to numerous people whose choice of sexual preference is different from the mainstream.

Sir, the Union of India has a grave constitutional responsibility in this regard. It is up to the current Government. As the Minister has seen today across party-lines, we have the support for this, this is an example of law that can be brought in because it has the support of everyone. Every one of us agrees that if we want to achieve the glorious goals of the Preamble of our Constitution, to ensure equality of status and opportunity, to ensure social justice, economic justice and political justice, we can't let the rights of transgenders be transgressed in any way. I urge upon the Minister to take forward the extraordinary work done by Shri Tiruchi Siva and to turn this Bill into an official Act. Thank you very much.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, मैं श्री तिरुची शिवा के इस विधेयक के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने इस विधेयक के समर्थन में बहुत ही सकारात्मक सुझाव रखे हैं, मैं उनके साथ स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करते हुए, एक-दो महत्वपूर्ण बातें कह कर, समय का ध्यान रखते हुए अपनी बात को विराम दूंगा। चूंकि बिल में विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्तियों के अधिकारों की बात को उभारा गया है, नॉर्थ इंडिया में खास तौर से इस समुदाय को लोग 'हिजड़े' या 'किन्नर' के नाम से पुकारते हैं, तो मैं उसी नाम का सम्बोधन करूंगा, ताकि वे लोग समझ सकें कि किसकी बात कौन कर रहा है? हमारे देश की बहुत सारी अच्छाइयां ऐसी हैं, जिनको पूरी दुनिया में सराहा जाता है। हमारे देश की संस्कृति को, हमारे देश की सभ्यता को, हमारे देश की डेमोक्रेसी को, हमारे देश में रहने वाले तमाम धर्म-मज़हब के लोगों की एकता को, यूनिटी को, दुनिया के लोग भारत की व्यवस्था को, भारत की सभ्यता को उदाहरण के तौर पर प्रस्तुत करते हैं। हमारे देश की एक विशेष काबिलियत के रूप में इसे दुनिया के अंदर देखा जाता है, लेकिन भारतीय समाज के ताने-बाने पर जब कभी गंभीरता से चिंतन-मनन करने का अवसर मिलता है तो बहुत सारी कमियां ऐसी निकल

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आती हैं, जिनको देखकर कई बार तकलीफ भी होती है और दुख भी होता है। हमारा देश एक है, समाज एक है, हम सब लोग एक हैं, लेकिन एक समूह, एक वर्ग जो पैदा हुआ और पैदा होने के बाद उसके परिवार के लोग अगर यह समझें कि यह किन्नर है, यह हिजड़ा है, तो उसकी बिना बँड-बाजे के घर से विदाई हो जाती है। बेटी को विदा करो तो बारात आएगी, बँड बजेगा। बेटा पैदा हो जाए, तो भी तमाम खुशियाँ, तमाम चीजें होंगी, लेकिन जिस घर में किन्नर या हिजड़ा पैदा हो जाए, तो उस घर के लोग ही उससे मुंह फेर लेते हैं कि समाज में हम क्या मुंह दिखाएंगे कि हमारे घर में कौन पैदा हुआ है?

उपसभापति महोदय, इस सामाजिक भेदभाव, सामाजिक असमानता, सामाजिक गैर-बराबरी को दूर करने के लिए श्री तिरुची शिवा ने एक कानून की शक्ल में एक प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिल के तौर पर इस सदन में अपनी बात उपस्थित की है, लेकिन भारत की संसद की कुछ इस तरह की परंपरा रही है कि प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिल को रस्म अदायगी का एक ज़रिया मानकर भाषण हो जाता है, मंत्री जी का जवाब आ जाता है, अनुरोध हो जाता है कि वापस ले लीजिए, हम विचार करेंगे और बात समाप्त हो जाती है।

उपसभापति महोदय, क्षमा करेंगे, मुझे बारह वर्ष उत्तर प्रदेश की विधान परिषद् में बैठने का मौका मिला और उस परिषद् के सभापति जी के अधिकारों, उनके दायित्वों और उनके कर्तव्यों को जानने का मौका मिला। पीठ से बहुत सारे फैसले ऐसे होते हैं, सरकार चाहे या न चाहे, लेकिन कोई विधेयक, कोई कानून, कोई बात अगर समाज के हित में है, तो निर्णय करने का पूरा अधिकार पीठ के पास रहता है। मैं यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ...(व्यवधान)...

DR. K. KESHA RAO: Sir, he wanted you to give the direction to the Government.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम इस विधेयक पर हम रस्म अदायगी से आगे चलें। इस बिल को हम कानून की शक्ल दें। इस बिल को हम कानूनी बिल के रूप में स्वीकार करें ताकि हमारी संसद पर दुनिया का, लोगों का भरोसा बढ़े। यह कोई पहला ऐसा अवसर नहीं है, यह पहला ऐसा विषय नहीं है कि किसी समूह के साथ injustice हुआ है, किसी समूह के साथ भेदभाव हुआ है। महोदय, हमारे देश और देश के तमाम लोग इस बात को जानते हैं, इस बात को समझते हैं कि देश को आज़ाद होने के पहले हमारे देश की सामाजिक व्यवस्था में इतनी खामियां थीं ...इतनी दिक्कतें थीं कि दलितों को, आदिवासियों को, कमजोरों को, गरीबों को, वंचितों को, शोषितों को, पिछड़ों को सामाजिक ताने-बाने में साथ बैठकर चलने का अधिकार नहीं था, साथ बैठकर खाने का अधिकार नहीं था। अभी उत्तर प्रदेश में एक घटना घटी। एक दलित ने किसी के साथ बैठकर खाना खा लिया तो उसकी नाक काट दी गयी। उसकी नाक इसलिए काट दी गयी कि वह दलित था। भारतीय समाज में अगर ऐसी व्यवस्था कायम रहेगी तो सामाजिक ताना-बाना कहीं न कहीं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : पुलिस केस नहीं हुआ? I am asking whether a case was filed or not.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप : मैं अपील करूंगा...(व्यवधान).. सर, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ और इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : माननीय उपसभापति जी पूछ रहे हैं कि पुलिस केस हुआ या नहीं हुआ।

श्री उपसभापति : पुलिस केस फाइल हुआ या नहीं? आपने कहा कि नाक काट दी गयी।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप : सर, केस होने से समाज की प्रतिष्ठा वापस नहीं आ सकती है, समाज का सम्मान वापस नहीं आ सकता है। जो एक विज्ञान किसी वर्ग के खिलाफ बन जाता है, उस विज्ञान को खत्म करने के लिए सख्त कानून की जरूरत है...(समय की घंटी)... इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि भारतीय समाज में हिजड़ों और किन्नरों को भी बराबर सामाजिक, राजनैतिक और संवैधानिक अधिकार प्राप्त हों। महोदय, आदरणीय मंत्री जी बहुत सूझवान हैं, बहुत दर्द और तकलीफ वाले उस समूह से हमदर्दी रखते हैं, जिसके साथ ये सारी चीजें होती हैं। ...(समय की घंटी)... मेरा अनुरोध है कि इस विधेयक को सरकारी विधेयक के तौर पर स्वीकार करके सदन में इतिहास बनाएं कि यह संसद देश के किन्नर और हिजड़ों के लिए भी कानून बनाकर उनके अधिकारों को प्रोटेक्ट कर सकती है। उपसभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया।

श्री उपसभापति : मेरा एक सुझाव है, you mentioned an incident here, आपने जो नैरेट किया, it is very serious. You should ensure that a case is registered, and strong action is taken against the person, who has cut the nose of a Dalit. He should get the punishment. That is what you said. His nose was cut for eating together. That is a very serious thing. If it happened in this country, then, you should take it up. It is not enough that you speak here.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You should go and enquire into it. If no action is taken, you should take it up very seriously. You can raise that incident even here. It is an atrocity on a *. It is an atrocity on a Schedule Caste.

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Sir, * is not the proper word.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know; I know. I withdraw that word. I agree, it should be Dalit. So, do that. Take it up. It is not enough that you mentioned it here.

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह (ओडिशा) : सर, माननीय नरेन्द्र जी ने जो बात कही, वह इतिहास नहीं है। सर, 1972 तक पार्लियामेंट में 14 प्राइवेट मेंबर्स बिल और रेज़ोल्यूशंस पास हुए हैं, यहां पर 9 और लोक सभा में पांचा इतिहास बना हुआ है। 1972 के बाद से हॉल्ट हो गया जब प्राइवेट मेंबर्स रेज़ोल्यूशन को देखते हैं...(व्यवधान)...

*Withdrawn by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. I said something else.

श्री भूपिंदर सिंह : रुक जाता है। मेरा मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि वे फिर से एक इतिहास शुरू करा दें। आप इतिहास शुरू कराइए, उसमें हॉल्ट आ गया है। इसी हाउस में 1972 तक 9 प्राइवेट मेंबर्स बिल्स पास हुए हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद। निषाद जी, आप सिर्फ दो-तीन मिनट में अपनी बात समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, हमारे माननीय सदस्य तिरुची शिवा जी ने जो विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्तियों के अधिकार विधेयक, 2014 को प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं उसके समर्थन के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। महोदय, जितने भी हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने इसमें अपने विचार रखे हैं, उनसे मैं स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ। किन्नर या हिजड़ों के साथ प्रकृति द्वारा अन्याय हुआ है और उसके बाद उनके साथ समाज द्वारा अन्याय किया जाता है। शिक्षा से लेकर समाज में रहने का अधिकार उनको नहीं दिया जाता है, इसलिए यह बिल लाया गया है। यह बिल बहुत अच्छा बिल है। हम देखते हैं कि महिला किन्नर भी हैं, पुरुष किन्नर भी हैं जिनके साथ भेदभाव होता है। कई माननीय सदस्यों ने यहां जिक्र किया कि अस्पतालों में पुरुष वार्ड और महिला वार्ड हैं। वहां पर यह समस्या आती है कि किस वार्ड में इन्हें रखा जाए। इसी तरह से शौचालय की बात आयी और जेल में भी दो ही वार्ड होते हैं - एक पुरुष वार्ड और एक महिला वार्ड। वहां पर उनको अलग से, तनहाई में रखा जाता है। यह समस्या है। महोदय, बताया गया कि उनकी संख्या 4.9 लाख है, निर्वाचन आयोग ने कहा 23,841 हैं। उपसभापति महोदय, शादी-विवाह और बच्चों के पैदा होने के समय होने वाले उत्सव में आशीर्वाद देने और गाने-बजाने के लिए ये आते हैं। ये रेड लाइट पर भी मिल जाते हैं। हम लोगों ने जो पढ़ा और सुना है कि वे हमेशा ताली बजाते रहते हैं। ताली बजाना एक थेरेपी है और यह एक्युपंचर की तरह है। इनको मैंने किसी अस्पताल में नहीं देखा है, आप लोगों ने अगर इनको देखा हो, तो मैं नहीं जानता हूँ। ताली बजाने से वे कभी बीमार नहीं होते हैं। यह समाज के लिए एक संदेश भी है। कोई कीर्तन-भजन करते समय ताली बजाता है, तो उससे भी लाभ होता है।

उपसभापति महोदय, हम बताना चाहेंगे कि हमारी एक केन्द्रीय मंत्री हैं, जो पशुओं के संरक्षण के लिए पूरे देश में लड़ाई लड़ती हैं। हमारे सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री जी यहां पर बैठे हैं और हम इनसे निवेदन करना चाहेंगे कि जब पशुओं के लिए लड़ाई लड़ी जा सकती है, तो क्या इन्सान के लिए लड़ाई नहीं लड़ी जा सकती है? ये तो इंसान हैं। हम आपसे विनती करना चाहते हैं, आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहते हैं कि इस विषय पर हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने जो विचार रखे हैं, आप उन पर गंभीरता से विचार करें।

उपसभापति महोदय, बहुत सी और भी दिक्कतें हैं। जब हमारा देश आज़ाद हुआ, उसके पहले से आदिवासी और दलितों के साथ भेदभाव किया जाता रहा है, इस बारे में हमारे नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप जी ने भी बताया है। उनको शिक्षा के अधिकार से वंचित कर दिया जाता था। जो पुरोहित लोग थे, कोई

बच्चा पैदा होता था और उनसे (नामकरण) उन बच्चों के नाम पूछने के लिए जाते थे, अगर वह शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट का है, बैकवर्ड का है, आदिवासी का है, तो पुरोहित लोग कहते थे कि इसका नाम लुच्चा रख दो, इसका नाम लफंगा रख दो, इसका नाम खचेडू रख दो, चैतुवा, बैसखवा, जेतुवा रख दो, यह जेठ में पैदा हुआ है तो जेतुवा रख दो। जब बच्चा स्कूल में जाता था और हाजिरी लगती थी और जब मास्टर खचेडू, लुच्चा, लफंगा कहता था, तब सारी कक्षा के बच्चे हंसते थे इसलिए वह एक-दो महीने में ही कक्षा छोड़कर चला जाता था। उसी तरह से आज किन्नरों के साथ हो रहा है। हमें महाभारत का भी एक उदाहरण याद है जब वीर एकलव्य शिक्षा लेने के लिए द्रोणाचार्य जी के पास गये, क्योंकि वह शूद्र थे, इसलिए उसको शिक्षा से वंचित कर दिया गया कि तुम्हें धनुर्विद्या नहीं सिखाई जा सकती क्योंकि वे निषाद आदिवासी थे।...**(समय की घंटी)**...उपसभापति महोदय, जब इनके लिए सुप्रीम कोर्ट, हाई कोर्ट और सभी न्यायालय कह रहे हैं कि इनके साथ भेदभाव बंद किया जाना चाहिए। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... हमारे तिरुची शिवा जी जो बिल लाए हैं, उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूं।...**(समय की घंटी)**... मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करता हूं कि इस बिल से पूरा सदन सहमत है इसलिए आप इस बारे में एक सरकारी बिल लाइए। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं तिरुची शिवा जी की बहुत आभारी हूं कि वे इस बिल को लेकर आए हैं। इस बिल में जो इनकी भावना है वह बहुत अच्छी है। मैं सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहती हूं कि चाहे हम इन्हें हिजड़ा कहें, चाहे किन्नर कहें, चाहे transgender कहें, इनका जो trauma है, इनका ही नहीं, इनके मां-बाप का जो trauma है, वह भी एक सोचने वाली बात है। जब मां-बाप को पता लगता है कि हमारा बच्चा हिजड़ा है या transgender है और जब उस बच्चे को उस कम्युनिटी वाले लेने के लिए आते हैं, उस समय जो उनका हाल होता है, वह एक देखने की बात होती है। किस तरह से मां अपने बच्चे को अलग करने के लिए मजबूर हो जाती है। इसलिए मैं यह कहूंगी कि माननीय सदस्य जो बिल लाए हैं, वह बहुत ठीक बिल लाए हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहूंगी कि आप इस बिल का समर्थन कीजिए। इस बिल में बच्चों की पढ़ाई के लिए स्पेशल व्यवस्था कीजिए, उनको स्पेशल स्कूल दीजिए जिससे कि वे पढ़ लिखकर अपने पैरों पर खड़े हो सकें। उनको घर-घर जाकर नाचना या गाना न पड़े। यह कोई उनका कसूर नहीं है, यह बायलॉजिकल सबसे बड़ी घटना है, जिसके कारण वे मजबूर हो जाते हैं। इसलिए मैं यह कहना चाहूंगी कि इसके ऊपर गंभीरता से सोचा जाए और उनको मेनस्ट्रीम में लाया जाए। यह मां-बाप का भी trauma है, उनका भी दुख है। मैं जानती हूं कि किस तरह से एक मां अपने बच्चे को अपने से अलग करती है। उसके लिए तो वह बच्चा ही है, चाहे वह transgender है या कोई अन्य है। पहले राजा-महाराजाओं के यहां महिलाओं के महल में इनको रखा जाता था कि एक तरह से ये spying का काम करेंगे, इनसे कोई harm नहीं है। जहां आज हम महिला सशक्तिकरण की बात करते हैं, वहां हमें इनके सशक्तिकरण की बात भी करनी चाहिए। ये भी हमारे समाज का एक अंग हैं। मैं तिरुची शिवा जी को बधाई देती हूं कि वे यह बिल लाए और मैं मंत्री जी से भी अनुरोध करती हूं कि जिस तरह से इस बिल पर सभी ने कहा है, प्राइवेट मेम्बर बिल देकर वापस मत लीजिए और इसको सरकारी दस्तावेज बनाइए और इस पर बहुत गंभीरता से सोचिए। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सबसे पहले तो श्री तिरुची शिवा जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ और बधाई भी देता हूँ कि उन्होंने कठिन परिश्रम करके एक अच्छा विधेयक सदन में प्रस्तुत किया है। यह विधेयक निश्चित रूप से विचारणीय है। हम सब जानते हैं कि हमारे देश में आजादी के बाद डॉ. अम्बेडकर साहब ने जो संविधान लिखा है, उसमें एक नहीं अनेक अनुच्छेदों में इस बात का उल्लेख गया है कि देश का प्रत्येक नागरिक, जो सुविधाएँ भारत सरकार की हैं, उनका उपयोग करने के लिए, सुअवसर प्राप्त करने का पात्र है। बिना जाति, बिना लिंग और बिना किसी भेदभाव के उन सब योजनाओं का लाभ प्रत्येक नागरिक को मिलना चाहिए। आज हम सदन में किन्नर, विपरीत-लिंग के व्यक्तियों के लिए अधिकार के विधेयक पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। इसको Transgender नाम दिया है, यह भी हमारे देश के मानव संसाधन का अभिन्न अंग है। देश का अभिन्न अंग होने के नाते, वे समस्त प्रावधान, जो भारत के संविधान में हैं और भारत के कानूनों में हैं तथा राज्यों के कानूनों में हैं, उनको प्राप्त करने के लिए ये अधिकृत हैं। श्री तिरुची शिवा ने विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया है, इस पर श्री बसावाराज पाटिल, श्री हरिवंश, विवेक गुप्ता जी, आदरणीय नवनीत जी, श्री बैष्णव परिडा, श्री पी राजीव जी, श्री डी.पी. त्रिपाठी जी, श्री एम.एस. गिल साहब, श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया, चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम, श्री एम.पी. अच्युतन, सुश्री अनु आगा, श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू, डा. के. केशव राव, डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन, प्रो. एम. वी. राजीव गौडा, श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार कश्यप, श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद और अंत में आदरणीय श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर ने अपने विचार रखे हैं। मैं सामान्यतः इस विधेयक की भावनाओं का आदर करता हूँ, सम्मान करता हूँ। सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने इस विधेयक में जिन-जिन बातों का उल्लेख किया गया है, उनसे संबंधित मुद्दों की जानकारी अपने-अपने सम्बोधन में दी है। विधेयक को अध्याय 2 किन्नर जाति को, transgender अधिकार और उनकी हकदारियाँ देने की बात करता है। इसमें यह कहा गया है कि समता और गैर-विभेद का वातावरण बनाना चाहिए। सही बात है, इसका संविधान में भी उल्लेख है कि सबको समानता का अधिकार मिलना चाहिए। विपरीतलिंगी बच्चों को भी यह अधिकार मिले। जो सुविधाएँ भारत सरकार की ओर से या राज्य सरकार की ओर से मिलती हैं, उनका उपभोग करने या उनका लाभ लेने की पात्रता भी उनको होनी चाहिए। उनको जीवन और वैयक्तिक स्वतंत्रता का अधिकार होना चाहिए। मैंने बताया कि ये सब संवैधानिक प्रावधानों के दायरे में हैं। उनको समुदाय में रहने का अधिकार मिलना चाहिए, सम्पूर्णता का अधिकार मिलना चाहिए। यातना अथवा निर्दयतापूर्ण, अमानवीय अथवा तिरस्कारपूर्ण व्यवहार अथवा दंड से उनको संरक्षण मिलना चाहिए। दुर्यवहार, हिंसा और शोषण का जो वातावरण है, उससे उनको मुक्ति मिलनी चाहिए। घर और परिवार का अधिकार मिलना चाहिए। वाक् स्वातंत्र्य की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए। अध्याय 3 में शिक्षा के जो अधिकार हैं, उन शिक्षा सम्बन्धी अधिकारों को भी उन्हें प्राप्त करने का हक है, वे भी उनको मिलने चाहिए।

...(व्यवधान)... आदरणीय भूपिंदर जी, मैंने दो घंटे सुना, आप भी 15-20 मिनट तो सुन लीजिए। सुनिए तो सही। कौशल विकास एवं रोजगार की बात भी कही गई है। निश्चित रूप से यह उनका भी अधिकार है कि उनको भी रोजगार मिले और वे स्वावलंबन की स्थिति में आकर अपने आस-पड़ोस वाले लोगों की तरह अपना जीवनयापन, रहन-सहन का स्तर बना सकें। व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण और स्वरोजगार की पात्रता उनको है। रोजगार में किसी प्रकार का भेदभाव नहीं होना चाहिए। उनको

सामाजिक सुरक्षा मिलनी चाहिए। उनके लिए स्वास्थ्य देखभाल की सुविधाएँ होनी चाहिए। उनके पुनर्वास की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्तियों का पुनर्वास सामान्य श्रेणी के लोगों की भाँति हो, इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। उनको विलास संस्कृति और आमोद-प्रमोद की भी पात्रता है, यह उनका हक है, वह भी मिलना चाहिए। प्राथमिक, माध्यमिक और उच्चतर शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं में उनके आरक्षण सम्बन्धी प्रावधान की बात कही गई है। विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्तियों के लिए पदों के आरक्षण की बात कही गई है। निजी क्षेत्र में नियोक्ताओं को प्रोत्साहन मिलना चाहिए। इनके लिए अलग से विशेष रोजगार कार्यालय हो, इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था की भी बात है। इन सब समस्याओं के समाधान की दृष्टि से सरकार के कर्तव्य और जिम्मेदारी का एहसास कराते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि इन सब समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए जागरूकता लाने का भी प्रयास करना चाहिए। फिर विपरीतलिंगी व्यक्तियों के लिए राष्ट्रीय आयोग की बात कही गई है। उसी प्रकार के आयोग राज्यों में भी होने चाहिए, इस प्रकार की बात भी कही गई है। निश्चित रूप से न्यायालय की सुविधाएँ भी मिलनी चाहिए। इसमें जो बातें कही गई हैं, वे आज वास्तव में व्यवहार में दिखाई देती हैं और इससे मुक्ति दिलाने की महती आवश्यकता है। जिस उद्देश्य से यह विधेयक लाया गया है, वास्तव में इस विधेयक का महत्व और भी बढ़ जाता है। माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय ने भी इस दिशा में एक निर्णय दिया है और उस निर्णय के बाद भारत सरकार ने, अर्थात् मेरे मंत्रालय ने, चूँकि मेरा मंत्रालय इसका नोडल मंत्रालय है, हमने सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्णय के तारतम्य में कुछ कदम उठाए हैं। मैं आपके सामने सभी माननीय सदस्यों को इससे अवगत कराना चाहूँगा। हमने माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय के निर्णय पर अध्ययन करने के लिए विशेषज्ञों की एक समिति बनाई। उस समिति ने अपना प्रतिवेदन दिया है। उसने जो प्रतिवेदन दिया है, सामान्यतया प्रतिवेदन में जो सुझाव आए हैं, उन सुझावों का ज्यादातर समावेश इस विधेयक में है। इसलिए मैं सब पर अलग-अलग कुछ बातें बताऊँ, इसकी आवश्यकता नहीं है।

इसके साथ ही साथ हमने कार्य योजना बनाने के लिए अंतर-मंत्रालय की एक समिति भी बनाई है और उसकी अभी तक लगभग 4 बैठकें भी हो चुकी हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में तेज गति से विचार-विमर्श जारी है। हमने प्रारम्भिक निष्कर्ष निकाला है कि इसके लिए एक अम्ब्रेला स्कीम बननी चाहिए। वह स्कीम बनाने की दृष्टि से स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय एवं हमारे मंत्रालय के बीच अंतर-मंत्रालयी विचार-विमर्श जारी है। हमने एक निर्णय भी लिया है कि इस सम्बन्ध में हम एक राष्ट्रीय नीति बनाएंगे, इसके मुद्दों पर भी विचार-विमर्श चल रहा है।

महोदय, हमने यह भी तय किया है कि जिस प्रकार से अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति, पिछड़ा वर्ग के छात्र-छात्राओं को सुविधाएं दी जाती हैं, वैसी ही सुविधाएं ट्रांसजेंडर समुदाय को भी दी जानी चाहिए। इस पर हम गंभीरता से विचार कर रहे हैं। हमने ट्रांसजेंडर समुदाय के लिए एक 'ट्रांसजेंडर कल्याण बोर्ड' बनाने का भी विचार किया है। उस 'ट्रांसजेंडर कल्याण बोर्ड' के क्या-क्या काम होंगे, क्या-क्या अधिकार होंगे, इस पर हम गंभीरता से विचार कर रहे हैं। हमने राज्यों को भी सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्णय के तारतम्य में अमल करने के लिए अनुरोध किया है। हमको अनेक राज्यों से इसकी जानकारी भी मिली है, कई राज्यों ने तो उस पर काम भी प्रारम्भ कर दिया है। जिस प्रकार से योजना आयोग ने इस विषय पर राय दी थी, उसी प्रकार नीति आयोग भी इस पर उसी तारतम्य के आधार पर विचार-

[श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत]

विमर्श करेगा। इस सम्बन्ध में हम इनके अधिकारों के हित संरक्षण की कार्य योजना बनाने का काम भी करेंगे।

इस अवसर पर मैं यह भी बताना चाहूंगा, जब हमने भिन्न-भिन्न राज्यों और भिन्न-भिन्न मंत्रालयों को इस विषय पर लिखा, इस पर उन्होंने जो-जो कार्यवाही की, उससे भी मैं माननीय सदन को अवगत कराना चाहूंगा। वैसे प्रारम्भिक तौर पर हमने यह तय किया है, जैसा मैंने बताया है कि ट्रांसजेंडर समुदाय को 'तृतीय लिंगी' के रूप में माना जाए, यह माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय ने कहा है, इसलिए केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारों को उनकी बेहतरी के लिए विभिन्न सामाजिक कल्याण योजनाएं तैयार करने हेतु उपाय करने चाहिए। केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारों को अस्पतालों में ट्रांसजेंडर्स को चिकित्सा सुविधाएं प्रदान करने के लिए समुचित उपाय करने चाहिए और इनके प्रति सार्वजनिक जागरूकता पैदा करने के लिए कदम उठाने चाहिए। ये सब बिन्दु हमने राज्यों के साथ चर्चा करके उठाए, जिसके लिए हमने उनको पत्र भी लिखा और हमारे अधिकारियों ने उनके साथ बातचीत भी की।

मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं, हमने इन वर्गों के छात्र-छात्राओं को छात्रवृत्ति देने और अगर वे उच्च शिक्षा में अध्ययन कर रहे हैं, तो उनकी फीस जमा करने, आर्थिक सहायता देने आदि का निर्णय भी लिया है।

महोदय, हमने भारत सरकार के भिन्न-भिन्न मंत्रालयों को जो पत्र लिखा था, उसके उत्तर में उनकी ओर से हमारे पास जो जवाब आए हैं, मैं आपको उसकी जानकारी भी देना चाहूंगा। हमने ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय को पत्र लिखा था, उनकी तरफ से जवाब आया है कि आवासीय जरूरतों को पूरा करने वाली इन्दिरा आवास योजना के तहत ट्रांसजेंडर समुदाय के लाभार्थियों को चयन में वरीयता देने के लिए शामिल किया गया है। इसको ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय ने स्वीकार किया है। तमिलनाडु के धर्मपुरी जिले में वर्ष 2012-13 के दौरान आईएवाई के तहत 25 आवास ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों को आवंटित किए गए हैं। इस अवसर पर मैं यह भी कहना चाहूंगा कि जिन राज्यों ने इस दिशा में कारगर कदम उठाए हैं, उनमें सबसे अच्छा काम तमिलनाडु की सरकार ने किया है। बाकी राज्यों ने भी इस सम्बन्ध में जो-जो कार्य किया है, वह भी मैं बताना चाहूंगा। हमने महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय से अनुरोध किया था, उन्होंने ट्रांसजेंडर बच्चों को शामिल करने के लिए किशोर न्याय नियमावली, 2007 में संशोधन करने पर विचार प्रारम्भ कर दिया है, साथ ही वैसे ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्ति, जिनकी पहचान महिला के रूप में है, को घरेलू हिंसा से महिला संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2005 तथा कार्यस्थल पर यौन शोषण (निवारण, निषेध तथा निपटान) अधिनियम, 2013 के अधिकार क्षेत्र में शामिल किया जाना स्वीकार कर लिया है। वे इस दिशा में कार्यवाही भी कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय ने इंटर-सेक्स डिसऑर्डर पर एक समिति का गठन किया है तथा यह ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों की स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं से संबंधित मामलों की जाँच कर रही है।

मैंने मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय को भी लिखा। उसने इस पर एक निर्णय लिया है। मानव

संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत स्कूली शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग ने सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को शैक्षिक संस्थानों में ट्रांसजेंडर समुदाय को प्रवेश देने के लिए आदेश जारी किये हैं। 'बालक' की परिभाषा के तहत ट्रांसजेंडर बच्चों को शामिल करने के लिए निःशुल्क और अनिवार्य शिक्षा अधिकार (आरटीई) अधिनियम, 2009 में संशोधन पर उन्होंने विचार प्रारम्भ कर दिया है। मंत्रालय समस्त देश में 1090 केन्द्रीय विद्यालयों तथा 581 नवोदय विद्यालयों के संचालन के साथ सीधे जुड़ा हुआ है। उनको अपनी प्रवेश नीति में ट्रांसजेंडर बच्चों पर विचार करने की भी सलाह दी गई है।

सर, इसके साथ ही साथ गृह मंत्रालय द्वारा यौन उत्पीड़न, उत्पीड़न तथा घरेलू हिंसा विधियों के अंतर्गत ट्रांसजेंडर के समावेशन हेतु आईपीसी की कतिपय धाराओं, जिनका उल्लेख माननीय राजीव गौडा जी ने भी किया था तथा अन्य माननीय सदस्यों ने भी किया, धारा 317, 166क, 375 इत्यादि में व्यापक संशोधन करने पर भी विचार प्रारम्भ कर लिया गया है। राष्ट्रीय अपराध अभिलेख ब्यूरो ने अपने प्रतिवेदनों में ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध अपराधों से संबंधित आंकड़े भी शामिल किये हैं।

सर, श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय की तरफ से भी जवाब आया है। श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय ने कौशल विकास पहल (एसडीआई) योजनाओं के अंतर्गत पंजीकृत व्यावसायिक प्रशिक्षण प्रदाताओं (वीटीपी) के माध्यम से ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों के लिए व्यवसाय कौशल प्रशिक्षण प्रदान करने का प्रस्ताव किया है। यह विभाग में विचाराधीन है। वे इस पर आगे कार्य योजना बनाकर आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सूचित कर दिया गया है। शब्द 'जेंडर' को आवेदन पत्रों, प्रतिवेदनों इत्यादि जैसे विभिन्न दस्तावेजों में पुरुष और महिला के अतिरिक्त ट्रांसजेंडर समाविष्ट करते हुए समाविष्ट कर लिया गया है। अर्थात् इनकी पहचान अलग से करने की व्यवस्था भी की जा रही है। राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना (आरएसबीवाई) के विस्तार पर विचार किया जा रहा है, जिसमें ट्रांसजेंडर समुदाय के लिए असंगठित कार्यकर्ताओं के संबंध में भी प्रावधान की व्यवस्था की जा रही है।

कार्मिक और प्रशिक्षण विभाग ने भी कार्य स्थल पर ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों के उत्पीड़न के संबंध में सीसीएस (सीसीए) आचरण नियमावली में संशोधन करने पर विचार किया है। सूचित किया गया है कि सरकारी नियुक्तियों के लिए रोजगार के मामले में कोई भेदभाव नहीं होगा।

आवास और शहरी गरीबी उपशमन मंत्रालय (हूपा) को भी हमने लिखा था। उसने भी हमें जानकारी दी है और कहा है कि लाभार्थियों के रूप में राष्ट्रीय शहरी आजीविका मिशन के घटकों के अंतर्गत ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों को कवर करने हेतु सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के लिए सलाह जारी की गयी है।

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत सभी मीडिया एकक, यथा पीआईवी, डीएफपी, एसएनडीडी, एआईआर और डीडी के अपने कार्यक्रमों में इनके हित संरक्षण की योजनाओं के बारे में व्यापक प्रचार करें।

हमने विदेश मंत्रालय से भी आग्रह किया था कि पासपोर्ट देने की जो इनकी कठिनाई है, उसको

[श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत]

भी हल करने का वह प्रयास करे। विदेश मंत्रालय ने पासपोर्ट जारी करने से संबंधित नियमों में उपयुक्त संशोधन पर विचार करना प्रारम्भ कर दिया है। उम्मीद है कि वे इस समस्या का समाधान करने में सफलता प्राप्त कर पायेंगे।

औद्योगिक नीति और संवर्धन विभाग (डीआईपीपी) ने ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों के मुद्दों पर नियोक्ताओं और कर्मचारियों को शिक्षित करने और कर्मचारियों को लगाने, बनाये रखने, पदोन्नति इत्यादि के प्रति बिना किसी भेदभाव की नीतियों के लिए विभाग से संबंधित औद्योगिक संगठनों के साथ कार्रवाई की है। अपने फॉर्म प्रपत्रों में ट्रांसजेंडर श्रेणी शामिल करने की बात उन्होंने स्वीकार कर ली है, मतलब यहां भी उन्होंने उनकी अलग से पहचान करने के लिए नियम बनाने का निर्णय कर लिया है। विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत राज्यों तथा जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों द्वारा निःशुल्क विधिक सहायता प्रदान करना ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, we have to finish this Bill today. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: सर, बहुत कुछ बातें आई हैं, तो कम से कम 5-7 मिनट तो और लगेंगे। आप कहेंगे, तो मैं बैठ जाऊंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have to conclude this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... Already it has taken more than three hours. ...*(Interruptions)*... The decision is that the Bill should be disposed of in two hours. Now it has taken three hours.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: सर, मैं 5-7 मिनट लूंगा। अगर आप कहेंगे, तो मैं अभी बैठ जाऊंगा।

श्री उपसभापति: इनका reply भी होना है।

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: सर, इस संबंध में मैं एक और निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। सिक्किम राज्य की सरकार ने भी इस विषय पर अच्छा काम करना प्रारंभ किया है। छात्रवृत्ति आदि की जो सब सुविधाएं अन्य नागरिकों को मिलती हैं, वे हैं।

पश्चिमी बंगाल ने भी अच्छा काम किया है। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने भी ट्रांसजेंडर बोर्ड का गठन किया है और इनकी समस्याओं को हल करना प्रारंभ किया है।

केरल सरकार ने भी किया है। हरियाणा सरकार ने भी किया है। ओडिशा सरकार ने भी किया है। दिल्ली सरकार ने भी किया है। जम्मू और कश्मीर की सरकार ने भी इस पर कार्य योजना प्रारंभ की है। मैंने बताया कि तमिलनाडु की सरकार ने बहुत अच्छे-अच्छे काम किए हैं, जिनका उल्लेख नवनीतकृष्णन जी ने भी किया है और मैं भी कर रहा हूँ।

महोदय, इसके साथ ही साथ मैं तिरुची शिवा जी से और माननीय उन सब सदस्यों से, जिन्होंने इस पर अपने विचार व्यक्त किए हैं, एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जब सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने निर्णय दिया

और कुछ दिशा-निर्देश दिए, उसमें कुछ बातें ऐसी थीं, जिन पर स्पष्टीकरण की आवश्यकता थी, जैसे ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों की परिभाषा में हमने जो स्पष्टीकरण चाहा है, वह यह है कि उच्चतम न्यायालय के आदेशानुसार किसी ट्रांसजेंडर और स्त्री सजातीय, समलैंगिक और द्विलैंगिक व्यक्तियों के बीच अस्पष्टता उत्पन्न हो रही थी, वह स्पष्ट नहीं हो रहा था कि उनको किस श्रेणी में लिया जाए। इसलिए इस मंत्रालय ने उच्चतम न्यायालय में ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों की परिभाषा के संबंध में स्पष्टीकरण हेतु याचिका दायर की है।

फिर एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय और आया, वह यह कि जब सभी ट्रांसजेंडर व्यक्तियों को अन्य पिछड़े वर्ग का प्रमाण-पत्र जारी करने की बात कही गई, तो उसमें एक बात आई, हमसे कुछ प्रतिनिधिमंडल भी मिले, इनकी जो ट्रांसजेंडर एसोसिएशन है, उनकी अखिल भारतीय अध्यक्ष, लक्ष्मी जी भी मिली, उन्होंने भी कुछ सुझाव दिए और उसमें यह बात आई कि अगर कोई जन्म से अनुसूचित जाति का है या जन्म से अनुसूचित जनजाति का है और वह पिछड़ा वर्ग में रहना स्वीकार नहीं कर रहा है, तो उसके बारे में क्या किया जाए। इस पर मतभेद सामने आए, तो हमने सोचा कि इस पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट से कुछ मार्गदर्शन लेना उचित होगा। हमने इस संबंध में सुप्रीम कोर्ट से मार्गदर्शन मांगा है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में याचिका विचाराधीन है और मैं सोचता हूँ कि जब तक इन तीनों मामलों में सुप्रीम कोर्ट का स्पष्टीकरण नहीं आए, तब तक इनका identification करने में कठिनाई होगी और जब identification करने में ही कठिनाई होगी, जो अगली कार्य योजनाओं का जो लाभ-हित उनको मिलना चाहिए, उसके बारे में निर्णय करना बहुत कठिन हो जाएगा।

ऐसी परिस्थिति में मैं माननीय तिरुची शिवा जी से और माननीय अन्य सदस्यों ने, जिन्होंने इस पर अपने-अपने विचार व्यक्त किए हैं, उनसे मैं प्रार्थना करना चाहूंगा कि माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय से कुछ मुद्दों पर हमने जो स्पष्टीकरण मांगा है, वह स्पष्टीकरण आ जाए, फिर राज्य सरकारों ने भी कार्य योजना बनाने का निर्णय लिया है। हमने अंतर-मंत्रालयी कमेटी बनाई है, वह भी विचार कर रही है और हमने जो विशेषज्ञ की एक कमेटी बनाई है, उसका जो प्रतिवेदन आया है, उस पर भी हम अध्ययन कर रहे हैं। उन अध्ययनों का जो निष्कर्ष निकलेगा, उसके बाद एक व्यापक विचार-विमर्श करके हम कार्य योजना बनाएंगे। चाहे by laws बना कर इनको हित संरक्षण देने की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराएं या बोर्ड बना कर या जो-जो ये विषय हैं, संवैधानिक प्रावधानों के अंतर्गत जो-जो सुविधाएं उनको मिलनी चाहिए, उन सब सुविधाओं को देने की हमारी और हमारी सरकार की मंशा है। आप विश्वास करें, हम इनका हित संरक्षण करने की कार्य योजना बनाएंगे। मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि वर्तमान परिस्थिति में, इन परिस्थितियों में आप अपने इस विधेयक को वापस ले लेंगे, तो बड़ी कृपा होगी। आप सबसे, माननीय सदस्यों से और सदन से भी मैं अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि सरकार इस दिशा में कारगर कार्रवाई कर रही है, विचार-विमर्श कर रही है और निष्कर्ष निकालकर, इनके हित संरक्षण की कार्य योजना बनाकर इनके हितों को कार्यान्वित करने की योजनाएँ लागू करने पर विचार कर रही है। ऐसी परिस्थिति में आप आज इस विधेयक को वापस लेने की अनुमति प्रदान करें। धन्यवाद।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I cannot complete within five minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If the House wants, we can extend and sit. You can speak up to 5.00 p.m. Then, we will continue this Bill next time. You can continue your reply.

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): Mr. Siva can speak up to 5 o'clock and then he can continue next time.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, you can speak Mr. Siva.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, around twenty Members have contributed their valuable suggestions on this Bill. Cutting across party lines, almost all the political parties, which are in this august House, have expressed their views. I am very happy about that. So, there is no difference of opinion, as far as this Bill is concerned. I want to thank all the Members who have deliberated with valuable thoughts and suggestions and have expressed their concerns in favour of the transgender persons. Sir, what induced me to bring this Bill is the fact that the Supreme Court made its historical judgment in the year 2014. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment constituted an Expert Committee, which gave its Report to the Government. Sir, one year has passed by, but nothing is being done. I don't want to repeat what my other colleagues have said here about the discrimination faced by the transgender persons. Sir, every one of us is aware. But how are they treated? Those who express their concern, not in this House but even outside, when they happen to come across one to one, how they treat them is a very big question. Even when the Minister asked me to withdraw my Bill, he said that the Government is committed and has some plans. Sir, we don't want plans. We want legislation in the right place. But for that, there will not be an end to this discrimination.

First of all, Sir, there is a lack of research data about the transgender people in the country and the transgender people specific healthcare. Many of my colleagues have pointed out many experiences they have come across. While moving the Bill, I quoted some incidents that these people don't have access to public toilets. Our colleagues, I think, Tripathiji, said here--and one other colleague also mentioned that a transgender person gets a voter ID card saying that she is a female. Only then is the voter ID card given. But when she enters into a ladies' compartment in a train, she is not given an access. She is just thrown out. So, in every place, whether it is hospital, whether it is a public

5.00 P.M.

place or a toilet or anywhere else, these people are not accepted. So, when fellow persons in our community, for no fault of theirs, are being treated like that, how could it be? But things are changing now. Only in February, 2015, the first passport has been issued, and the issuance of voter ID cards has been started. I would like to say so many words which we do not recognise, like 'hijras', 'kinnars' and many other words too, and now we have all accepted even legally and even those people have accepted this word 'transgender'. So, these transgender people should be given their legitimate right in this country like any other citizen. That is the only concern we want to express. Sir, in this context, I would like to mention one example. The Minister also quoted the example of one Lakshmi. She is from Mumbai and she is the first transgender person to represent the Asia-Pacific at the United Nations in the year 2008. Her autobiography, 'Me Hijra, Me Lakshmi', that is, 'I am Hijra, I am Lakshmi', was released at the just-concluded World Book Fair in Delhi. Her book has been published in Marathi and now has been translated into English by the Oxford University Press. So many eminent people are in the transgender community, but they are denied their rights, they are not being recognised. I think, the Minister has said that we will coordinate with the other Ministries.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Siva, you can continue your speech next time when the Private Members' Bills will be taken up. Now, let us take up further discussion on the Budget (Railways). Shri Avinash Rai Khanna; not present. Shri Mansukh L. Mandaviya.

THE BUDGET (RAILWAYS), 2015-16

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात) : उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय रेल मंत्री जी जो रेल बजट लेकर आए हैं, मैं उसका समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। रेलवे हमारे देश की धमनी है। 1864 से रेलवे हमारे देश में जन सुविधा का आधार बनी हुई है, ट्रांसपोर्टिंग का आधार बनी हुई है। हमारे देश की आजादी की लड़ाई में भी और हमारे देश में सामाजिक क्रांति के लिए रेलवे की भूमिका बहुत महत्वपूर्ण रही है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई. एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन) पीठासीन हुए]

रेलवे के माध्यम से हमारे देश के फ्रीडम फाइटर्स और हमारी डाक, हमारे टाट-टपाल सब रेलवे के माध्यम से चलती थी। इसलिए देश की रगों में दौड़ती है रेल, देश के हर अंग को जोड़ती है रेल, देश के हर रंग को जोड़ती है रेल, धर्म, जाति-पांति नहीं जानती है रेल, छोटे-बड़े सभी को अपना मानती है रेल।

† Further discussion continued from 12 March, 2015

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

रेल की भूमिका जो इतिहास में रही है और वैसे सारे देश को, सारे भारतवर्ष को जोड़ने का काम करती है। लेकिन लगातार हमारे देश में रेलवे की जो स्थिति रही, हमने देखा है कि सालों तक सारे देश में मॉडर्नाइजेशन हो रहा है, सारी दुनिया बदल रही है, दुनिया बदलने के साथ हमारे रेलवे में जो बदलाव होना चाहिए, रेलवे जो बदलनी चाहिए, जो चीज सालों तक नहीं बदली थी, जैसी हमारे देश की स्थिति थी, रेलवे स्टेशन पर जाओ, गंदगी ही गंदगी थी। बुजुर्ग लोग, विकलांग लोगों को भी वहां परेशानी का सामने करना पड़ता था। वैसे ही छुक-छुक करके चलती थी, वैसी ही गंदगी और अस्वच्छता रेलवे स्टेशन पर व्यापक होती थी। इन समस्याओं से देश की रेल को कैसे बाहर निकाला जाए, उनमें से देश की रेल को नया मोड़ कैसे दिया जाए और विश्व की जो रेलवे है उसके परिपेक्ष्य में हमारी रेलवे को ले जाने के लिए हमें क्या करना चाहिए, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए हमारे मंत्री जी ने यह रेल बजट पेश किया है। उसको मैं दिल से स्वीकारता हूँ। उनके साथ इस रेल बजट में जो दिखता है, कुछ नया जोड़ना होगा, कुछ पुराना तोड़ना होगा, कुछ इंजन बदलने होंगे, कुछ पुर्जे रिपेयर करने होंगे, कुछ ताकतें दिखानी होंगी, कुछ कमजोरियां मिटानी होंगी, कुछ रास्ते बदलने होंगे, कुछ दिशाएं खोलनी पड़ेंगी। वह सोच लेकर हमारे माननीय रेल मंत्री जी यह बजट लेकर आए हैं। बजट में जो पुराना सिस्टम था, एक जमाना था कि जब संसद में बजट इंटरोड्यूस होता था, तो लोग ऐसी अपेक्षाएं रखते थे कि नई गाड़ियां मिल जाएंगी। कितनी-कितनी नई गाड़ियों की जाहिरात बजट में हुई, कितने प्रोजेक्ट की जाहिरात में प्रावधान हुआ, केवल बजट में नई गाड़ियां देने से, प्रोजेक्ट डिक्लेयर करने से काम नहीं बनता है। अभी तक बजट में 264 ऐसी परियोजनाएं हैं, सालों तक बजट में उसको रखा गया लेकिन उसका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन नहीं हो पाया। इम्प्लीमेंटेशन नहीं हो पाने का कारण क्या है? कारण था कि हमारे पास पूंजी नहीं थी। कुल सौ पैसों में से 92 पैसे खर्च में चले जाते थे। वैसे ही 8 पैसे उसके रिपेयर के लिए, उसके डेवलपमेंट पर खर्च करना होता था। जो बड़ी-बड़ी परियोजनाएं डिक्लेयर करते थे, बड़े-बड़े प्रोजेक्ट डिक्लेयर करते थे, उनके लिए वह 8 पैसे सफिशिएंट नहीं थे। वे जानते थे। लेकिन जनता को कुछ समय के लिए मीडिया वाले बोलते थे कि अच्छा बजट पेश हुआ, इतने-इतने प्रोजेक्ट डिक्लेयर हुए। मीडिया वाले बोलेंगे और जनता की तालियां पड़ेंगी कि हमें गाड़ी मिल गई, हमारे यहां गाड़ी दौड़ेगी, लेकिन गाड़ी नहीं दौड़ती थी, क्योंकि उनके लिए जैसा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर चाहिए था, वैसा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर नहीं था। ऐसा बहुत सालों तक चला, लेकिन हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी वास्तविकता के आधार पर अपना बजट लेकर आए हैं। उन्होंने धरातल पर रहकर देखा कि हमारी रेलवे की स्थिति क्या है और उस स्थिति को बदलने के लिए हमें क्या करना चाहिए? इस विषय को सामने रखा। इसमें ऐसा है कि जिस दिन बजट डिक्लेयर हो, शायद उस दिन के लिए तालियां नहीं बजेंगी, लेकिन माननीय मंत्री जी चाहते हैं कि हमारे देश की जनता को सालों तक वैसी सुविधा मिले, जो विश्व स्तर की रेलवे से मिलती है। तो उनके जैसी सुविधा हमारे देश की जनता को कैसे मिले, हम अपनी परंपरा से कैसे बाहर आ पाएं और उस स्थिति से बाहर आने के लिए क्या करना चाहिए, उसका गहरा अध्ययन करके हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह जो बजट रखा है, मैं उसका स्वागत करता हूँ।

महोदय, गाड़ियां तो बहुत डिक्लेयर होती थीं और हमारे यहां तो ऐसी स्थिति बनी थी कि कभी किसी को कुछ मिलता नहीं था, केवल बात होती रहती थी। बजट में एक पीपीपी मॉडल का जिक्र किया गया। वास्तविकता में कैसा बजट होना चाहिए, कैसे बजट से देश का डेवलपमेंट होगा, कैसी योजना

से देश की जनता को सुविधा मिलेगी? हमारा 6000 किलोमीटर का कॉस्टल क्षेत्र है। वहां हमारी इंडस्ट्रीज लगी हुई हैं, हमारे यहां बड़े-बड़े पोर्ट्स हैं, उन पोर्ट्स से माल आएगा और वह माल सारे देश में जाएगा, तब हमारी सुविधा पूर्ण होगी। क्या उन पोर्ट्स तक पहुंचने के लिए हमारी रेलवे पर्याप्त थी? हिंदुस्तान की आजादी के बाद 67 सालों में हम सभी पोर्ट्स तक नहीं पहुंचे थे। हम सभी विमानपत्तनों तक नहीं पहुंच पाए थे। पीपीपी मॉडल के माध्यम से सभी विमानपत्तनों तक पहुंचने के लिए, सभी पोर्ट्स तक पहुंचने के लिए माननीय मंत्री जी ने एक विषय रखा है, क्योंकि सभी पोर्ट्स को हमें जोड़ना है, सभी कोस्टल क्षेत्र को हमें जोड़ना है। सभी कॉस्टल क्षेत्रों को जोड़कर हमें अपने देश में रेलवे का विस्तार करके यातायात सुविधा पहुंचानी है। इससे कोस्टल क्षेत्रों में बिजनेस आएंगे, कॉस्टल क्षेत्रों में इंडस्ट्रीज लगेगी और इंडस्ट्रीज के लिए माल चाहिए। उनके लिए विदेश से कुछ माल आयात करना होगा, जो पोर्ट्स के माध्यम से आएगा, फिर वहां से स्पलाई होगा। उन क्षेत्रों में आने-जाने के लिए लोगों को सुविधा मिल जाए, इसलिए पीपीपी मॉडल के माध्यम से जो प्राइवेट पोर्ट्स हैं या गवर्नमेंट के पोर्ट्स हैं, आपस में साझेदारी करके रेलवे को डेवलप करना है, जिसका विजन इस बजट में दिखाया गया है।

महोदय, इस बजट के माध्यम से किसको क्या मिला? यहां हमारे कितने ही सम्मानित सदस्य बोल रहे थे कि बजट में यह नहीं है, वह नहीं है, लेकिन मैं मानता हूँ कि इसमें बहुत कुछ है। इसमें ऐसी-ऐसी छोटी-छोटी बातें हैं, जैसे स्वच्छता के संदर्भ में बजट बढ़ाया गया है। स्वच्छता के संदर्भ में 39 परसेंट बजट बढ़ाना कोई छोटी बात नहीं है। क्या हम ऐसे ही रेलवे को रखना चाहते हैं? क्या रेलवे स्टेशनों पर असुविधा हो, पीने के पानी की सुविधा न हो, लोग इधर से उधर घूमते रहें? हमें ऐसे पुराने सिस्टम से बाहर निकलना होगा। स्वच्छता, जनता के दिलों को छूने वाला विषय है। महात्मा गांधी ने आजादी के साथ स्वच्छता को क्यों चुना था? स्वच्छता केवल अपने निजी जीवन के लिए उपयोगी नहीं है, सार्वजनिक जीवन के लिए भी उपयोगी है। इसलिए हमारी रेलवे स्वच्छ कैसे बने, हमारा रेलवे स्टेशन स्वच्छ कैसे बने, इसके लिए प्रावधान किया गया है। इसके साथ-साथ इस रेलवे बजट में इस विषय का भी ध्यान रखा गया है कि किसानों को कैसे फायदा हो? रोड ट्रांसपोर्ट के माध्यम से ही क्या किसानों का माल एक जगह से दूसरी जगह पहुंच सकता है? आज डीजल का भाव बढ़ रहा है और इस बढ़ते हुए डीजल के भाव से किसान अपने खेत में माल पैदा करते हैं। किसान जो अपने खेत में उपज पैदा करते हैं, उसे मार्केट तक पहुंचाने की आवश्यकता होती है। तो उसे मार्केट तक कैसे पहुंचाएंगे, मार्केट तक कैसे ले जाएंगे? ट्रक से तो ज्यादा भाड़ा लगेगा और थोड़ा सा माल जाएगा। यह किसान-रक्षी सरकार है, किसान के लिए कैसे सहयोग हो सकता है, इस रेलवे बजट में भी नरेन्द्र भाई की जो आम जनता को, गरीब जनता को, किसान को, सामान्य वर्ग के लोगों को कैसे मदद पहुंचाई जाए, उसका ध्यान रखा गया है। बड़ी-बड़ी योजनाओं से कुछ नहीं होगा, वास्तविकता से होगा, इसलिए बजट में प्रावधान किया गया है कि रेलवे स्टेशन पर पेरिशेबल कार्गो कॉंपलेक्स बनाए जाएंगे। किसान का जो माल वहां स्टेशन पर आएगा, वह पेरिशेबल कार्गो में वातानुकूलित रहेगा। जो हमारे देश के खेतों की पैदाइश है, उसे हम पेरिशेबल कार्गो में संग्रह करेंगे।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, उस माल को वहां से, जहां मार्केट अच्छी है, जहां माल की

[श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया]

ज्यादा कीमत मिल सकती है, वहां तक हमारी ट्रेन उस माल को ले जाएगी। अभी तक पिछले 60 वर्षों में ऐसा नहीं हुआ। हम किसानों का बहुत नाम लेते थे और उनके बारे में बहुत चर्चा करते थे, लेकिन आज तक ऐसा नहीं हुआ। रेल मंत्री जी ने रेल बजट में वास्तव में किसानों को फायदा पहुंचाने की योजनाएं बनाई हैं। इसके लिए मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं। ऐसे ही बजट से किसानों और जनता का भला होगा न कि केवल बात करने से होगा।

महोदय, मैंने साफ-सफाई के बारे में कहा कि इस बजट में अच्छी व्यवस्था की गई है। “स्वच्छ रेल- स्वच्छ भारत मिशन” के माध्यम से हमारे देश के जो रेलवे स्टेशन और रेल पटरियां हैं, उन्हें स्वच्छ रखने की व्यवस्था करने का प्रावधान किया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन): श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया जी, आपकी पार्टी से सात लोग और बोलने वाले हैं। इसलिए कृपया अपना भाषण क्लोज करिए।

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं क्लोज कर रहा हूं।

हमारे माननीय रेल मंत्री जी ने महिलाओं के लिए भी इस बजट में सुविधाएं दी हैं। महिलाओं को अपने गोपनीय जीवन में कोई भी मुश्किल न हो और वे देश में एक सिरे से दूसरे सिरे तक सुरक्षित रूप से रेलों में यात्रा कर सकें, इसके लिए उन्होंने ट्रेनों में सीसीटीवी कैमरे लगाने की व्यवस्था की है। उन्हें देश में रेलों के माध्यम से एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान पर जाने में किसी भी प्रकार की मुश्किल न हो और डर न लगे, इसलिए रेल मंत्री जी ने ‘निर्भया फंड’ से सीसीटीवी कैमरों की व्यवस्था की है।

महोदय, इसी प्रकार वृद्ध एवं विकलांगों का भी रेल मंत्री ने बजट बनाते समय ध्यान रखा है। वे रेलवे स्टेशनों पर वैसे ही घूमते रहते हैं। उन्हें रेलों में चढ़ने में बहुत मुश्किल होती है, उन्हें धक्के लगते हैं और वे गिर जाते हैं और अभी तक किसी ने उनकी तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया, लेकिन हमारे रेल मंत्री जी ने इस छोटी सी बात की ओर भी ध्यान दिया है। हमारे समाज का वह भी एक अभिन्न अंग है। रेल मंत्री ने वृद्ध एवं विकलांग व्यक्तियों को रेलों में यात्रा करने हेतु किस प्रकार सहयोग किया जा सकता है, इस ओर ध्यान रखते हुए रेलवे स्टेशनों पर एस्कलेटर्स लगाने की योजना बनाई और उनके लिए स्टेशनों पर अलग से व्यवस्था की है। उन्हें टिकिट के लिए लंबी लाइन में खड़ा न होना पड़े, इसके लिए सुविधा दी है। ऐसी ही सुविधाओं से जनता को सुख मिलेगा, न कि एक या दो दिन तालियां बजाने से सुख मिलेगा। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि माननीय रेल मंत्री जी ने वास्तविकता के आधार पर रेल बजट बनाया है, जो प्रशंसनीय है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, युवाओं को इस बजट में क्या मिला है, मैं उस तरफ आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं। रेलवे में टैक्नीशियन्स चाहिए, रेलवे में मैनेजमेंट के लिए आदमी चाहिए और रेलवे को चलाने के लिए व्यवस्था चाहिए और इसके लिए स्किल पावर भी चाहिए। क्या हमारे देश में कोई ऐसी यूनिवर्सिटी है, जो रेलवे के विभिन्न विभागों, टैक्नीशियन्स, स्किल्लड आदमियों को तैयार कर सके। विश्व में जैसी रेलवे की व्यवस्था है, विश्व में जिस प्रकार के उन्नत श्रेणी के इंजन हैं, उस प्रकार की

व्यवस्था हम अपने देश में क्यों तैयार नहीं कर सकते हैं, उसके लिए टेक्नीशियन्स चाहिए, इंजीनियर्स चाहिए और मैनेजमेंट स्किल पावर चाहिए। इसी बात को दृष्टि में रखते हुए रेल मंत्री महोदय ने रेलवे यूनिवर्सिटी बनाने की बात कही है। रेलवे यूनिवर्सिटी के माध्यम से हमारे देश के युवाओं को रोजगार मिलेगा। उनकी स्किल पावर डेवलप होगी और उससे देश की रेलवे को लाभ मिलेगा। इससे हमारे देश की रेलवे को नई दिशा मिलेगी।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं गुजरात के भावनगर डिस्ट्रिक्ट से बिलौंग करता हूं और मैं जिस सौराष्ट्र रीजन से आता हूं वहां से बहुत लोग साउथ गुजरात के सूरत शहर में आते हैं। सूरत आज विशाल इंडस्ट्रियल हब के रूप में जाना जाता है। वह बहुत बड़ा इंडस्ट्रियल हब बन चुका है। सौराष्ट्र की डायमंड इंडस्ट्री में काम करने वाले लाखों लोग सूरत में रह रहे हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी के ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूं कि सौराष्ट्र से प्रति दिन लगभग 400 बसें सूरत जाती हैं। सूरत से भावनगर के लिए यदि एक रैगुलर ट्रेन चल सके, तो उससे लोगों के आने-जाने में बहुत सुविधा मिल सकेगी। उस नई ट्रेन के लिए पूरा ट्रैफिक मिलने की संभावना है। इस संबंध में मैंने भारत सरकार के रेल मंत्रालय में लिखकर भी दिया है। इसलिए मेरी आपसे विनती है कि भावनगर और सूरत के बीच एक रैगुलर ट्रेन चलाई जाए। इससे सौराष्ट्र के 30 लाख लोग, जो सूरत में रह रहे हैं, उनको लाभ पहुंचेगा। इससे उन्हें सुविधा मिलेगी और रेलवे की आय भी बढ़ेगी।

महोदय, अंत में इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि रेल मंत्री ने एक नए प्रकार से, एक नए विज़न से, एक नई दिशा देते हुए रेल बजट को बनाया है। इस रेल बजट का मैं पुरजोर समर्थन करता हूं। इससे हमारे देश की रेलवे की सूरत बदलेगी, ऐसा मुझे भरोसा है। आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए आपको धन्यवाद।

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to my leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, and also to you for giving me the opportunity to discuss the Union Railway Budget of 2015-16.

As we all know, the Indian Railways is the largest railway network under a single management in the world and the Railways is the biggest public transport available to the people of our country. In a way, the Railways holds the country together by linking all the regions. I wish the Railway Minister would make efforts to strengthen and improve the Railways in the interest of the nation as a whole.

I would like to support this Bill by giving certain suggestions under the valuable guidance of my leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

The Railway Budget for 2015-16 is the first full Railway Budget presented by the new Government at the centre. I am happy that the Railway Minister has not levied any increase in the passenger rail fares for this year. This is a welcome step.

[Shri S. Muthukaruppan]

Sir, passenger safety, the safety of women passengers in particular, cleanliness in the Railways and environmental sustainability have all been accorded appropriate high priority by the Railway Minister.

Passenger amenities are also being improved by harnessing information and communication technology. These are the areas of necessary and welcome emphasis.

The proposal to purchase cheaper traction power by the Railways should not be at the cost of the health of the State Power Utilities, which are already bearing a heavy burden of providing an essential service to a big range of consumers. Hence, any step, in this direction should be taken in consultation with the State Governments and Power Utilities.

I am happy to note that preparatory work on the Diamond Quadrilateral High Speed Rail Network has commenced. The routes to Chennai should be given high priority under this network.

Sir, the Government of Tamil Nadu has certain specific proposals and suggestions for the Railway Budget which, I am sure, hon. Railway Minister would be able to consider positively.

Recognizing that world-class infrastructure is a prerequisite for rapid growth and development, my leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, had launched the Tamil Nadu Vision 2023 aimed at identifying and implementing infrastructure projects in a number of sectors, including railway, at a total cost of ₹15 lakh crore. Out of the 217 identified projects in the Vision Document, ten are crucial railway projects costing ₹ 1,88,400 approximately.

My leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, had specifically mentioned these ten railway projects in the memorandum presented before hon. Prime Minister of India on 3.6.2014. The names of the projects are: Complete doubling of Chennai to Kanyakumari; Sriperumbudur to Guindy Freight Line; Chennai to Thoothukudi Freight Corridor; High Speed Passenger Rail Link to Chennai to Madurai and Madurai to Kanyakumari; High Speed Passenger Rail Link Madurai to Coimbatore; High Speed Passenger Rail Link Coimbatore to Chennai; Chennai to Bengaluru High Speed Rail Link; Chennai to Bengaluru Freight Corridor; Avadi to Guduvanchery Rail Link; and Avadi Tiruvallur to Ennore Port Link. Most notably, doubling of Chennai to Kanyakumari broad gauge link

and Avadi to Guduvanchery and the Avadi Tiruvallur to Ennore Port Link are being taken up for implementation.

I request hon. Railway Minister to kindly ensure that adequate funds are allocated for early completion of these projects. I expect that the Chennai to Bengaluru Freight Corridor and the Chennai to Bengaluru High Speed Passenger Link would be high priority projects under the Chennai to Bengaluru Industrial Corridor promoted by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion of the Government of India.

The Railway Ministry has requested the States to come forward to partner with the Indian Railways to form Special Purpose Vehicles for raising funds for the development of the rail network in the State.

Under hon. Amma's guidance, the Government of Tamil Nadu is a progressive State and is at the forefront of attempting innovative means of raising funds for infrastructure development. Recently, based on a clearance by Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board in a meeting chaired by my leader hon. Amma, the development of the Madurai Thoothukudi Industrial corridor as an integrated project was approved. This corridor included two sets of projects, industrial node development and trunk infrastructure projects. Three of the trunk infrastructure projects proposed under the corridor are Railway Projects – Chennai-Thoothukudi freight corridor, Chennai to Madurai and Kanyakumari high speed passenger link and Coimbatore to Madurai high speed passenger link. In the vision of 2023 document, we had already proposed implementing these projects in the Public Private Partnership Mode through an SPV, that is, Special Purpose Vehicles, of Indian Railways and the Government of Tamil Nadu. Hence, the Government of Tamil Nadu would be willing in principle to enter into an MoU to set up an SPV to promote these three railway projects proposed in the Madurai Thoothukudi Industrial corridor. In this context, the State Government of Tamil Nadu in promoting railway projects with Central Government agencies including the Ministry of Railway, I would like to make the following specific suggestions. Firstly, since the land is typically provided by the State Government, this should be treated as part of the State Government equity contribution to the SPV at market value. Secondly, matching equity contributions from Ministry of Railways could be in cash or in the form of land owned by the Railways or other Central Government Departments. Thirdly, in the case of equity contributions in cash, there should be assurances that these contributions by both sides would be made in the time to ensure that projects do not suffer delays due to lack of adequate funding. The governance structure should be well balanced, with adequate participation by the

[Shri S. Muthukaruppan]

State Government. My Leader, Hon. Amma presented a memorandum in June 2014, in which, she had requested the integration of the Chennai Mass Rapid Transit System with the Chennai Metro Rails. ...*(Interruptions)*... Such integration would enable effective synergy between various modes of public transport in Chennai. Although, there is no specific announcement on this aspect, I expect that this request would also be speedily considered. Your predecessors had announced a number of projects in the past few years in successive Railway Budget. These announcements had raised public expectation considerably, but the work on these projects has been very slow. Hence, I request the Hon. Railway Minister to kindly allocate sufficient funds in the Budget to expedite the completion of these projects. I wanted to remind the Hon. Railway Minister about our request which was brought to his kind notice during our previous Budget speech. I would like to speak for my local area needs of Railways. Tirunelveli be announced as a separate divisional headquarters in the South and doubling works along Chennai-Kanyakumari railway line should be speeded up. Shenkottai-Punalur broad gauge conversion work should get one-time hefty allocation. We earnestly seek speedy implementation of RUB in Kulavanigarapuram railway gate in Tirunelveli City. There are 22 announced projects for Tamil Nadu. Through the Chair, I would request the Hon. Railway Minister to take up the said announced projects. The names of the projects are: new line from Morappur-Dharmapuri, 5th and 6th line on Chennai to Villivakkam and new line for Villivakkam and Katpadi sections, new line from Chidambaram to Attur *via* Ariyalur, doubling from Trivandrum to Kanyakumari, doubling Jolarpettai-Katpadi-Arakkonam, from Bodinayakanur to Kottayam, doubling from Renigunta to Arakkonam, 3rd and 4th lines from Attippattu-Gummidipoondi, new line from Jolarpettai to Hosur *via* Krishnagiri, new line between Mayiladuthurai-Tirukadaiyur-Tharangambadi-Tirunallar-Karaikal, new line from Ramanathapuram-Kanyakumari *via* Thoothukudi-Tiruchendur, new line between Karaikudi-Thoothukudi *via* Ramanathapuram, new line from Karaikal to Sirkazhi, new line from Salem (Namakkal)-Karaikal *via* Perambalur, Ariyalur, doubling from Irugur-Podanur, doubling from Thiruvananthapuram to Kanyakumari *via* Nagercoil, new BG line between Madurai (Bodinayakanur) and Ernakulam (Cochin), new line between Dindigul to Kumuli *via* Bodi and Theni, doubling and electrification of Madurai-Kanyakumari *via* Tirunelveli including Nagercoil Junction Terminal facilities. New BG line between Chennai and Sriperumbudur *via* Saidapet, new line between Thanjavur and Ariyalur and new line from Madurai to Karaikudi *via* Melur should be considered. The projects which have already been announced should be completed as early as possible. For that sufficient funds should be allocated for the projects in Tamil Nadu.

One more point I want to make. My hon. colleague, Mr. Rathinavel has already made a request in the last Railway Budget regarding stoppage of Nellai to Tiruchi Inter-City Train at Manapparai. The then Railway Minister, Shri Sadananda Gowda had given an assurance that it would be done. But so far it has not been done. So, please ensure that the above inter city train stops at Manapparai. Thank you very much. Thank you hon. Amma.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे रेल बजट पर हो रही चर्चा में भाग लेने का मौका दिया है। समाजवादी हर क्षेत्र में समता और समानता का सपना देखते हैं, जिसे पूरा करने की दिशा में तत्पर और प्रयासरत रहते हैं। इस बार मंत्री जी ने जो रेल बजट प्रस्तुत किया है, यह रेल बजट नहीं है, बल्कि यह फेल बजट है। बजट में कोई घोषणा भी नहीं की गई है, हालांकि इस बात को मैं कुछ हद तक ठीक मानता हूँ कि यदि घोषणाएं की जाएं और पूरी न हों, तो उससे बेहतर है कि घोषणाएं न की जाएं। मंत्री जी, इस सदन में हम अंग्रेजों की तारीफ नहीं करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन 65 सालों की सरकार की कार्यशैली, रेल मंत्रालय की शिथिलता इस बड़े सदन में, हमें अंग्रेजों की तारीफ करने के लिए विवश कर देती है। जब अंग्रेज 65 साल पहले देश छोड़कर गए थे, तो हिन्दुस्तान में 54,000 किलोमीटर रेल लाइन बिछाकर गए थे। आज़ादी के 65 साल बाद हम केवल मात्र 11400 किलोमीटर रेल लाइन बिछा पाए हैं, यह हमारी सफलता है या विफलता, इसकी सदन समीक्षा करेगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले बजट में जो घोषणाएं हुई थीं, उन में से कितनी घोषणाओं पर क्रियान्वयन हुआ है? कितनी घोषणाएं पूरी हुई हैं, कितनी घोषणाओं पर काम शुरू नहीं हुआ है, इसके बारे में मंत्री जी जरूर सदन में बताने का काम करें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पूरे देश में डिंबोरा पीटा गया कि बुलेट ट्रेन चलेगी, हालांकि वह 60,000 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से चलने वाली ट्रेन है। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि 9 महीने के कार्यकाल में बुलेट ट्रेन के पांच-दस पहिए बन पाए हैं या नहीं बन पाए हैं?

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, रेल विभाग घाटे में चल रहा है। यह सुनकर बहुत अफसोस होता है कि रेल विभाग घाटे में चल रहा है। आप कहीं भी रेलवे स्टेशन पर चले जाएं, टिकट काउन्टर पर चले जाएं, वहां पर आरक्षण कराने वालों की, टिकट लेने वालों की लम्बी कतार लगी रहती है। जिस विभाग में लोग कतार में लगकर पैसा देने के लिए तैयार रहते हैं, देश का वह विभाग घाटे में चल रहा है, इससे बड़ी शर्म की बात और क्या हो सकती है? मुझे याद है कि इसी सदन के एक उद्योगपति सदस्य ने एक बार कहा था कि यदि रेल महकमा हमें चलाने के लिए दे दिया जाए, तो हम हिन्दुस्तान में लोहे की बनी रेल को सोने की पटरी पर दौड़ा सकते हैं। बात भी सही है। इसमें बहुत घपला होता है। हम प्रायः यह देखते हैं कि जो auction के ठेकेदार हैं, वे छोटे-छोटे auction में, रातोंरात 24 घंटे के अंदर करोड़पति बन जाते हैं। महोदय, प्रक्रिया में कोई बहुत बड़ा दोष है, यदि उस दोष को दूर नहीं किया गया, तो मैं दावे के साथ कहता हूँ कि रेल का घाटा जिंदगी में कभी दूर नहीं हो सकता है।

[श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह]

महोदय, प्रतिदिन दो करोड़, तीस लाख यात्री रेल में सफर करते हैं तथा 26 लाख टन माल की ढुलाई होती है। यात्रियों की संख्या और सामान की ढुलाई में लगातार वृद्धि हो रही है मगर रेलवे के पास क्षमता विस्तार के संसाधन नहीं हैं, यह बहुत दुखद बात है।

महोदय, स्टेशनों पर बदइंतजामी है। जब कोई यात्री घर से निकलता है, तो सबसे पहले इनक्वायरी का नम्बर डायल करता है, क्योंकि भारतीय रेल का स्टेशन पर देर से आने का, स्टेशन से देर से जाने का और स्टेशन पर देर से पहुंचने का स्वभाव बन गया है। आज स्टेशनों पर बैठने के लिए पर्याप्त इंतजाम नहीं हैं और पीने के पानी का प्रबंध भी नहीं है। जब कोई यात्री नल पर पानी पीने जाता है, तो पता चलता है कि नल खराब है। नल के नीचे इतनी गंदगी होती है कि उसकी प्यास पानी पीने से पहले ही खत्म हो जाती है।

महोदय, ट्रेनों में खानपान की स्थिति किसी से छिपी नहीं है। मंत्री जी, मैं आपको आपबीती बात बता रहा हूं। एक बार मैं ट्रेन में खाना खा रहा था, मेरे मुंह में लोहे की कील आ गई थी। रेलवे में खानपान का यह हाल है।

महोदय, ट्रेनों में जनरल बोगी की स्थिति किसी से छिपी नहीं है। देश के 70 per cent लोग गांवों में रहते हैं और वे खेती व किसानों पर निर्भर हैं। मैं यहां अपनी बात कर रहा हूं। सांसद बनने से पहले मैंने ए.सी. बोगी में सफर किया है या नहीं किया है, यह मुझे ठीक से याद नहीं है। जो लोग गांवों में रहते हैं और खेती और किसानों पर निर्भर हैं, वे ए.सी. कोच में सफर नहीं कर सकते हैं। मेरा आप से अनुरोध है ट्रेनों में जनरल बोगी बढ़ाए। जब जनरल बोगी बढ़ेगी, तो गांव का आदमी सफर कर सकता है। आज ट्रेनों की क्या हालत है, मैं आपको बतलाता हूं। बहुत सी ऐसी ट्रेनें हैं, जिनमें केवल ए.सी. कोच हैं। कुछ ट्रेनें ऐसी हैं, जिनमें जनरल की एक बोगी आगे है और एक बोगी पीछे है। उसमें लोग ऐसे भरे रहते हैं, जैसे लगता है कि घर में भूसा भरा गया है। आप जनरल लोगों के लिए ट्रेन चलाइए। बनारस से लखनऊ तक बोगी एक्सप्रेस चलती है। उसमें सिर्फ एक कोच ए.सी. का है बाकी जनरल बोगी हैं। मंत्री जी, आप जनरल ट्रेनों को बढ़ाइए, ताकि जनरल लोग भी ट्रेनों में सुविधा से, सुगमता और सरलता व आसानी से सफर कर सकें।

महोदय, सबसे बड़ी चिंता ट्रेनों में दुर्घटना की है। विगत दस वर्षों में 3,061 दुर्घटनाएं घटी हैं, जिनमें 500 करोड़ रुपए का नुकसान हुआ है। देश में 35 रेलवे स्टेशन ऐसे हैं, जो जर्जर हो चुके हैं तथा 14 हजार रेलवे क्रॉसिंग पर गार्ड नहीं हैं। 25 जनवरी, 2012 को रेलवे ने दिल्ली हाईकोर्ट में जवाब दाखिल करते हुए कहा था कि रेलवे 2015 तक मानव रहित फाटकों पर गार्ड नियुक्त करेगी तथा फ्लाई ओवर भी बनाएगी।

महोदय, 25 जनवरी, 2012 को हाईकोर्ट में जवाब दाखिल हुआ था। 25 जनवरी, 2015 को तीन साल पूरे हो गए हैं। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या अब अदालत को भी अंधेरे में रखा जाएगा? आप इसकी समीक्षा करिए कि रेलवे ने जो जवाब दाखिल

किया है, तीन साल पूरे हो गए हैं, अभी उस पर कितना कार्य प्रारम्भ हुआ है और कितना बचा है तथा कितना होना है या अदालत को भी अंधरे में रखा जाएगा, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. ई.एम. सुदर्शन नाच्चीयप्पन) : Okay thank you. आपकी पार्टी के दो आदमी और हैं।

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह : महोदय, अभी तो 24 मिनट बाकी हैं।

महोदय, भूतपूर्व सांसदों की एक बहुत बड़ी पीड़ा है। जब वे रिटायर होते हैं, तो उनको सेकंड ए.सी. के दो बर्थ्स मिलते हैं, वे भी वेटिंग के मिलते हैं। वे भूतपूर्व सांसद किसी वर्तमान सांसद के यहाँ जाते हैं, चिट्ठी लिखवाते हैं, रेल भवन में चिट्ठी डालते हैं, उसके बाद भी उनका टिकट कंफर्म नहीं होता है। रेल राज्य मंत्री जी, इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि आप पॉलिटिकल व्यक्ति हैं, हमारे जनपद के निवासी भी हैं और हमारे संसदीय क्षेत्र के सांसद भी हैं, भूतपूर्व सांसदों को जो दो वेटिंग टिकट दी जाती है, कम-से-कम उनको कंफर्म टिकट दीजिए और जो सुविधा सिटिंग सांसदों को पार्लियामेंट से रिजर्वेशन कराने की है कि वे हाउस में टेलीफोन करते हैं, उनका रिजर्वेशन होता है और बर्थ के कंफर्मेशन का मेसेज उनके मोबाइल पर आ जाता है, ठीक उसी तरह से भूतपूर्व सांसदों को भी सुविधा दी जाए। महोदय, मैं यह भूतपूर्व सांसदों की पीड़ा बता रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं अच्छी तरह से जानता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Kindly conclude.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह : महोदय, मैं गाजीपुर का रहने वाला हूँ और सौभाग्य है कि गाजीपुर ने भी रेल मंत्री के रूप में अपने यहाँ के सांसद को पाया है। हमने सोचा था कि नई घोषणा होगी, तो गाजीपुर को नई ट्रेन दी जाएगी। मंत्री जी, हम आपसे अनुरोध करते हैं, गाजीपुर बहुत पुराना जिला है। स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन में गाजीपुर की बहुत बड़ी भूमिका रही है, लेकिन विकास के मामलों में गाजीपुर अभी पीछे है। हम उम्मीद करते हैं, हमारा पूरा सहयोग रहेगा, मंत्री जी, आप गाजीपुर को आगे बढ़ाइए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Thank you. Please conclude.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह : सर, अभी बहुत समय है। हमारे जो आखिरी वक्ता हैं, उनकी मेडेन स्पीच है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN) : There are two other Members who have to speak. Kindly conclude. You have covered all the points. Kindly conclude.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह : आप हमें 5 मिनट दे दीजिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): No, no; you complete it. Otherwise, I will have to call the next speaker.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह : गाजीपुर में वाशिंग पिट खोलना बहुत जरूरी है। गाजीपुर तक लाइन बिछी है, लेकिन रेल नहीं है। मंत्री जी, मेरा आपसे आग्रह है कि गुवाहाटी राजधानी एक्सप्रेस का गाजीपुर में ठहराव किया जाए। बरेली एक्सप्रेस, जो वाराणसी से लखनऊ होते हुए बरेली जाती है, उसे गाजीपुर से बरेली तक किया जाए। आनन्द विहार-वाराणसी गरीब रथ को बढ़ा कर गाजीपुर-बलिया तक किया जाए। शिवगंगा एक्सप्रेस वाराणसी से दिल्ली जाती है, जिसका विस्तार करके गाजीपुर से दिल्ली किया जाए।

महोदय, मैं लखनऊ यूनिवर्सिटी छात्र संघ का अध्यक्ष भी रहा हूँ। लखनऊवासियों की भी एक बहुत बड़ी चिन्ता है। पुणे शिक्षा का बहुत बड़ा केन्द्र है। वहाँ पर बहुत से विद्यार्थी पढ़ने के लिए जाते हैं। लखनऊ से पुणे तक सप्ताह में सिर्फ एक ट्रेन चलती है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Please conclude.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह : मंत्री जी, आपने नई ट्रेन तो नहीं दी है, लेकिन मेरा आग्रह है कि लखनऊ से पुणे तक और पुणे से लखनऊ तक जो सप्ताह में एक ट्रेन है, आप उसका फेरा बढ़ा कर सप्ताह में दो बार कर दें, तो बहुत बड़ी कृपा होगी।

महोदय, दैनिक रेल यात्री, जो मेरठ से दिल्ली अपनी आजीविका हेतु प्रतिदिन आते हैं, आप उन्हें ईएमयू ट्रेन देने की घोषणा कब तक करने की कृपा करेंगे? महोदय, ये छोटे-छोटे काम हैं। यदि आप कर देंगे, तो आम जनता के बीच बहुत लोकप्रिय होंगे। जहाँ तक मेरी जानकारी है कि इस रूट का विद्युतीकरण किया जा चुका है। अतः विलंब की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Please conclude.

श्री अरविन्द कुमार सिंह : हमें उम्मीद है कि मंत्री जी हमारी भावना की कद्र करेंगे और हमने गाजीपुर के लिए इनसे जो माँग की है, हमें पूरा भरोसा है कि चूँकि वे सरकार में मंत्री भी हैं और सरकार में मजबूत भी हैं, यदि गाजीपुर के लिए मंत्री जी, आप लड़ने और झगड़ने का काम कर लेंगे, तो गाजीपुर से दिल्ली तक और दिल्ली से गाजीपुर तक नई ट्रेन भी दे देंगे और हमने जो माँगें रखी हैं, उन माँगों को भी आप पूरा करा देंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का मौका दिया, मैं आपका हृदय की गहराई से आभार व्यक्त करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। जय हिन्द, जय समाजवाद।

SHRI S. THANGAVELU (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to take part in the discussion on the Railway Budget 2015-16.

Sir, I express my gratitude, to my party leader Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi for allowing me to express the views of my party, DMK, on the Railway Budget for 2015-16.

Before going into the details of Railway Budget, I wish to bring to the knowledge of all hon. Members regarding our beloved leader Dr. Kalaignar's statement on the Railway Budget. He said that this is the Railway Budget in which no announcements regarding new trains and new routes were made. This is not only for the State to which I belong, but for the entire country.

Sir, next, I come to allocation of funds to the existing projects, particularly in Tamil Nadu.

At the outset, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for allocation of ₹ 7.5 crores for construction of Road-Over-Bridge at Kolathur Railway crossing pursuant to a demand made by our party Treasurer and Kolathur Constituency MLA, Shri M.K. Stalin. This is a long-pending demand of the people of Kolathur.

Sir, after much persuasion and demands, finally, the Government has allocated ₹ 85.69 crores for Punalur-Sengottai gauge conversion. I extend my heartfelt thanks to hon. Railway Minister personally and also on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, particularly from Tirunelveli district. If arrangement for smooth flow of funds is arranged, this 49 kms stretch will be completed in two years. This will connect Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It will also enhance port connectivity between Tuticorin and Cochin. I also raised this in my maiden speech and also through Special mention in this august House.

Sir, another project in Tamil Nadu which needs your immediate attention is Madurai-Bodi gauge conversion. This project was announced many years back. Since 2010, train services were stopped. The total cost of the project is ₹ 246 crores. But, only ₹ 13.86 crores was spent till March, 2014. In this Budget there is no much allocation. Only ₹ 10 lakhs has been allocated. With this meager allocation what work can be undertaken only the Railway Minister can tell us.

Regarding a project of railway line between Madurai and Tuticorin (*via* Aruppukottai) only ₹ 1 crore has been allotted. Sir, I request the hon. Minister to allocate more funds to these two projects.

[Shri S. Thangavelu]

Regarding doubling of line and electrification, the entire stretch between Chennai and Kanyakumari is to be given more importance. Still, there are some important stretches for which allocation of more funds are required. In para 55 of your Speech, you have stated that a length of 6,608 route kms has been sanctioned in 2015-16 for electrification. I urge the hon. Minister to give top priority to Chennai-Kanyakumari electrification.

Sir, time and again demands are being made to create a new railway division in Tamil Nadu with Tirunelveli as its headquarters. I request the hon. Minister to announce new railway division at Tirunelveli. In this regard, I also made a Special Mention in this august House. I urge the hon. Minister to consider this proposal.

In the course of your Budget Speech, you have stated that the Government will increase:

- (iii) daily passenger carrying capacity from 21 million to 30 million;
- (iv) track length by 20 per cent from 1,14,000 kms to 1,38,000 kms.

You have further stated that the Government will grow its annual freight carrying capacity from 1 billion tonnes to 1.5 billion tonnes. You have also proposed to build new toilets and fit bio-toilets in trains. Sir, onboard house-keeping is also a matter which needs your kind attention. You have assured that you will look into it to make it more effective.

Sir, in defence travel system that has been developed for elimination of warrants to make travel easier for military personnel is really an honour to our brave soldiers. Your proposal to extend this facility to 2,000 locations will really help the soldiers.

My party, the DMK, welcomes these proposals. I would like to make a request to the Minister. You have proposed a hike in freight rates for various commodities. It is very unfortunate that there is a 10 per cent increase in freight charges for grains and pulses. This will very adversely affect the common man. Not only this; for LPG and kerosene also, you have increased the freight charges by 0.8 per cent. Sir, kindly have a rethink over this. If this is allowed, then the common man will suffer. Our leader, Dr. Kalaignar, also has highlighted this issue.

I wish to make one important request. Between Trichy to Thirunelveli, a daily Inter-city Express is running. Its number is 22627. There are repeated demands to stop at

Manaparai for this train. My esteemed colleague, hon. Shri Tiruchi Siva, also has made a Special Mention in this regard. The Minister also has made an assurance in this august House. I request for a stoppage in both ways in Manaparai station.

Between Delhi and Tamil Nadu, there are two trains. There is Sampark Kranti Express between Nizamuddin to Madurai, which is biweekly. There is Tirukkural Express between Nizamuddin and Kanyakumari *via* Tirunelveli. We request the Minister to make it daily.

Sir, lastly, please provide a separate reservation counter at Sankarankovil at Madurai Division in Tamil Nadu. I hope, the above suggestions and requests would be considered. Except the hike in freight charges, we welcome the proposals made in the Rail Budget. Thank you.

SHRI PANKAJ BORA (Assam): Sir, thank you for allowing me to speak on the Railway Budget. First of all, actually, while standing up to speak on the Budget, I am wondering what to speak because there is nothing in this Budget. It is totally directionless. I am sorry to say this कि प्रभु जी ने कैसा बजट बनाया? I am not proficient in Hindi. I will try to speak a few words in Hindi also. इन्होंने कैसा बजट बनाया, यह पता नहीं है। We don't know. In 29 years, for the first time, there is not even a single new train announced. We are clamouring for new trains and everything, but, still, nothing has been announced. Now, the only thing they are claiming is that the passenger fares have not been increased. But, Sir, only eight months back you have increased the passenger fares by about 14 per cent, if I am not mistaken, by Sadananda Gowdaji. This time, you have increased the freight of coal, steel, iron, pulses, grains, etc. It will put an inflation pressure. From 3 to 10 per cent the freight has been increased. May I ask the Railway Minister, through you, Sir, when you have not increased the fare but when the international oil prices have gone down by 20 per cent, and you are going to save about 12 to 15 thousand crore of rupees, why you can't reduce the fare to some extent? Now, they are talking about a new set of speedy trains and safety, etc., speedy trains of the speed of 200 km per hour. But where is the infrastructure, where is the technology? We are yet to see that technology. But, yes, the speed we have seen. The hon. Railway Minister spoke on the Railway Budget; 8,926 words in 67 minutes, in a superfast speed. I repeat, Sir, 8,926 words in 67 minutes. Some newspapers reported that the hon. Minister's family could not cope with this — they came to Parliament to hear the hon. Minister speaking — because he was speaking in a superfast speed. But we do not want superfast speed in speeches. We want superfast speed in action and a new set of innovative ideas. Even the retired railway personnels are commenting on the budget.

[Shri Pankaj Bora]

उन्होंने हिन्दी में बोला, लेकिन मुझे हिन्दी ठीक से नहीं आती है। उन्होंने बोला, बजट फ्रेम तो अच्छा बनाया है, लेकिन तस्वीर नदारद है। This is the comment of one of the retired Chief Engineers, of one of the Railways. I do not know why nothing has been announced. Only in the last year's Budget, 2014 so many things have been announced. That has found no place anywhere in this Budget. Many new trains have been announced and many new lines have been put in. I am not even talking about doubling or tripling of the lines.

I will now come to my State. We are shouting from the rooftops right from the beginning. I will not take much time of the House. Many of the speakers have talked about various points and others will also speak on that. But only that I have seen is that it is a directionless Budget, having no direction. इसमें मार्गदर्शन कुछ भी नहीं है, सिर्फ बातें हैं, इससे ज्यादा और कुछ नहीं है।

Coming to the North-East, for North-East, many promises have been made in 2014 Budget. But, now we have not found even a single promise being fructified and there is no mention about it. Sir, India's North-East, comprising eight States, is strategically a very, very important area. It is surrounded by foreign countries on all sides. Ninety six per cent of the border is surrounded by foreign countries. Some of which are hostile towards us. Only four per cent of our territory, the boundary, is connected with the Mother land, Mother India through the Siliguri belt, which is a 65 kilometre belt. Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Railway Minister: Don't you agree that connectivity is very, very important, specially rail connectivity in this region for strategic reason, for economic reason, since you are saying, 'Look East, Do East' and everything? But, Sir, there is no mention about that and there is nothing whatsoever regarding this project. I am asking for a little more time. There was a mention about special fund being announced by Ms. Mamata Banerjee in her Budget. Where is that special fund for North-East? Eleven railway projects in the North-East were declared as national projects. But there is no mention about that. What is the fate of these projects? The Railway Minister that time also announced a number of new trains connecting North-East. But some of these trains, like the Kamakhya-Bengaluru Express has been a premier train, which has been renamed and relabelled. The train already exists, but it is relabelled. We want that there should be more trains to the South, North, western side so that our people can go there for medical purposes, for the purpose of studies and for work.

Sir, we need some suburban services. It is because communication and connectivity

is very poor, so we need suburban services. Sir, the main problem in Assam and the North-East is not a single track is double track. For hardly a few kilometres they started it, but the main thing is needed from New Bongaigaon to Guwahati *via* Rangiya. It is needed for strategic purposes because it is a cantonment area and it is used for going to Arunachal and other places. Through this route, the Rajdhani Express also travels. This is over-saturated. So, there should be a double line from New Bongaigaon to Agthuri *via* Rangiya. It was sanctioned in 2013-14 Budget by the then Railway Minister, Shri P.K. Bansal. But till date nothing has been done on this line. Sir, the hon. Railway Minister is sitting here. In August, 2014, the hon. Minister said that there is no allocation in the Budget or it has not been decided by the Economic Sub-Committee or something like that. So, this has not been decided. Now, I request you once again, not only request you but also urge upon you, on behalf of the people of North-East, please go for this double line. Not only through this but also *via* Goalpara; from New Bongaigaon *via* Goalpara to Guwahati also, we need a double track. This is not only for us but also for you; it is for the country as a whole. Remember 1962, when the Chinese came here. What had happened to this country? Please remember all these things. I remember it because I was a school child at that point of time.

Sir, now, I am coming to the Saraighat Bridge in Guwahati. It is the only bridge which was built 50 years ago, after the Chinese War. Till date, not a single inch of Railway track has been added to this bridge. Now, we want that there should be a second railway overbridge on Saraighat so that the people can move freely and transparently.

Now, coming back to some projects like locomotive engine project, coach factory, nothing has been done. It was proposed long time ago, but nothing has been done.

As far as the Rail Neer project is concerned, some of the States have more than one Rail Neer project for drinking water. We don't have a single one. There should be one Rail Neer project in Guwahati.

Sir, railway overbridge is long overdue and under bridge is long overdue, so it should be done.

Sir, without taking much time, lastly, I would like to come to the issue of unemployment. What is the unemployment situation in the North-East? Recently, candidates were called for an examination for fourth grade posts in the Railway Protection Force and the Railway Protection Special Force like gardeners, water carriers, peons, constables, etc. Sir, 20,000 applicants from the North-East applied for 659 posts. A

[Shri Pankaj Bora]

6.00 P.M.

miniscule of them were called, and others were called from the nearby States because the Northeastern Frontier Railway encompasses a part of West Bengal and a part of Bihar. I am not envying. Their boys and girls also should get the jobs. But, what about us, Sir? We are eight States. Please look at us. What is happening there? I am not begging; I am demanding; this is our genuine demand. The people of Assam demand, the people of North-East demand for the sake of country's integrity, for the country's safety and security, and for the security of us. What do we want? We want that the Northeast Frontier Railway should not be labeled once again as Northeast Forgotten Railway. It should be taken into account that it exists in that part of the country with a glorious past. We want that it should be declared as a dedicated zone with the area covering only the States of North-East so that it can serve the purpose properly. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): If the House agrees, we can hear five more hon. Members. It will go up to 6.45 or 7 o'clock. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY (West Bengal): Monday is also for discussion on Railways. I think it is better to close it at 6.30 P.M.

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया : महोदय, हाउस 7 बजे तक चलाएं। जैसा बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी में तय हुआ है 7 बजे तक चलाएं।

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Those who are sitting here, are waiting for their turn because they will not get time on Monday. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let all those four or five hon. Members who are waiting to speak be allowed to speak today. It can go up to 6.30 p.m. or 6.35 p.m. or 6.40 p.m. or we can continue beyond that.

श्रीमती विमला कश्यप सूद (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया उसके लिए धन्यवाद। सबसे पहले मैं प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी व रेल मंत्री श्री सुरेश प्रभु जी को बधाई देना चाहूंगी, जिन्होंने राजनीति से ऊपर उठकर यह बजट बनाया है। सर्विस सैक्टर में अगर सबसे बड़ा सैक्टर कोई है तो वह रेलवे है जहां 14 लाख लोग काम करते हैं और जहां प्रतिदिन ढाई करोड़ लोग रेल के माध्यम से देश के एक कोने से दूसरे कोने में पहुंचते हैं। आज देश के सामने रेलवे का नेटवर्क 64,600 किलोमीटर है, लगभग 12,335 से अधिक गाड़ियां चल रही हैं और 8,000 से अधिक रेलवे स्टेशन हैं। आज यदि चीन की तुलना हम अपने देश से करें तो चीन में रेल नेटवर्क हमसे बाद में शुरू हुआ। 1947 में हमारा नेटवर्क 53,396 किलोमीटर था। 63 वर्षों में हम सिर्फ 9,000

किलोमीटर रेल लाइन बना पाए। आज चीन से तुलना करें तो माल ढुलाई का रूट 120 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटा है, जबकि हमारे देश में 26 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटा है। उनकी गाड़ियां यात्रियों को लेकर 300 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे की रफ्तार से चलती हैं और हमारे यहां 80 से 90 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे के हिसाब से चलती हैं। स्टेशनों पर फैली गंदगी और रेल में भी गंदगी और शौचालयों के बुरे हाल देखकर लगता है कि भारतीय रेल कितनी कुव्यवस्था की शिकार है। इस ओर किसी भी रेल मंत्री का ध्यान नहीं गया। वायदों के पिटारे से और घोषणाओं के रथ पर सवार होकर क्या आप समझते हैं कि भारतीय रेल व्यवस्था ठीक हो जाएगी? आज तक रेल मंत्री नई रेल गाड़ियां चलाने की घोषणा कर देते थे। परन्तु जितनी घोषणाएं होती थीं, उस हिसाब से नई रेलगाड़ियां चल नहीं पाती थीं, क्योंकि रेलवे के पास पैसों की कमी रही। कभी किसी रेल मंत्री ने यह नहीं सोचा कि उसे व्यवस्थित किया जाए, जो उनके पास है। अब भारतीय रेल का पुनर्जन्म है। शायद यह संसदीय इतिहास में पहला बजट है जिसमें किसी नई रेलगाड़ी की घोषणा नहीं की गई। रेलवे अब राजनीतिक तुष्टिकरण का औजार नहीं बनेगी। बजट में बात की गई तो सुविधाओं, सुरक्षा और आधारभूत संरचना को बेहतर बनाकर एक मजबूत आधार देने की बात की गई है।

रेल मंत्री ने रेलवे पर व्यापारियों का विश्वास बढ़ाने और सुविधाएं देने के लिए बजट में कुछ घोषणाएं की हैं। सामान रास्ते में गुम न हो और उसकी ट्रेकिंग की जा सके, इसलिए सामान का बारकोडिंग सिस्टम लागू करने और मालगाड़ी की रफ्तार बढ़ाने की घोषणा की है। दिल्ली आजादपुर मंडी में किसानों के लिए कार्गो सेंटर तथा अन्य कुछ सुधार की घोषणा की है। इन घोषणाओं पर सख्ती से अमल करने की जरूरत है। बजट में रेल मंत्री ने सीसीटीवी से सुरक्षा की बात करके महिलाओं को सबसे अधिक राहत दी है। महिलाएं अकेले सफर करने से कतराती हैं। यदि उनकी सुरक्षा का ध्यान रखा जाएगा तो महिलाएं अकेले सफर कर पाएंगी। टिकट ऑनलाइन ले सकेंगे और यदि किसी को व्हील-चेयर चाहिए, तो वह भी टिकट के साथ बुक कर सकेंगे। गर्भवती महिलाओं, हैंडीकेप्ड लोगों और वृद्धजनों के लिए नीचे की बर्थ मिलेगी। यह भी एक अच्छी व नई सोच है। फर्स्ट और सेकेंड ए.सी. में तो फोन चार्ज करने की सुविधा होती है, परन्तु थर्ड स्लीपर में भी गरीब-जन के लिए यह सुविधा हो, ऐसा मोदी सरकार ने सोचा है। रेल में बैठते ही स्मार्ट फोन महज डिब्बा बनकर रह जाते थे, लेकिन अब वाई-फाई लगने से युवा-वर्ग सबसे ज्यादा खुश है। पहले की अपेक्षा अब टिकट रिजर्वेशन चार महीने पहले कर दिया गया है, दो हेल्पलाइन ट्रेनों में खोली गई है, नौ रेल गलियारों में रेल की गति 200 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे तक बढ़ाने की बात की है। मानव-रहित क्रॉसिंग खत्म करने के लिए 2600 परसेंट ज्यादा बजट दिया गया है तथा डिब्बों में फायर अलार्म, ट्रेनों में टक्कर-रोधी तकनीक अपनाई जा रही है। ट्रेनों और स्टेशनों पर विज्ञापनों के जरिए कमाई बढ़ाई जाएगी। रेलवे में यात्रियों से बेहतर व्यवहार करने के लिए स्टाफ को ट्रेनिंग दी जाएगी। इसी वित्तीय वर्ष में रेलवे का अपना विश्वविद्यालय बनेगा और 14 विश्वविद्यालयों में रेलवे रिसर्च सेंटर बनेंगे, क्योंकि हमारे पास उच्च तकनीक की कमी है। आगामी वित्त वर्ष में 120 स्टेशनों की तुलना में 650 अतिरिक्त स्टेशनों पर नए शौचालयों का निर्माण होगा। साफ-सफाई और वित्त पोषण के लिए प्राइवेट पब्लिक पार्टनरशिप पर जोर दिया जाएगा। पिछले वर्ष की तुलना में साफ-सफाई के लिए निर्धारित राशि में 39.6 परसेंट की अधिक वृद्धि की गई है।

[श्रीमती बिमला कश्यप सूद]

साफ-सफाई में पेशेवर एजेन्सियों को लगाया जाएगा और हमारे कर्मचारियों को भी स्वच्छता की नवीनतम कार्य पद्धतियों में प्रशिक्षण दिया जाएगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं रेल मंत्री जी का धन्यवाद करना चाहूंगी, क्योंकि हिमाचल प्रदेश को आज तक कभी भी कोई नई रेल नहीं मिली, जो अंग्रेजों के समय में थी, वही आज तक चल रही है, लेकिन इस बजट से हिमाचल प्रदेश के सभी सांसदों की मांग पर भानुपल्ली-बिलासपुर रेल लाइन के लिए 160 करोड़ रुपए मिलेंगे, नंगल-तलवाड़ा रेल-लाइन के लिए 100 करोड़ का बजट दिया है और चंडीगढ़-बढ़ी के लिए 95 करोड़ जारी होंगे और ऊना-अम्ब के बीच 25 किलोमीटर लंबी रेल लाइन के विद्युतीकरण को मंजूरी दी गई है। पहली बार रेल बजट में प्रदेश की तीन रेल लाइनों के लिए 355 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था की गई है। इससे पहले सालाना बजट में 25 से 30 करोड़ रुपए ही मिलते आए हैं, जिससे कुछ भी नहीं बन पाता था। इसके अतिरिक्त पठानकोट-जोगिन्द्रनगर यार्ड लाइन सर्वे के लिए 3.27 करोड़ मंजूर किए गए हैं, जिससे पठानकोट-मंडी-लेह रेलमार्ग का रास्ता प्रशस्त हुआ है। पहली बार हिमाचल प्रदेश की पुरानी योजनाओं को भारी-भरकम बजट मिला है, तीन रेल-लाइनों के लिए 355 करोड़ रुपए मिले हैं, जबकि यूपीए की सरकार में ऐसा कभी नहीं हुआ। मेरा रेल मंत्री जी से एक आग्रह और है कि कालका से शिमला के लिए ब्रॉडगेज लाइन बिछाई जाए, ताकि ट्रेन सीधे शिमला तक जाए और जो मौजूदा टॉय-ट्रेन है, उसकी गति बढ़ाई जाए। शिमला हिमाचल प्रदेश की राजधानी है, वहां न तो पर्याप्त रेल की सुविधा है और न ही हवाई सुविधा है। इस ओर ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। यह एक नया काम रेल मंत्री जी ने किया है कि राज्य और केन्द्र मिलकर कंपनी बना सकते हैं, जिससे वह कंपनी उस राज्य में रेल विकास के लिए बैंक से लोन ले सकती है। हमारे देश में जो रेलवे क्रॉसिंग 3438 हैं, उनको समाप्त करने के लिए 238 ओवर-ब्रिज और 732 अंडर-ब्रिज बनाए जाएंगे, जिसके लिए 1646 करोड़ रुपए का बजट रखा गया है।

अंत में, मैं रेल मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहती हूँ कि उन्होंने बहुत अच्छा बजट पेश किया है। धन्यवाद

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप (हरियाणा): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे जो रेलवे बजट पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ। भारतीय रेलवे देश की एक सबसे बड़ी सेवा है, जिसमें 13 लाख कर्मचारी काम करते हैं और जिसमें रोजाना 2 करोड़ 30 लाख यात्री सफर करते हैं। वैसे तो सफर करने के लिए अन्य साधन भी हैं, जैसे हवाई जहाज, बसें, लेकिन आम आदमी ही हवाई जहाज में सफर करने की हैसियत नहीं होती और जहां तक बसों का संबंध है, बसें भी सब जगहों के लिए उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसलिए आम आदमी की उम्मीदें रेलवे पर ही टिकी हैं। सरकार का रेल बजट कई मायनों में लीक से हटकर है। शायद यह पहला ऐसा बजट है, जिसमें कोई लोक-लुभावन घोषणा नहीं की गई है। रेल मंत्री ने ऐसी कोई घोषणा नहीं की है, जिसे वे समय पर पूरी न कर सकें। इसके लिए मैं रेल मंत्री महोदय को दिल की गहराइयों से हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ।

महोदय, मैं यहां यह भी अवश्य कहना चाहूंगा कि पिछले नौ महीनों से डीजल के रेटों में काफी कमी आई है और लगभग आधे रह गए हैं, परन्तु रेल भाड़ा या यात्री किराया कम नहीं हुआ, बल्कि उलटा माल भाड़ा बढ़ा दिया गया है। इसका बहुत प्रभाव उस आम आदमी पर पड़ेगा, जिसे आज अच्छे दिनों की सबसे ज्यादा जरूरत है।

महोदय, मंत्री महोदय द्वारा रेल बजट में चार महीने पहले रेलों की टिकिटों की बुकिंग की सुविधा देने, सामान्य कोचों की संख्या बढ़ाने, महिला कोचों में सुरक्षा व्यवस्था पुख्ता करने, स्वास्थ्य पर अधिक ध्यान देने के साथ-साथ मोबाइल के माध्यम से शिकायत दर्ज कराने की पहल, स्वागत योग्य कदम है, लेकिन यदि रेलवे की लंबित 359 परियोजनाओं को पूरा किए जाने की दिशा में भी कोई ठोस पहल नजर आती, तो बेहतर होता। ये परियोजनाएं कब और कैसे पूरी होंगी, इन परियोजनाओं को पूरा करने के लिए 1.82 लाख करोड़ रुपए की राशि कहां से आएगी, इसका बजट में कोई उल्लेख नहीं है। इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि बजट में हरियाणा की लंबित परियोजनाओं की भी कोई चर्चा नहीं की गई है, जिसके कारण हरियाणा निवासी निराश नजर आ रहे हैं।

महोदय, मंत्री जी ने अपना बजट तैयार करते समय प्रभु को याद किया। इस विचारधारा का मैं स्वागत करता हूं, क्योंकि सब कुछ प्रभु की कृपा से ही होता है और मुझे उम्मीद है कि रेलवे का विकास भी इस नीचे वाले प्रभु की कृपा से ही हो पाएगा।

महोदय, हमारे रेल मंत्री श्री सुरेश प्रभु, हरियाणा से जीत कर सदन में आए हैं और मैं भी हरियाणा से ही सम्बन्ध रखता हूं। हरियाणा निवासियों को हमारे रेल मंत्री, श्री प्रभु जी से बहुत आशाएं हैं। मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि वे उन उम्मीदों को पूरा करेंगे। अतः मैं हरियाणा के हित में और देश के हित में हरियाणा के संबंध में दो-तीन मांगें रखना चाहता हूं।

महोदय, मेरी पहली मांग है कि हरियाणा के कुरुक्षेत्र रेलवे स्टेशन को विश्व स्तरीय रेलवे स्टेशन बनाया जाए। इसे विश्व स्तरीय रेलवे स्टेशन बनाने की घोषणा सदन में दो बार हो चुकी है, परन्तु इस विषय में अभी तक कोई काम नहीं हुआ है। कुरुक्षेत्र धार्मिक और ऐतिहासिक जगह है। यहां का ब्रह्म सरोवर तालाब, एशिया का सबसे बड़ा तालाब है। यहां सूर्य ग्रहण के अवसर पर बहुत बड़ा मेला लगता है। इस मेले में, इस रेलवे स्टेशन के माध्यम से लगभग 10 लाख से भी अधिक यात्री देश और विदेश से एकत्रित होते हैं। विदेशों से भी हर साल लाखों की संख्या में पर्यटक कुरुक्षेत्र और इस तालाब को देखने के लिए आते हैं। इसलिए इस दृष्टि से भी इस रेलवे स्टेशन की उपयोगिता बढ़ जाती है। अतः इस रेलवे स्टेशन की तरफ विशेष ध्यान देकर इसे विश्व स्तरीय स्टेशन बनाने का काम करें।

महोदय, मेरी दूसरी मांग अंबाला-यमुना नगर रेलवे मार्ग पर स्थित बराड़ा रेलवे स्टेशन से संबंधित है। इस समय इस रेलवे स्टेशन की स्थिति दयनीय है। यह स्टेशन हरियाणा प्रदेश को हिमाचल प्रदेश से जोड़ने का काम करता है। अतः मेरा मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन है कि इन दोनों प्रान्तों के हितों को ध्यान में रखते हुए, इस स्टेशन को आधुनिक स्टेशन की सूची में शामिल किया जाए, ताकि वहां के निवासी भी उन सुविधाओं का फायदा उठा सकें।

[श्री राम कुमार कश्यप]

महोदय, मेरी तीसरी मांग - कुरुक्षेत्र-पटियाला **वाया** डांड रोड रेलवे लाइन के संबंध में है। इस रेलवे लाइन की घोषणा भी सदन में हो चुकी है और इसके सर्वेक्षण का काम भी शुरू हो गया था, परन्तु किन्हीं कारणों से सर्वेक्षण का काम पूरा नहीं हो सका। अतः मेरा मंत्री जी से निवेदन है कि इस रेलवे लाइन का पुनः सर्वेक्षण करा कर इस रेलवे लाइन को पूरा कराने का काम करें। इस रेलवे लाइन के पूरा होने से कुरुक्षेत्र, कैथल और पटियाला जिले के किसानों और नागरिकों को बहुत फायदा होगा, जो कि देश के हित में भी है।

महोदय, माननीय मंत्री के समक्ष मैं कुछ सुझाव भी देना चाहता हूँ। कई बार यात्री जल्दी में टिकिट नहीं ले पाते और वे जल्दी के कारण गाड़ी में चढ़ जाते हैं, हालांकि उनकी मंशा बिना टिकिट यात्रा करने की नहीं होती। मैं मंत्री जी को सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रकार के यात्रियों को गाड़ी में ही टिकिट दिलाने की व्यवस्था करें। मेरा दूसरा सुझाव है कि प्रायः देखने में आया है कि गाड़ियां कई-कई घंटे लेट चलती हैं और अपने गंतव्य पर पहुंचने में उन्हें बहुत विलम्ब हो जाता है, जिससे यात्रियों को काफी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ता है। क्या माननीय रेल मंत्री जी इस संबंध में कुछ और उचित व्यवस्था करेंगे?

अन्त में, मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी का ध्यान उन रेलवे बिल्डिंगों और इमारतों की तरफ दिलाना चाहूंगा, जो दूरदराज में बनाई जाती हैं। मैंने कई बार उन बिल्डिंगों को देखा है कि उन्हें बनाने में जो मैटीरियल यूज किया जाता है, वह बहुत निम्न और घटिया क्वालिटी का मैटीरियल यूज किया जाता है। विशेष रूप से जो ईंटें होती हैं, वे बहुत घटिया किस्म की लगाई जाती हैं। जिन इमारतों पर घटिया किस्म का मैटीरियल यूज किया जाएगा, तो आप सोच सकते हैं कि उन बिल्डिंग्स का आने वाले समय में क्या हाल होगा, इसलिए मंत्री जी से मेरा निवेदन है कि भविष्य में ऐसी बिल्डिंग्स के ऊपर विशेष ध्यान दें और इस प्रकार के काम को रोकें। अच्छा मैटीरियल इमारतों में लगे, ऐसा काम करें। सर, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, मैं दिल की गहराइयों से, सिर झुकाकर आपका आभार प्रकट करता हूँ, जय हिन्द, जय भारत!

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Next is Mr. Mohd. Ali Khan. Mr. Khan, would you like to allow Shrimati Naznin Faruque to speak? You can speak afterwards.

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) : सर, मैं अभी बोलूंगा।

वाइस चेयरमैन साहब, आपने मुझे रेलवे बजट पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ। सुरेश प्रभु जी ने जो बजट रखा है, यह देश की अवाम के लिए एक मायूसी का बजट है। जिस उम्मीद के साथ बीजेपी सरकार अपने वायदों के साथ इक्तिदार पर आई, लेकिन उसने अवाम को जो उम्मीदें दिलाई थीं, उन उम्मीदों को पूरा नहीं किया। क्योंकि काफी मुकर्ररीन ने अपने ख्याल का इजहार किया है, मैं अपने आपको अपनी रियासत तक महदूद करते हुए अपनी तक्ररीर को जारी रखूंगा।

سر، میں جس ریاست سے تاللق رکھتا ہوں، bifurcation سے وہ آندھرا پردیش میں تھا، لیکن bifurcation کے بعد میرا اسٹیٹ تلنگانہ ہو گیا۔ سر، میں آپ کو ایک بات یاد دلاتا چلوں کہ دیش کے تمام زونوں میں ساؤتھ سینٹرل ریلوے ایسا زون ہے، جس کی آج بھی جو انکم ہے، جو آمدنی ہے، وہ تمام زون کی آمدنی سے زیادہ ہے، لیکن افسوس کے ساتھ کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ میری ریاست کی جو ٹرینیں تھیں، جو لائنیں تھیں، آزادی کے پہلے سے وہ لائنیں بنی تھیں، لیکن ان میں کسی طریقے کی نئی لائنوں کی تعمیر کی گنجائش منتری جی نے نہیں رکھی۔

† شری محمد علی خان (آندھرا پردیش) : سر، میں ابھی بولوں گا۔

وائس چیئرمین صاحب، آپ نے مجھے ریلوے بجٹ پر بولنے کا موقع دیا، اس کے لئے میں آپ کا بہت بہت شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں۔ سریش پر بھو جی نے جو بجٹ رکھا ہے، یہ دیش کی عوام کے لئے ایک مایوسی کا بجٹ ہے۔ جس امید کے ساتھ بی جے پی سرکار اپنے وعدوں کے ساتھ اقتدار پر آئی، لیکن اس نے عوام کو جو امیدیں دلائی تھیں، ان امیدوں کو پورا نہیں کیا۔ کیوں کہ کافی مقررین نے اپنے خیال کا اظہار کیا ہے، میں اپنے آپ کو اپنی ریاست تک محدود کرتے ہوئے اپنی تقریر کو جاری رکھوں گا۔

سر، میں جس ریاست سے تعلق رکھتا ہوں، bifurcation سے وہ آندھرا پردیش میں تھا، لیکن bifurcation کے بعد میرا اسٹیٹ تلنگانہ ہو گیا۔ سر، میں آپ کو ایک بات یاد دلاتا چلوں کہ دیش کے تمام زونوں میں ساؤتھ سینٹرل ریلوے ایسا زون ہے، جس کی آج بھی جو انکم ہے، جو آمدنی ہے، وہ تمام زون کی آمدنی سے زیادہ ہے، لیکن افسوس کے ساتھ کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ میری ریاست کی جو ٹرینیں تھیں، جو لائنیں تھیں، آزادی کے پہلے سے وہ لائنیں بنی تھیں، لیکن ان میں کسی طریقے کی نئی لائنوں کی تعمیر کی گنجائش منتری جی نے نہیں رکھی۔

سر، میں آپ کی توجہ سے دوہرانا چاہتا ہوں،

سر، میں آپ کے توسط سے دوہرانا چاہتا ہوں،

for example the railway line from Bodhan to Bidar is pending since many years. The railway line from Secundrabad to Zaheerabad survey has been completed but not initiated so far.

Sir, it is pain to inform that this year also there is no financial sanction and consideration for the above lines.

† Transliteration in Urdu Script.

[श्री मोहम्मद अली खान]

There is a need to introduce an Intercity Express Train from Hyderabad to Bidar on a daily basis.

Laying of new railway line from Patancheru-Sangareddy-Jogipet-Medak and also from Jogipet-Aladurg-Peddashankarampet-Narayankhed-Pitlam-Banswada-Bodhan.

सर, मैं आपकी तवस्सुत से मिनिस्टर से गुजारिश करूंगा,

†سر، میں آپ کے توسط سے منسٹر صاحب سے گزارش کرونگا،

about 50 per cent of the total accidents occur at unmanned level crossings. The short term goal of setting up audio-visual warning system at unmanned level crossings is also welcome. This requires a time bound action. Even audio-visual warning system also needs time bound action plan.'

सर, मैं आपकी तवस्सुत से मिनिस्टर से गुजारिश करूंगा,

†سر، میں آپ کے توسط سے منسٹر صاحب سے گزارش کرونگا،

the Secunderabad station may kindly be included on the list of ten stations with malls and shopping complexes coming up at the 'air space' of the station, including above train lines.

The proposal to change the name of AP Express to Telangana Express may be expedited. सर, ए.पी. एक्सप्रेस का जो मामला था, बजट के अंदर भी मिनिस्टर साहब ने इसका कोई तज्करा नहीं किया लेकिन अफसोस के साथ मुझे कहना पड़ता है कि जब bifurcate हुआ था, तो यह वायदा किया गया था कि ए.पी. एक्सप्रेस जो होगी, उसका नाम चेंज करके "तेलंगाना एक्सप्रेस" किया जाएगा मगर वह भी नहीं किया गया।

†سر، اے پی ایکسپریس کا جو معاملہ تھا، بجٹ کے اندر بھی منسٹر صاحب نے اس کا کوئی تذکرہ نہیں کیا لیکن افسوس کے ساتھ مجھے کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ جب bifurcation ہوا تھا، تو یہ وعدہ کیا گیا تھا کہ اے پی ایکسپریس جو ہوگی، اس کا نام چینج کر کے 'تلنگانہ ایکسپریس' کیا جائے گا۔ مگر وہ بھی نہیں کیا گیا۔

† Transliteration in Urdu Script.

‘Satellite Railway Terminals’ may be established in Moula Ali and Nagulapally in Telangana.

I request the Government to clear the proposals of high-speed rail routes to run trains with enhanced speed of 160-200 kmph (from 80-90 kmph) in two sectors - Hyderabad-Chennai and Secunderabad-Nagpur.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Telangana has already raised the issues pending at the Centre but so far no action was taken despite the formation of Telangana State.

There is need to set up of a Railway Coach Factory and a Wagon Factory at Kazipet beside the creation of a new Railway division at Kazipet. Pending new railway lines to be completed are:-

1. Peddapally- Karimangar- Jagityal-Nizamagbad
2. Manoharabad-Kottapally
3. Akkanapet Medak
4. Bhadrachalam road - Sattupally
5. Manchiryal - Peddamapet
6. Kazipet - Vijayawada
7. Raghavpuram - Mandamarri
8. Manuguru - Ramagundam
9. Nalgonda - Macherla
10. Jadcherla - Nandyal

They are pending in survey stage. Sir, there is a need to improve rail transport and to extend MMTS services up to Toopran, from Falaknuma to Shamshabad in MMTS phase-II.

Sir, I feel pained to say that the Railways has made a meagre allocation of ₹ 141 crore for the Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad project, ₹ 20 crores for the Manoharabad-Kothapalli line, ₹ 27.44 crore for the new Secunderabad-Mahbubnagar double-lining project and ₹ 46 crore for the Kazipet-Ballarsha triple-lining project which were quite less.

[श्री मोहम्मद अली खान]

सर, मैं आपके तवस्सुत से मिनिस्टर साहब से गुजारिश करूंगा कि

†سر، میں آپ کے توسط سے منسٹر صاحب سے گزارش کرونگا کہ،

new measures need to be initiated by the Railway Ministry. In view of the increasing population of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, the Moulali and Nagulapally Railway Stations need to be upgraded and developed into full-fledged terminal stations in order to ease the pressure on Secunderabad Railway station. The Railway Minister has given a sizeable proportion of funds to long-pending projects in both the new States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The South Central Railway got an allocation of ₹ 2,768 crores for infrastructure development in the Budget for 2015-16, which is ₹ 500 crore more than the previous year.

Among passenger amenities, five new works have been sanctioned at the cost of ₹ 29 crore to the South Central Railway Zone.

सर, मैं आपके तवस्सुत से मिनिस्टर साहब और सरकार से गुजारिश करूंगा कि ,

†سر، میں آپ کے توسط سے منسٹر صاحب اور سرکار سے گزارش کرونگا کہ،

many of the projects announced in the Railway Budget last year by the Railway Minister for both the States are yet take off and some of the new trains announced last year are yet to be flagged off. So far, there is no development on the proposed high-speed rail routes and they continue to remain on the paper. Due to lack of funds, some of the 30 projects running in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, at an estimated cost of ₹ 20,680 crore, are going at a slow pace. Though the Railways is seeking coordination with the officials of the newly created States to consider their requirements so as to give necessary economic boost, the funds are not getting released.

سر، सर, मैं आपके तवस्सुत से मिनिस्टर साहब और रेलवे मंत्री से दरखास्त करूंगा कि,

†میں آپ کے توسط سے منسٹر صاحب اور ریلوے منٹری سے درخواست کرونگا کہ،

† Transliteration in Urdu Script.

Akannapet to Medak line, of 17 km, costing ₹ 108 crore, and Manuguru to Ramagundem line, of 200 km, costing ₹ 1,109 crores, Kothapally to Narsapur line, costing ₹ 1,025 crores, are yet to start. Out of nine rail routes, which have been proposed for upgradation to enable running of trains with higher speeds, two routes fall under the jurisdiction of South Central Railway.

सर, मैं आपके तवस्सुत से मिनिस्टर साहब से गुजारिश करूंगा कि

† سر، میں آپ کے توسط سے منسٹر صاحب سے گزارش کرونگا کہ،

Telangana wanted the Central Government to sanction a new Railway line between Gadwal and Macherla broad gauge line, setting up of Railway University at Warangal, sanction a new line between Pandurangapuram and Bhadrachalam and construction of 15 RUBs at 15 Level Crossings in the Railway works programme of 2015-16.

मैं लास्ट में आपसे दरखास्त करूंगा कि मरकज़ी सरकार के रेलवे मिनिस्टर ने इशारा दिया है कि ये पीपीपी की तरफ अपनी तवज्जह लेकर जाएंगे, लेकिन मैं यह ख्वाहिश करूंगा कि उन लोगों का, जो रेलवे के अंदर मुलाजिम हैं, जो एससी, एसटीज़ हैं, माइनोंरिटीज़ हैं, वीकर सेक्शन से ताल्लुक रखते हैं, उनकी नौकरियों की गारंटी का क्या सवाल पैदा होगा? हमने देखा है, जब कभी भी पीपीपी के अंदर या किसी और mode के अंदर हमारा प्रपोज़ल ड्रॉप होता है या प्रपोज़ल उनके नाम सैंक्शन होता है तो जो रेलवे के बेसिक एम्प्लाइज़ हैं, उनके साथ नाइंसाफी होती है। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि मरकज़ी सरकार और बीजेपी सरकार ने ठान लिया है कि आवाम को, आने से पहले उन्होंने जो वायदा किया था कि हम नयी उम्मीदों के साथ भारत देश को ऊंचे मकाम पर लेकर जाएंगे, आवाम को तरक्की की राह दिलाएंगे, लेकिन सरकार की बातें उनकी बातों की हद तक ही रह गयीं और बजट के अंदर, मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि हमें कुछ नहीं मिला। डीज़ल की कीमत कम होने के बावजूद भी, इसमें कोई सच्ची बात नहीं है कि आपने आवाम के किराए के ऊपर कुछ नहीं बढ़ाया। मैं अफसोस के साथ कहता हूँ कि आपके यात्री किराए को नहीं घटाने से, जो कॉस्ट आज रेलवे की है, उसका सबसे ज्यादा असर किसानों के ऊपर पड़ा है, आवाम के ऊपर पड़ा है। जो खाने की चीज़ें यहां से वहां जाती हैं, आप मार्केट का हाल देख लीजिए, आठ-दस दिन से काफी ऊंची मार्केट जा रही है। मैं अफसोस के साथ अपनी तक्रार को खत्म करते हुए सिर्फ यही कहूंगा कि अच्छे दिन की बात कहने वाली सरकार के लिए बड़े अफसोस का सबूत है। बजट तो बड़ा है नाम, मगर दर्शन छोटे का सबूत है। आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, मैं शुक्रिया के साथ अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ।

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

[श्री मोहम्मद अली खान]

† آخر میں آپ سے درخواست کرونگا کہ مرکزی سرکار کے ریلوے منسٹر نے اشارہ دیا ہے کہ یہ پی پی پی کی طرف اپنی توجہ لیکر جائیں گے، لیکن میں یہ خواہش کرونگا کہ ان لوگوں کا، جو ریلوے میں ملازم ہیں، جو ایس سی، ایس ٹی ہیں، مائنارٹیز ہیں، ویکرسیکشن سے تعلق رکھتے ہیں، ان کی نوکریوں کی گارنٹی کا کیا سوال پیدا ہوگا؟ ہم نے دیکھا ہے، جب کبھی بھی پی پی پی کے اندر یا کسی اور mode کے اندر ہمارا پروپوزل ڈراپ ہوتا ہے یا پروپوزل ان کے نام سینکشن ہوتا ہے تو جو ریلوے کے بیسک ایمپلائز ہیں، ان کے ساتھ ناانصافی ہوتی ہے۔ مجھے ایسا لگتا ہے کہ مرکزی سرکار اور بی جے پی سرکار نے ٹھان لیا ہے کہ عوام کو، آئے سے پہلے انہوں نے جو وعدہ کیا تھا کہ ہم نئی امیدوں کے ساتھ بھارت دیش کو اونچے مقام پر لیکر جائیں گے، عوام کو ترقی کی راہ دکھائیں گے، لیکن سرکار کی باتیں ان کی باتوں کی حد تک ہی رہ گئیں اور بجٹ کے اندر، مجھے افسوس کے ساتھ کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ ہمیں کچھ نہیں ملا۔ ٹیڑل کی قیمت کم ہونے کے باوجود بھی، اس میں کوئی سچی بات نہیں ہے کہ آپ نے عوام کے کرائے کے اوپر کچھ نہیں بڑھایا۔ میں افسوس کے ساتھ کہتا ہوں کہ آپ کے پائری کرائے کو نہیں گھٹانے سے، جو کاسٹ آج ریلوے کی ہے، اس کا سب سے زیادہ اثر کسانوں کے اوپر پڑا ہے، عوام کے اوپر پڑا ہے۔ جو کھانے کی چیزیں یہاں سے وہاں جاتی ہیں، آپ مارکیٹ کا حال دیکھ لیجئے، آٹھ دس دن سے کافی اونچی مارکیٹ جارہی ہے۔ میں افسوس کے ساتھ اپنی تقریر کو ختم کرتے ہوئے صرف یہی کہوں گا کہ اچھے دن کی بات کہنے والی سرکار کے لئے بڑے افسوس کا ثبوت ہے۔ بجٹ تو بڑا ہے نام، مگر درشن چھوٹے کا ثبوت ہے۔ آپ نے مجھے بولنے کا موقع دیا، میں شکریہ کے ساتھ اپنے بات ختم کرتا ہوں۔

श्री बसावाराज पाटिल (कणोटक): माननीय उपसभापति जी, माननीय रेल मंत्री जी ने इस बजट के ऊपर चर्चा प्रारम्भ करने से पहले जो बचे हुए सारे रेल के काम हैं, उनके लिए लाइफ इश्योरेंस कारपोरेशन से आने वाले पांच साल के लिए जो डेढ़ लाख करोड़ रुपये लेने की बात कही है, उससे हमारे सभी काम पूरे होंगे, इस प्रकार का विश्वास देश के मन में आया है, जो आठ-साढ़े आठ लाख करोड़ रुपये चाहिए। अगर अभी बजट पास होने से पहले ही डेढ़ लाख करोड़ रुपये रेलवे को मिले हैं, तो इससे काफी फायदा होगा। सरकार ने नई ट्रेनें नहीं खोली हैं, लेकिन जो वायदा किया है, पुरानी जितनी भी खामियां हैं, उन्हें दूर करने का, यह बड़े आनन्द की बात है, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ।

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

पुराने जमाने में इतने लोगों ने बहुत से वायदे किए हैं, लेकिन उनको पूरा नहीं किया है। हमारे रेल मंत्री जी ने कोई नई घोषणा नहीं की है, लेकिन वायदों को निभाने का काम इस बार हमारे रेल मंत्री जी कर रहे हैं। इसके लिए वे धन्यवाद के पात्र हैं।

साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी बताऊंगा कि एक साल के बाद जब नया रेल बजट आएगा तब हमें मालूम होगा कि घोषणा न करने के बाद भी कुछ रेलें जरूर चालू हुई होंगी और उन्हें देश की जनता देखेगी क्योंकि जब रेल की घोषणा होती है, तो कई प्रकार की छींटाकशी तथा अन्य चीजें होती हैं। बिना बोले चलाना, जहां जरूरत है, वहां चलाना, यह नीति सरकार की है, ऐसा मैं मानकर चल रहा हूं। जो लम्बी ट्रेन्स हैं, उनमें दो-दो बोगी एक्स्ट्रा जोड़ने की बात सोची गई है, तो यह यात्रियों की सुविधा की दृष्टि से बहुत बड़ी उपलब्धि मानी जाएगी। साथ ही साथ समय की बचत की दृष्टि से, अलग-अलग ट्रेनों की लगभग 20 किलोमीटर से लेकर 80 किलोमीटर तक उनकी स्पीड बढ़ाने का काम किया गया है। इससे कम समय में यात्री अपने निश्चित गंतव्य स्थान पर पहुंचते हैं। इसके कारण बहुत बड़ी सुविधा और राहत समय की दृष्टि से यात्रियों को हुई है, यह मैं कहना चाहता हूं। इस प्रकार के कई नये सुधारों के साथ-साथ, मैं आदरणीय रेल मंत्री जी से अपने क्षेत्र के बारे में कुछ बातें बहुत संक्षेप में कहूंगा। हमारे यहां रेलवे डिवीजन की घोषणा को डेढ़ साल से ज्यादा का समय हो गया है। मैं चाहता हूं कि जितना जल्दी हो सके, वह रेलवे डिवीजन अपना काम करे, इस के लिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से आग्रह करता हूं। कई बार जाने-अनजाने में गलती हो जाती है। मैं एक-दो ट्रेनों का उल्लेख करता हूं कि एक चेन्नई से अहमदाबाद ट्रेन जाती है, दूसरी ट्रेन कोणार्क से पूना जाती है। ये दोनों गाड़ियां जहां एक बहुत बड़ा रेलवे स्टेशन है और जहां की आबादी 12 लाख है, वहां पर नहीं रुकती हैं। जहां पर सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी है, बहुत बड़ा ईएसआई अस्पताल है, स्टेट यूनिवर्सिटी है, पॉपुलर सिटी है और उसी के नज़दीक में जहां पर एक लाख की आबादी है, वहां पर गाड़ी रुकती है। मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से विनती करता हूं कि बिना देरी किए हुए, ये जो दो प्रीमियम ट्रेनें हैं चेन्नई से अहमदाबाद और कोणार्क से पूना, भुवनेश्वर से पूना चलने वाली ट्रेन गुलबर्गा रेलवे स्टेशन पर नहीं रुकेगी, तो जनता को बहुत दुख होगा। इतने प्राइम सिटी में ट्रेनों को नहीं रोकने से रेलवे को बुरा नाम सुनना पड़ता है। जो छोटी सी गलती हुई है, इसे सरकार स्वयं ही ठीक करे, मैं यह मांग करता हूं।

सरकार ने गुणवत्ता, समय, अवधि, वाईफाई की सुविधा देने की बात कही है और गुणवत्ता के साथ काम करने की बात कही है। विद्यार्थियों के लिए ट्रेन के अंदर प्रवास करने के लिए, लम्बे प्रयास करने की मनोवृत्ति बढ़ाने के लिए, अगर सरकार किसी विशेष पैकेज की घोषणा करेगी, जिससे आकर्षित होकर देश में विद्यार्थी और अधिक सुविधा के साथ प्रवास कर सकेंगे, अगर यह सुविधा उन्हें उपलब्ध होगी, तो सरकार के लिए यह बहुत बड़ा कीर्तिमान होगा। अभी जो प्रणाली है, रेलवे स्टेशन पर टिकट लेना, बनाना, उसका फॉर्म भरना, उसमें फॉर्मलिटी में थोड़ा भी फर्क हो गया, अगर एक लड़के का कैंसल हुआ, दूसरा लड़का आ गया, तो उसको गाड़ी से उतार देते हैं, परेशान करते हैं। जितने भी बच्चे और शिक्षक जाते हैं, उनको एक पैकेज सिस्टम में रेलवे की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए। उसमें जो व्यावहारिक कठिनाइयाँ आती हैं, उन्हें दूर करने का काम करके विद्यार्थियों के लिए इसे अधिक आकर्षक बनाएँ, यह मेरी आपसे विनती है।

[श्री बसावाराज पाटिल]

स्वच्छता की बात काफी चली है, मेरे मित्रों ने भी कहा है, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी कहा है, लेकिन मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से अत्यंत आग्रहपूर्वक एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर देश में इल्लीगल एक्टिविटीज और अपराधियों का कोई केन्द्र है, तो वह रेलवे स्टेशन के आसपास ज्यादा होता है, जहाँ पर झाड़ियाँ ज्यादा होती हैं, जहाँ पर कई प्रकार की खामियाँ होती हैं, जिसके कारण वहाँ बहुत बड़े अपराध होते हैं। रेलवे स्टेशन ही नहीं, रेलवे स्टेशन के आसपास इसके लिए कोई विशेष धनराशि होनी चाहिए। अगर स्वयं मंत्री जी एक बार दिल्ली के चारों कोनों में ट्रेन पर दो-दो, तीन-तीन किलोमीटर यात्रा करेंगे, तो इसके कितने दुष्परिणाम हैं, यह पता चल जाएगा। इतना ही नहीं, वहाँ गंदगी बहुत ज्यादा है। इस देश के अन्दर सबसे ज्यादा गंदगी कहीं देखनी है, तो रेलवे स्टेशन से थोड़ा दूर निकल जाइए, बायीं ओर जाइए या दाहिनी ओर जाइए, बहुत गंदगी दिखती है। स्वच्छ भारत की इस कल्पना के अन्दर इसके बारे में रेलवे विभाग कोई विशेष पैकेज लाकर आने वाले 5 सालों के अन्दर देश के सभी रेलवे स्टेशनों के आसपास होने वाली इस गंदगी को दूर करने का काम करे, मैं यह आग्रह करता हूँ। इससे देश में एक बहुत अच्छा मेसेज जाएगा और हम इससे कई प्रकार के अपराधों को रोक सकते हैं। मैं इस प्रकार की दो प्रमुख बातें कहता हूँ।

साथ-ही-साथ, हमने फास्ट ट्रेन के बारे में सुना है, बुलेट ट्रेन के बारे में सुना है, परन्तु कुछ जगहों पर गरीब लोग दिन में सफर करना चाहते हैं, जिनकी एक निश्चित डिस्टेंस होती है, जिनकी जर्नी सवेरे 5 बजे, 6 बजे शुरू होती है, तो रात को 10 बजे वे गरीब लोग अपने घर पहुँचना चाहते हैं। इस प्रकार की जो इंटर सिटी पैसेंजर ट्रेन्स हैं, इंटर सिटी फास्ट पैसेंजर ट्रेन्स हैं, जहाँ-जहाँ इसकी कमी है, उसको पूरा करते हुए अगर आप गरीबों की सुविधा के लिए काम करेंगे, तो यह अत्यंत लाभदायक होगा।

वैसे ही सिकंदराबाद-गुंटकल-रायचूर होते हुए जाने के लिए दिन में ट्रेन नहीं है। 10 साल से लोग माँग कर रहे हैं, लेकिन अभी तक सिकंदराबाद से लेकर रायचूर या गुंटकल तक फिर वापस आने वाली पैसेंजर ट्रेन दिन में नहीं होने के कारण गरीब लोग बहुत परेशान होते हैं। दुनिया में प्रगति होती है, बुलेट ट्रेन आज नहीं, तो कल शुरू करनी ही पड़ेगी। इसका विरोध करने या मजाक करने का कोई अर्थ नहीं है, लेकिन कम-से-कम गरीब की भी जो आवश्यकता है, उसको भी पूरा करने की दृष्टि से सरकार काम करेगी, तो निश्चित हमारे प्रधान मंत्री और हमारे रेल मंत्री का यह बजट और यह सपना देश के लिए अत्यंत प्यार के लायक होगा। इस दिशा में हमारा रेल विभाग काम करे, ऐसी याचना करते हुए मैं इस रेल बजट का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बातों को समाप्त करता हूँ। प्रणाम।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Thank you. Now, Shrimati Naznin Faruque.

SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak in this august House -- though in the last but not the least -- on the recent Railway Budget presented by hon. Railway Minister, Shri Suresh Prabhu.

Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister for presenting his maiden Railway Budget. The Minister has tried hard to make the Budget seem extraordinary by making a lot of promises but without any concrete action plan, time-bound priorities or targets, the Rail Budget missed an ideal opportunity to lay out the agenda for the future in a concrete manner. Instead it is a statement of lofty intent. The Government has failed to fulfill its promises made in the last Budget. After a period of nine months, still the much-hyped bullet train is under study. Does the Government want to fulfil these promises in the next term? If that is so, then the Delhi elections have made them to think for the next term.

The Government has already increased huge rail fares last year and promised to provide better facilities but instead, the Government has failed in all capacities. The Centre had earlier promised that any decrease in diesel prices would get reflected in the rail fares with corresponding decrease. But, this was not done, although diesel prices were reduced several times. With the decrease in diesel prices six-seven times in the last one year, the fares should have been decreased too. But instead of doing that, they are trying to take credit for not hiking the rail fare. The Government is talking about high speed trains but current trains like Rajdhani Express and Shatabdi Express hardly complete their journey on time. During winters, the condition of rail journey is horrified with several trains run late and even forcing them to cancel the journey. Without improving the present system, is it justified to fool people with more promises? The safety of high speed trains will be at huge risk. The blatant example is of Delhi-Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express which derailed last year near Chhapra District in Bihar. The causes of the accident are still unknown.

The Budget announced more than ₹ 96,000 crores of investment on 77 projects. These include 9,400 kilometres of new railway lines along with their electrification. This is the most ambitious target without clearing up the backlog of more than 360 projects that have been stuck due to dearth of finances for several years. The Finance Ministry will provide ₹ 40,000 crores to the Railways by way of gross budgetary support, which also includes ₹ 7,000 crores earmarked for the freight corridor project and projects of national importance. But, what about the rest of funds? Where will they come from? Ground realities need to be taken into account.

No new project for the State has been announced in the Budget, which has opened the scope of FDI in the Railway projects, which will ultimately go against the interest of the biggest public sector entity.

The North-East comprises the contiguous Seven Sister States of Arunachal Pradesh,

[Shrimati Naznin Faruque]

Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura plus the Himalayan State of Sikkim. It has the tremendous scope of tourism. The Railway Minister has not proposed anything which can be considered as beneficial for the tourism sector. When the Prime Minister, Mr. Modi, came for election campaigning, he promised lots of good things for the North-East, but nothing in reality has happened, especially in the Railway Budget. The hon. Prime Minister promised to develop the tourism sector in the North-East, but it appears that only blatant promises were made to the people.

The freight hike will result in increase of prices of all essential commodities and also increase the miseries of the ordinary passengers by not introducing new trains despite the huge passenger pressure on existing trains. The Railway Budget, 2015-16 is high on hyperbole and low on content and will not bring the promised good days for the poor. In sum, this Railway Budget is not going to result in 'Acchhe Din' for the poor.

Everybody has spoken about the Railway Budget, but I think that this Railway Budget has given nothing to the North-East people. I request the Railway Minister to make two trains, Kaliabor Express and Silghat Express, in my district, Nagaon, air-conditioned. Can you imagine that till today there is not a single air conditioned train from my district to other parts of the country? The Prime Minister has given lots of hopes for the North-East but we are not sure whether he really thinks for the North-East. So, I do not want to speak much more about Railway Budget. It has already been spoken by the Members of different parties. So, it is my last request to the Minister that a lot of people from North East go to Mumbai for treatment. There is only one train from Guwahati. My request is that one air-conditioned train, from Guwahati to Mumbai, should be given to the people, who go for treatment there. As you all know and the whole world knows about the Kaziranga National Park, where one horn rhinos are there. The tourists and the foreigners are very much in trouble because they have to come all the way to Guwahati by flight and then they again go to Kaziranga. So, it is like a surtax for them. Therefore, I request the hon. Railway Minister that there should be one direct train from Bongaigaon to Nagaon. Nagaon is the nearest. It has only two hours drive to Kaziranga. So, I request that there should be a special air-conditioned train from new Bongaigaon to Nagaon so that tourists from all over the world and India can go there. It will be a very good present for the people of Assam. Thank you, very much. I do not want to take much time. Once again, I thank the Minister that he will, at least, think for the people of North East and I thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Thank you very much. Now, the discussion on the Budget (Railways) 2015-16 will continue on Monday, the 16th March, 2015.

Now, I will take up the admitted Special Mentions for today. Shri Ambeth Rajan.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Need to revoke the O.M. of 22.07.1997 modifying the regulations of CSS, Limited Departmental Exams, affecting SC/ST employees

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Hon'ble Vice-Chairman, Sir, I wish to highlight the gross injustice being done to SC/ST employees belonging to Central Secretariat Service. Since 1970, the personnel belonging to Central Secretariat Service (CSS) were given relaxation in standards under regulation 7(3) of the Central Secretariat Service Section Officers' Grade/Stenographers' Grade 'B' (Limited Departmental Competitive Examination) Regulations, 1964. An amendment to this was made effective from 22.07.1997. It is pertinent to mention here that Government took this decision on the basis of the order passed by the Apex Court.

The same Apex Court in Rohtas Bhankar Case, challenging the Central Government's amendment in the said Regulations 1964, observed that the judgment passed in S. Vinod Kumar case is *incuriam*, i.e., through lack of care. In its order dated 15.07.2014, passed after 17 years of legal battle, it also held the amendment made in the Regulation as illegal and directed the DoPT to modify the results in the Section Officers/Stenographers (Grade B/Grade 1) Limited Departmental Competitive Examination, 1996.

Already, seven months have elapsed and DoPT has not taken any concrete steps in this regard. The relaxation upheld in the judgment will benefit all the SC/ST employees in India belonging to this service.

I urge the Government to take up immediate action to implement the Apex Court's decision passed in Rohtas Bhankar Vs. Union of India & Another and immediately revoke the DoPT's O.M. dated 22.07.1997. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Thank you. Shri Baishnab Parida, not present. Shri K.R. Arjunan.

**Need to refurbish and provide necessary passenger amenities at Ketti Railway
Station under Nilgiri Mountain Railway**

SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Ketti Railway Station of Nilgiri Mountain Railway is a prestigious station for its natural beauty and location of station. This station was built in 1908 and served the people of Nilgiris as well as the tourists from all over the world in the past 100 years.

The people of Ketti and nearby villages, employees of various Government and private organisations, and school and college students are regularly visiting the station for travelling locally and to book reservation tickets at the reservation office functioning at this station.

Railway Budget contribution to each and every station is not sufficient to carry out all the works to make a station high-class one. Hence, the cooperation from other sources becomes mandatory to give better services to the people.

The following few things are to be done at this station to make it better to serve the people:

Widening of the level-crossing gate (LC Gate No.13/KXT at Km.37/1-2; reservation office remodelling (information boards, flooring, waiting chairs, painting, etc.); interior works and provision of furniture; necessary passenger amenities like dustbins, water purifier, etc.; and gardening at station premises (provision of sapling, fertilizers and equipment). Thank you, Sir.

Urgent need to provide safe drinking water to every household in the country

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Sir, by what time will each and every Indian get safe drinking water? The Government of India during the Sixth Five Year Plan prioritised safe drinking water through tubewells to rural India. Contaminated water causes health hazard to the people from rural India to urban India. We normally believe that during the arrival of the Monsoon, the tribal people, who use river water, suffer from diarrhoea and cholera. It is a matter of great concern for all of us and the Government of India. When reports came that the water supply to the Parliament House Complex, the President's Estate and the Prime Minister's residence is being disrupted because it was too polluted to treat for human consumption, it understandably made headlines in the Press in recent days. A recent report by the Union Health Ministry had revealed that drinking water across States contains fluoride above permissible levels. Is it a fact

that thousands of people across the country from Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Telangana, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, West Bengal and Odisha are at risk of debilitating diseases such as skeletal fluorosis? And this is just the extent of damage that is being done by one particular pollutant. There are fluoride-affected Districts of Nuapada, Kalahandi and parts of Bolangir in Odisha. Will the Government of India support the State Government? I wish there would be no Third World War. But if there will be a Third World War, it will be for water only. Thank you, sir.

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI V.P. SINGH BADNORE (Rajasthan): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्रीमती बिमला कश्यप सूद (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री मनसुख एल. मांडविया (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नंद कुमार साय (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana) : Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Need to set up a mechanism to avoid the possibility of challenging the
Constitutional Validity of Acts passed by the Parliament**

SHRI AVINASH PANDE (Maharashtra) : Sir, as we know, the Constitutional validity of the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty First Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 has been challenged before the hon. Supreme Court. The validity of many other legislations and Constitutional amendments are routinely challenged before the judiciary, which often results in delayed implementation of laws passed by Parliament.

The Constitution of India, which is the supreme law of the land, has created a delicate system of separation of powers to maintain checks and balances between Legislature, Executive and Judiciary. The constituent powers of the Union of India are vested in

[Shri Avinash Pande]

Parliament, which is equally responsible to protect and maintain the basic structure of the Indian Constitution. In order to strengthen the system of checks and balances, there is a need to create a mechanism which allows Parliament to conduct an “a priori” review of the constitutionality of proposals of the Government to amend the Constitution or make new laws and policies. This will not only ensure that the basic Constitutional principles are respected and preserved in every Act of Parliament, but also act as an interpretative tool to aid the courts if the legislation is challenged, by clarifying the intent and opinion of Legislature through pre-legislative processes.

Thus, I request the hon. Minister of Law and Justice to examine the possibility of creating such a mechanism to reduce opportunities of challenge to the Constitutional validity of Acts of Parliament to facilitate their timely implementation by the Government.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Avinash Pande.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Shri Husain Dalwai, not present; Shri Md. Nadimul Haque, not present. Then, Shri Bandyopadhyay.

Need to resolve the problems being faced by Kolkata Metro Railway

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY (West Bengal): Sir, the Kolkata Metro Railway, India's first metro and the only metro railway run by the Indian Railways, has, in recent years, been beset with a spate of problems. They relate to infrastructure and safety as well as delays. Incidents bear out the current state of affairs. On February 21, 2012, passengers had to be evacuated as smoke billowed out of the bottom of a coach. A similar incident was reported on August 30 of that year too. In 2014 too, similar incidents kept happening. On June 23, 600 passengers were stuck in a dark metro tunnel for over an hour. Again, on July 31, smoke was detected in a rake. These and similar incidents have clearly jeopardised people's lives. Other infrastructure-related problems have also been happening frequently. For example, on September 26, services were hit by auto-signalling failure. These infrastructure and safety-related problems have also made people's schedules go haywire. Due to lack of proper maintenance, sometimes even minor issues have turned into major problems and this is happening while fares were increased in November, 2013 by substantial amounts, up to a maximum of 78 per cent. The increased earnings have clearly not translated into better infrastructure, adequate safety and efficiency.

The Railways must immediately take up the problems faced by Kolkata Metro Railway and find permanent solutions. Efficiency of services and safety has been the hallmark of the Metro Railways, and the Government must ensure that the serious deficiencies are ironed out quickly and in a time-bound manner.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Shri Derek O'Brien, not here; Shri Jairam Ramesh, not here; Shri Devender Goud, not here; Shrimati Gundu Sudharani, not here. Then, Dr. K.P. Ramalingam.

Need to constitute a body to regulate the functioning of pharmaceutical companies

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is the Central Government's responsibility to ensure that the medicines manufactured in the country or imported into the country are of the requisite quality and efficacy.

I understand that the current market size of the pharmaceutical sector is ₹ 1,80,000 crore approximately and it is growing at the rate of ten per cent annually. Our country has around ten thousand manufacturing units of different sizes – small, medium and large scale including miscellaneous ancillary industries. India has all types of manufacturers having highest US FDA approval outside the United States. Currently regulations are controlled by the CDSCO, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, pricing related issues are the concern of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Export Promotion Council related issues of Pharmaceutical products are handled by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, new Chemical entities are taken care by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Ministry of Science & Technology, recombinant DNA products are looked after by Department of Biotechnology. The Ministry of Science and Technology, thus, there are multiplicity of agencies with regard to Pharmaceutical products.

In view of the foregoing, I strongly feel it is necessary that there is a separate autonomous body like CAG. The CDSCO should be made autonomous and come under Prime Minister of India to regulate the functions of Pharmaceuticals.

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

Need to undertake archaeological study of Pogulakonda and other sites in Telangana

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, without archaeological study and with gross negligence and severe resource crunch,

[Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu]

in India, its grand heritage is not attracting attention of local population, as well as, tourists. In Telangana, between Shalivahana and Kakatiya Dynasty and after Kakatiya and before Golkonda Qutub Shahi Dynasty, the historic links were not fully authenticated by excavations of several sites; failure in preservation of the vital sites for future studies is creating permanent vacuum in establishing the chronology and up keeping the historic city. After great pains, the dynasty of Vishnukundni between Shailavahana and Kakatiya and the greatness of Kotilingala in Karimnagar district could be established. In Warangal, Nalgonda, Khammam districts, there are several such locations. In Warangal district, Palakurthi mandal, Bommera was a great Telugu Poet. Bommera Pothana, famous for his Maha Bhaagavatham, Palakurthi is of great Shaiva revolutionary poet Somantha. Valmiki is believed to be of Maharshi Valmiki. In Warangal district, Kodakandla mandal, the mammoth single rock Hill Pogulakonda was headquarter of Prolaya Dynasty. In Nalgonda district, Rachakonda, Devarakonda structures were, taken note of, but other locations Ammanbolu, Wardhamanukota of Jain fame, Arvapalli, Phanigiri were grossly neglected. In Khammam district, such sites were neglected. Keeping the need of preserving replicas of civilizations in view, I urge upon the Union Ministry of Culture to primarily enumerate such sites in Warangal, Nalgonda and Khammam districts and to initiate to establish the links of history through archaeological studies in Telangana. Thank you.

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 16th of March, 2015.

*The House then adjourned at fifty-nine minutes
past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Monday, the 16th of March, 2015.*